

Michael Scull

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Inquiry Into The Handling Of Child Abuse By Religious & Other Organisations

Submission by Mike Scull.

I won't go on too much as I have been doing that for years to no avail.

But would ask you to please pull the first and only 'colourful' sheet from the folder ...on this you will find where Father Jack Ayers says in his own words how he *"at 72 I teach full time in early St Bernard's tradition"*

In 2000 I went into the catholic church offices CentaCare Baxter St and told them quietly I needed to speak to someone seniorvery quickly I found myself in an interview with a senior carer who I told that I was concerned that the church had a paedophile teaching in one of their schools and I knew this as the priest had abused (and I specifically said anally raped and mauled) me at boarding school.

What occurred next is well documented ...and I won't bore you with it. To be perfectly honest I don't have it in me to type it all down ...nor is anyone going to read it as it would go to thousands of words and still not manage to explain the complexities.

One especially being the fact that the Salesians refused to discuss my own abuse with Ayers because of their Canon Law concerning Confessional secrecytoo hard to explain herebut no salesian spoke to Ayers about his abusing me nor did anything about removing him from children.

Victorian Policeman Sgt [REDACTED] told me years ago he was too busy for 'overseas paed's' and to go see the fedsand I'd have to do it myselfthe more I looked into it over the years the more I found what he said was true.

Be it [REDACTED] office ignoring my calls for mths in 2004 and then turning around and taking the credit for exposing the paed priests in Samoa. (read the docs and check the dates)

Be it finding why I couldn't get support for the Samoa story in 2004Salesians were slandering our reporter Reese Dunklin ...just too much!!

[REDACTED]

Or just the straight out stone walling I've gotten at every turn.

You'll find this letter duplicated on the thumb drive provided if you move from this paper version to the file on the drive you will find all the tags work to internet stories and files.

Some docs you will only find here (some now removed from the internet)

Archbishop of Samoa's letter to Reese Dunklin for instance (the reporter the salesians were slandering)

Salesian Moloneys reply and explanation to the slander story in The Agedoubt anyones seen that.

Also follow the folders as all are easily identified.

Especially I'd ask you to look at my video 'Unedited 4Crns Interview August 2012'

As it is an insight into what has occurred ...or mores the point what didn't!

Some others vids including the earlier banned 1997 Four Corners program 'Twice Betrayed'

When I started this I thought the church needed to know they had a paedophile priest teaching.

Little did I ever realize how much this has been covered up over the years and wish I'd never ever bothered considering the damage to my family that this has caused.

All I can do now is hope someone sees the light a puts a stop to this hiding paedophiles amongst our kids.

And make some of these people accountable for their actions.

I'd certainly welcome to opportunity to speak in person to the committee. While I would ask to bring along a support person with me.

Signed

Date

Background

Name	Mike Scull
Publish	
Address	c/-Lewis Holdway Lawyers 20 Queen Street Melbourne 3000 Ph 96299629
Responsible Church Authority	Salesian Order
Time of Assaults (Approximate year)	1966 -68 - Numerous sexual assaults by Fr Jack Ayers while a student at Rupertswood boarding school. The assaults began when I was 12, and continued over a two year period. During that time I repeatedly ran away from Rupertswood to escape the assaults. I told my mother and the police but neither believed me and I was forced to return. I was sexually assaulted again by Ayers on one return trip back to the school. I was finally expelled.
Time of Report to Church Authority	2000 - to Towards Healing
Time Taken to Resolve Complaint	Ayers died this year in Samoanothing was ever resolved.
Outcome	Ex-gratia payment No apology

The Handling of My Report of Abuse to the Church

Initial Contact:

I received immediate and appropriate assistance, 5 - 6 sessions of counselling. The Salesians paid for this.

I was asked to do a statement for Towards Healing at the outset.

Although there had been another complaint about Fr Ayers I was told this later, not at the outset.

I was not provided clear information about the complaint process, I never got any paperwork, nothing.

I had the impression that Towards Healing was an "arrangement" between government and the church; I did not understand that it was just the church.

