

## **Albanian Press Interview with David**

*There was an extensive interview with David reported in the newspapers last Sunday. He was asked questions about when he opened the centre and why, where did he take the children from, which organisations helped him to keep the centre open, when were you informed for the first time that children had been abused?*

*One of our contacts in Albania has translated the newspaper's quoted answer to the last question...*

"Mr Dino Christodoulou was dismissed from the work and expelled from the house the moment that he was physically violent towards Gazi (as Gazi testified on television). After he left, some of the children began to behave very badly. I had read a book about the behaviour of abused children. Andoni had all the sign. One afternoon, he shouted at everybody. He bit another child and hit our dog. One day, together with helpers from my staff, we decided to question him. He knew that Dino wouldn't return and started to tell of the horror that had happened. He said that the same things had happened to other children, which was confirmed by other young children.

For us, the first place of denunciation is not the local police, but our pastor and church. I called the pastor and shared with him what had happened. He had been present when I had decided to dismiss Dino, a week before, and knew the situation well. He consulted with Alan Moir, at PAMECA, who had adopted us as their Albanian charity. Alan is also a good friend of mine and the children. Alan called me to an official meeting at the offices of PAMECA.

Meanwhile, our pastor (also the manager of the ABC clinic) arranged for the children to be tested to see if they had caught any sexually transmitted diseases. Alan advised that, since Dino had left Albania, he could organise a direct interview with Interpol. We were sure that a full investigation by the Albanian police would cause great stress for the children and would result in the house being closed.

The interview with an Interpol agent lasted about an hour and a half, I gave him a copy of Dino's passport and a photograph, plus everything we had in his dossier.

I described in detail what had happened, and he noted everything. Later, Alan notified me that Dino's name was present on Interpol's computer records as a paedophile... This was confirmed also from emails that Dino sent me, in which he pleaded for me to retract the accusations against him because he could not find work and his life had been destroyed. We also told his church what he had done. His pastor wrote an article in the local newspaper, where he told what Dino had done in our home. Dino had written to many of our supporters here and in Britain in an effort to clear his name. Later we organised a therapy session for the children who had been abused in our home with Andre and Lidi, who are specialists in treating children who have suffered sexual abuse. They worked with the children individually and in a group."