

Anonymous Former Rhema Graduate Statement

Personal Recollection, Compassion, Belonging, and Institutional Culture

Publication purpose. This document preserves an anonymized former-graduate communication and Oklahoma Child Wellbeing's response. It is published to support thoughtful discussion about human dignity, belonging, ethics, and accountability in institutions that exercise spiritual and community influence.

Editorial and Privacy Notice

The communication below is reproduced in substantially verbatim form with direct identifiers removed, including the contributor's name, email address, city, signature, and device information. Minor formatting changes have been made for readability only; wording, grammar, capitalization, and spelling have otherwise been retained.

This is a personal recollection and opinion from one former graduate. It is not independently verified and is not presented as a factual finding, a disciplinary conclusion, or a statement of institutional policy. References to named public figures reflect the contributor's personal views and recollections, not Oklahoma Child Wellbeing's factual determinations.

Permission record. The contributor selected the option allowing a **fully anonymous summary**. Because the original account is now reproduced in direct wording, express written authorization for anonymous quotation should be obtained before this version is posted publicly.

Core Principle

Every person who seeks God, safety, grace, support, or belonging should be treated with dignity and compassion.

Redacted Former Graduate Account

The following account was received by Oklahoma Child Wellbeing from a former Rhema graduate. Direct identifiers have been removed.

Tracie

I graduated Rhema 1997 ! It was not a very pleasant experience for me! I know it was for others! I saw a video about the Rhema sex scandal with Craig Hagen! To me it is not a surprise! Craig's Father was so hard and had no compassion for the gays ! He did won't that kind of person to tarnish the reputation of his ministry! He often said a man was going to be a man! As if he had some legal spiritual right to sin! I guess he was right! His very own son is tarnishing his ministry!!! Not a Homosexual!!!!

I remember one Sunday evening service ! They had and alter call for salvation! A young guy around twenty years old came to the alter to accept Jesus! It's was very clear he was gay! He was not received well! He looked so out of place!

I thought you're in the wrong place! He never came back ! I often wondered through the years what happened to him! He worked at the local McDonald not for from Rhema!

It looks like you have done your homework on this case! God Bless !!!

Sincerely

[Name, email address, city, and device information removed]

How to Read This Account

This account is included as one person's lived experience. It should not be treated as proof of the contributor's perceptions about another person's sexual orientation, the young man's later actions, or the views of any individual, organization, employee, student, or member. Its relevance is to the contributor's reported experience of culture, welcome, compassion, and belonging.

Oklahoma Child Wellbeing Response

The following response was sent to the contributor after receipt of the communication.

Matt,

Thank you for taking the time to write and for trusting me with your experience as a 1997 Rhema graduate.

I am sorry that your time there was not a positive experience. What you described about the young man who came forward during the altar call is especially painful. Every person who seeks God, safety, grace, or belonging should be treated with dignity and compassion. The fact that you still remember him all these years later says something important about how deeply that moment affected you.

My work is focused on ethics, accountability, safeguarding, and the real-world impact institutional culture can have on individuals and families. I am trying to make room for people's lived experiences while being careful to distinguish firsthand observations from personal beliefs, conclusions, or unverified information.

Before I retain, quote, summarize, or reference any portion of your message, I want your clear permission. You may choose any of the following:

You may allow me to keep your statement privately as background information only.

You may allow me to use a fully anonymous summary, with no identifying information.

You may allow me to quote parts of your statement anonymously.

You may be open to a follow-up conversation or written statement, if you are comfortable.

There is no pressure either way. Your safety, privacy, and boundaries matter.

Thank you again for speaking honestly about what you witnessed and how it affected you.

With respect,

Tracie Chapman

Oklahoma Child Wellbeing

Every Child Seen. Every Child Safe.

info@okchildwellbeing.org

Contributor Reply

Thank You for your time ! compassion! And kind words! I feel comfortable with step #2! Have a wonderful day !
Sincerely [Name removed]

Publication Boundary

The contributor's reply selected Step #2: use of a fully anonymous summary. That consent does not expressly authorize direct anonymous quotation. This revised document is therefore a publication draft that maintains the original consent record. Before posting the verbatim account, Oklahoma Child Wellbeing should receive a brief written confirmation from the contributor that anonymous quotation is permitted.

Suggested written confirmation: "I authorize Oklahoma Child Wellbeing to publish my statement anonymously, including direct quotations, provided my name, email, city, and other identifying information are removed."