



21 April 2020

Ken Clearwater
Male Survivors Aotearoa
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Tēnā koe Ken

Sexual violence

Thank you for your emails of 12 and 15 March 2020 voicing your concern about sexual abuse remarks on Sky Television's *Breakdown* programme, and the wider misconceptions associated with sexual violence. I apologise for the delay in getting back to you.

I completely agree that sexual abuse is neither defined by the perpetrator nor the victim, or the setting in which it occurs. You took the correct action in filing an official complaint to Sky Television in this instance and I was pleased to note the issue has since been resolved.

I would also like to thank you for the work you have done for male victims of sexual abuse and for your continued advocacy for victims who have been in, or are in situations that are considerably difficult to talk about, as well as for your work engaging with our communities around changing our social norms and attitudes. Public figures have an important role to play in changing social attitudes, and remarks that appear to downplay abuse are unacceptable. It is also vitally important for the New Zealand public to understand and be educated on the reality of sexual abuse and the devastating impact it has, and can have, on individuals, families and communities, and so I appreciate the work you have done both through MSSAT Christchurch and now as a trustee of Male Survivors Aotearoa.

Thank you again for writing to me.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jan Logie'.

Jan Logie
Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister of Justice
(Domestic and Sexual Violence Issues)

cc Hon Dr David Clark
Minister of Health

