



WATCHTOWER

BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

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TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Re: Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse in South Australia

Dear Brothers:

As mentioned in last year's Kingdom Ministry School, we would like to remind all elders that new legislation in South Australia has extended the obligations of mandatory reporting of child abuse further than has previously been the case. Ministers of religion and volunteers in a religious organisation, which would include elders, ministerial servants, and possibly pioneers, are now obliged to report child abuse if they have a reasonable suspicion that a child has been abused or is likely to be abused.

Since pioneers and ministerial servants will usually report any allegation or suspicion of child abuse to the elders, it is now even more important that elders contact the branch office immediately upon hearing of such. This should be done before any further inquiries or investigations take place.

We send our warm Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

Watchtower B.T.S. Society
OF AUSTRALIA

c. Selected Travelling Overseers

PS to secretary: This letter should be retained in the "AUSTRALIA BRANCH" section of the congregation's permanent file of policy letters.