




**QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION  
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

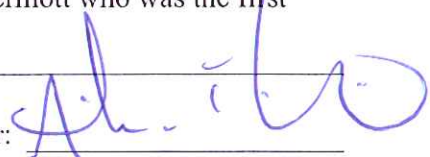
**Statement of Witness**

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Jeffrey MANITZKY
<i>Date of Birth</i>	26/06/1953
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Queensland Child Protection Inquiry
<i>Occupation</i>	Psychologist [retired]
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Sergeant Fabian COLLESS
<i>Date taken</i>	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2012

I, Jeffrey MANITZKY state;

1. I am a former employee of the Department of Families [herein referred to as the department]. I commenced employment with the department at the Sir Leslie Wilson youth Centre in 1985. The manager of the centre at that time was Janice Doyle. I had worked there previously as a youth worker and returned in 1985.
2. When the John Oxley Youth Centre [herein referred to as JOYC] was opened, I ended up employed there. I do not recall whether I had been seconded to that position at JOYC or if it had been a position I had applied for, however recall commencing there in 1987. I remained employed at JOYC until either 1990 or 1991. During my period of employment at JOYC I predominantly undertook the role as a psychologist however I did spend some time in other roles as a supervisor and deputy manager. I undertook those roles when others were on leave. I do not recall if I was ever provided opportunity to act as JOYC manager however there may have been occasion when that had occurred. If I had done so it would have been for a very short period of time, perhaps days only.
3. During my period of employment at JOYC I recall there being several managers at the centre at various times. I believe it had been Terry McDermott who was the first

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centre manager followed later by Peter Coyne. I do not recall who was in the position of deputy manager when I commenced at JOYC however recall that Anne Dutney was deputy manager at a later time.

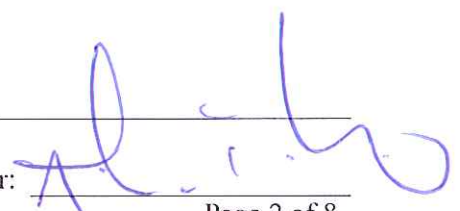
4. I recall that during my employ at Sir Leslie Wilson the centre's structure included youth workers, section managers, shift managers, section manager and then upper management. I believe there was also a manager in charge of the professional staff. There were teachers including a head teacher at Wilson who I recall as being Ken Turnbull.
5. I have some recollection of the structure of JOYC which included casual youth workers, youth workers, senior youth workers, principal youth workers and management. The structure also included professionals such as psychologists and social workers. I do not have recollection of there being a manger in charge of the professional staff at JOYC. JOYC also included teaching staff. I believe that Ken Turnball may have been a head teacher at JOYC and other teachers would have acted in that role at other times if it existed. Those JOYC teachers acting in the position may have included Bob O'Hannley, Gordon [Cooper] and Karen Merciadies.
6. Other employees I recall working at JOYC include Lyn Draper, Col Bray, Freddie [Feige], Lex Clements, Marianna Pearce, Terry Owens (yards man), Lorraine Hayward, Gary Truloff, and Lorraine McGregor. I remember there being about 10 or 12 youth workers a shift and they would come and go, so there would have been probably 200 of them all up at JOYC.
7. I have brief knowledge of there being issues at JOYC around 1989/1990. There were issues between the management and the manager more specifically and some of the staff. I do not know a lot about it other than I believe there were complainants being made about the manager, Peter Coyne by various people. What those complaints were and by whom I am not really sure. I do not recall having any direct involvement in it nor was I privy to conversations or meeting with those involved.

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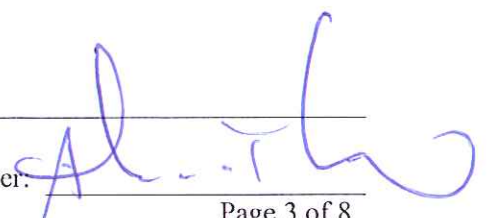
8. I have some recollection that at one time I may have been asked to provide a statement whilst I was at JOYC. I believe this statement was around Marianna [Pearce]. I think it may have been Peter Coyne who had asked me to write a statement about just how she was. I cannot remember details of it, I just remember him asking me to write something about her. The issues were that she just didn't seem to be coping really well.
9. At no time did I ever provide a statement, or letter to any union or the Department in relation to manager Peter Coyne. I am not aware of any persons who did.
10. During my period of employ I believe I was a member of the QPSU, whatever that union is called now. Possibly the Queensland State Services Union. At no time did I ever supply a letter to the QSSU or any anonymous letter about problems at JOYC.
11. I am familiar with the term the Heiner Inquiry. The Heiner Inquiry was set up, that is it might have been set up to investigate those complaints and things that had come up. I attended the Heiner Inquiry. It was all so broadened out. Beyond that they addressed things like training and all sorts of stuff. There was from memory, half a dozen maybe nine or ten terms of reference that the Inquiry was looking at. I think the primary purpose was in relation to the allegations and conflict issues about management.
12. I recall the terms of reference were published on a piece of paper that was floated around. I chose to go to the Inquiry. It was an Inquiry where you could choose to go or not. I recall it was advertised and everyone at JOYC knew it was occurring. Everybody knew that if you wanted to go you could go to it. I'm assuming they had seriously advertised it and said you can go this time or that as Mr Heiner would be there. I do not remember if you had to book a time or not. I remember that it was during work time.
13. I remember going in and talking to Mr Heiner. I discussed stuff about staff training and the need to up skill staff and do all that sort of stuff. My focus was just the need for skills, training and staff.

