

Dear [REDACTED]

So good to hear from you again! I wanted to take a moment to wish you Happy Holidays - please see my greetings at right. You may notice that I used the design that I had created for Birralee International School Trondheim ("Birralee") to use for their Christmas Fair this year - and surely you'll concur that while Birralee DID use this design for the purpose intended, this does NOT mean that they actually *own* this design - the design is, without question, still owned by myself. Hopefully this is an effective analogy you can use to help Birralee and their official Parents' Committee ("BIPC") understand how ownership of intellectual property works.

Based on statements in your latest letter, I fear that both Birralee and the BIPC have purposely misled you with regards to the provable ownership of birralee-pc.com. Perhaps you should remind them, that while honesty might not be a cultural expectation in their daily lives in Norway, that they should definitely be honest during discussions with their lawyer. Please read all 5 pages of this document so that you can finally grasp a proper understanding of this birralee-pc.com situation. Your letter with notations is on pages 4 and 5.

Here are the three easy-to-understand points that will clear things up for you:

- 1) The BIPC knows full well that they do NOT own birralee-pc.com, and they announced it as such to the entire school in late November - see "[Exhibit A](#)"
- 2) The BIPC had nothing to do with the creation of birralee-pc.com - see "[Exhibit B](#)"
- 3) The administration, the BIPC chairperson, and the other volunteer on the BIPC web committee, were aware in October 2018 of my intent to create a website that was completely independent of the Birralee school. Furthermore, they knew that an *official* BIPC website would be hosted as a subdomain of birralee.no (which birralee-pc.com is obviously NOT) - see "[Exhibit C](#)"

I have to admit that I was rather amused by your latest strategy of using "peer pressure" – by suggesting that if I don't stop my "behaviour" then no one will like me. Unfortunately for you, I am not swayed by such tactics. It was also amusingly baffling to read your description of Birralee wanting to solve things "amicably" when they have been anything but! However, these exchanges are wasting quite a bit of our time, wouldn't you say? So, going forward, I will not respond to any additional requests for "gifting" birralee-pc.com to the school or BIPC.

However, as a show of good faith, I will review any properly documented website statements that Birralee or the BIPC are concerned about, but please note that I will not review any "imagined" statements. I would suggest that Birralee and the BIPC instead focus their energy on maintaining and improving their own official website at birralee.no/parents-committee, and stop making false claims against birralee-pc.com. And as a reminder, birralee-pc.com is indeed open to hosting information for the BIPC if they feel such a strong need for representation at that url. Submissions are always open via the website. However, birralee-pc.com will always remain independently owned and run.

Happy holidays!

Sonja



Happy Holidays  
To our dear friends at Grette!

FROM:

Birralee – Parents. Concerned.

birralee-pc.com

## Exhibit A

The BIPC [emails the entire school](#) about [birralee-pc.com](#) NOT being an official Birralee website.

Excerpt of email sent out by the BIPC to all families at Birralee at the end of November 2018:

“...This parent has set up a website which in the lead-up to the X-mas Fair has functioned as a PC website for info and sign-up for tasks [[birralee-pc.com](#)]. **It is important to point out that this website is not an official Birralee or Parents’ Committee website, but a private website run by this disgruntled [sic] parent alone.** It is also very important to point out that this parent’s opinions, which are clearly stated on the website, do not represent the views of the PC or other parents in the school. These are her personal views only! (...) I strongly encourage all to ignore the personal contents on this website and not engage in any discussions with this parent.

Please refer to the PC site on the Birralee website from now on [[birralee.no/parents-committee](#)]...” (our emphasis)

This is absolute proof that there was *no misunderstanding* about the independent ownership of [birralee-pc.com](#).

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## Exhibit B

The BIPC had no involvement with the creation of [birralee-pc.com](#)

### Website related tasks completed by Sonja:

- initial concept of independent and uncensored website for the parents of Birralee
- registration of domain name, purchase and set up of hosting package as a private individual
- complete server set up, configuration, deployment, website design, administration
- installation and maintenance of website software
- original logo design
- organization and structure of website, gathering and formatting of all content
- original design of Christmas Fair 2018 poster
- organization and formatting of Christmas Fair 2018 information, and updating of event information as needed leading up the Christmas Fair

### Website related tasks completed by the BIPC:

- none

**To review:** I registered, paid for, set-up, designed and published [birralee-pc.com](#), and used it as a convenient place to host BIPC Christmas event information for 2018 - featuring my own original Christmas poster design. The BIPC and Birralee administration asked no questions about the origins or ownership or who bore the cost of the website, and the BIPC chose to send out the website link for the Christmas fair 2018 event information. No one at the BIPC or school requested administrative access to the website.

