QCPCI



Date: 26 11. 2012

Exhibit number: 55

QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Our reference: [eDocs document number]

Statement of Witness

Name of Witness	Lynne Diane Woolard
Date of Birth	28/05/1954
Address and contact details	
Occupation	Retired
Officer taking statement	Detective Sergeant J A MISON
Date taken	30/10/2012

I, Lynne Diane Woolard state;

- 1. I am of 58 years of age.
- 2. My maiden surname was Draper.
- 3. I am a former employee of the Department of Family Services, [herein referred to as the department].
- 4. I first started working for the department in 1978. I was employed by the department as a Registered Nurse (RN) at the Wilson Youth Hospital. Wilson then became the Sir Leslie Wilson Youth Centre. I graduated from nursing at the Princess Alexandria Hospital in 1975.
- 5. Whilst I worked at Wilson I took leave to undertake a Post Graduate paediatric certificate at the Royal Children's Hospital which I completed in the early eighties.

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- 6. During 1986 to 1987 I was involved in the setting up of a new youth facility. This facility became known as the John Oxley Youth Centre, [herein referred to as JOYC]. This was a brand new purpose built facility for children in care of the department. This centre was designed to change the style of care of residents.
- 7. The centre opened in about February 1987. The first manager of the centre was Terry McDermott. Upon commencing duty at JOYC I was employed as a Principal Youth Worker. Basically my role was to be in charge a shift. I was also involved in the admissions process.
- 8. Terry McDermott wasn't the manager for a long time. Terry's replacement was Peter Coyne. Peter was a social worker and he may have come from within the department. Peter had a couple of deputies under him. These included Jennifer Foote and Anne Dutney. I think Jennifer Foote was also Terry's deputy at some stage.
- 9. Some of the staff that I can recall working back then at JOYC as follows; Peter Coyne manager, Anne Dutney - Deputy Manager, Jennifer Foote - deputy manager, Rudy Pekalharing - Principal youth worker, Trevor Cox - principal youth worker, Eileen Bisby - senior youth worker, Bruce Cassidy - senior youth worker, Ray Bently - principal youth worker from Westrbrook, Colin Bray – senior youth worker, Lex Clemence – youth worker, Fred Feige - senior youth worker, Mark Freemantle -youth worker, Lorraine Haywood- youth worker, Daniel Lannen – youth worker, Jeffrey Manitzky – wasn't a youth worker maybe social worker, Lorraine McGregor -Registered Nurse, Peter McNeven - youth worker, Karen Mersaides - teacher, Sarah Moynihan - activities, Mariana Pearce – youth worker, Warren Chistensen – youth worker, Sabina Konicanin – youth worker, Michael Roch - youth worker, June West - youth worker, Diane Fields youth worker, Jan French – youth worker, Ted Guzowski – not sure if he was a youth worker, Paul Hamson – youth worker, Kit Mountery – nurse, Margaret Judd – youth worker, Ken Kleidon - youth worker, Trudy Lewis was Anne Dutney' sister - alarm system watcher, Bronwyn Marshall - youth worker, Gloria Mcneven - kitchen, Alexander Meulenberg - mechanics teacher, Mark Mills - youth worker, Jane Mumford -kitchen, Lola Nolan - youth worker, Archie - youth worker, Brad Barfitt - youth worker, Brian Parker - office, Trudy Parker - office, Jodie Preston - office, Josie Russo - cleaner, Jane Thirnbeck - youth worker, Marion Drew - social worker, Gary Truloff youth worker, Jill Wesche - youth worker, Wayne Armstrony - youth worker, Narend Nath - youth worker, Ken Gerke - youth worker, Darren Leahay - youth worker, David Farnwell - teacher or social worker, David Smith - youth worker, David Lloyd - youth

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worker, Janice Brimstone – youth worker, Bronwyn Margaret Friend - alarm system watcher, Kerry Deakin – youth worker, Owen Morrison – youth worker, Diedre Duncan – youth worker, Gary Haviland – youth worker, James Douglas – youth worker, Chris Edwards – youth worker, Bruce Goggins – youth worker, Daryl Hood – youth worker, Terry Owens – groundsman, and Gordon Teasdale – youth worker, Gary Thompson – social worker who married Marion Drew, and Gordon Cooper – teacher.

