

To WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I Donna Brown (NEE ROSS) of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I was born in [REDACTED]  
Victoria on 31/10/58

I have been advised to lodge a submission  
to you regarding my 13 years in care  
at St Aidans Orphanage Bendigo.  
I was put in there ~~with~~ ~~my~~ at 18 mths old  
by an apparent aunt. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] We

were taken from our biological parents  
due to alcoholism and the fact that  
we were living in a tent on the river

banks somewhere  
Due to my age I don't remember much  
of the very early years but it is  
 vivid in my mind that when I was  
old enough I was in the hands of  
monster ~~nuns~~ catholic nuns. They found  
pleasure in punching me, pulling me by  
the hair & ears. Bashing to the head  
was a common practice of them I  
recall. I was subjected to extremely hard  
work such as scrubbing wooden floors  
and stairs washing and polishing floors  
climbing high to clean louvre windows

Maybe that's why I have a tendency to have a form of OCD re. cleanliness in my life today

The memories of these horrid years I have tried to block out because it makes me so bitter and twisted that they got away with the cruelty they imposed on us.

I recall so much praying, religion and church sessions that I despise the fact of going to a wedding or funeral even. I ~~was do not~~ am a faded catholic due to the hypocrites I remember being my covers.

Did these Religious people not realise that  
[redacted] were taken into their care ~~too~~  
because we were a large family living  
in poverty violence and alcoholism

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[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
My life in particular has been very scattered I have been taking medication for depression/anxiety for many years now — without them I can't function I call them my crazy pills

I only recall my mother visiting St Aidans once or twice in 13 years and when I met her in later years I resented her with a passion. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

None of us had a great education so finding a stable job was always a problem for me.

I had people the nuns sent ~~to~~ me to on Christmas holidays and they treated me like a slave also.

So much to tell, so little time to put

it all on paper  
Doctors, Dentists all ~~people~~ people in  
authority absolutely mistreat me  
due to the horrendous experiences  
I endured during those childhood  
years.

Should you require further information  
I can be contacted on

Yours Faithfully

DONNA BROWN (NEE ROSS)

AMEN

P.S. I was so disgusted with the  
contents of my childhood records sent to  
me from DHS that I destroyed them  
immediately. Nuro gave me an ex gratia  
sum of \$2,000 to improve my future  
life. After all they made it misery