

To the Child Abuse Royal Commission,

This is my summary of my experience with Sexual abuse.

I am a Victim of Child Sexual Abuse at [REDACTED] Orphanage, [REDACTED] Qld.

Since becoming involved in the (Queensland Redress Scheme), I have personally found amongst the Victims I was in contact with from outside [REDACTED] Orphanage, 3 that were claiming against Redress.

Of these, 2 Victims have died- 1 Suicide, 1 Cancer, and these 2 people had their claim processed and were awaiting payment.

But due to their Deaths, nothing further was done with their payments.

I think this was wrong as any Redress payments should have gone to their Estate's as they along with their Families, suffered because they were a Victim of Sexual Child Abuse.

The 3rd person received nothing, because he could not prove he had problems from being placed in [REDACTED] (And we all know what a hell hole that place was)

Why should he have been rejected, as now he is still suffering and looking at entering a Rehab Facility, to help sort his problems out.

I myself since the Qld Redress Scheme payment (Grossly Under Funded), have had to deal with worse Child Sexual Abuse than what I reported to the Redress panel, from my time at [REDACTED] Orphanage.

I have had 3 failed Suicide attempts and every day is like Groundhog Day, is the term I use for my daily survival, as I keep telling my Professional help that if I did not wake up tomorrow that would be fine with me, but I do not actively seek to end my life at this stage, I can only hope that one morning I will not wake up, and that would be good because I will not know it.

it is only thru the love of Family and some dear Friends that I keep going as without them I would not be here.

Truthfully Yours,

Kenneth J Bryant

To the Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse

Feedback and the Process that should be put in place before any possible Redress goes forward.

(A) Truth & Reconciliation

Elements of Redress for Child Sexual Abuse Victims, (Survivors or Deceased)

1. There should be some recognition by the Institution, Organisation or place of Care.

2. Once they have been found to have a claim, they should have access to **(Specialist Support Services)** including Professional Care with Counselling/Psychological and or Medical Care if so needed free of charge.

If Professional Care is not required that should not impede any due process for claim and/or the size of Redress Payments.

There should be free **(Access to Mainstream Services)**, for any Medical/Dental/Optical & any other health issues.

It should be Funded by the Federal Government and a Registered Card issued to the individual, with all details to be kept Confidential.

This card should work the same Medicare/Disability Support Pension Card &/or work together with the previous cards.

This should afford them the opportunity to get Premium treatment, from a Top Supplier without Predjudice.

Elibility

1. It is to be inclusive of Sexual Abuse of any kind, including penetration of any part of the Victims body, Molestation, Groping and any kind of sexual intimidation.

2. A previous claim for Redress at a State level or Private Litigation, should be sufficient and should not exclude them from any process for future Redress claims/payments.

3. First time claimants or Victims not recognised in Old Redress, need only to have Documentation to say where they stayed when the Sexual Abuse took place.

4. Previous claimants who have past away and had their Redress claim halted once they died, should be able to have a claim restarted on their behalf, by family and any payments to be awarded to their Estate, for Processing by the Power of Attorney or Next of Kin, as per original Estate directions.

(B) Financial Payment

Redress Payment

1. The Level of Redress to be a base Payment of \$70,000 and then increased by the range and severity, up to \$150,000.

2. Anyone who has already received Redressor Litigation Payments previously, can be taken into account.

Remembering that some State Redress payments, (Queensland) were for Physical & Emotional Abuse, bundled with Sexual Abuse Victims.

3. It should not exclude any Survivor from pursuing Civil Litigation.

4. It should not exclude a Deceased Victims, Power of Attorney/ Next of Kin from pursuing Redress on the Victims behalf.

With any Payments to go to the Victims Estate and processed as per Original Estate directions.

5. Any Redress payments should be free from tax (Ex Gratia), and not affect any Centrelink Payments in place, and not affect any housing arrangements.

The Redress Scheme Process

1. The Redress Scheme should be OPEN ENDED.
2. Assessment and Application to be simple as possible, with previous Redress Documentation/Application, to be good enough, as it is hard enough for some to even say anything at all.
3. A Higher Level payment should be done without any further stress to the Victim.

The Victim has already suffered enough & would find it daunting to have to attend a hearing in front of a Panel to provide evidence in person.

4. Any Redress payments to be funded, equally by both the Institution and the Federal Government.

If the Institution is unable to meet their requirements, the Federal Government should look after full payment.

Any payments can be made with the assistance of a one time Medicare Levy increase, as has been done for other issues and be reset after its use.

Level of Proof

1. If it is plausible and there is Documentation to say the Victim was at said Institution/Place of Care and the History of said Institution/Place of Care, then that should be good enough.
2. Also any previous Redress/ Civil Litigation documentation should be good enough to assist with the Level of Proof.

As it is hard enough to deal with the Sexual Abuse, and then have to attend in front of a panel, so the less stress the better for the Victim.

Severity and Impact of Sexual Abuse

1. The Severity of Child Sexual Abuse is not limited to the act, as the Victim in some cases move on once they have treatment &/or Redress payment.

And in others they Suffer in silence and make it seem like they have recovered or are happy, (It's called Keeping Up Appearances), but they still suffer greatly.

2. Payment amount for Redress should be reached by using the Victims Claim, along with the Institutions history of Sexual Abuse.

3. Also any Victim who makes a claim and does not have Professional help, should not impede or limit any Redress amount awarded.