

# Pope Benedict's lack of apology for abuse cases 'appalling,' say German survivors

by Christopher White

**Rome** — German survivors of clergy sexual abuse are sharply criticizing retired Pope Benedict XVI's response to a report that faulted his handling of four abuse cases in the 1970s and '80s, calling his lack of a direct apology an abdication of personal responsibility.

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"Ratzinger still sees himself as a victim who has been 'drawn into excessive guilt,' " said the German church reform organization We Are Church [in a statement](#). "He is still unwilling to stand by the non-delegable overall responsibility that a bishop has."

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<https://www.ncronline.org/news/accountability/pope-benedicts-lack-apology-abuse-cases-appalling-say-german-survivors>

Zuletzt geändert am 09.02.2022