

**STATEMENT FROM SPOKESPERSON  
FOR CARDINAL GEORGE PELL  
31 May 2015 10.40pm (AEST)  
Rome**

Cardinal Pell has been informed of the contents of the 60 Minutes program this evening. The false and misleading claims made against His Eminence are outrageous.

From his earliest actions as an Archbishop, Cardinal Pell has taken a strong stand against child sexual abuse and put in place processes to enable complaints to be brought forward and independently investigated.

Cardinal Pell has never met Mr Saunders, who seems to have formed his strong opinions without ever having spoken to His Eminence.

In light of all of the available material, including evidence from the Cardinal under oath, there is no excuse for broadcasting incorrect and prejudicial material.

In the circumstances, the Cardinal is left no alternative but to consult with his legal advisers.

A copy of the statement provided to 60 Minutes prior to the broadcast is attached.

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