

I am commenting because I have listened to and read a lot of the submissions and evidence and picked up a general view of the issues presented to the Committee in this inquiry plus the matter has been in need of review for a long time - so the opportunity is now. My comments are short but to the point. Some legislative amendment has to be considered to improve the Court process for dealing with these cases, some is better than none, it is about fixing broken lives caused by criminal activity from individuals made worse by negligence and cover-ups by their Institutions. The Institutions had no capacity or plan in place to deal with the individual perpetrators (a HR failure before there was any real HR). There was a power imbalance and the Institutions used that to their advantage, therefore a key part of the legislative reform should be to make it harder for the Institutions to duck and weave and easier for the plaintiff to bring their claim. If that can be done, just a little bit or a bigger bit then the inquiry and its outcomes will be regarded as successful. So three main aims here (1) go harder on the Institutions and (2) make it easier for the plaintiff / victims (3) adjust legislation and the court rules to do so. Then some specific suggestions, (1) make the Institutions report all known perpetrators (that they know of - dead or alive) within 3 months of the legislation being enacted. The justification is that the Institutions have hidden information and tried to manage these matters out of their business instead of addressing them head on, so make them do some work now to correct their past unconscionable conduct - that will be well supported. (2) For the victim, give significantly greater support for more complete healing recovery processes ██████ story is sad and frightening and ██████ abominable and wilful. Find some way of helping them and others like them, a decent apology and compensation from the perpetrator Institutions is a start. (3) The special case flow in the District Court with 1-2 judges on that is a good idea (4) Committee to do its best to try and make these things happen as quick as possible.