



JOANNE MCCARTHY

RADICALS, RENEGADES & REVOLUTIONARIES

Joanne McCarthy was born and raised on the Central Coast and completed a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Newcastle in 2003. In 2002 she began work at the Newcastle Herald writing about numerous community issues. In 2013 she received the Australian Journalist of the Year Award and the Gold Walkley Award for Investigative Journalism for her work on child sex abuse in the Catholic Church. Joanne also initiated the campaign 'Shine the Light' that led to the Royal Commission into institutional responses to child sex abuse.

Passionate about power imbalances in the community, McCarthy interviewed around 200 victims of abuse and uncovered suicides and drug overdoses of other victims. She has written more than 350 articles about child sexual abuse, mainly by Catholic clergy in Newcastle and the Hunter.

Former Prime Minister Julia Gillard wrote to her in 2013, "Thanks in large measure to your persistence and courage, the NSW Special Commission of Inquiry and the federal Royal Commission will bring truth and healing to the victims of horrendous abuse and betrayal,"