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Cardinal Bernard Law
Cardinal's Residence
Archdiocese of Boston
2101 Commonwealth Avenue
Brighton, Massachusetts 02135

Dear Cardinal Law:

I have received the letter which you asked Reverend William Helmick, your secretary, to write me in response to my letter of July 10.

I must state my deepest concern regarding this response. In Fr. Helmick's letter he wrote, "if there were to be an incident of such abuse by a priest, you can be sure that the matter would be taken most seriously with deep concern for the victim, the people and the priest." A very appropriate and responsible response on the surface.

Unfortunately this response negates the fact that I am aware of such incidents of abuse not only from this documentary but by my own personal experience as a victim. As you reread this statement, I can't help but wonder on what basis he is questioning the existence of my own experience as a victim (as stated in my letter of July 10).

By not believing an honest and revealing statement, by a victim, you are altering your own perception of reality. In so doing, it becomes much easier to believe you are responding appropriately.

I implore you to step forward into a perception of reality and come to understand and believe that such incidents do occur. By adopting this frame of reference, you can then honestly answer whether or not you are responding appropriately.

Sincerely,

DG-0001