

## THE DEBT COLLECTORS

It was disappointing to read in the local ethnic paper of a School that has involved Debt Collectors going to extreme lengths to recover outstanding School fees. In one particular case an irate parent was confronted with debt collectors at the door demanding money owed to their clients, the School.

It was a natural reaction on the part of the parent when confronted with debt collectors on his doorstep. In sending the debt collectors packing he may have overstepped the mark by being a little too aggressive in his actions. Actions that lead to law enforcement agencies being called into unravel the somewhat disagreement. This part of debt recovery by the School only goes to intimidate parents and will eventually have disastrous consequences.

Those at the management level had a system in place that was devised by the previous Management Committee that handled such matters in a somewhat more humane and understanding manner. Yes, it is agreed that it took longer to recover the outstanding fees, but the funds were recovered depending on the circumstances.

There are parents who owe the School outstanding fees ranging from \$4000 to in excess of \$20,000.00. In the past, such cases were reviewed on periodical basis and action taken according the circumstances of the family. Additional financial support was also sought and often granted from the local Banks kind offer of support. It should be noted that in 2006, a deal was struck between the local bank and that of the School to assist parents in meeting their School student fees. The "Bully Boy" approach by those managing the School and its other assets leaves a lot to be desired.

What all this translates into is that the School and those who manage it will be branded as having brought about the demise of both the educational and financial aspects of the institution. A pity that such a fine institution should crumble after the many years of hard work put in by the many unsung heroes of the community. Peter Adamis