- During my time at JOYC I also relieved in the higher positions of deputy manager and manager of the centre.
- 11. Whilst Peter Coyne was manager there were some staff that didn't accept Peter Coyne's management style. I was not one of these staff. I was in fact a supporter of Peter Coyne and the deputy's approach.
- 12. The union subsequently became involved with the staff grievances at JOYC. I believe one group wrote to Peter Coyne's superior and made a complaint. There were a number of issues that were raised. The sequence of events is hazy so I don't know what set it off exactly. I know there was an issue with handcuffs. There was another issue about the school outing where there was an allegation that a girl was raped by two of the residents. There was also a riot at the centre which was widely reported in the newspapers at the time. I am sure there are other issues that were raised but I cannot recall them.
- 13. I not sure of the breakdown of which staff were involved in the grievance, I have some inkling that Danny Lannen was involved but I am not sure. I felt I was the only principal that supported Peter Coyne's management style.
- 14. I felt Peter Coyne was kind and fair to the residents. I also felt that he would not tolerate residents being physically aggressive to staff or other residents.
- 15. I am aware of the Heiner Inquiry that occurred back then. I presumed the Heiner Inquiry was created over the perceived treatment of residents and part of this would have been complaints made against Peter Coyne by some staff. I knew this Inquiry was occurring whilst I was at JOYC due to the level discussion amongst staff and their unrest.
- 16. I believe I would of sent something in writing to this inquiry because of my support for Peter Coyne. I don't recall if I wrote anything about sexual abuse in this letter or submission. Back then I wasn't really aware of sexual abuse.

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- 17. I remember sometime around the time of the Inquiry I met with one person at JOYC. I can't remember this person's name but I think it was Peter Coyne's immediate boss, however I am not sure of this. I can say the person I met with was a male person in his late fifties. This person could have had the name of George as a first name but I am not sure. I don't recall the actual discussion I had with this person but looking back now I believe it was about Peter Coyne and the general running of the centre.
- 18. Looking back now I believe I was also involved in lots of meetings at JOYC with other department officials during the Peter Coyne crisis.
- 19. I don't recall if I ever attended and gave evidence at the Heiner Inquiry.
- 20. My memory of these times or perceptions is that the Heiner Inquiry was unfair in that Peter Coyne's supporters including myself were not given much of a say about what was going on at the JOYC.
- 21. I also recall back then during the Inquiry I wrote a letter to the Director General of the department, Ruth Matchett. I can't recall the contents of this letter but I believe it would of been about my support of Peter Coyne and the fact residents were treated fairly. This letter would have been very generalised. Back then I had a belief I may lose my job due to senior departmental staff attitude towards management at JOYC.
- 22. At no stage during the Inquiry did I get the impression that Peter Coyne sought support from me. As stated I was already a supporter of Peter Coyne and his methods.
- On the 30th October 2012 Detective Mison showed me a letter dated (22/09/1989) 23. addressed to Ms J. Walker and signed Lynne Draper. I am the author of this letter. I recognised my signature on the bottom of the second page. I recall J Walker to be Janine Walker.
- 24. Whilst I worked for the department I was a member of the relevant union. I considered myself not active in the union.
- 25. I remember a sexual incident involving an aboriginal female resident called Annette Harding during a school outing from JOYC. I don't know the date when this incident occurred however Peter Coyne was the manager. I did not go on the outing. I believe on

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the day of the incident Rudy Pekalharing may have been the principal youth worker but I am not sure. I can recall the teacher Karen Mersaides was on the outing. I have a vague memory of supervising a visit between Annette Harding and her mother at the time of this incident. In my position as a principal youth worker I have heard lots of discussion at the centre amongst management and staff. I have also obtained information from the media reports.

- 26. I remember while I was working at JOYC there was talk at the centre about a relationship between youth worker and resident I recall I only had suspicions however I have since learned that and got married and had children together.
- 27. I resigned from the department in either 1993 or 1994. Since leaving the department I have not provided any statements or interviews to any person about my time at JOYC.

Declaration	
This written statement by me dated 1 to is true and correct to the	best of my knowledge and belief.
Signed at Brisbane	Signature this 30th day of October 2012
Witnessed:	Signature
Name J.A.Mison	Rank Det Sgt Reg. No. 8065