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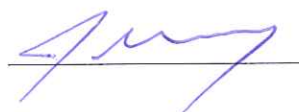


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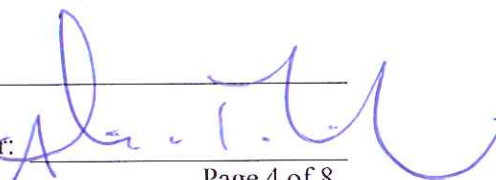


14. I was not asked any questions at the Inquiry. It wasn't like a question sort of Inquiry. I turned up and spoke with him [Mr Heiner] about a need to improve training and do all that sort of stuff. I recall the Inquiry being conducted in a room, as you walked in to JOYC. A conference room. I do not know what the room was called but it was in the front door, to the right and right again. When I entered the room I recall Mr Heiner and Barbara Flynn being in there. I knew Barbara Flynn as she was a departmental employee. I recall our conversations being recorded by a tape recorder. I do not recall being told that it was being recorded but recall some things about the interview. One of the main things I remember is at the end of it, Mr Heiner said that I might have defamed somebody in the process of giving the information, so I remember that. I do not remember what the defamation was or who it was about.
15. My focus had been on training and the skills of the employees. I can only imagine the defamation could have only related to something I may have said about someone's competence. Mr Heiner did not tell me what he was going to do with what I had said. He just said it could have been defamatory. That's the thing I remember most. After I gave my statement I just went off and attended to my usual duties. It was some time later that the Inquiry closed down.
16. I don't recall Peter Coyne or anyone else asking me what I had said to Mr Heiner. I do remember I did have a conversation with Peter Coyne before I went into the conference room prior to me giving my statement to Mr Heiner. It had been just general conversation about the inquiry. Peter, I suppose, was encouraging me to attend. He wasn't pushing me or anything like that but I did have that conversation and he did suggest to me that I attend and I did. I cannot remember who else gave a statement to the Heiner Inquiry.
17. At no time did I tell the Inquiry any details about sexual abuse of any child or any other person as I had no information to offer.
18. I can confirm that I attended a JOYC outing on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1998 during which allegations were raised that a female detainee had been sexually assaulted. I did not

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Speak to Mr Heiner about that event, nor do I know of any other staff members who provided those details to Mr Heiner. I do not know if any other staff members who had been on that outing gave evidence to Mr Heiner and therefore cannot comment as to whether they told Mr Heiner about that outing.

19. I have not given any evidence, statement or submission to any other inquiry, parliamentary inquiry or other person. Apart from providing a statement to Mr Heiner, and this statement today I can confirm I have been approached by other persons in relation to matters relating to JOYC.
20. I recall being approached by the media. The first contact would have been about 2000 or 2001 when articles appeared in The Courier Mail. I am not sure now exactly what it was about but I believe it was more focused on the excursion. I do not know if the article was in relation to the Heiner matter because I do not think the Heiner Inquiry and the excursion were linked until much later. I think the focus was on the excursion, so I was contacted by the media then. I was further contacted by media towards the end of 2007 and I was asked whether or not I had told Mr Heiner, or he had asked me about the excursion. I referred the journalist to the department's media person because I was working in the department still at that time, so I just said they would need to contact the media office.
21. I recall the journalist who had approached me in 2000 / 2001 had been Bruce Grundy. From memory the conversation went along the lines of

He said, 'Are you Jeff Manitzky?'

I had said, 'Yes'.

He said, 'Are you Jeff Manitzky, the senior officer of...'

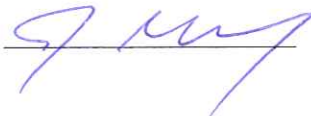
I replied, 'Yes'.

He said, 'Were you on this excursion...?'

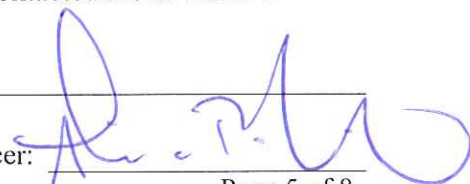
I just replied, 'I'm not interested in talking about that.'

22. That was my first experience of the media and it wasn't very pleasant. The conversation had been by phone as the journalist had contacted me at work. I

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answered the phone and off he went with his questions. I am pretty sure he had identified himself as Bruce Grundy. I do not know if that conversation was recorded. I cannot recall him advising me that it was being recorded, I would have remembered that.

