IF YOU WERE VICTIMIZED BY A MINISTER, GET HELP

Who are we? We are survivors of clergy sex abuse and members of a support group. We work to try to protect kids and other vulnerable people in churches.

Why are we here? A man reported for child molestation worked for many years here at the First Baptist Church of Atlanta as a children's minister.

His name was Tommy Gilmore.

A Texas church issued a written apology for the "very serious sexual abuse" that Gilmore inflicted on a church kid, and it sent a copy to this church. The Texas church acknowledged in writing that its music minister knew about Gilmore's sexual contact with a minor. The music minister made a sworn affidavit. The Baptist General Convention of Texas put Gilmore's name in its confidential file of clergy sex abusers. We believe people in this congregation are entitled to know about this. [Documents shown on www.stopbaptistpredators.org]

What do we want? We want to help any other victims heal by informing people whose children were exposed to this minister.

What should you do? If you or someone you know was a victim of clergy abuse, please know that you are not alone and that help is available. Contact the Atlanta Police Department, the County Sheriff's Department, and SNAP, a confidential self-help support group of men and women who have been victimized by clergy: 1-877-SNAPHEALS or www.SNAPnetwork.org.

How can you protect kids and help others? 1) Urge your pastor to post this leaflet in the church bulletin and on the church website so as to reach out to other possible victims; 2) Report any known or suspected abuse (however uncertain you may be) to criminal authorities; 3) Talk to your children, even if they are now grown; 4) Demand accountability from any of your church leaders who were aware of the child molestation report about Gilmore but didn't inform you, the people in the pews; 5) Write to the SBC president and the SBC Executive Committee members and demand action to rid the ranks of clergy predators and make kids safer.

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