

## SUBMISSION TO THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

### INQUIRY INTO THE HANDLING OF CHILD ABUSE BY RELIGIOUS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Name	Hugh McGowan
Address	[REDACTED]
Time in care (in Victoria)	October 1961 to April 1966
Carer organisation	Presbyterian Church and the Victorian Government
Homes	Dhurringile Rural Training Farm Home for Boys (1961-1964) Kilmany Park Home for Boys (1964-1966)

I am seeking to appear before the Committee inquiring into the handling of child abuse by religious and other organisations. I am a better speaker than writer. I would like to submit information about:

- the sexual and psychological abuse I was subjected to, particularly at Dhurringile, but also at Kilmany Park
- The fear of recrimination (by the perpetrators) if I spoke out about the abuse
- The poor response by the Church when the superintendent was discovered to be a paedophile
  - Why did two Dhurringile committee members stand outside the office while the sacked superintendent put a huge sob story to the boys about his leaving?
- The lack of action by the institution staff and the Church who knew I was being bullied by other boys (documented evidence)
- The lack of reasonable support while at school especially as a result of bullying by a teacher
- Removal from school to work on the farm at Dhurringile and Kilmany Park for fictitious sub-standard wages
- The lack of any support in regard to gaining “life skills”
- The lack of support at the time and immediately after leaving the institutional system by the Presbyterian Social Services Department
- The detrimental effect that I suffered through much of my life
- The response to a meeting with the Uniting and Presbyterian Churches on 22 August 2012.
- Their acknowledgement of past failures in due care to me
- Their response to my offer to tell my story to the Uniting Church’s social services personnel

Hugh McGowan

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