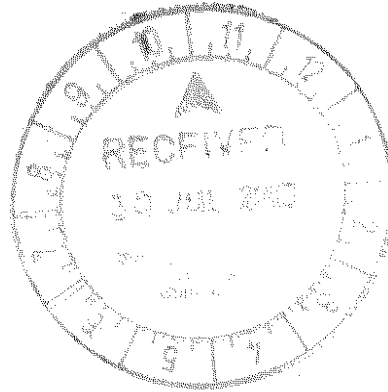


July 2003

Secretary,  
Senate Community Affairs,  
References Committee  
S 51 59  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Re State Senate Enquiry in to historically abused children

To Whom It May Concern:

Apologies for the lateness of this letter we have just received the Queensland ARC newsletter 15.7.2003

- 1/ The mental abuse at Neerkol, is still living in people today, that were children in that Orphanage. Some or the Spouses, and Children of those people who were children at Neerkol have lived extremely difficult lives, and lifestyles My husband and his siblings being there for some years.
- 2/ The next Children's Home, that was run by a Church in Coastal Queensland
  - a. children were emotional abused
  - b. don't believe there was sufficient food for teenagers
  - c. several children received totally unacceptable physical punishment through their stays at this "Home"while the children had a roof over their head, and basic amount of food on the table, and guess as the children in Neerkol they weren't on the streets, or worse.

But you are asking for information. Unfortunately for the children in 2/ I can not go into the names and places. But believe that children in all denominational Church homes can be just as abused as elsewhere.

In this case, high up church personalities were in charge of this home, and who is going to believe they would do some of the things they have done. No one.

Houses are the way to go, for homeless, and children from difficult situations at home But the house situation needs to be accredited as with hospitals, and nursing homes The staff NEED to be professional, having completed a Certificate III or more in A TAFE course or University Course.

Staff need to live off the premises, not at the place of work.

Single workers, on shift work, not couples, who can manipulate things and situations One assumes it the above situation, might work better than children in foster care. Safety factor

A safety net for current children's homes, and foster care,

Monthly or fortnightly visits, to university graduated psychologists

. These medical people should be able to be located at Community Health, or Base Hospitals....

.FREE\* NO EXCUSE FOR NOT HAVING CHILDREN ASSISTED OR HELPED  
children in care should be having help.

No point in taking them from their parents, unless both or at least the children are having regular consultations..

and don't look at the costs..

money is no problem for many other areas that the FD/Government want it to go to

AND REMEMBER BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD, THERE GO WE