

To Whom It may Concern, I am writing in reply to your advertisement in the advertiser on Saturday 10th May 2003, regarding abuse in government institutions.

I feel that my son has been a victim of abuse, since he started school. He has had a constant battle with bullying + physical assaults, and has suffered greatly.

We have had to change schools many times, because, the problem was never really dealt with, so, we'd change schools + hope things would be better, but never were.

Sending my son to school, was a trauma, that, my whole family has had to battle, and, the effect on my son has been very damaging to him emotionally and has destroyed his happiness + spark in life.

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Things were hard enough dealing with the issues that other children were doing, but, there was one teacher in particular, who, would make a mockery of Jay in front of the whole class, because, he was not up to his standard. This teacher believed that by humiliation, the children would learn, but I saw my son become more + more withdrawn. I didn't want to send my son to school, but, I was afraid I would get in trouble for truancy, if he didn't go - but everyday I wondered, why?

Finally early this year, I, decided, after Jay was assaulted, the third day after commencing high school, by 20-30 children, from the various primary schools, which he had attended, that, it was worth getting in trouble for truancy, because no caring mother,

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put their children through all of this.

On Jay's last attack, I hadn't even received a call from the school about the incident. I picked up a bruised and battered boy. I went to the office to find out what had happened and why had they not called me? I was told that it was quite horrific, and it was lucky Jay put his bag in front of his face, to take most of the kicks. I was also told that they could not guarantee his safety in the future.

My mother, Aunt and I met with a reluctant head master, who wanted Jay to return to school and close the case. He has not, nor asked to meet my son - Jay.

My trust with schools was gone - I didn't care what happened to me anymore, Jays safety was all that

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mattered, It gave me the strength and determination to speak up + stop sputtering up with feeling threatened, and to make things safe for Jay.

After battling things out for a term, with the high school + education dept, I feel I have won - Jay can now study at home in safety!, after, receiving a letter from my doctor that Jay is suffering from depression through all of the traumas he has faced at schools.

If this is the sort of response you were looking for and, would like to speak further with us, please contact me

Yours Sincerely
L. Mellan