

Excerpts from several statements written to the Prosecutor at the ITCC:

11. April 2011

OTP-CR-48/11 Criminal Charges against Dr. Joseph Ratzinger

The submitted criminal charges under the above file reference have found great interest among the public, and for this reason, have been documented in a book. On the website that has been installed for this, those who are interested as well as many victims from all over the world continue to express their support for these charges. Colleagues from other countries who represent victims have also written, that is to say, they have turned directly to you. We are expressly referring to the document from April 6, 2011 of our British colleague, David Greenwood, Jordans Solicitors. His statements again substantiate how effectively the system of cover-up of clerical sexual crimes functions, instituted by Dr. Joseph Ratzinger, resulting in the fact that most child abusers remain unpunished.

Many of the survivors have described to us their heart-breaking fate and terrible suffering, as well as their hope for justice through the prosecutor at the ICC. This suffering will be repeated as long as the Vatican can uphold its patronage of these crimes. This criminal patronage can only be broken through a denunciation before the International Criminal Court. Many of the victims and supporters write that no one is above the law. Some other comments are:

Il tempo della verità, della coscienza della giustizia è arrivato.
Vi invio la mia luce a sostegno del vostro impegno.
Non possiamo più aspettare, il momento è adesso.
Con stima

Es hora de que la justicia, sea aplicada a todos sin hacer acepciones de persona, jerarquías o credos religiosos...

No-one should be above the law. We must bring justice to thousands of innocent children. We owe them that.

Wird endlich Zeit, dass der selbsternannte "Stellvertreter Gottes" auf den Boden der Tatsachen zurückgeholt und ebenso behandelt wird wie jeder andere Mensch auch!

To conceal terrible crimes against children and intimidate the victims is indefensible.

Assisting an offender, and conspiring to pervert the course of justice is almost as bad as the offence itself.

El mundo merece un gobierno de justicia y equidad, ya es tiempo que se juzgue a estas malas bestias que han trastornado familias enteras, y siguen como si nada.....ya es hora ya es tiempo que la justicia civil se comprometa con las victimas no con los criminales, pederastas y pedofilos.

In the name of the many victims, who place their hope for redress and justice in you and the International Criminal Court, we kindly request you to again examine the submitted facts in consideration of Art. 7 of the ICC Statutes.

27. April 2011

OTP-CR-48/11
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Under I. No. 2, the terrifying church regime was described and the psycho-terror resulting from it. Demonizing every kind of extramarital sexuality is also part of this. Among other things, this leads to the discrimination of hundreds of thousands of children and youth, that are banished to children's homes or even sold.

1. According to the Catechism still valid today, fornication is listed as a grave sin. It literally says

“Among the sins gravely contrary to chastity are masturbation, fornication, pornography, and homosexual practices.” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2396)

According to the church's definition, the following is to be understood as “fornication”:

"Fornication is carnal union between an unmarried man and an unmarried woman. It is gravely contrary to the dignity of persons and of human sexuality which is naturally ordered to the good of spouses and the generation and education of children. Moreover, it is a grave scandal when there is corruption of the young. (No.2353)

2. In a recently published book, one of Germany's most experienced educational researchers and social pedagogues, Prof. Manfred Kappeler, states the following regarding the terrible consequences of this church doctrine: “the discrimination of ‘illegitimately’ born children as ‘sexually jeopardized,’ because their mothers are socially stigmatized with the preconception of ‘sexual unsoundness,’ or, more severely, ‘sexual depravity.’ These children were humiliated and devastated as the ‘fruit of sin,’ as ‘children of whores’ from ‘morally depraved women.’ Girls, in particular, were insulted with such denigrations by monks, deacons, nuns and deaconesses. As ‘children from the gutter,’ they were considered quasi hereditarily ‘morally compromised.’” (Kappeler, Anvertraut und ausgeliefert, Sexuelle Gewalt in

pädagogischen Einrichtungen, p. 50) Prof. Kappeler describes the terrible consequences of this discrimination: The banishment of hundreds of thousands of illegitimately born children into homes for infants and small children, where they were dealt with and maltreated as the rejects of society.

As *Spiegel online* reported on April 4, 2011 referring to a televised interview of Prof. Kappeler that was broadcast by the German station ARD, between 1949 and 1975 thousands of babies were maltreated in homes operated by the Caritas and the deaconry: "Their hands, arms and legs were tied to the bars of the beds and restless children were quieted with medications, with sedatives, totally without being aware of the problem. The main thing was that they were quiet, reported the social pedagogue Manfred Kappeler." In the television program itself, there is mention of illegitimate children being treated treated as "children of sin."

