



Former Boys and Girls Abused of Quarriers Homes

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**Mr Jack McConnell's, public apology what did it really mean and on what basis was it given to those who suffered abuse in the past Scottish care system.**

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The House of Lords held on 21 May 2008 that actions of damages in respect of child abuse at a children's home, -----carried out in the 1960s and 1970s, were excluded by the limitation provisions of the Prescription and Limitation (Scotland) Act 1973.

**Lord Hope, stated the following in this Court case with regards the so called "Public Apology" by Mr Jack McConnell, The First Minister in 2004.**

**Note also paragraph 4 of Lord Hope's speech:**

**"The appellants have drawn attention to the fact that on 1 December 2004 the then First Minister, Jack McConnell, made a public apology for what had happened in these institutions to the Scottish Parliament. It must be stressed, however, that this was a purely political initiative. It has no legal significance whatsoever. The homes were not institutions for the running of which either he or anyone else in the Scottish Executive was responsible. Indeed the First Minister was careful to say that it was not his purpose to cut across the work of the courts. He acknowledged that it was for the courts to establish, in accordance with the law, where responsibility lay and what was to happen as a result. Moreover he did not mention the fundamental problem which was already facing the claimants in all these cases. This is the defenders' contention that due to the delay in raising proceedings they are all time barred."**