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The President of The Royal Australian and
New Zealand College of Psychiatrists,
Professor Janice Wilson

Telefax No. 0061 3 9642 5652

March 26, 1999
MK/hmy

Dear Professor Janice Wilson,

Re: WPA Review Committee

The Committee to Review the Abuse of Psychiatry has received several complaints from Australian citizens representing the "Whistleblowers". The two complainants, Mrs. Val Kerrison and Mrs. , have both given us their informed consent to contact the Royal College in order to investigate the cases.

The Review Committee, which according to the Statutes of the World Psychiatric Association shall "review individual complaints and make recommendations to the Executive Committee as to any possible action", has been provided with extensive information about the Whistleblowers as well as a recent videotape from an Australian TV-documentary dealing with the issue.

Based upon this information, the Review Committee expresses its concern about the use of psychiatric assessment in screening the labour force as is seemingly carried out by the Health Quest in New South Wales.

In the procedures for the Review Committee it is clearly stated that the Committee shall work in close collaboration with the Member Societies and Zonal Representatives in the review of the individual cases.

On behalf of the Review Committee I should be grateful to know whether the Royal College is aware of this situation, and, if so, whether the Royal College has taken or intends to take any steps in the light of the rights of the individuals concerned.

2.

If the Royal College is unaware of the situation, the Review Committee would be grateful to receive suggestions as to what steps the Royal College recommends to be taken.

In order not to delay the further investigation unduly, I should be grateful if you could provide the Committee with an answer within the next two months.

Looking forward to further collaboration in the consideration of these cases.

Sincerely yours,

Marianne Kastrup