

**Review of compensation payments**  
**Submission-Diane Mancuso/nee Eileen Kennedy**

**(I was warned only to make this a short submission but I do not intend to do that I have suffered for too long and a few words are not going to do it for me!!)**

6/6/2010

I am in my mid 50's & was **stolen** as there is no other word in the English Dictionary which describes how I & many, many others have felt all of their lives.

The issue is not that the Government can't do it by making comp payments They do not want too. Maybe if they took a cut in their pay whilst we are all struggling on our Pensions, New start etc etc. then they would be clearly able to afford to pay us.

However, having said that we are in the wrong category if we were egg-Aboriginal, Boat People, From a 3<sup>rd</sup> War World Country, then we would be offered more than we could want...

It is shameful that we have to prove our abusive childhood, just take the time to check the records of us all & read them & in each file you will notice we were not even given names we were referred to as "**The Ward**" every time I have read my file I become extremely angry at the language they use to describe myself. Just a little example is

Backward  
Insolent  
Low IQ  
Moody  
Selfish  
Liar  
Disobedient  
Sly  
Non-descript  
Brutish  
Ill mannered  
Bad temper

All these words if you take the time to think about them could be describing a dog, and that is how I felt. An unwanted mangy dog that should be kept away from human society as she may corrupt the so called (**Good Christian Family**) that had bought her from the pound. And I say this sincerely as when I was dragged away from the only family I knew at 7 yrs old, to be thrown into a **pound** for humans. Then paraded in front of prospective buyers & then sold to the highest bidder!!!

Not one person took the time to even tell me what was occurring, not one!! One minute I am with my Mother & siblings the next I am shoved into a car & whisked off to some bloody house of horrors.

Did we not deserve to be told what had happened to our families? Does anyone wonder why we are all so screwed up? That we all have identity crisis's? that we doubt ourselves each day every day?

You want to know why no one said anything? Because we were nobody's child ?? It is really quite simple if any of us had influential families. If I had been the daughter of say "Kevin Rudd" anyone anyone at all that was respected then the world would have known about it!!!

But even before we were born we never had a chance, we do not get a choice with our parents it is not our fault if they were not doing exactly what they were suppose to do. I ask you though is it for the best to come in & destroy, obliterate, damage, break beyond repair my birth right? No it is not, why did the Government not try to keep families together & work on trying to bring about restitution? It would have been more financially beneficial for the G-men & all concerned then taking us away from the only familiar people we ever knew & feeding us to the damn HOUNDS.

Am I angry no I am filled with rage that my childhood and many others were never given an opportunity to even voice how they felt. We may as well been mute, no one wanted to know we were being treated as pawns in their little games. Children that's what we were little tiny hands, feet, fingers, just like your children no difference! Just imagine that you are sitting down to watch TV & they as in (G-men) came to your door & took your most precious valuables away?? How would you feel??? No guess you guys do not like to think about it too much?? It may bring on feelings of guilt, shame & responsibility to little innocent children who did nothing to deserve to be treated like animals.

I am not referring to the present G-men, though it took years for this G-ment to even recognise us....And like some of the other people who have put in submissions I too believe that we should be on Clink forms as every time I go there I will not answer the question are you an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Person? Last time I was there I refused to answer it on the grounds of why should it make a difference what or where I am from Why is the question even there? if they are not given preferential treatment? Again I was fobbed off. You people must think that we are all ignorant & can have the cap pulled over our eyes. Well we certainly can not be conned as easily as the next person as we all have been given a foundation , insight into how especially beauracrats try to answer my questions with absolute crap.

Which I would never believe that is also a gift from my childhood how easy people take you for an idiot sometimes it does come in handy but only when I choose to use it!!!

The state this is how they bought me up!!

Neglect

Emotionally deprived of any feelings towards myself

The presumption that due to my parentage I was very backward with not a single brain cell

Sexually abused -in a home that they left me in to be so called cared for

When I blew the whistle- told I was a filthy little trouble making liar (IN File)

Never to divulge anything as I would never be believed

Self esteem (what self esteem?)

