

[REDACTED]

Senate Enquiry on mental Health,  
Parliament House,  
Canberra.

Dear Sir/ Ms,

I have been to the Enquiry of children in care and also completed and forwarded a note to your Enquiry. I would just like to add a brief note of how I feel regarding the "help" I have had since reaching my twilight years. [I am 68 y.o.] For years I have been told to "get on with it" and forget my formative years as if they did not exist.

I think the Government of this great Country of ours will realise that we will eventually disappear and there will then be no sense of shame to bear for past misdeeds of "carers" and the many thousands of lives that were destroyed by those who had the power over young children. A great many of these lives suffered not only physical tragedies but mental ones as well.

There are still episodes that I can't bear to recall or talk about. The punishments we suffered as children are forever in one's mind and I know that I often think "what if, or only if," but we can't turn back the clock.

Yes, we had a roof over our heads and basic food, but no love or respect. We were the "Invisible Children", and handy workhorses even from the age of six.

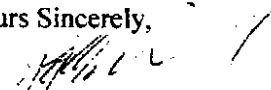
In the past ten years or so I have obtained documents relating to my incarceration in the 40s and 50s along with my RAAF records. The latter shows that I was "unstable", and I can only put that down to my Orphanage life as I enlisted 3 years after my release from there.

I have recently written and printed a book on part of my life and it is called "The Invisible Children". A copy of this can be seen at "CLAN" offices in Sydney.

Alternately I can send you a C.D. of it for \$15 plus \$2.50 postage.

But my main object here is to bring to your knowledge of the effect the life still has on me.

Yours Sincerely,

  
Robert Golding

