



October 31, 2002 - Statement of His Eminence Bernard Cardinal Law on the story in the Boston Herald

Today, it was alleged in a front-page story in the Boston Herald that during my tenure as Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, a then twelve-year old child approached me, not once, but twice and told me that he was being molested by a priest. This is not true. It is stated further in the article that this allegation by the now 31-year-old contradicts the sworn testimony I gave during depositions in the Paul Shanley case. I stand by my testimony made under oath during that deposition.

Furthermore, never during my time as Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau or at any other time in my life, have I been approached by a child in a parish with an allegation of sexual abuse by a priest or anyone else.

I am perplexed as to how almost twenty years later, the alleged victim came to believe that these incidents took place. Nevertheless, I pray for him and for all people who are suffering because of the scandal of child sexual abuse by clergy.

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