23. In 2007 the journalist who had approached me had been Greg Martin or some name similar from the Australian newspaper. He told me he had been speaking with Karen Merciadies and he wanted to ask me some questions. I said you'd have to refer it to the department's media unit.

He said, 'Can I ask you one question at least?'

I said, 'well OK'.

He asked me, 'Did you talk to Heiner or did Heiner ask you about the excursion?'

I said, 'You'll have to refer it to the media....'

He responded, 'Well.'

He did not push me too hard for information after that.

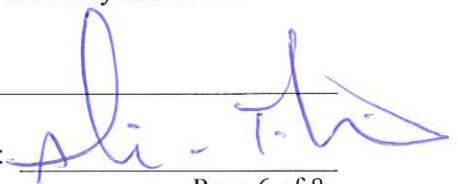
24. I was also approached by Task Force Argos [Queensland Police] in 2007. There were investigating the behaviour of the inmates on the day of the excursion. I do not know if I gave an actual statement but I was interviewed. I think I was interviewed by Kelly Turnbull and I was interviewed at Carew's which is a solicitors' office. The interview was about the excursion. I do remember right at the end Kelly asked me whether I had attended Heiner and I said I hadn't. I said that because I was worried about the defamation stuff because of what Mr Heiner had said to me when I spoke to him. The following day I contacted Carew's and asked them to contact the police to advise that I had in fact spoken to Mr Heiner. I'm not sure whether that occurred or not as I didn't hear anything more about it.

25. I was not interviewed by the CJC but remember them contacting me in relation to the excursion. I either got a letter from the DG or department saying that I needed to. I arranged an interview and then I went and sought some legal advice. By then, although we had arranged an interview time, the CJC had cancelled the interview. They said that they no longer needed to interview me because they had found files or

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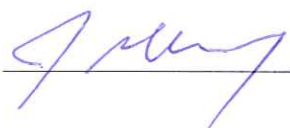
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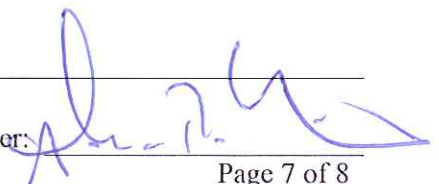
something. Then I got an official letter saying there was no need for interview. I cannot recall who I had spoken with at the CJC.

26. My understanding is that the material from the Heiner Inquiry is gone. It was shredded.
27. On the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012 I was provided a photocopy of a two page document titled 'Jeff Manitzky. Psychologist at the John Oxley Youth Centre' addressed to P Coyne. This document relates to an educational outing held on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 1998. I recall producing this document and acknowledge being the author of it. I suspect that I volunteered to complete this document. I cannot be sure, but I believe I provided this statement voluntarily as a matter of course because of the situation. I may have been asked but believe it was more likely that I did so voluntarily. I cannot recall how I produced that statement, that whether I had originally hand written it or whether I physically typed it myself or someone else typed it for me to sign, but on balance I think I probably hand wrote it first and it was then typed up for me. However it was produced, I do not have any problems with the facts outlined in the document and recall the content as accurate. I can make no further additions to those details I previously outlined in that document.
28. After that I had nothing further to do with Annette Harding regarding the incident. I cannot recall, however I would have no doubt, I had some conversations with Peter Coyne about the matter. I do not recall the content of those conversations.
29. From my understanding usual practice at JOYC was if an incident occurred, an incident report was completed by a youth worker. Youth workers had an incident report system set up for reporting incidents but we psychologist and social workers did not. I suspect teachers didn't have to complete incident reports either, so I guess that's why the report was written in the way I produced it an not in the form of an incident report.
30. In relation to any other incidents of sexual abuse or allegations of sexual abuse that occurred at JOYC during my employment I offer the following information. Back in

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2004/2005 I think on Four Corners, there was all this media stuff about, and there were issues in the senate inquiry. At the time there was reference to two rapes intermingled. I know nothing of the second one. I couldn't even understand how the two fitted together. Crown Law actually asked me about it when they were doing stuff when Annette sued the department. I talked to Crown Law and they asked me about the second rape. I do not know what that was all about but from memory it seemed to relate to Wivenhoe Dam or something. I only know this from reading the little bit that was in the news paper and a bit from the senate inquiry. They seemed to be intermingled somehow. I couldn't work out who was where and what, but I have an awareness of that other one. I do not know the name of who was involved only that it was an alleged rape.

31. I have no other knowledge of any other sexual abuse incidents or allegations said to have occurred during my employment at JOYC.
32. During my conversation with Detective Colless he produced to me a list of names of persons believed to have been employed at JOYC around the time of my employment. I was able to identify most of the staff names on that list as people I worked with or knew of working there, some others I did not know.

Jeffrey MANITZKY

**Declaration**

This written statement by me dated 24 January 2013 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 8 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed at Brisbane this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January 20 13  
Signature

Witnessed:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Adrian Braithwaite Rank Solicitor Reg. No. NA  
Signature