

10 Response to Disclosure.

10.7. What was the initial response from the organisation.

- After the report of abuse and removal of Parish Priest (Paul Paulos), (PP) [redacted] asked me to attend meeting organized by Response team - I attended the first few. (2006)
- The initial advice given as a goal to protect [redacted] and also for parishioners not to have the disruption of knowing real reason for PP leaving. So it was agreed at meeting to use the health angle that PP had already mentioned to his parishioners... That way [redacted] not have the pressure of knowing "everyone knows" and parishioners who loved him need not know the truth and feel betrayed.
- Initially this seemed a good enough course of action to take. (As a Parish we had already the disclosure of David Daniel being a sexual predator).

10-12 Effects of response to disclosure on victim etc.

- Within a short amount of time the initial response turned out to be a negative one... in retrospect.
- For [redacted] - the implication could be made / or he may believe / that somehow he is part of this dirty secret - maybe with feelings of guilt that somehow he is responsible in part for what happened.
- For parishioners - Do they not deserve truth? Are they not mature enough? In knowing they can move forward ~
- For family - already isolated through the groomer by PP - are given the "independent" Melbourne Response Team as their support and voice... (see later)

Maree Jefcott

10.12

Effects of Response to disclosure on victims etc.

- The word was out that PP had left for his health. However there was much gossip.... "what was the real reason?"... pointing of fingers →
- An invitation only meeting - to a list made up of names who "knew something" was organized to stop the gossip. Chairred by [redacted] there was opportunity to talk about what known - then clarification of facts. Then the attendees requested not to "gossip" about the incident -
- ie to keep the "secret" contained



• The family is further isolated by this process.

10.22

Were you satisfied with process

& the result.

- looking back I saw that the process was more about protecting church and little to do with rights of victims - NO NOT SATISFIED!!
- The victim is kept quiet; feel a part of the sick behaviour and the dirty secret is hidden deep within where it will fester.
- No discussions for parishioners
- No dialogue with family was welcomed.
- Closed Meetings for a select few.
- Pleas by family for a voice - denied.
- This system further abuses "victim/family" by shutting them out.

Maree Jehcott

10.22

Were you satisfied with process + result.

- Their voice is silenced in the very place they lived their faith, sought their refuge, and were betrayed
- This I have witnessed [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] + [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] They have wanted to be included in steps taken within parish to further protect our vulnerable children and stop any further Abuse -
- These families would have been invaluable in participating in the steps to protect children - policy making - education awareness. But the door was continually slammed in their face!
- They have courageously battled on - lost many friends - and tirelessly been a voice for the much needed reform of Church policy - and the unheard victims and their families.

10.24

What were the effects of the result on you and other individuals? ..

- As a friend of the families I have felt angry & frustrated at the unfair treatment of the families ..

(From what I have witnessed and from other stories - this response and isolation of families is mirrored around the state and world wide)

Maree Jeffcott

1024 What were the effects of result on you & others

o) It is tragic that victims have been abused and their innocence stripped, their trust abused, their faith trampled upon -

o) But in the cover up, the silencing, the protecting (of perpetrators & Church) that the existing policy enforces (under the cover of offering support to victims/families) - the abuse is eternalized and justice denied

o) I am so angry at those who make & enforce policies. To those who have used their voice to silence those who should have been heard - to those who locked the door to the pleas for justice - I say "Shame on you" - "Wolf in sheep's clothing"

o) I feel distressed for the betrayal of trust for victims & families - for their "infinite" pain

o) For all the many parishioners who have been part of the community where offending PP's have been baptizing; marrying, hearing confessions, visiting the sick being shepherds - whilst molesting our "children" - they who have left the Churches in disgust, in pain - "I do care about you & understand your distress."

o) I do apologize for my part - for the times I should have spoken out, but chose to

Maree Jepcott

10.24 What were the effects of Result on you...

to be quiet, chose the easy option -
 Don't Rock the Boat, and suffer the
 consequences. But now I have an
 opportunity to speak out. (When good people
 say / do nothing, bad things happen) -
 This inquiry is a chance for all the
 voices to be heard # voices who have come
 forward as victims ~ bravely & spoken of their
 pain # families ^{who} watched in horror & become part
 of their sadness; who begged for justice, a
 hearing - shouts & demands for reform -
 # The man on the street has this opportunity
 to be heard - Please God this will lead
 to a throwing out of existing policy - and
 lead to a Church hierarchy that is accountable
 & reform from within - (But it will not be
 given up willingly) -
 So I urge the changes noted on
 my Submission Sheet attached.

Maree Jetwo #

1601

Are there education or prevention programs...

- There still to date have been no education / prevention programmes in our parish ...
- Yet we have had 2 offenders.
- No awareness by community of these offenders

→ Coercing of [redacted] family *

- Family in difficulty.
- Priest is asked for counsel and support

[redacted]

- Mum [redacted] goes for help from PP to link into other services but PP says that there is no need for [redacted] AND he can counsel. [redacted]

- Family dependant on PP.
- A growing interest [redacted] - changes to obsession
- Several interventions used to request PP ^{stop} picking up [redacted] from bus, continuous texting, & overstayng at presbytery - all PP said "oh, I see" but continued in his growing obsession [redacted]
- leading to [redacted] being sent away, complaint made & ~~PP~~ leading to PP's dismissal.
- PP comes to me (Marce) & says, " Marce, I'm in trouble - Tell [redacted] that [redacted] has been imagin all this."
- I replied - " No I've seen your obsession - it is not [redacted] imagination"

* (A short summary of how happened - by Marce). who was a constant in family home and journey over this time ...

Marce Jettott

(b.1) Education - Programmes

- I know that as well as myself, others have requested Education, Awareness programmes but they have never been introduced.
- They are needed, I believe

P.S. I just want to say -

I have known these families for many years

[REDACTED]

would always have grace at table, rosaries and Novenas - loved her Catholic faith.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] lived her Catholic faith - [REDACTED] a man of integrity with such enriching family values. How vile that their families have been forced to endure this "evil".
How courageous they have been!

Maree Setcott