

*Council of Europe
Parliamentary Assembly*

The President

Strasbourg, 29 June 1999

Dear Justin,

I would like to thank you very much for helping my son.

He sounded terribly defeated when I spoke to him yesterday: a far cry from the happy, optimistic person who first told me that he had got a sponsor, through a lawyer; and this person seemed friendly and encouraging; was a private detective and it sounded exciting, varied work and he would be able to stay in Australia, upon which he had set his heart.

That he repeated to me. "Dad", he said, "I love Australia. I feel more at home here than I have felt anywhere. I want to live here!"

Otherwise, apart from being really grateful to you for being sympathetic as well as professional, he was of course disillusioned.

In my 33 years as a British Member of Parliament, I have encountered such situations quite a few times. But it still seems shocking to me that someone exploits a young person's trust for money.

My wife has told me that a case is being initiated against Fitzgerald. I suppose the only problem with this is the fact that David, supposedly swayed by this man's charm, signed a paper claiming experience he had never had.

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