I was not offered independent legal advice.

I was not allowed told to bring anybody else in to the meetings with me, not my wife or the Victim Support Agency person.

No support was offered to my family.

Period of Investigation:

I did not tell the Towards Healing Contact Person the full extent of the assaults because the woman who was interviewing me became very upset when I began to tell my story. She did not want to write down that I had been raped and when she reacted like that I felt I could not say much more.

I was pleased to get the initial sessions of counselling from the Salesians. However, at about the 5th session my counsellor [REDACTED] told me that from now on Towards Healing had decided to send me to another psychologist called Shane Wall and that he would deal with me into the future. Unknown to me [REDACTED] had been requested by Towards Healing to pass on my file to them and had written a report and sent it to Towards Healing. When I went to my first appointment with Shane Wall, I was completely shocked to walk in to a room where Fr Murdoch and his lawyer [REDACTED] and Shane Wall were all waiting for me. I had thought I was coming for counselling and it was in fact a Towards Healing facilitation.

Later on again I had third parties who worked for the church authority sit in on my meetings without my consent, and yet when I wanted to take a support person to come to a meeting with me they wouldn't let her in.

I was told that Fr Ayers had been the subject of other complaints. However, Fr Murdoch said he could not discuss the crimes Ayers had committed against me because he had previously heard Fr Ayers' confession, and had absolved him from all of his sins in the past. This came up because a more recent complaint than mine had prompted Ayers to go to confession and he had then confessed to earlier crimes (which included mine) and had been absolved.

I was not allowed to have my wife or a victim support worker attend the first two Towards Healing meetings with me.

I think the process became very legalistic - especially with Fr Murdoch having his lawyer involved.

Outcome:

Although the actual process was only 12 months at most, because of how I and my family had been treated by Salesians, it remains a wound which is not healing and for me it is not over.

I do not believe that my complaint was investigated by the church authority. They told me they could do nothing because he was in Samoa.

The Salesians supposedly sent Fr Ayers to Samoa as a retiree. However, in about 2002/3, two years after my claim had been settled, I contacted a journalist from Texas who went to Samoa and took a photo of Ayers and Klep (Fr Klep, another Salesian who had sexually assaulted children) on the steps of a church giving out lollies to kids. This made me very angry and distraught. After more investigating I discovered that Ayers was listed in Samoa as a teacher at a Catholic primary school, so they left him in ministry with children, despite my report.

The Towards Healing process made things absolutely impossible for me, things got worse. I did have some more counselling sessions but the Salesians only paid for three more.

I was told that I had to remain silent about my concerns about Fr Ayers and had to sign a statutory declaration that it would not be discussed.

I was visited by a Towards Healing Assessor [REDACTED] who did not explain his role to me. This visit went very badly for me [REDACTED]

My complaint was not resolved to my satisfaction for the following reasons:

[REDACTED]

- All I wanted was for them to take the paedophile away from the kids and they wouldn't.
- They lied to me
- Nothing was done (the Salesian told Murdoch told me they would not even speak to Ayers) and they left him near kids knowing what he was.

Harmful Systemic practices

I was not informed of my right to report to the police at the outset or later on during the process.

I was discouraged from making a police report because Murdoch told me Ayers was overseas, and that we don't have an extradition treaty with Samoa. He also said it was too long ago to do anything about it now.

I was not encouraged to seek independent legal advice, in fact I was discouraged because I wasn't allowed to bring anyone to any meeting.

Required changes required to law/practices/policies/protocols

I don't think that the church should run a response to victims, it should be the police or government or the community. No church should be running any kind of response to victims.

Victims should be consulted and included in any community or government response.

Recognition and Inclusion of spiritual damage as a critical element in the harm caused

Recognition and practical response and support should be provided to family members of the complainant – the secondary victims.

The relationship between Canon Law and civil and criminal law should be transparent and Canon Law should be subject to the law of the State

There should be psychiatric screening of all current church personnel including those currently in training for religious life to minimise risk to children.

