



Thomas Lindsay Ellis.

Dear Sir:

I understand there is to be an enquiry in regard to question's surrounding the performance of "Children's Institutions" from 30s to 70s. I was a child of four institutions; I suffered sexual abuse, physical abuse, and emotional abuse in the institutions. My personal abuses didn't stop there as the horrors of the above resumed at home. I am presently writing a book on my mother's life and mine with all that went with it. Aside from the story, the purpose for me was to make clear, "The reasons we are, And the people we become, Can find their origins in the "Innocence of a child."

"I was already stripped of all my human dignities, by the time I was ten"

"Who are we?— we are the grown up children of your institutions and all their failings".

We have experienced the shadows of stranger's, their ways and their intrusions.

We have all paid a life long price, as have our families.

There are many who haven't made it, their pain took them to the grave.

How is it then we have to live with the concept that we don't exist according to the systems in place that are responsible for recognizing child abuse and the consequences of it, and acting on it? This enquiry is so long over due that it defies All compassionate logic, and should be looked upon with a great deal of shame by those in the senate who playfully juggle the destiny of so many peoples lives without any possible way of understanding the consequences for some people of those legislations.

It is not only those of us who suffered at the hands of dubious staff and stranger's in these institutions but friends and family of us also suffer our sadness and emotional disarray, and are left wondering about the extent of damage we carry.

It is time now that we too are recognized for the hells we have been through, and it is time that the public are told the truth about active ongoing deceit by churches and the system to hide from that public the realities of a failed system and failed moral compassion. We have been the hidden, we don't matter because we were too young to do anything about it, and any way it was a long time ago so let it go! NO! Absolutely not! "This will not – go away!"

I like many victims of these places have paid far too greater price in my life and so have my family and friends. We have heard the plight of the stolen and abused of the Aboriginal race and the country has gasped in sad horror at the truth. Now it is time for the truth to be heard and questions to be asked, for the rights and dignity of white Australians who were abused and then discarded from these institutions like it didn't matter that they have to live out there lives with the shadows of a cruel and uncompassionate system, and find on the majority that heartache and anguish are every part of their day, because they have been violated and had their tear's ignored. Yes, the churches and the system have a lot to answer for. "I will stand up in any forum, to any questions, on any level, in the defense of those of us who have paid the price of "The church's lies" and "Governmental abandonment".

Regards: Thomas Lindsay Ellis.

Born: - Colin Mervyn Smith.