

Victim Support

National Office: Cranmer House, 39 Brixton Road, London SW9 6DZ. Telephone 071-735 9166. Fax 071-582 5712

Patron: Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal

President: The Rt Hon Lord Windlesham

Vice-Presidents: Christopher Holtom OBE, The Very Revd Dr John Southgate

001681

RECEIVED 13 MAR 1993

Dr. George Carey,
Archbishop of Canterbury,

DPA

11th March, 1993.

Dear Archbishop,

I am sure you will have received a considerable amount of correspondence regarding the very unfortunate case of Bishop Ball. As you might expect, Victim Support has been closely involved with the family of the young man concerned, and I am writing to you at their request.

I thought you should know that the family has been deeply disturbed, not only by the case itself, but by the absence of concern which has been expressed by senior representatives of the Church of England. I have today read through a large file of press cuttings on this case, many of which contain expressions of concern for Bishop Ball and comments about the need for forgiveness. Indeed, the only reference that I could find to the young man who was the victim of this crime was a comment made by The Rt. Revd. Jeremy Walsh saying that he hoped "the victim will be able to forgive Bishop Peter". There appears to be no concern expressed for the young victim and no statement that prayers will be said for his future or for his welfare. The family feels that his interests have been seriously neglected, and this apparent insensitivity by the church is having serious effects on the young man himself, his mother and younger children in the family.

It may be that press statements have included comments of concern about the victim but that these have not been published. If that is the case, I think the family would be reassured if they could have sight of them. Victim Support would be pleased to receive any full copy of the press statements to discuss with the family, if that would be helpful.

I would be very pleased to receive your comments about the family's complaints, as naturally we would wish to be in a position to support this family towards a full recovery.

Yours sincerely,

DPA

Helen Reeves, OBE
Director.

LAMBETH PALACE

DPA

National Association of Victims Support Schemes
Charity Registration: 298028. Company No. 2158780. Registered in England
Limited by Guarantee. Ref Office as above
Chair: Mary Tuck CBE. Director: Helen Reeves OBE

ACE000527_001

ACE000527