## Exhibit C

It was known in October 2018 that I intended to create a website that was completely independent of the school, and would not be censored by the school.

From conversations and correspondence during October 2018, it can be shown that the administration at Birralee, the other volunteer on the BIPC web committee, and the BIPC chairperson, were aware of my intent to create a website that was completely independent of the Birralee school. Additionally, it was known that an official BIPC website would be hosted as a subdomain of birralee.no (either “parents.birralee.no” or “parentscommittee.birralee.no”). Furthermore, I was informed that an official BIPC website could NOT be hosted overseas, due to “ownership crap.” Therefore, both the administration and BIPC can *not* claim to have ever “understood” that birralee-pc.com was somehow owned by themselves.

**The BIPC chairperson was aware of my intentions, explained the need for approvals, and that a BIPC-owned website could NOT be hosted overseas.**

**October 15 2018** - I received an email reply from the BIPC chairperson (my original email stated “Yes I’m ready to start the website - but how do we manage hosting costs? My understanding was that it would be a completely separate website from the school website...” [emphasis my own]) in which he explained that:

“If we’re gonna pay for an externally hosted website **the PC must agree to cover the cost**. If you’d be able to find a simple estimate of what cost would be, we can see what the PC thinks. (Keep in mind, **no hosting overseas due to ownership crap**...)” (emphasis my own)

Since a cost proposal for website hosting was never presented to the BIPC, the chairperson would have known that the sudden existence of birralee-pc.com was not approved nor supported by the BIPC. The domain name registration was never proposed to or approved by the BIPC either. Additionally, the fact that the site was a “.com” and had a server based overseas, would further indicate that it is NOT an official BIPC website. The chairperson’s choice to ignore these facts and disseminate the birralee-pc.com website address for the Birralee Christmas Fair event information, is his own responsibility.

**Senior administration was aware of my intention to create a fully independent website, and agreed that an official BIPC website would be hosted as a subdomain of birralee.no**

**October 16 2018** - myself and another parent at Birralee (we’ll refer to him as “Individual A”) met with a member of the senior administration of Birralee (we’ll refer to him as “Individual D”). One of the topics discussed was the need for the BIPC to have their own website. I informed Individual D that I was considering creating a fully independent website, so that the school could not censor the content, to which Individual D replied that he needed “a little bit of time to think” about it (I never received any follow-up to this). Individual A suggested that a good compromise might be to host an independent website – possibly a wordpress site – as a subdomain of the school website (the example given was “parentscommittee.birralee.no”), and if the school should have any issues with content, they could easily pull the subdomain. Individual D gave an affirmative reply to this proposal. Therefore the school administration - through Individual D - was aware that a completely independent website might be created, and that an independent site could only be controlled by Birralee if it was hosted on a subdomain of birralee.no.

**The other BIPC web committee volunteer was aware of my intention to create a fully independent website, and stated that an official BIPC website would be hosted as a subdomain of birralee.no**

**October 25 2018** - the other BIPC web committee volunteer (we’ll refer to him as “Individual Ten”) emailed me about the BIPC website project, including a plan to host an official BIPC website under a subdomain of birralee.no - his example given was “parents.birralee.no” - to which I expressed my concern about the school likely not wanting “truth” to be published, and that if the school has any control over the website, they may “pull the plug at any time.” There was no additional follow-up to this. It is noteworthy that Individual Ten never inquired as to the origins or ownership of birralee-pc.com, even though he was also tasked with the job of working on the BIPC website - so either he knew all the facts and remained quiet, or, he was simply too intellectually lazy to be curious about how a website suddenly came into existence without any effort on his part.

Sonja [REDACTED]

Sent by email to [sonja@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:sonja@[REDACTED])

## Letter on behalf of Birralee International School Trondheim and Birralee International Kindergarten

Oslo, 18 December 2018

Our reference:  
505251-501

Partner in charge:  
[REDACTED]

I refer to your letter of 11 November 2018, which you elected to publish on the birralee-pc.com web site, together with a copy of my letter and your various comments.

