

Submission by [REDACTED]

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I with my brothers were put into the [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in 1960 to 1966 run by the [REDACTED]. I was 8 at the time, my Dad had left my Mum, and Dad couldn't cope with us with his new family and Mum couldn't support us and moved away.

An orphanage should have been a place of love and compassion, because all the children there were lost and love starved children **BUT** this place was largely a place lacking in love, understanding and compassion but ruled by force, strictness, no compassion and emotional, physical, intellectual and sexual abuse by nuns and some priests.

I was continually physically punished for the smallest of misdemeanour, emotionally robbed of any self esteem, or self worth. I was beaten with the rough end of a feather duster, straps, I was pushed downstairs and broke my arm, we were put in boiling hot baths and our genitals scrubbed with brushes, we were made to sleep in our urine soaked beds and then had the sheets rubbed in our faces and made to stand in front of the other kids and made fun of, I ran away a lot and I was ignored by the police when they bought back, even though I had thrash welts on my body.

I was sexually abused by a nun at the tender age of 11, with threats of torture if I told anyone. I was robbed of my innocence and anything proper and good, the priests use to fondle us, saying it is Gods way, I have always felt dirty, suspicious of anyone's kindness to this day (I am 60) and suffer the pain of my abuse to this very day. I have no respect for people, authorities or the church, I will never go into a church to pray or pray anywhere, to me there is no God, where was he when I was a kid who needed him.

I am from NSW, I live now in QLD, and up till now there has been no Redress for people like me, I did go through a solicitor in NSW and he took half of my compensation for fees, and mediation happened, which was gut wrenching and they said they are "deeply sorry for what **might** have happened" Load of bullshit, I couldn't finish talking, the solicitor had to do it for me". Very

demoralizing, it is only one of few times I have cried since the abuse. I will not cry, I was made to as a kid but I refuse to now, and I hate saying sorry to anyone, because no one was sorry for me.

My family have been affected badly by what happened to me, my wife has many health issues because of the stress of being with me, our children have their own issues as does our granddaughter. I needed to have control, I needed to be right in everything I say and do, I don't care about other people's feelings. **WHO CARED ABOUT MINE!!**

I did receive money from Victims of Crime, and this was a measly \$11,000, generous hey! I was a state ward when I was in the orphanage, the government should be more accountable.

A redress by the NSW government is important to me because I want to be properly acknowledged for what **DID** happen to me, I want someone to say sorry properly, I want those people brought to justice for what they did to me and all my little friends in the orphanage. I am sure most of them would be dead or in jail or as badly affected as I am.

I left school as soon as I could, I shouldn't have as I was very bright, and even though I wagged school, I was still getting good marks. As a younger man I rebelled and joining a bikie gang to experience freedom that I never had. I married young, and joined the Army Reserve, where I injured myself, and now haven't worked for 23 years, I am sure stress from my experiences as a kid, has had an effect on my health badly, I have Chronic Back pain, Chronic depression, diabetes, a blood disorder, enlarged spleen and liver, I don't sleep, and I am on a ton of meds to keep me going. We are in financial problems, prob won't be able to pay off our mortgage before I have to go on pension in 2 years, still owing nearly \$200,000.

The churches should be accountable for the pain and suffering that young people suffered and still continue to suffer now, but the government should be insisting on this. We all suffer health problems and they will only get worse, the emotional and psychological/psychiatric damage is immense, and people like me and my families expect to be able to have all the assistance to live a decent life from now on, knowing that people and governments are sorry for

what went on and want to show it. All states should look after these people led by the government in a national scheme with the huge input of all the churches that harboured these evil people who did the most heinous of things to young vulnerable children.

Thankyou [REDACTED] June 2013 [REDACTED]