

Angela Sdrinis
Director

1/ Chris Bentley
Ref: AS:SB:2017/1006.

Date: 20 March 2017

Dear Angela,

thank you for your letter and legal advice dated: 10 March 2017. I have sent with this letter the signed authorisation forms and as much I.D. as I am able to obtain.

I am grateful that that your firm has decided to pursue my claims. Acknowledgment of wrongs would help with closure to a part of my life that would be best left in the past.

I healed many years ago from the effects of my abuses. I am no longer a victim, but a survivor. The reason I can say that is because I am still surrounded by the like minded people who display the same ignorance that enabled my suffering all those years ago - yet I remain unaffected.

By enabled - I refer to the authorities and professionals who validate the systematic abuse of people through their ignorance and lack of accountability.

Hopefully between the Royal Commission and the subsequent redress-authorities may find it financially beneficial to treat people with more dignity befitting a human being.

After I read the legal points you sent me I was unable to sleep very much that night. A couple of things disturbed me and brought to the fore the primary enabling factor that constituted much of my abuse. Ignorance has an M.O. Angela - it comes from a self-righteous and judgemental perspective. People have to believe they are better than us (prisoners) and that we deserve everything we get. You couldn't perpetuate suffering otherwise. From juvenile detention to now - I have been constantly judged, and through assessment, diminished as a human being through the clouded lense of a pernicious knowledge base.

As you mentioned in section 4: Obtaining Your Records. "When you read your records for the first time you may experience feelings of anger, confusion, and even despair. Many records contain information or comments which are hurtful and sometimes dishonest."

Sexual and violent abuse aside - when we arrive at a juvenile facility - possibly stemming from - as you mentioned 'difficulties at home'; we are not seen as a young person in crisis - we are seen as criminals - a threat to society - a blemished and tarnished individual who is not in need of guidance and care - but punishment

and judgement. We are systematically fed into a mechanism that perpetuates the suffering - that adds to it - that feeds of it - that creates criminality. The very existence of places such as Turana constitutes a far greater threat to society than any individual that you can point your finger at.

We did not enter the system as 'scrambled eggs', we entered as youth that was in need of guidance and care. The systematic abuse is the scrambling of the eggs - through the lack of care.

In Section 5: Legal Issues:

'In other words, it is important to establish the extent to which the abuse, as opposed to other events in your life, has caused you damage.....'

The Law tends to love those grey areas. They are not grey areas to me Angela - they are enabling factors.

Again that very proposition negates accountability. The sad irony is that the argument has in it a justification.

That being ~~is~~ the individual was damaged before - why should the system/government pay for something they may or may not be responsible for.

"We didn't ruin that boys life - he was ruined before he got here".

As you mentioned - 'skewed and subjective

Our problem/challenge, as you said or alluded to, consists of putting a case forward where the zeitgeist of our time upholds the techniques and knowledge base of an incorrect and debatably corrupt system of assessment. Not only upholds it but actively defends it.

'Proving that part of your psychological injuries which may be related to these events may be like trying to "unscramble" the eggs'

To use that analogy once more — this egg unscrambled itself and as such I have no problem distinguishing fact from fiction.

The primary fact being: although I had a difficult childhood and ended up in Turana Youth detention - the elements and influences that caused that didn't have me locked in a cell for years, wasn't violent on a regular basis and did not sexually abuse me. The authorities enabled that.

I was 14 years old. The authorities had control of my future and allowed the 'professionals' and 'experts' to judge and assess me through methods of character assassination to validate my then present and subsequent on going treatment.

The reality is that the system had control of my life - the system became my primary influence - the system allowed the abuses through neglect, and all the professionals and experts validated their positions by judging and assessing the on going damage as it was occurring. In short - these people fed off the most venerable people in our society, (youth) and stimulated a career and system of justice from it.

The professionals may have 'difficulties' in distinguishing the impact between problems at home to institutional abuse Angela - but I do not.

As Sebastian Buscemi mentioned - one of the next steps is to facilitate a report from a psychologist in the private sector.

Being a director of a Law firm as you are suggests that you are a smart lady. I am hopeful that the psychologist you choose is of the same calibre.

Although your outline of our challenge through the legal situation disturbed me a bit, I remain grateful for the insights.

You basically outlined the primary thing the Royal Commission needs to address, that being the incessant need for judgement and assessment to be

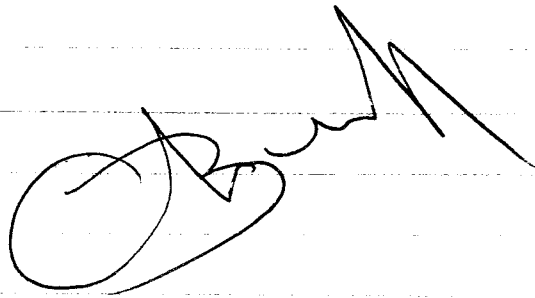
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replaced with the helping and healing
of our youth. Replace abuse with healing.
It's not a new concept however it is one
that has been forgotten.

Thank you again for the info

Kind regards

Chris Bentley

A stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Bentley', with a large loop at the start and a sharp upward stroke at the end.

M.O. - mode of operandous.