

To Members of the Senate Inquiry
Of State Wards and foster homes



31/5/93

To whome it may concern.

I left Perth over twenty years ago, hoping to forget the horrible things which happened to me while a ward of the state, in Castledare and Clontarf Boys Homes, run by the Christian Brothers.

I was content to live in Geelong until nineteen ninty three, when some former residents of these homes started to make public the shocking treatment they were subjected to as children in the way of daily sexual, physical and psychological abuse by the Christian Brothers. I felt compelled to return to W.A. to help in the fight for justice. Hopefully success in this venture will rid me of the bad effects of my childhood.

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In 1941 aged 3 months I was taken from my mother by the child welfare, who deemed her an unfit Mother. The court sentenced me to insitutions untill I turned eighteen. For the first six I was cared for by the Sisters of Mercy, at the Subiaco Foulding Home near lake Monger. The time spent at this Home was uneventfull and I have no bad merories of it. In 1950 aged 7 years along with other children, I was transfered to Castledare. This is where Hell on earth begun. In 1954 aged 11 I was sent to Clontarf Boys Town a few miles away, where Hell continued for the rest of my childhood.

I was an Aussie kid, sentenced to a childhood in hell by my fellow countryman. I shared my misery with other Aussie kids also kids taken from many parts of the U.K. and Malta, on the pretence that they would receive Christian love and care. Many of these kids had mothers who were never informed of their childrens transportation to Australia, by the Catholic Child Migrants Scheme.

I hold the child welfare department responsible for the abuse and lack of education while I was under the care of the Christian Brothers.

As far back as ninteen sixty, on being dumped on the street in Vic Park by the then Brother Superior of Clontarf, and told to fend for myself. I recall complaining to the authorities who did nothing, regarding the sexual and physical abuse I and many others were subjected to while under the care of the Christian Brothers.

It seems these Brothers are given sanctuary by the law because they are perceived to be incapable of doing evil, a case of a law for them, and a law for us. Recently I was arrested on an out standing twenty year old warrent, someone when arrested for assult used my name. The court aquitted me of this charge. The arguement put forward for the Brothers, not being subject to the law is they did these disgusting things to children a long time ago.

Haveing read my letter I would welcome your personal comments and any help you can give in my quest for justice.

Signed Paul...V...Bradshaw.

PS Owing to the fact that I was denied an education while in the care of the Christian Brothers, I have asked a friend to type this letter.