

**Former Child Migrant born 1941
Sent to Australia in 1947 aged 6 and placed at Castledare and
Clontarf, Western Australia**

The following is an anonymous statement from a former child migrant about their experience. This has been taken from a redress statement of their treatment and life after being sent away from the UK as a young child.

I was only six years old when I arrived. It was a terrible place for young children and there was never a day I felt safe. I still feel that way today, lost, forgotten and uncared for. I felt especially vulnerable because of the predatory attentions of a particular Christian Brother and the violence and emotional cruelty of several others. There was nobody on my side.

It was a place where I was constantly bullied by bigger boys as well as the Brothers. One of the ironies was that although I was consistently, severely sexually assaulted by Brother [redacted], at times he protected me from some of the bigger bullies. The cost was that I was considered [redacted]'s pet', as if that gave me privileges when in fact it cost me dearly and robbed me of my childhood.

The harshness and brutality of the institution, run by men dressed in black who were terrifying and severe, also robbed me of any individual attention that might have helped me develop my talents and potential. Instead, living there was little more than survival.

Brother [redacted] was a serial paedophile and destroyed many young lives.

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22/2/18