

David Bruns

From: David Bruns <davidbruns@gmail.com>
Sent: 21. mars 2014 22:17
Subject: RE: Letter to ASIJ Board of Directors

Hello Stephanie,

I have seen the letter which you sent to the school community this week. I have told my family that you are a hero for stepping out and dealing openly with this sad case. Thank you for offering a helping hand to victims. That is the main area where the school today can make a big difference.

There was nothing in your mail to indicate that you are also working to reach the non-ASIJ victims of Jack Moyer. I urged you previously not to forget them. Maybe it is easier for others to take up that challenge. Now that the Japan Times has reported on the case and given it national publicity, I hope that they can also publicize the need for reaching and bring help to the Japanese children who were exposed to Moyer for nearly 20 years. I will follow up that as best I can.

Best regards,
David Bruns

From: Stephanie Toppino [mailto:stoppino@asij.ac.jp]
Sent: 22. januar 2014 07:16
To: David Bruns
Cc: karensbruns@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Letter to ASIJ Board of Directors

Thank you David. We will keep you aware of how we proceed.
All the best,
Stephanie

On Saturday, January 18, 2014, David Bruns <davidbruns@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Stephanie:

I'm very encouraged by your letter. I appreciate what you and Ed Ladd are doing in light of the otherwise heavy load you must have in your positions. It speaks volumes about what a first-rate school we have.

It will be relatively less difficult to use the extensive network the school has to reach ASIJ alumni who were victimized by Jack Moyer and others. I imagine it will be more challenging and sensitive to reach the Japanese young people who were victimized by Moyer because he wasn't stopped sooner. There are great cultural differences as you know. You have the special benefit, though, of hundreds of very resourceful multi-cultural alumni who will be eager to help once they know what the issues are. I urge you to please not forget the Japanese youth who were victimized after 1984.

For your information, the Tokyo English Life Line (TELL) counseling service has a sister organization, Inochi no Denwa, which provides free telephone counseling in Japanese. Both organizations have counselors who can personally meet with clients for a fee. One way Moyer's Japanese victims may be encouraged to approach Inochi no Denwa would be if they could get this private counseling for free. I personally am willing to make a confidential donation towards covering such costs and I have no doubt other alumni would do the same. Please keep this in mind.

Best regards,

David Bruns

From: Stephanie Toppino [mailto:stoppino@asij.ac.jp]
Sent: 17. januar 2014 02:52
To: David Bruns
Subject: Re: Letter to ASIJ Board of Directors

Hi David. I wanted to reach out and let you know that we were able to have a good conversation with XXX yesterday. (She said it was ok with her contact you.) I believe we were aligned in what the next steps for the school would be. It is our intention to contact our alumni and current families about this part of our history at ASIJ. Ed Ladd and I were able to speak at length with XXX about our plans. I did want to let you know that much work has been done on this in the last several weeks with much more yet to come.

XXX speaks highly of you and it sounds as though you have been a good source of encouragement for her. She seems blessed with many people who care for her. Thank you for your persistence and counsel. I will write again to let you know ahead of when a formal communication will be sent.

Best,

Stephanie

On Mon, Nov 25, 2013 at 3:14 AM, David Bruns <davidbruns@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Stephanie:

I would appreciate hearing whether you received my mail of 18 November.

Best regards,

David Bruns

From: David Bruns [mailto:davidbruns@gmail.com]
Sent: 18. november 2013 21:50
To: stoppino@asij.ac.jp
Cc: karensbruns@gmail.com
Subject: Letter to ASIJ Board of Directors

The American School in Japan

Attention: Board of Directors, c/o Stephanie Toppino, Chair

1-1-1 Nomizu, Chofu-shi, Tokyo 182-0031, Japan

Dear Stephanie:

Thank you very much for your openness to hearing from alumni such as myself. ASIJ must be unique in its ties to its alumni. I have stayed in touch, taken my family to visit the school, contributed to the annual fund

(Double Decades Club) and attended my class's last four reunions, even though I live in Norway. I even caught myself singing the school song last week to see if I still remember it. I do.

Because I really care about the school and my fellow alumni, I have become involved in a case that weighs heavily on my heart. It started in February 2004 when the attached e-mail was sent to my whole class from our class correspondent. It was shocking to read that two women whom I knew as younger siblings of classmates had confronted their former ASIJ teacher, Dr. Jack T. Moyer, about his sexual abuse of them during school programs. You can read their story and how it led to Moyer's suicide that January. I contacted Michele and Janet to tell them about other girls I suspected could have been victimized. Unfortunately, my hunches were correct. With help from my family, I was able to discover the whereabouts of one victim so that Michele and Janet could share with her and offer her encouragement.

