

## Abuse victims urged to seek help

VICTIMS of clergy or institutional abuse are being warned to seek legal advice before applying for compensation through the government's National Redress Scheme.

Under the scheme, victims can expect to receive payments of up to \$150,000, depending on the severity of the abuse endured.

Previous compensation payments are also deducted from the total value awarded under the scheme.

Legal experts have advised victims to explore their options before signing the legally binding agreement.

Arnold Thomas & Becker partner Kim Price said the law firm had won compensation of up to \$1 million for victims.

'The scheme is disappoint-

ing," Mr Price said.
"The motive behind it was to properly compensate survi-vors but unfortunately it's likely to have an opposite effect.

"It's a very problematic situation."

Priests and other religious figures will be forced to report child abuse to authorities under new laws introduced in Victoria last week

The Catholic Church of Mel-bourne pushed back against the legislation, and Archbishop Peter Comensoli declared that he would rather go to jail than break the consional seal.

The new law includes landmark reforms to allow victims of sexual and non-sexual institutional abuse to apply to the courts to overturn unfair historical compensation pay-



## Jones warned over Ardern blast SHOCK jock Alan Jones has

GOSSIP OLEEN, P14-15



niece Bonds X

seen told he will be fired if he continues to make offensive comments similar to those about New Zealand's prime minister.

The controversial broadcaster on Thursday criticised Jacinda Ardern after she said Australia has to answer to the Pacific" on climate change at a forum in Tuvalu. He said Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison should "shove a sock down her throat". Macquarie Media chairman Russell Tate said last night that Jones had acknowledged the comments were "careless, unnecessary and wrong" and had apologised to Ms Ardern.

"Notwithstanding his apologies, I have today discussed the matter with Alan and advised him that any recurrence of commentary of this nature will result in the termination of his contract." Mr Tate said



Taylor Swift

## atest Lover a Swift hit

TAYLOR Swift has continued her tradition of writing about her boyfriends and her new track, Lover, has the internet

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> sobbing. Swift was not meant to release the track for a few weeks, but overnight she dropped the title track from her new album and fans viewed the video more than two million times in less than 24 hours.

> > The track was a love song

for her actor boyfriend Joe Alwyn, singing "T've loved you three summers now, honey / But I want them all". Swift started dating Alwyn in September 2016.

Fans jumped to the conclusion Swift and Alwyn might be making wedding plans due to the lyrics

It followed the first two songs from her forthcoming album, ME! and You Need To Calm Down.