There should be funding for complainants who seek a holistic casework approach, (spiritual/medical/legal/ psychological).

An acknowledgement that the required pastoral care in this field is specialised and should be provided to victims by appropriately qualified professionals at no cost to the complainants.

I believe the following changes to the law will improve access to justice for victims of Catholic clergy abuse:

- The Statute of Limitations – amend to allow historical abuse claims
- Amend corporations law so that the church authority is legally a corporation and capable of being sued over time
- Amend property trust legislation in each state to prevent the church authority from protecting its assets from civil suits
- Amend the law on vicarious liability so that priests and religious are treated as employees and therefore church authorities can be held responsible for breaches committed by church personnel.
- Introduce Mandatory Reporting for priests, religious and those appointed by the church to investigate complaints of sexual assault.

████████████████████

I need to say that I feel the real central issue to all this is being ignored.

What I do understand about the laws that these Salesian leaders followed was....

Murdoch and Moloney both knew what Crimen Sollicitationis said in their Canon Law.

They also knew what misprision of felony meant (as did CentaCare where it all started).

Both the Salesians also knew that Canon 22 of the Code of Canon Law required clergy to follow Canon law rather than Civil law where there was a conflict.

No space here, nor point in explaining that furthermy opinion is in the video.

(attached)

These ontologically superior catholic priests don't careI may be ontologically challenged myself but I do know that anyone who knowingly places paedophiles amongst children needs to be stopped ...simple!

And in 12 years I found I was unable to do that no matter who in the legal system/govt/police nor church I spoke with ...all sorry but powerless to protect kids from this guy.

Witnesses:

Mike Scull

Supporting Documents:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Samoan Bishops Letter/ReeseDunklin
- [REDACTED]
- My submission to Patrick Parkinson from 2008
- And assorted files and documents all on thumb drive

I would welcome the opportunity to speak in person to the Committee and if so, I would like to bring a support people with me.

Signed

[REDACTED]

Date

20 - 9 2012

[REDACTED]

REPORT OF MEETING WITH MICHAEL SCULL AND HIS WIFE [REDACTED]

SATURDAY 3 JANUARY 2009 IN BENDIGO

Michael requested a scribe to prepare his response to the Review of Towards Healing.

.....and now heavily edited by Michael Scull himself who wishes to thank Angela for making some chronological sense from my babble to her over coffee.

Angela Ryan gave up a few days of her xmas break to actually come to Bendigo and assist me with the first part of thisand the reason some jumps from third person to who knowsis my work where it's a little screwed.

I thank Angela again for giving up her time and also commend herself and Kerry Buchecker for always being that kind voice when you are sure there are none out there.

They both are saints for putting up with my me alone.....and I thank them for their help and support.

(let me also condemn their bosses for their timing of this review.....you hurt your own staff as well over xmas!!.....they gave up their family time to assist victims like myself.....hope you are proud of yourselves!!)

Michael described his experience as follows:

The Towards Healing Director in Ballarat arranged for me to meet a female contact person at Centacare in Bendigo.

The report was then sent to the Provincial of the Salesians – Fr. Ian Murdoch.

Someone from the Salesians sent me to [REDACTED] the psychologist at the St. John of God hospital and I attended 5 times or so.

I have been to three or four mediation meetings with Fr. Ian Murdoch. Fr. Murdoch accepted that there had been complaints against Fr. Ayers. He also said that Fr. Ayers was in Samoa and that there was not an extradition treaty between Australia and Samoa and thus he would speak for Fr. Ayers.

[REDACTED] gave an assessment to Fr. Ian Murdoch. Murdoch asked for and received my psychologist report without my knowledge or approval [REDACTED].

Shane Wall supplied me with a copy of my report some years later. Shane Wall can confirm all this.

On the occasion of a formal mediation meeting with Fr. Murdoch, I was not allowed to have my wife [REDACTED] with me or the woman from CASA and Fr. Murdoch was there and there was a lawyer, [REDACTED], and Shane Wall was the person running the meeting.

