



PM apologises to military abuse victims



Prime Minister Scott Morrison has apologised to military victims of child sex abuse. (AAP)

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has recognised military victims of child sex abuse after they were not specifically mentioned in Monday's national apology.

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Child sex abuse victims in military institutions deserve recognition for the pain they suffered, Prime Minister Scott Morrison says.

Military veterans criticised him on Monday during and after his national apology to child sex abuse victims because he did not mention their suffering.

"There were many people yesterday who I know felt they weren't recognised, and I particularly also want to recognise those in our Defence Forces who also suffered sexual abuse," Mr Morrison told parliament on Tuesday.

"I want to particularly, in this place, acknowledge their suffering as well."

Niall Baird yelled out several times during Mr Morrison's speech because there was no mention of military victims

He was raped by a chaplain on HMAS Leeuwin, as one of 271 victims from the same base.

"I thought today was going to be a great day. I came here expecting closure," he told AAP on Monday.

"I'm ropeable, absolutely ropeable."

Mr Baird said he wanted the federal government to acknowledge it was responsible for what happened to people in its care.

Opposition Leader Bill Shorten said the apology in the Great Hall in parliament on Monday was a "very emotional day".

"The level of emotion and hurt, and all of the conflicting emotions - it was almost physical, you could almost feel it against your skin," he told parliament on Tuesday.

"I also acknowledge that action, not words, is what people want."

Mr Morrison and Mr Shorten agreed to cancel Question Time on Monday to ensure the focus of the day was on the survivors and the apology.

The child abuse royal commission heard from 17,000 survivors and made 122 recommendations to the government.

To date, the government has rolled out a national redress scheme, with a new office of child safety to report to the prime minister.

Mr Morrison also announced a National Centre for Excellence to raise awareness and understanding of the impacts of child sexual abuse, and a national museum.

Source: AAP

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