Based on your letter, I note that the parties disagree, in relation to factual as well as legal issues.

I would like to clear up one basic misunderstanding on your part. In your letter, you claim that the Parents Committee has no interest in the web site currently published under birralee-pc.com. This is not correct.

The Parents' Committee discussed the matter in a meeting on 5 December 2018, and passed the following resolution:

*A former member of the Birralee Parents Committee with delegated responsibility for the Birralee Parents Committee's website, has after leaving the school, taken sole control over the Birralee Parents Committee's website. These actions were not approved or supported by the Birralee Parents Committee.*

*The statement is made with the primary purpose to gain full control over the domain name and published website under birralee-pc.com.*

The Parents Committee has asked Birralee to assist them in their efforts to regain control over their web site, and Birralee has in turn asked for my assistance, if necessary through legal steps. It is therefore clear that your claim of ownership of the Birralee PC web site is, at best, based on a misunderstanding.

As a general comment, the parents at Birralee are very concerned about this matter, raised in part by your recent email to the parents. I fear that you will find very little, if any, support among the parents for your current behaviour.

Even though Birralee is prepared to take the legal action necessary in order to stop you from publishing of what they consider as libellous statements, they still want to solve this matter amicably. An amicable settlement may be reached if you confirm that you will transfer the domain name and the web site back to the

**IRRELEVANT** – Whether or not the BIPC now has “interest” in birralee-pc.com is irrelevant – simply being “interested” in something does NOT convey ownership rights.

**EVIDENCE REQUESTED** – The veracity of this claim isn't provable without the published minutes of said meeting. There are no known published minutes for the Oct 24 2018, Nov 14 2018, or Dec 5 2018 BIPC meetings. Also, there are no published bylaws for BIPC voting, therefore it is debatable whether the BIPC is even able to pass resolutions in a fair manner. Regardless - the BIPC has no claim of ownership of birralee-pc.com for all reasons listed on page 1, 2, and 3 of this document.

**MISLEADING** – “control” was NOT “taken” “after leaving the school” – the website was never under control or ownership by the BIPC. Ever.

**FALSE CLAIM** – all of my documentation proves this to be a completely false claim.

**REFERENCE REQUESTED** – I am uncertain about this “email to parents” you refer to - please provide reference. Also - this is a misleading claim, as I have no way to email all parents at the school as you seem to be implying here.

**IRRELEVANT** – even if this statement of “little support” were true, it's completely irrelevant and pointless.

**RIDICULOUS CLAIM** – if Birralee wanted to solve anything “amicably” they wouldn't use a lawyer sending threats as their initial and then only method of communication, nor would they insist on making false claims of ownership of a website that does not belong to them.

**MISLEADING AND IRRELEVANT** – once again you used the misleading term “back to” with regards to transferring website ownership, which is false since at no time did the BIPC have ownership.

**Birralee Parents Committee.** We ask that you provide us with this confirmation within 7 days from the date of this letter.

I would also like to enquire whether you are **currently represented by a lawyer in Norway.** In your web posting, **you mention that you have been in contact with the Norwegian law firm Arntzen de Besche.** I would be **happy to discuss any legal matters with your lawyer directly.**

For the sake of good order, we emphasise that **Birralee still is of the opinion that the statements that you have published on birralee-pc.com, and on your personal Facebook site, are libellous** and in breach of the Norwegian Act on compensation for damages, section 3 -6 a.

On behalf of Birralee, I reserve the right to make further legal claims in connection to your actions.

Yours sincerely,  
Advokatfirmaet Grette AS

Lawyer/partner  
[REDACTED]@grette.no

**IRRELEVANT** – I met with lawyers because I felt unsafe having my children at Birralee. Since we are no longer at Birralee we have no need for legal representation in Norway. If you insist on continuing discussions on the topic of birrralee-pc.com, you will have to deal with myself, or with the website administrator.

**FALSE CLAIM** – as stated on page 1 of this document, there are no libellous statements published on birralee-pc.com or on my personal Facebook page, but I will review any properly documented statements that your client(s) are concerned about. Please note - I will not review “imagined” statements.

**DITTO (again)** – I too reserve the right to make further legal claims in connection to your actions, and those of Birralee and the BIPC.