

26th July 2011

Michael Crowe
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Thanks so much for your letter of support. It is greatly appreciated as I know you have experienced your own worrying times as touched on in your letter with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. If there is any positive from this experience it has been the many people with integrity like you who have provided us with sound advice and empathy.

Unfortunately, the ordeal that Carol and I have experienced has changed our outlook on life. It has impacted on both of us greatly. I have tried to hide some of the details from my family to protect them and stop them from worrying as much. One of the outcomes from this situation is that I have gone from being a relatively positive and open person to now become a sceptical and guarded individual. I now never just trust people with authority and no longer respect people who hold senior positions.

I am prevented from sharing with you any details of the outcome other than I have resigned from my ongoing position at the school. I remain deeply concerned for the safety and wellbeing of some of my former colleagues and students at the school. I would have preferred to continue to battle on against the injustice but this was not an option as I was very fearful of the damage it would do to my family. In the end it came down to risk management. It was far better to try and move on and enjoy the many blessings in my life; such as a loving wife and great kids.

However there are issues that deeply disturb me and I continue to worry about. Abuse of children and the protection and support of people involved in this tops the list. From my point of view there are real people experiencing serious harm yet nobody in positions of responsibility were prepared to listen to me. Apparently my 'perceptions' were the issue. I decided to stick to my perceptions because they were backed by the truth, other witnesses and factual events. This decision had serious consequences for my family and I.

The lack of justice experienced is overwhelming. Trying to explain to Carol that justice and truth is a nice concept but just don't expect any has been something both of us have struggled with. The many nights ordering our children to the back room or to bed early so mum and dad can work on folders full of correspondence has taken its toll on us.

We believe the Catholic Church and education system are very sick because of what we experienced in response to complaints. The only option we have now is to try and move on and get over this entire issue; this will be very challenging. I am currently setting little goals to aim for so that by the end of the year Carol and I will both be in a slightly better place. I aim for a brighter future and pray for a fairer go.

Thanks again for your interest and support.

Kind Regards,

Michael Crowe