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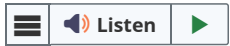
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Judicial review – Christian Congregation of Jehovah’s witnesses

Release date: 2 June 2023

The Royal Commission confirms that the Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses (Australasia) Limited has filed an application for judicial review, arguing that it is outside the scope of the Royal Commission's terms of reference. The church seeks declarations from the High Court that the Jehovah's Witnesses do not assume responsibility for the care of children, young people or vulnerable people in New Zealand and there are no instances of abuse by the Jehovah Witnesses' faith within scope of the Inquiry based on the evidence before the Royal Commission, together with several other declarations about the Royal Commission's process.

As the matter is now before the Court it is not appropriate for us to comment further at this time. The work of the Royal Commission will continue while the High Court considers the application for judicial review by the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Help and support services

- [Alcohol and Drug Helpline](#) 0800 787 797 or online chat for people

dealing with an alcohol or other drug problem; 10 am to 10 pm)

- [☞ Anxiety phone line](#) 0800 269 4389 (0800 ANXIETY)
- [☞ Depression Helpline](#) 0800 111 757 or free text 4202 (to talk to a trained counsellor about how you are feeling or to ask any questions)
- [☞ Family Services 211 Helpline](#) 0800 211 211 for help finding (and direct transfer to) community based health and social support services in your area.
- [☞ Lifeline](#) 0800 543 354 (0800 LIFELINE) or free text 4357 (HELP)
- [☞ Male Survivors of Sexual Abuse Aotearoa New Zealand](#) Support services for male survivors of sexual abuse. Refer to website for the support organisation nearest to you.
- [☞ Need to talk?](#) Free call or text 1737 any time for support from a trained counsellor
- [☞ OUTline NZ](#) 0800 688 5463 (OUTLINE) provides confidential telephone support for sexuality or gender identity issues; 9 am to 9 pm weekdays, and 6 pm to 8 pm weekends)
- [☞ Rape Crisis](#) 0800 883 300 (for support after rape or sexual assault)
- [☞ Safe to talk](#) (Available 24/7) 0800 044 334, free txt 4334, email [☞ support@safetotalk.nz](mailto:support@safetotalk.nz), live webchat on [☞ www.safetotalk.nz](http://www.safetotalk.nz). Free and confidential information and support from trained counsellors for people affected by sexual harm in any way.
- [☞ Samaritans](#) 0800 726 666
Skylight, 0800 299 100 for trauma, loss and grief; 9am–5pm weekdays
- [☞ SNAP - Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests](#) Providing peer support for women and men wounded by religious and institutional authorities
- [☞ Suicide Crisis Helpline](#) 0508 828 865 (0508 TAUTOKO)
- [☞ Supporting Families in Mental Illness](#) For families and whānau supporting a loved one who has a mental illness. Auckland 0800 732 825.
- [☞ Victim Support](#) This free service provides emotional and practical support, information, financial assistance, referral to other support services and advocacy for the rights of victims.
- [☞ Youthline](#) 0800 376 633, free text 234 or email [☞ talk@youthline.co.nz](mailto:talk@youthline.co.nz) or online chat