

Birth Certificate (copy attached)

When the Salvation Army Sister came to me for information to fill in [REDACTED] birth certificate, I started out by giving [REDACTED] fathers name. I was promptly told that his name was not allowed to be on it, nor his address. I was angry so when she asked me where I was born I gave instead [REDACTED] father's birthplace, which was Triabunna in Tasmania. I signed the form such as it was. I had no copy of it. I believe copies were posted out to people but mine would have gone to the Haven as it was the only address written on it. Years later, when I was able to get a copy of the original I found that it had been altered from Triabunna to Hobart, of course after I had signed it and without my initials on the alteration.

Around 1996 I wrote to the County Court in Melbourne and asked for a form to overturn [REDACTED] adoption because I believed it was an illegal one. Eventually, after many phone calls and being told by a staff member ([REDACTED]), that I was "opening a can of worms" and I should go away and leave it alone, a form was posted to me in 1997. I hadn't lodged the form but I received a letter from my daughter to say that the County Court had written to her saying I intended to overturn her adoption and she didn't approve of it and had engaged a solicitor. I had planned to write to her myself and explain before I lodged the form but wasn't given the chance. (Copies of letters from the County Court attached).

My daughter is now named [REDACTED]. She made contact with me in 1989. She feels she was rejected by me when she was two days old. She initially wrote to me to get information re health issues, family etc. We have never met, she is happy to write to me but doesn't want to meet me. I have given her the circumstances re the adoption etc but the papers that I received were distressing for me to read so I do have some understanding of how adopted people must feel and think when they read these papers, (especially form 5).

[REDACTED]

Cherylyn Harris

Date.....*2/4/20*.....



