

To all Mental Health Committee Members

19th May 2005

I address all members on the Select Committee on Mental Health, to which I am sure you are aware of general pattern of consistency and awareness to detail, its remembrance tends to expose and mentally score, key elements of mental abuse.

To this point, mental abuse has a general pattern of consistency, and awareness of detail, see my submission to the report # 248 of the "Forgotten Australians." The 7.30 Report introductions to this report by Kerry O'Brien states that, "more than 500,000 Australian children were raised in orphanages and children's homes between 1920 and 1980. Now, a Senate inquiry has concluded that many of those children were victims of shocking brutality at a very tender age - punched, kicked and sexually abused by many of the very people entrusted to care for them."

By association with the Salvation Army regimented organization with its Charles Dickens mentality, to which I was introduced to this shocking mentality, placed in the Gill Memorial Boys Home in March of 1966. Awaken by the SA inherent regimental hurts that indeed comes with the Salvation Army very critical judgment in treating children in their care. In as much, overall the Salvation Army regime has not changed its Victorian endowments that are inherently reflected in their publication, Pipeline article of Oct 2002.

The article tends to justify physical and mental abuse of children in their care, children of past abuse are to read into memory, this perpetual abuse is extended, rectified, veiled as excused; **"Boys who came to stay at the home were larrikins or worst."** This prescribed remark, regenerates into transferring abuse, and such is widespread within Salvation Army, and it tends to still mark street children as basest; as ill-bred inherent criminals. This "larrikins or worse" mentality is a consistent theme throughout "Forgotten Australians" report. In overview of that report are boys, 5, - 15 year olds placed into SA care – who were not aware they where were been pre-judged as "larrikins or worse."

Any boy of any age, of any background on coming into the so called "Salvation Army home" was treated as unreformed criminals, in which officiated attitude should be put on public record according report "larrikins or worse" terms relay with mischievous, unruly, ill breeds. The essence of physical and mental abuse starts with such prejudicial words that strike 'the mental strings of time,' that sow the seeds of cruel and brutality is to the Charles Dickens style of capital punishment. In memory - we do not want to hear or see such vibrating prejudgments shadowing a future generation.

The Salvation Army since the Gov report has been reluctant to accept widespread abuse did happen often. Equally, I am aware they have resisted to openly admit, they where fully aware of abuse for over 30 years and more and done next to nothing about it. Why - such links with the Salvation Army regimental attitude, we are saved from sin as "Soldiers for Christ," inherently strikes an air of righteousness to heavenly swipe children in a Charles Dickens way as "larrikins or worse," in marking them for life with mental illness; personality disorders.

Pre-judgment, critical depictions of a child coming into the Salvation Army care relays with a Victorian era that signals their level of care was sinister, tormenting, that engages with widespread physical abuse. This regimented in-house approach is not generally seen by the general public; equally not detected by the public. In as the Salvation Army I seen as social care group, putting their Christian religious views to practice; such is a surface view that has hidden abuse of children in their care for over 50 years. This in-house care perception must be addressed politically, in striking accord to change the Salvation Army regimental critical thinking. In as I fear nothing else will effectively change for the better, until this inherent mentality is dissolved, exposed – by been brought to the public notice.

I thank you for your time and efforts; in thinking to care, and more importantly - to act responsibly in bringing about a better world

Yours truly,
David Walshe