In 2011, the sexual abuse scandal at Penn State University was in the news. It reminded me that the Moyer case had never been publicized by the school and that there could still be unreached victims suffering alone. I sent a registered letter to the ASIJ Board about the problem, urging them to locate and offer assistance to victims. A reply came from the Head of School, not the Board, and it did not answer my points. I sent a similar request to the Board in 2012, but I have no satisfactory proof that the Board actually received it. The Head of School has ignored my recent request to him for confirmation that the Board has seen both my letters.

In June, I attended my class reunion in San Diego and shared about my correspondence with the board. Several classmates volunteered to start a petition on the internet to get the school to take action. Before joining in that effort, I returned home and reconsidered the facts in the case. In the letter from 2004 was an important fact whose significance had been overlooked. Please consider this. From his resignation from ASIJ about 1985 until his death in 2004, Moyer was working with Japanese school children, many of whom could also have been sexually abused by him. In fact, if his track record of about one new ASIJ victim per year continued, there could be 15-20 Japanese youth out there, mostly in their 20's, suffering the terrible consequences alone without help.

Let me briefly summarize for you facts concerning this case and results of sexual abuse on its victims.

- ASIJ faculty member Jack Moyer was a pedophile and serial sexual offender who got away with sexually abusing at least 17 of his ASIJ students down to the age of nine.
- Moyer admitted in writing to these activities and his mails are available at the internet blog <http://asij-holdingmyhand.blogspot.com/>.
- Although students first went to the ASIJ headmaster no later than 1977 to tell about their being victimized, the abuse continued for years afterwards.
- Sufficient safeguards were not put in place even after these victims alerted the school.
- After Moyer left the school in the mid-80's, he obtained positions working with Japanese school children all over the country until his death in January 2004.
- ASIJ has never notified the public of its knowledge that a serial sexual offender was allowed to continue to work with children unhindered. Therefore, there could be significant numbers of Japanese victims who have to live with the life-long consequences without receiving professional help.
- An experienced counselor has written the following to me about the effects of sexual abuse:

“This is a sobering subject and I have thought about it quite a bit. I, too, feel that it is important to provide a resource for the many women who have possibly been abused by this individual. No matter what age you are, if you have been sexually abused you WILL have lasting problems. You can always benefit from

counseling even if it is 20 years or 30 years later. Many of my clients today had been sexually abused as children, or teens. Some of them have blocked this but with time and effort, they can attempt a recovery. It is often a very painful journey but a very necessary one. Sexual abuse often causes many problems in later relationships. Some individuals are incapable of having a healthy sexual relationship with their spouses. Some of them become sexually promiscuous or turn to drugs and/or alcohol abuse. Many of them become perpetrators themselves. It is quite sad.

It is a shame that the school has swept this under the rug. I suppose they feel that it would bring too much negative controversy but it is important that they own up to their part (or lack of support for the victims) in the problem. The very least they could do was offer life-long counseling for these people.”

· Only this month I learned that another ASIJ victim of Moyer has come forward. She was abused on a Miyake field trip as a vulnerable 12-year-old at a time after the ASIJ headmaster had already been warned that Moyer was abusing students. She is just finding out that she was not alone and finally receiving encouragement from other victims. This is evidence that no one has any idea whether there are more unreached alumnae who were victimized by Moyer.

· When an ASIJ alumna is living alone with the consequences of being sexually abused by a teacher decades earlier, she is not easily reached by a normal contact network. One victim who was trying to reach others told me “As you can imagine, most of the victims had no interest in maintaining ASIJ alumna status, nor desire to receive any communication from the school, or maintain school friendships. It was just too difficult.” This means that there still could be a considerable number of Moyer’s victims out there who haven’t been reached. Consider the case of the girl whom I tracked down in 2004. If I had not remembered her, she might never have been reached. She had transferred away from ASIJ before graduating and had lost contact.

The longer I wait for the school to take action, the more we prolong the suffering of many innocent victims. I personally can’t wait any longer and am starting to contact my network in Japan and the US. I have ideas on goals and methods for going forward which I am willing to share with you if the Board has a serious desire to help the victims. It is important to give the school another chance. If other considerations are more important for the school, then alumni, parents and former faculty will have to take up the slack. I kindly request that you share this with the full Board of Directors and Board of Trustees.

Regards,

David R. Bruns

ASIJ Class of 1968

Stavanger, Norway

Attachment: Copy of 8 Feb. 2004 e-mail from two Moyer victims to Ray & Vicky Downs and other ASIJ friends which flags Moyer’s connections to Japanese school children.

No virus found in this message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 2014.0.4336 / Virus Database: 3722/7190 - Release Date: 03/13/14

Internal Virus Database is out of date.