Respect for myself!!

Boundaries-have none  
Education -don't bother  
Uncontrollable which was the word of the decade  
Labelled-trouble maker  
Ignored-fed, clothed & dinner put out just like a dog  
No physical contact (only when someone wanted to use me as their sex toy)  
Abandonment (Big one)  
Not good enough  
Always quick to blame myself for everything no matter how little or how unconnected it is  
Huge trust issues  
Lonely  
No family they took them away & I cannot find them thanks for that !!!  
Don't discuss my childhood (What childhood)  
Maybe is was scrubbing floors with toothbrushes all night as punishment for absconding Oh that was another word of the decade.!! For those that do not know it ,Solitary confinement age 13 could have been days, hours weeks have blocked it out  
Buckets of cold water thrown over me because I would not stand naked in front of them --terrible child!!!!!!!  
Made to spread my legs to see if I was intact another word in front of numerous staff at Glebe shelter  
Do I need to go on???

I could but just maybe you are getting the picture?

Was this Australia? Yes it was! Were these people entrusted with my care? Yes they were. Why were we given so little thought too? Can anyone answer that question? No No one can I have asked it many times. It is quite simple again they just did not care that's the answer as long as we were out of sight out of mind. When Australia hosted the 2000 Olympics they hid all the homeless people ,that's what they did to us they hid us away so no one knew what was happening. They thought we can throw them a bone they'll be fine. We will let them go to people who want to be paid for their welfare. And it worked the thing is no one bothered to even check to see what/who people took these pure innocent children. That's what hurts the most no one gave a rats arse as to who or what they were being treated too?

Someone breaks their leg at work they receive compensation Yes??? Our wounds you can't see them but I assure you they are there in Our dreams, Our nightmares, in Our thoughts, in the mirror, On our skin, Rooted to Our very bones. They will never ever heal, scars remain like whip marks on our hearts in our minds. The only relief will be when death takes us. But then again so many have already died by their own hands. However, it was not their hand it was the G-ment that did that no one else. I only hope that they went to a nice place where they can hopefully feel loved, & so wanted To feel unwanted all your life is a goal sentence, you can't see the bars but there as real as any goals in the Country. Only we never get a reduced sentence our's is for life. What did we do to deserve all this tragedy??? **Nothing** we were just born to parent's who's major crime was poverty, they had no money for food, clothes, shoes, & all the benefits that money can buy. That was their crime most of them wanted their kids they just needed a helping hand but none came.  
If only they had come to Australia as a refugee, a war torn country, an immigrant, an

asylum seeker, anything but be born here. Then the outcome quite possibly would have been a lot different. But they didn't! And we are the products of the state so is it **not their responsibility to now look after us??** *Yes it is if* my family had had a will then I would have been left something I am a child of the state so the state needs to look after their children like any good family should

So I am not asking for my precious family to give me something that is not mine I am **demanding that they care for me in my twilight years. I am their responsibility they reared me it is up to them!!!**

There is one thing that no matter how hard they tried they could not take from me & that was my determination. Determined to prove them wrong that I am a special person, I am someone who deserves to be recognised, to be loved, wanted to be given what any parent wants to give their child And what is that? To be able to be self sufficient, independent. To not rely on my parents all my life. This is why my parents **the state** owe me more money then they could ever pay me to spend the rest of my life in relative comfort.

They took away my family, my childhood, these things can never be replaced the least they can do is to let us now rely on them to care for us in our elderly years. As the 1<sup>st</sup> 18 years they destroyed us. Now is their chance to show that they did care, they are listening. I will not hold my breath as then I would roll over & die, before any consideration is given to the children that they produced. To have so many people on their conscious that did not get a chance to even ask to be given there birthright. I am doing this not only for me but my 2 brothers that lay in the cold, earthen coffins in the ground. I will not be fobbed off any longer

Regards

Diane Mancuso/nee/Eileen Kennedy