

To the ASIJ Administration, April 18, 2014

Attn: Chair, Stephanie Toppino
Head of School, Edwin Ladd

I am an alumnus of ASIJ. I received your letter of March 17, 2014. I have not only been shocked on learning of the depth of the horror inflicted by Jack Moyer, but angered by the clumsy and obstructive management of these circumstances by ASIJ management that served to obscure, over a period of over 3 decades, the suffering and pain endured by young students, many still unidentified. You suggest that we be “sensitive to the impact (our) words and posts” can have on the ASIJ community. By this are you suggesting that further light not be shed of the substance, depth, and complicity embodied in this tragedy? This letter has only served to inflame my anger and sadness.

How dare ASIJ intimate that, somehow, in the face of countless voices over the years, that these circumstances became fully known only “last November” when you received a letter from a former student detailing the abuse inflicted by this monster that lived and was protected by ASIJ for decades.

How dare ASIJ paper over a history that indicates that in 1977, nearly 30 years ago, a young girl molested by this monster came to the school with her story, only to be told it would be “handled.” That “handling” consisted of telling the girl she was making a “big deal” about it and doing nothing further.

How dare you omit the fact that Ray Downs, the Headmaster at the time, was told of this purported horror by concerned ASIJ staff and responded with great "sensitivity" by telling them to back off or lose their jobs.

How dare ASIJ today “offer sympathy” for the student who was abused for two years and finally wrote to Jack Moyer to tell him to stop his abuse, even as he remained a revered teacher at the school. The pack came to surround the wolf, leaving the innocents to continue to be his prey.

How dare ASIJ make no reference to the young girl who, in the 1980's, escaped into the woods of Miyake and hid the night in terror as she fled the evil of Jack Moyer. Adding to the tragedy was that when she went for redress and protection to the very people who should have protected her, she was told to be silent or face expulsion.

How dare ASIJ today offer sympathy, when in 1986 Headmaster Ray Downs refused to permit a face to face discussion with a parent who reported the abuse of their 7th grade daughter.

How dare ASIJ ignore the plight of an eleven year old student who was abused in the 1970's and, when the information became known to many in 1990, ASIJ still did nothing.

How dare you ignore the fact that a teacher was told in her trips to Miyake to watch out for Jack and not to let her students be alone with him, all while giving no information to this teacher as to why she was being cautioned, thus continuing to allow the monster access to the innocents.

How many of his victims continue to stay silent? I cry for the fact that so many did not tell their parents, friends, or siblings about the horror they experienced at the hands of this monster, a horror exacerbated by the very adults who should have intervened at the first signs of this outrage? To this day, has ASIJ made any attempt at all to gauge the depth of this horror?

I agree with the letter of April 6, 2014 from the Class of 1987 calling on ASIJ to take the initiative on getting to the root of what Jack Moyer did - who suffered, who knew, where are they now, and what can be done to help. I ask that ASIJ end the legacy of silence surrounding this outrage perpetuated by Jack Moyer.

In your letter, you wish, at this very late stage, to thank us for our cooperation? Precisely what do you mean by this? Are you suggesting that the issue is behind us?

In your letter you ask that we protect the privacy of "your" community? Does this community include those who endured this horror for so long?

In your letter there is absolutely no reference to any possible complicity by an administration who received sign after sign, report after report, of the ongoing evil perpetrated by the monster in their midst. Who is worse, the perpetrator or the protectors who knew?

Sympathy is not apology. In your letter there is not a hint of contrition

How dare you.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Connor '69