



22nd May 2010

Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Committee
PO Box 6100 Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

RE: Proposed Redress Schemes NSW

To whom it may concern

My birth name was _____ : DOB 8th July 1962 Place of birth Cootamundra NSW

Please Note:

I changed my surname by deed pole in the Nineteen Eighties to

I am currently serving a four-year Jail sentence, which expires this year on July 15th 2010, this will be full time served; I did not apply for parole.

I am presently incarcerated at Woodford Correctional Centre in Queensland.

I advise that _____ (Transition Clinician) of the Queensland prison Mental Health Service is the person that has advised me to forward a Submission to the Senate Inquiry on Government Compensation Payments.

As my personal Transition Clinician, _____ believes that the physical and verbal abuse I received as a minor and a teenager whilst under the care of NSW Docs has without a doubt been the main factor in my ante social life style and my violent life of crime.

Please find my Submission to the Senate Inquiry on Government Compensation Payments for your attention.

Yours faithfully,

SUBMISSION

22nd May 2010

Opening Statement

It is only now that I have come to realise that my life would have taken a totally different direction if I had been treated as a little boy when I was first placed in the care of NSW DOCS.

History

I was first placed in a Boy's Home in 1970 at the age of eight and was in and out a varied number of Boys Homes and Institutions for the next ten years; the following is a list of those facilities that are totally responsible for my continued life of crime

Mittagong Training School,
Darrllk Training Centre, Windsor,
Mt Penang Training School, Gosford,
Taldrie Remand Centre, Parramatta,
Yasmar Remand Centre,
Minda Remand Centre. Lidcombe.

I still have very vivid memories of the physical and mental abuse I received from the so-called carers that where employed to look after me and other inmates, at all times we where totally at their mercy and was constantly flogged, or had our heads bashed against the wall if we couldn't keep a straight line.

There are many other examples of abuse that I endured in my childhood whilst in those facilities that I can describe in detail along with names of the abusers.

Redress Schemes

I am not aware of any Redress Schemes that I may be eligible for as I only have learnt in the last few days that the Commonwealth was considering such a scheme, this is not something that I have thought very much about and previously stated it was only my Transition Clinician, that was able to bring me to understanding that all the violence that I have inflicted on other people through my life has come directly from the way I was treated at the hands of my abusers.

Different Outcomes for Different People.

I am aware of several inmates here at Woodford Correctional Centre Queensland that have applied and been successful in gaining compensation through the Queensland Redress Scheme.

Of those that received compensation I have seen a positive turnaround in attitude and behaviour, I believe that this gave them some sense of self worth.

No Redress Scheme.

I am unaware of any Redress Scheme available to me in NSW, hence why I am compiling this submission for your committee.

The Importance of a Redress Scheme.

I believe that with a Redress Scheme all abusers can be brought to justice and that a better duty of care can be introduced and that will go a long way to stop future children of Australia suffering the abuse that I personally experienced at the hands of my carers.

Whilst there isn't any doubt in my mind that the years of mental and physical abuse led me to a life of crime that I have been carrying out for most of my life.

Whilst I have been truthful throughout this submission I am confident that there would be hundreds of other children that either ended their own lives or were driven to a life of crime because of the immoral treatment we all received whilst in the care DOCS NSW.

In Conclusion

I feel it would be remiss of me if I didn't state my reservations with regard to a Redress Scheme for abused children of NSW ever becoming a reality, these reservations stem from a life of feeling that I always felt that I could have done so much better for my self in life, but for some reason or another I just never had the tools of life that a majority of people have had.

Yours faithfully,