At a different time I was running late to a meeting with Fr. Murdoch and rang the secretary Susan Drew to say that I was having trouble with the car and that I would be late. When I said to Susan that I needed to speak to Father Murdoch she said that he was just going out the door and asked whether it was about Fr. Ayers. Susan asked whether I wanted to speak to Fr. Ayers – he was in the garden?

But Ian Murdoch had said that Ayers was in Samoa. Coupled with saying there was no extradition treaty with Samoa and other conversations about getting Ayers back – I was very very angry. Everything said to me so far was a lie.....how could I tell what was and what wasn't!! I rang Sgt. Raglus in Melbourne and also contacted Alexander Downer's foreign affairs office many times in the next few days. The Salesians flew Fr. Ayers out the next day and Downer's office and the police said that they could not stop it.

I'd been deceived as to my choices at the beginning and had the opportunity to get Ayers charged if I'd known he was coming in and out of Australia and not as it was explained to me in the first instance by Murdoch.

Only one month after we exposed the paedophiles living and teaching in Samoathe SAMOAN govt had legislated to deal with these paedophiles.

Check the text.....'exercised my duty under the Immigration Act 2004 to:' from

the enclosed Samoan Govt document. This was years after my mediation that these people were exposedwhere was Murdoch in keeping these paedophiles at a safe distance from childrenno where!

Considered against everything else that the documents show there is a definite theme of deceit by the Salesians.....whether it be what Klep told the Archbishop (as quoted in the other Samoa Archbishops letter) where Klep says it's a "One Off incident, and indeed an accident" then Klep was taken back to Australia to face many many charges.

Ayers as I said can stay there where I know what he's doing and the govt and archbishop are watching him.

Again be aware why klep was taken out of commission, aussie govt would not move him....Salesians wouldn't move him either and knew from 2000 at least from me.....only reason Klep and Ayers were exposed was because of Reese Dunklin (read his letter from the Samoan Archbishops office thanking him for showing him where the clergy paed were....archbishops letter enclosed) took the pictures of Klep mixing with kids while he was suppose to be on a watch list with the salesians (photo enclosed) the Samoan govt did the restshame ours isn't of the same mind.

At one time I was asked 'did I want money?' (never did I ask for money....all I asked was for them to get the paedophilia stopped....and they promised to keep Ayers away from children- (it was explained to me that the limit was \$50,000) Eventually I received \$45,000 and had to sign a non-disclosure document. It took about two years to get the Salesians to also sign the document. Shane Wall again got me the documents.

I was suffering from post-traumatic-stress as suggested by the psychological report that Murdoch had obtained [REDACTED]....I'd suggest Murdoch was well aware of my state of mind and used it to the salesians advantage. [REDACTED]

Fr. Murphy, the previous Provincial, knew about Ayers and Klep- how could he have assigned them to any position involved with children in Samoa?....now Murdoch was well aware of Ayers (he said he knew already) and still Ayers was amongst children unsupervised for years until I personally got him exposed to the Archbishop of Samoa (letter from the Archbishop attached) by a Reese Dunklin who went to Samoa to check out what was happening for me and a few other victims of the Salesians.

[REDACTED]

I was not given a copy of the Towards Healing book.....nothing.

I was seen to be a trouble maker and out of favour with the Salesians because I co-operated with a guy from the United States who was making enquiries with the intention of bringing assistance for those who have been abused.

I know that the police, the Government and the Archbishop in Samoa are watching every move of Ayers. And I want him left thereunlike here where they just disappear into the Orders again. Where's Francis Klep and [REDACTED] by the way?

When I was at Sunbury I had gone to the local police but the matter had not been taken up.

Michael spoke of another experience that worried him.

I was not impressed with [REDACTED] being sent to interview me in my house and with his attitude of insisting that the priests I had named were never in Inglewood and he being so sure meant he treated me as a liar for the rest of the meeting.

I insisted he was wrong.....he rang me some time later and apologied and said that I

was correct. He sent me a dozen Towards Healing fix-it Kits to hand out to the local victimsthat was the end of it!