Anyone who escaped this hell as a child often had to reckon with new violence later. Prof. Kappeler describes the fates of illegitimately born girls, who, in their puberty, were again forced into homes as "sexually depraved." According to Prof. Kappeler, one of these reform schools for "depraved girls difficult to educate" was in the buildings of a medieval monastery, which, in 1945, had served the Nazis as a concentration camp for women. At the end of the Nazi rule, it was turned into a welfare home and reform school, partly using the same personnel. Concentration camp supervisors now became educators." (Ibid., p. 54)

Social contact with the illegitimately born (and, by the way, homosexuals, as well, cf. Catechism above, No. 2396) was poisoned and brutalized through church doctrine – and this, worldwide.

As the *Financial Times* (Germany) reported on April 7, 2011 under the headline "Spain's Sold Children," after the Spanish Civil War, church homes brokered the sale of babies to "the Catholic elite of the country at the expense of those who in their estimation had no right to children: single, and thus, sinful mothers ... The mothers were told their babies had died shortly after birth. The new parents were told: 'The mothers are minors, addicted to drugs or prostitutes.' Midwives, physicians, nuns, priests – all knew about it and kept silent." The article quoted the historian Ricard Vinyes: "Since the beginning of the Franco dictatorship, the care of children was a lucrative business for the church ... It raked in a considerable sum for each child." (Cf. also Time, Stolen Babies, Confronting Spain's Dark Past. March 18, 2011, available at: <http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2059563,00.html>)

3. All this can be traced back to church doctrine, according to which the extramarital procreation of children is a grave sin, threatened with the eternal torments of hell. This doctrine is still valid today and is upheld by the accused, Dr. Joseph Ratzinger, as Pope. It therefore continues to be a constant threat to life, at any rate, in strictly Catholic regions. Illegitimate children are a disgrace. No one knows how many abortions can be traced back to this attitude and how many unmarried mothers and illegitimate children are severely harmed in body and soul, as a result of church indoctrination.

The worldwide adherence to such an extreme and inhumane doctrine, the observation of which is enforced through the threat of the eternal torments of hell, is a crime against humanity.

We request this point of view to be considered while evaluating the submitted charges.

We kindly request you to again examine the submitted facts in consideration of Art.7 of the ICC Statutes.

5. Mai 2011

OTP-CR-48/11
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Following the addendum of April 27, 2011, we are submitting further statements of support.

Most statements apparently came from victims or survivors. They reach us from countries all over the globe, but conspicuously, very many of the survivor statements come from the countries of Central and South America. Apparently, the extent to which child molesting crimes are committed by Catholic priests in these countries is not at all known, and are perhaps far graver than in North America and Europe.

Aside from this, permit us to mention the decision of a US-American court of law, which most likely you are aware of. In the child abuse case of a civil lawsuit on the responsibility of the Vatican for the crimes committed by its priests, the Vatican was

ordered to produce documents and to answer a number of questions. These concern legal aspects, which could be of interest under the validity of Article 28 of the ICC-Statute. And, from the documents, which the US court required the Vatican to submit, further reference points could result in an inquiry in the present proceedings.

Permit us to leave with you the text of the decision of the US District Court in the case of John Doe v. Holy See, along with a statement of the counsel for the survivors, Jeff Anderson & Associates, PA.

16. Mai 2011

OTP-CR-48/11
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Subsequent to addendum of May 5, 2011, we are submitting statements of support, which are continually arriving from all over the world.

When you read the comments on many of the statements submitted, you will realize that the hope for justice for the countless survivors of sexual abuse by the Vatican depends on the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.

In its Annual Report on Human Rights Abuses 2011, Amnesty International states that "the Holy See did not sufficiently comply with its international obligations to the protection of children." And relating to the Vatican's latest amendments to the canon law, promulgated in May and introducing the "delicts" of paedophile pornography and abuse of mentally disabled people: "the maximum punishment for these "delicts" is dismissal or deposition. Canon law does not include an obligation for Church authorities to report cases to civil authorities for criminal investigation. Secrecy is mandatory throughout the proceedings."

We submit a copy of the website of Amnesty International and a copy of a comment made regarding the new Report by Attorneys Jeff Anderson and Professor Marci Hamilton, who is one of the United States leading advocates for children.

