

Statement of Plaintiff Terry Kohut (John Doe 16 v. Holy See)

Everyone says they want change and want to do the right thing. The Catholic faithful say they want change. But the only way change will come is if those working for the church; priests, nuns, archbishops and cardinals, demand it. They must turn away from their desks and face the Vatican and demand it.

I and my classmates at the deaf school were hurt so bad and when we tried to get them to stop, nothing was done then--we were ignored. When I wrote the Pope in 1995 asking that action be taken, nothing was done again—we were ignored again. Now when the Pope has promised change and I learn of this, I feel we who suffer so greatly feel hurt and ignored again. Nothing has changed. Many of my classmates have not survived and many will never have a day in court. All I want is the change that protects the young and the hurting to stop—a day in court and for the Vatican to hear and understand. Maybe then things will change.

Terry Kohut

