



The Salvation Army

Australia Southern Territorial Headquarters

23 April 2013

Family & Community Development Committee
Parliament House
Spring Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

BY EMAIL: fcdc@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Ms Crozier

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

Thank you for the opportunity to give evidence to the Committee on 11 April 2013.

During that appearance we were asked why an investigation into whether the abuse in our homes was systemic or cultural had been carried out and if not why not. I advised that an investigation had not been done.

The Salvation Army has heard what the Committee had to say and has now commissioned an investigation which will start at the beginning of May 2013. While we are unsure about how long the investigation will take, if your Committee wishes we will contact you at about the end of June to give a progress report. If the investigation's findings come too late for your Inquiry they will at least be available to inform the Royal Commission.

One matter that was raised by the Committee was the absence of Commissioner Raymond Finger from the hearing. Quite apart from what was said on the day I would like it noted that he was not specifically invited. The letter was addressed to me and it simply requested the Salvation Army appear.. Certainly no disrespect to your Committee was intended by his non-appearance.

Yours faithfully

Malcolm J. Roberts

Territorial Legal Secretary |
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