

VICAR GENERAL

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20 NOV '96

15:04 No.012 P.05/12



7/7/93

Monsignor Cudmore.
Vicar General.
Archdiocesan Centre
Albert Street,
East Melbourne.

Dear Monsignor Cudmore,

I wish to formally express to you my concerns, for your attention.

I am deeply concerned that the children at Holy Family School, Doveton are at risk and feel there is reason to believe the problem is becoming more acute.

I am also deeply concerned for the Church community, that children are being damaged and that this will affect their futures, and secondly that many people know of this problem and are talking. People are disillusioned that the Church "does nothing about it".

As a teacher I tried to protect the children, and followed correct procedures, both in teaching practice and in handling

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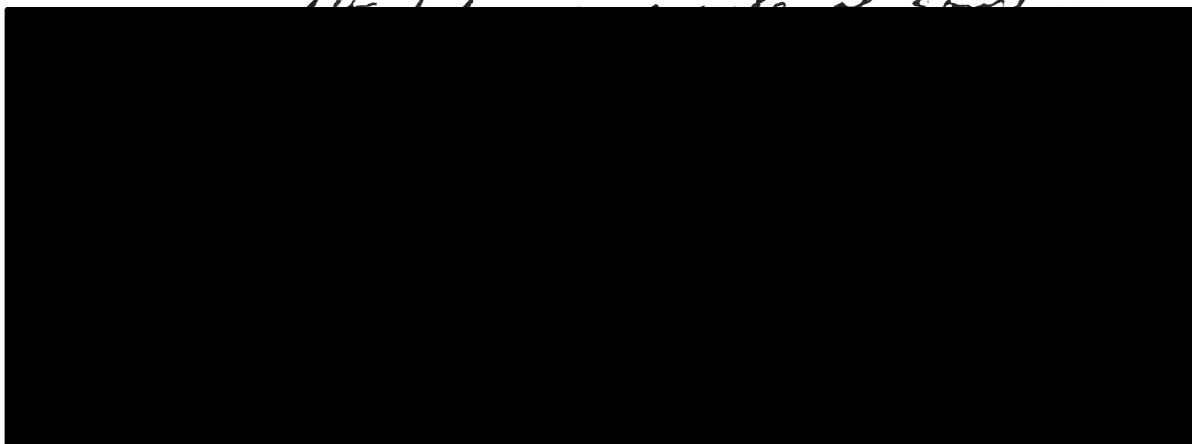
complaints/disclosures.

I was subsequently subjected to pressures from management -- was under stress and eventually lost my job.

I was employed initially for two and a half years as Special Resource Person on the Disadvantaged Schools Program, and when the funding for this program discontinued, thereafter as classroom teacher.

I taught the seniors for the first time in 1992 and found myself continually confronted with complaints and disclosures. I was contacted by an outside authority - the Doxton-Hallam Community Health Centre in relation to particular disclosures.

There were also many discussions with colleagues and some parents regarding similar complaints and concerns.



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I am now aware there were investigations being conducted into the matter which came to a head through November.

Staff and children are under stress. Some parents are manipulate into punishing children unjustly.

As a result of the stress I felt compelled to resign even though I've just turned fifty and know the career difficulties re employment.

I have had no job since and am now a sole parent with a house and

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mortgage, hence am now in a **DESPERATE** financial position. [redacted]
[redacted] I'm faced with selling the house

I wish to make several requests.

- a) I require written confirmation that you have received this letter.
- b) Confirmation that action is being taken for the children of Holy Family School
- c) That a full investigation into the problem at Holy Family School, Doveton, is made, bringing about change for the better for all concerned.
- d) Advice on any process of approach to the Director of Catholic Education regarding my reemployment within the system, teaching or otherwise.

With thanks

I am

Yours faithfully

[redacted]
Carmel RAFFERTY
[redacted]