
From: Niki Norris
Sent: Tuesday, 4 October 2016 11:42 AM
To: GPSC2 GPSC2
Cc: Charles Pragnell
Subject: Re: Inquiry into child protection - witness confirmation

Dear Sarah

Firstly, thank you for your help leading up to and now following the Inquiry on 26th September.

Upon re-reading the transcript of the hearing of NCPA's submission and comments made, I would like to make the following clarifying changes.

At the top of Page 19, my first comment is.... "We are having two different arenas here."
I would like that to read "**The National Child Protection Alliance and the Families Preservation Alliance are in two different arenas here.**"

My comment was made with the intention of alerting committee members to the fact that the other group, the "Alliance for Families Preservation and Restoration" were speaking about entirely different areas of child abuse and I remember looking over toward Ms Moore as I made the statement. By including the names of the two organisations the readers will be more clear on why I found it necessary to make the comment.

Page 19 - regarding my second comment, replying to the comment of David Shoebridge, "**and there can be a race.....**"

I would like to clarify my reply to read, "**It does seem to be a race to Family Court jurisdiction whenever a child names their biological father as having abused/sexually abused them. After the mother has taken the child to Police or called the Helpline, the procedure is that the matter is passed on to the Joint Investigation Response Team and this investigation is usually minimal in these cases. Sometimes the child is aged between two and six years of age and may run from the room; the investigation is often closed when this happens.**"

In my next comment on Page 19 the Chair asked me, "**Does this material relate to your submission?**"
On line 7 of my comment I stated..."**These mother's hands are tied behind them; they cannot protect their child any longer.**"

I would like this comment to read, "**These mothers' hands are tied and they are no longer able to protect their child.**"

This will make no difference to the meaning of the comment.

Page 19 - Line 10 - I would like to change "There is a Catch-22 situation there...." to "**This is a Catch-22 situation**".

Again, this makes no difference to the meaning of the comment.

In the same paragraph, I would like to clarify the last three lines to read: "**The mother is often court ordered not to make any further reports to police or to the court. They are literally shut down, suppressed and subjugated.**"

Very importantly, on Page 20, after Dr Peter Phelps states: "**We have heard in a lot of cases.**"

Immediately following that comment you will see my name and the statement I am supposed to have made i.e.,....."**Ms NORRIS: I have seen cases where mum is about to give birth.....**"etc.

Could you please ensure that **my name is replaced by that of my colleague Dr Elspeth McInnes**, as it was she who made all comments in those two paragraphs before David Shoebridge speaks.

Having spoken to you this morning I am now aware that we have 21 days from receipt of the transcript and questions of the committee, which will be emailed to us possibly by tomorrow.

I appreciate that you will ensure that both our Chairman, Charles Pragnell, (cc'd in this email), and I will receive this important email, understanding that I will be in Perth for possibly two weeks.

With sincere thanks

Niki

Niki Norris

Vice Chair National Child Protection Alliance