

20 AUG 2002

SCOTS PARLIAMENT

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Public Petition to
The Scottish Parliament

INQUIRY AND APOLOGY
FOR ADULT SURVIVORS OF INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE IN SCOTLAND

Steve Farrell
Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee
The Scottish Parliament
EDINBURGH
EH99 1SP

We the undersigned petitioners ask the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Executive to commence an inquiry into past institutional child abuse. Survivors were subjected to systematic abuse including, sexual assaults, physical and emotional abuse, while they were as children resident in an institution in respect of which State bodies had regulatory or supervisory functions. In particular those in the care of the State under the supervision of religious orders.

We also ask the Scottish Parliament to make an unreserved apology for said State bodies. And to urge the religious orders to apologize unconditionally.

Terms of Reference for the Scottish Parliament / Scottish Executive.

*To afford victims of institutional child abuse in Scotland an opportunity to tell of the abuse they suffered to a sympathetic experienced forum.

*To establish a picture of causes, nature and extent of physical sexual and emotional abuse of children in institutions from around 1940 or before until the present, including the antecedents, circumstances, factors and context of such abuse, the perspectives of the victims and motives and perspectives of the persons responsible for committing the abuse.

*To compile a report and make public, on the activities and findings of the inquiry, containing such recommendations as the inquiry considers appropriate including actions which should be taken to address the continuing effects of the abuse examined by the inquiry.

*To appoint specialist advisers supply information or elucidate areas of complexity, to conduct investigations, hold hearings, both private and public and conduct or commission research for the purpose of carrying out these terms of reference.

Principal Petitioners

Christopher G Daly