



New Submission to Inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and Other Organisations

POV eSubmission Form

to:

fcdc

23/08/2012 10:52 PM

[REDACTED]

To: fcdc@parliament.vic.gov.au

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and Other Organisations

Mrs Marita Catherine van Gemert

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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My husband [REDACTED] was sexually abused by Catholic priest Kevin O'Donnell when O'Donnell was parish priest of St Mary's Dandenong in the 1960's.

We were referred to Carelink by Mr Peter O'Callaghan. I found Mr O'Callaghan to be kind and easy to talk to about this distressing subject.

Overall Carelink have been fine for us and I have no complaints. Professor Ball was very good to my husband and treated him holistically with great respect.

My husband received \$22000 compensation and I am 100% certain that we were told it was a confidential settlement and that at no time in the future could we seek further compensation if we accepted this one off grant.

[REDACTED]

24/08/2012

Our correspondence is files away and I do not have the mental strength to go look for the documents which we signed at that time.

To this day I think the amount we received for the devastation caused to my husband, myself and my children, is an insult. We have survived but only just. [REDACTED]

I would be happy to speak to the committee at length about our struggles and how we have managed to survive.

[REDACTED]

I am totally disgusted by the actions of the Catholic Bishops, past and present, who have acted in the best interests of themselves and this priest instead of the children who have been abused.

Say no more!

Thank you

Marita van Gemert

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File1:

File2:

File3: