

COPY James

Dear Magr.,

I am writing today in the hope that God may better be served. Enclosed is a copy of the most difficult letter I've ever written. It is a letter I've put off writing for over ten years and wish I had written many years ago. You see I was hurt deeply by Father Avery and at the time ashamed and afraid to confront this issue as I've outlined in the letter.

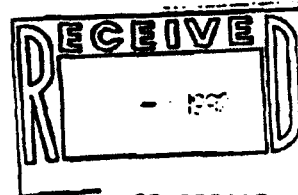
I am writing you because I am concerned about Father Avery's potential to act out these behaviors in other relationships. In retrospect looking at my relationship with him and the way he interacted with other adolescent boys I believe the potential exists. My wounds are in the process of healing but I need to know that he has been evaluated and treated for this disorder and that the threat to other impressionable young men is gone.

That is my only goal in this correspondence that Father Avery gets the help he may still need. I do not want money or any kind of media scandal. I am now 28 years old, the incidents I mention in the letter occurred when I was 15 and 18. I am now married with one son. I am also enrolled in medical school pursuing my goal of becoming a doctor. I've tried to be a practicing Catholic all my life despite what has happened though my ability to trust priests has been shaken. I have only recently come upon the courage to begin to confront this situation but with God's it will soon be behind me.

Sincerely

James

If you would like to discuss this matter further or would like to arrange a meeting I can be reached at [REDACTED]



No. 0551 - 00307



COPY

Father Avery,

It's been a long time since I've been in contact with you but it's not because I haven't had anything to express. In fact I have quite alot to say and I'm not sure where to begin. You see I've been carrying a burden for all these years that is not justly mine to bear and in so doing have denied you the chance to explain your actions in the past.

It all began when I was a young boy and you came to my church. I thought you were funny and you let me help you at dances and other functions. You made me feel valued, included, and special. I trusted, respected, and loved you and you taught me many things about construction, driving, and gave me my first beer. I truly believed you had my best interest at heart that you cared about me in a fatherly way.

Then one night after I had helped you at a dance and had quite alot to drink I awoke to find your hand on my crotch. I was terrified. I didn't know what to do so I turned over and pretended to be asleep. After that night I did my best to discount this experience "It couldn't really have happened", "I must have been dreaming", etc. Eventually I was able to block the episode out of my mind. After all the kindnesses you'd shown me that act was inconceivable at the time.

AD 000113

No. 0551 - 00147



So I forgot about it and let my guard down again. This time after a ski trip in Vermont you committed the same violation of my trust but this time I was sober and awake lying with my eyes closed. I was devastated, confused and angry. I was frightened so I pretended to sleep. I never told you until now because I've been afraid and I've always blamed myself for what happened. I always thought there was something I did or said or a way I acted that made you think it was alright to do what you did. I would think that you've been such a good friend to me that maybe these activities were alright.

I knew one thing, I didn't want you to touch me that way and I didn't want sex with you or any other man. I was determined after that night that I would never be hurt that way again. I would always be safe from that kind of intrusion. I became distant and depressed my ability to trust men shattered. I am only now undergoing the long recovery process from the wounds I suffered at your hands. I have let too much of my life be controlled by this terrible wrong you committed.

YOU HAD NO RIGHT TO HURT ME THE WAY YOU DID.

YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO HURT ANYONE ELSE THIS WAY.

I AM NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT YOU DID TO ME.

ALL THE RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS MATTER IS YOURS.

I WILL NO LONGER CARRY THIS BURDEN FOR YOU.

MY ONLY RESPONSIBILITY IS TO GOD, MYSELF, AND MY FAMILY.

AD 000114

No. 0551 - 00148



I would like to be able to forgive you for this act but I realize that the temptation to deny the reality in this situation will be great; and in so denying you would be unable to receive my forgiveness anyway. In any case I do wish you peace on your journey and the grace to see and choose rightly.

Sincerely,

James

AD 000115

No. 0551 - 00149



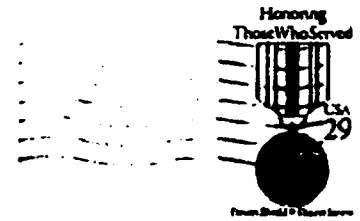
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No. 0551 - 00308



Msgr. Jagodzinski
222 N 17th St.
Phila., P.A. 19103



AD 000116

