

Dear Premier and Ministers

Re: Ms [REDACTED] – Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) – Mental Health

This is further to my letter sent to the Premier dated 23/5/2019, copy of which is attached.

Premier and Ministers, I would like to highlight the meaning of **“Mental Health/Depression” – state in which a person has feelings of gloom and inadequacy or economic condition in which there is high unemployment and low output and investment or area of low air pressure or sunken place.** This was the feeling I felt when I lost my brother-in-law more than 20 years ago to suicide. Not a good feeling for anyone. I did take it badly and saw psychologists and psychiatrist to help me cope through [REDACTED]. I had regular visits for a year along with anti-depressants. Realising the visits and anti-depressants were not helping me, I decided to stop seeing the psychiatrist and gave up taking anti-depressants all together.

In spite of working for [REDACTED] for more than 28 years which was not easy as I experienced bullying and work-place harassment at the hands of Mrs [REDACTED]. This was reported to Human Resources (HR) but no action was taken. I was forced to move away to another position as this was not good for my health. In 2002, I had breast cancer and my previous history of depression did not permit me to take risks with my health. Further after working in the office of Professor [REDACTED] for nearly 7 years, I was forced to encounter misconduct and inappropriate behaviour. This did not sit well with me and I reported incidences when I was forced to lie to meetings that Professor [REDACTED] was to attend in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne that he was sick and unable to attend their meetings. In reality he was partying and too drunk to attend these meetings and I unknowingly was used. When I first reported these incidences to Mrs [REDACTED], Director of HR, she told me that she was glad I reported these incidences to her. I requested her to talk to Professor [REDACTED] and to also tell him that I was not too happy with what he made me do.

On top of this Professor [REDACTED] withdrew my Victorian Departure Package (VDP) in 2012 and when I questioned him later on he called me a liar. I had proof and provided the same to him and Ms [REDACTED]. I was then told that I put the application in and later withdrew the same. No such proof was available. Later on [REDACTED], namely Ms [REDACTED] approached CPSU union to call me to the negotiating table to offer me the package. The first time the union told me not to accept the package as [REDACTED] was going to sack me and later on changed their mind to say it was the best outcome for me. Can the union be bought and did [REDACTED] do this?

For reporting Professor [REDACTED], I was called names like mental, crap and dobber by Ms [REDACTED], Mr [REDACTED] and Ms [REDACTED]. I did no wrong but I was made to feel sad and depressed. I did warn Ms [REDACTED] that all this would lead to me going in a dark place but instead of doing something, I was told by Ms [REDACTED] “forget the past and move on”. Again as no action by HR, I was forced to look for a position in [REDACTED]. The position here was agreed to by Ms [REDACTED], Director of [REDACTED] but for the interference of Professor [REDACTED] who told Ms [REDACTED] that I was an excellent worker and deserved to be reclassified to a [REDACTED] position. He had made this promise in his office and when this did not eventuate, he promised me a reclassification in the office of Mr [REDACTED].

In the office of Mr [REDACTED], I worked for a year but because of bullying and work-place harassment by Mr [REDACTED], I was forced to go on sick leave. I tried telling [REDACTED] that moving to [REDACTED] was best for my health but they refused to do anything.

On their insistence I saw Ms [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] who promised a position within [REDACTED] away from Mr [REDACTED]. Further I saw Ms [REDACTED] psychiatrist who also recommended a move away from Mr [REDACTED]. She also recommended I go on anti-depressants which I did not see as helping me. None of what happened to me was imaginary as I had emails and letters to prove all that happened to me.

However when I met with Mr [REDACTED] HR and showed him all the proof, he said it was just on paper. Well to him it was just on paper but to me just an administrative staff it meant something. Mail from [REDACTED] was sent to me on wrong address. They also wrongly recommended I see a psychiatrist based in Richmond, NSW. Reports from Dr [REDACTED] took more than 6 months to come to me and my doctor received the report only after I emailed the Secretary of DHHS, Ms [REDACTED]. Mr [REDACTED] also was willing to submit a written Statutory Declaration that Professor [REDACTED] had not withdrawn my VDP when in fact it was Mr [REDACTED] who had sent an email to Ms [REDACTED] that Professor [REDACTED] asked him to withdraw my VDP and he would discuss this with me. This never happened. Yet I was blamed for the delay with no apology for any of their blunders. I further saw Mr [REDACTED] on the recommendation of the [REDACTED]. Mr [REDACTED] too made it clear that he would find me a position away from Mr [REDACTED].

From the above, it is clear that [REDACTED] just could not stand the truth so to cover up for Professor [REDACTED] roting of tax-payers money and put a stop to bullying and work-place harassment decided to sack me. Their excuse that they could not or more like would not find me a position even after 28 years of experience in all kinds of administrative tasks in the whole of [REDACTED] and being forced to work for Mr [REDACTED] only, is like telling me that no matter what, I have to stay married to an abusive husband or partner. Here you have the Secretary of [REDACTED] strongly voicing her support for "violence against women", not so for me.

Professor [REDACTED] should have been pulled up long ago by Mr [REDACTED], ex-A/Secretary, Dr [REDACTED], ex-Secretary and the current Secretary. Like being told by Mr [REDACTED], I should leave it for the Secretary of [REDACTED] to pull up Professor [REDACTED] as all of the above were well aware of what was going on but I don't know if any of the above had to cover up and lie to meetings that Professor [REDACTED] was to attend like I had to do. I was not his Executive Assistant and I should never have been used. I have paid a price for speaking up but I did what WorkSafe Victoria is telling all Victorians to do. I am innocent and should not be sacked for something that the Secretary, [REDACTED] Management or [REDACTED] HR should have done.

Today, Mr [REDACTED] is paying the price for not speaking up or doing anything for victims of abuse by paedophile priests for things that happened years ago. Innocent people had suffered and are now rewarded for not giving up. Premier and Ministers, I am not the first or the last person [REDACTED] has sacked for speaking up. There will be more to come but sadly if you all do nothing, then you all are turning a blind eye to something that should never happen in any Government Departments.

A classic case would be Ms [REDACTED] comments: people in positions and authority at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and other [REDACTED] groups protected the reputations of their organisations at the expense of children but in my case, innocent [REDACTED] staff.

Thanking you

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

5/6/2019

Attachment