

Raymond Monagle

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08. 04. 2013

Family & Community Development Committee  
Parliament House  
Spring Street  
East Melbourne Vic 3002

### SUBMISSION

I WISH MY SUBMISSION TO BE RECORDED IN "Victorian Parliament Inquiry  
Into Sexual Abuse in Religious and Other Organisations"

My Testimony is:

I commenced my primary school education in 1940.  
I was a student in the boy's school of  
St Ignatius Catholic School, Church Street, Richmond, Vic  
St Ignatius Parish, Richmond, Victoria is a Jesuit Parish  
The teachers in the boy's school were the DE LA Salle brothers  
St Ignatius School closed in 1969

In 1944 when I was eight years of age, and in grade four,  
I was molested, on two separate occasions, by my class teacher,  
a Brother of the De La Salle Order of Brothers.  
These events took place in my school classroom.

Following the second abuse, after I returned home from school, I described to my mother  
what had happened to me in the classroom that day, and also on a previous occasion.

I believe it was the following day my parents visited the school and spoke with the  
School Principal, informing him of my abuse by the De La Salle brother.

From that time, I never saw the Brother at my school again. I can not recall the Brother's  
name.

My sister [REDACTED] believes that the Brother was re-located  
to St Bede's College, Mentone.

The Impact this abuse has had on my adult life:

Particularly over the last 15 years, when ever I see a news item on TV or in the press, relating to Clerical Sexual Abuse, I am immediately transported mentally back to the classroom, and the abuse.

I have also experienced recurring bouts of depression, which manifested in headaches for months at a time, mood changes. I lost interest in my successful business, my ability to interact with my customers diminished.

I sought medical help and received marginal success. I attended meditation classes conducted by Ainsley Mears, this was helpful, but the depression continued and I continued to struggle with the depression.

I have never mentioned my clerical abuse to any professional person.

Over the years, very occasionally, I have spoken briefly of the abuse to my family. This conversation has always been listened to with sympathy but there never seemed to be any appropriate action to take. In the wider world at the time, it was not a popular topic and whistleblowers were badly treated

I however, it is only in recent times that I have been fully able to articulate the deep and distressing emotions this subject causes me.

Raymond J Monagle

8 - 4 - 2013

Date