Then the other day after ringing around trying to get someone about this review but being xmas all office running the review was closed and ended up I rang Kerry Bucheckershe's said I could contact her any time so I rang the first working day between xmas and NYear.....I spoke long about the timing of the review and how it anger me deeply how they just keep on sticking the needles in!!.....we rang off, kerry said she's do my review writeup for me [REDACTED]

Love Towards Healings style.....more evidence to tell me that this whole thing is a sham! Speak with Kerry Buchecker she didn't have a problem with me.....but [REDACTED] did. Or is this GoodCop/BadCop I'm experiencing.

By the way this was last week.....not in years gone by.

Seeing as how I don't believe the salesians involved in my case had any scruples at all about what they did I'd recommend a Royal Commission if mine was anything but the rarest of happenings. But I can't see how it is knowing the circumstances of all the others Salesians that are hiding from Rupertswood the boarding school this started from. Klep /Ayers/Fox/Aulsebrook/Coffey/Rapson/Ridsdale [REDACTED] that I know ofhow many more??

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] are other paedophile clergy that are hidden through the Towards Healing process on the register??? I can't see how if these superiors follow this Canon Law Criminale that I have attached, can they also comply with Australian lawsome paragraphs are outline in the document for you to consider.

That every effort be made to put a stop to abuse by church personnel.

That a copy of Towards Healing was given to each person who came forward.

That there was a network of people to whom a person could speak – I feel very alone and needed to establish my own support structures. [REDACTED] said that she also feels very alone.)

That people are encouraged and, if necessary, assisted to go to the police and not conned as I was by lies and deceit.

That you, from the Professional Standards Office, look at the problems with the Salesians and someone from your office attend all their mediations.

That you, Angela, sit in on some of the mediations.

That you get rid of the police who do investigations as most of the victims have had unfortunate experiences with the police at some time in their lives.

That the process is not church based.

[REDACTED]

That the process moves more quickly.

That there be some way to stop suicides.

That the Church is more pro-active in preventing abuse and dealing with those who have abused.

That the Church be incorporated so that it could be sued and thus be responsible for what has taken place.

That there be a process or a way to follow-up after mediation.

Queries from Michael

- Is [REDACTED] back teaching or running camps?
- What did Fr. Ian Murdoch mean when he said that he could not speak to the accused because my allegation was from an earlier time, and Ayers had been spoken with just prior to my own allegations about this later victim and therefore Ayers need not be question again by Murdoch.
- I believe Murdoch could not speak to Ayers because of that Canon Law Criminale I've attached and the timing of mine against the later victim and the secrecy clauses in that CLCriminale.....and/or I deserve a better reason for why Murdoch didn't question Ayers. I also want to say to all you people who think this abuse is about kissykissy and a bit of mauling.

Being sodomised by a drunk goes down with me as the most violent thing I have ever been throughpassing out was always the way out for me and the rest was like a dream/nightmare. The rest being just existing at Rupertswood during that period. The Towards Healing process I went through can nearly be considered to have been just as damaging to me as my first experienceonly this time the church screwed my whole family over. My wife and three kids and their kids. My family hasn't been the same since this started and now they haven't seen me over this xmas (my grandson waits patiently inside as I type here and avoids me today....he knows when I'm doing this stuff and it's a shame that's the case!!)

All damaged!

Let me make it quite clear who exposed the Salesian paedophiles in Samoa.....attached is a letter from the Archbishop of Samoa thanking the guy I helped send to Samoa to expose these priestsnot anyone from the church or salesians.....he's thanking Reese and is watching those Salesiansas he says in the letter....'I've got the salesians in a "watch closely mode".....best you do too!!

Wish to thank the Nat.Committee for Professional Standards for staging the review when they didthru xmas is so christian of them.

Signed

michael scull

Just to add after the final editI've just become aware that Ian Murdoch has passed away in the last few daysthis is going to mean that most of these questions will now never be answered.

I just have to say....no way you can beat a system like this one of the Catholic churchall these travesties die away under this secret of confession.
Just crap in my opinion!!!!!!!!!!!!!!