I humbly make the following submission before your Senate Committee

1) That there is a lack of acknowledgement and research into the prevalence of Men who were, like me, sexually assaulted in our childhood

2) There is a lack of resources, with organisations using unchecked and inadequate date bases to refer men from one service to another.

3) In Sydney thee are several major hospitals (about 5 - 7 last time I checked) with sexual assault councillors on call to respond to immediate trauma of current sexual assault.

There ought to be trained sexual assault councillors manning a 24 hour telephone service with male and female councillors for male and female victims.

4) Funding of the Men's Line has been a significant improvement however they lack the ability to transfer a caller from a female councillor to a male councillor where the client so requests.

Just as women sometimes prefer a female doctor
so men ought to be able to request a male councillor.

5) Recent Court cases have highlighted sexual abuse by Clergy, teachers and persons in positions of power in churches and schools.

There is a lack of acknowledgement and lack of support services for Clergy and the families of married clergy

in churches where power is shared between lay and clergy
in instances where Elders, Deacons or Long Standing Members accumulate power and abuse that power and in certain instances have allegedly sexually abused members of the family of clergy and in certain instances sexually harassed the Clergy.

equivalent situations may exist in other professions.

6) A need for funding to research recovery programmes.

Victims went to court but the legal process is unhelpfully adversarial itself often compounding injury

Insurance Companies often press victims to undertake expensive litigation when less expensive support processes and the provision of councelling would be more appropriate

Survivors focus on human resiliance and utilise what councelling is available.

More specialist services are needed for male survivors

Funding is needed to fund research to develop recovery programmes for men with male researches.

7) There needs to be an affirmation of manhood concurrent with an affirmation of womanhood

Equal opportunity ought to ensure there is equal opportunity for boys in education and men for job opportunity.

Yours Sincerely

Rev Graham N L Guy