27. Mai 2011

OTP-CR 48/11
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Supplementary to our previous submissions, we refer to the most recent statement by the world-renowned Catholic theologian Hans Kung. In the May 26, 2011 edition of the German weekly newspaper "DIE ZEIT," he expressed himself as follows during a long interview regarding the situation of the Catholic Church, including the problem of clerical sexual crimes:

"This involves severe excesses of repressed sexuality and a system that first gives rise to such developments and ultimately covers them up."

In an open letter to the German Bishops' Conference dated April 16, 2010, Father Kung wrote among other things:

"There is no denying the fact that the worldwide system of covering up cases of sexual crimes committed by clerics was engineered by the Roman Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith under Cardinal Ratzinger (1981-2005). During the reign of Pope John Paul II, that congregation had already taken charge of all such cases under oath of strictest silence. Ratzinger himself, on May 18th, 2001, sent a solemn document to all the bishops dealing with severe crimes ("epistula de delictis gravioribus"), in which cases of abuse were sealed under the "secretum pontificium," the violation of which could entail grave ecclesiastical penalties."
<http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=15996>)

The most recent circular letter from the present head of the Roman Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith dated May 16, 2011 does not change anything concerning this either. This letter will not lead to the public prosecutor's office being called in when sexual crimes are committed by priests. It merely says that "... the prescriptions of civil law regarding the reporting of such crimes to the designated authority should always be followed." However, in many countries such obligations to disclose do not even exist. The child abusers can then, as formerly, be dealt with from within the Church, above all, by being transferred, and in rare cases by dismissal.

Thus, the Church will uphold its parallel system to the state penal procedure and also cover up future crimes. Through this, further crimes will be abetted, for any priest who sexually abuses children has little to fear in many countries, also in the future.

May 30, 2011

OTP-CR-48/11
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What is the difference between Dominique Strauss-Kahn und Joseph Ratzinger?

The former head of the IMF is already threatened with a prison term of 10 to 15 years as a result of having attempted to force a woman to sexual acts. He was arrested on the spot under suspicion of attempted rape and will soon be tried in court.

The former cardinal and present pope, who, as has been proven, saw to it that thousands upon thousands of minors could be raped by his priests who remained unpunished because he covered up the crimes worldwide, thus aiding and abetting new crimes, is until now not threatened with any sanctions. At most, he receives criticism, accompanied by forbearance, deference and subservience.

What is worse – the attempted rape of a 35-year-old woman or the cover-up and the aiding and abetting of sexual crimes committed on children and youth on a massive scale? The latter is a crime against humanity, which can be sentenced solely by the International Criminal Court.

On May 28, 2011, one of the victims wrote the following regarding this:

“It is a nightmare for those who cannot bring their abusers to justice, and for those who cannot accept and forget what happened to them. Forgetting is the hardest part of being abused. Some days are very tough to deal with, especially when so many cases of sexual and physical abuse have been brought to light and are being made public on television and across the internet. The silencing of abuse victims is now over, and people who have the strength within themselves should stand up, as I am trying to do in my own personal case, with the knowledge that so many other victims are given the strength by seeing the determination of victims to hold to account abusers and the Catholic Church.

I hope many people too scared or upset can fight the fear and seek justice, and keep placing pressure on the Pope to answer for these crimes.”

June 2, 2011

OTP-CR-48/11

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On June 1, 2011, the press agency Reuters reported about the latest developments in the proceedings against the Belgian branch of Catholic child abusers. (Enc., <http://ca.reuters.com/article/idCATRE7505ZI20110601>)

Attorneys for the victims, Walter Van Steenbrugge and Christine Mussche, have announced that within the next few days, charges on behalf of 70 of the victims of Catholic child abusers represented by them would be delivered directly to the Catholic bishops in Belgium and to the Vatican.

In Belgium, over 500 cases of clerical child abuse have become known just during the past year; at least 13 of the victims have committed suicide.

Following the example of proceedings in the USA, the Vatican will now be held directly accountable for the crimes of its priests in Belgium. Christine Mussche expressly pointed out the pope's instructions to conceal and cover-up.

And in Belgium, as in thousands of other Catholic child-abuse crimes worldwide, the Vatican refuses to compensate the survivors. It particularly bases itself on the diplomatic immunity of the pope.

No one can claim immunity before the International Criminal Court. Nor can the pope hide behind his alleged immunity for crimes against humanity. This demonstrates the significance of the present proceedings at the ICC at a time in which, worldwide, ever more national proceedings are brought against the Vatican due to the Vatican system of cover-up and support of child-abuse crimes. Only the International Criminal Court is in a position, through the introduction of investigative proceedings, to shed light on this system and to call to account those responsible, without distinction of person.