QCPCI Reference:

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## QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

# Statement of Witness

Name of Witness			
Date of Birth			
Address and contact details	Known to Det. Senior Sergeant Barber		
Occupation	Storeman		
Officer taking statement	Detective Senior Sergeant Brett Barber		
Date taken			

# I, state;

- 1. I am a former employee of the John Oxley Youth Centre (JOYC). I commenced working for the Department of Children's Services as a Youth Worker at JOYC from 31 July 1989 until 16 April 1991.
- 2. I currently reside in Tasmania.
- 3. On 4 December 2012, I was contacted by telephone by Detective Senior Sergeant Brett Barber. I spoke with Detective Barber and provided him with a statement in relation to my experiences at JOYC.
- 4. I recall there were a number of managers at JOYC while I was there. Peter Coyne was the manager when I arrived. Then there was a bloke from Townsville. I don't remember his name. Then there was Ian Mc Intyre.
- 5. As a youth worker I reported to a senior youth worker. I remember a number of senior youth workers that were there. I remember there was an older lady. I think her name was Eileen Bisby. There was also Col Bray; Trevor Cox, and Brian Cartledge.

Signature of Witness:	Signature of Officer:	Page 1 of 4

#### OCPCI Reference:

- 6. I also remember a number of the youth workers that were at JOYC while I was there. There was Fred Fiege; Danny Lannen; Warren Chrstensen; Jane Melloy; Paul Hamson; Scott Healing; Olly Isaac; Connie (Sabina Konicanin); Lorraine Logan; Bronwyn Marshall; Lorraine McGreggor; Owen Morrison; Irene Parfitt; Brad Parfitt; Mariana Pearce; Cindy Ranger; Gary Truloff; and June West. There were others but I can't remember their names.
- 7. I remember while I was working at JOYC there was an investigation conducted regarding the manager Peter Coyne. I believe it was called the Heiner Inquiry. I was not involved in the investigation and was not asked to answer any questions. I also didn't prepare any kind of written statement for the investigation.
- 8. The only thing I remember about the Heiner inquiry is overhearing Brad and Irene Parfitt talking one night about writing letters to the Inquiry.
- 9. I remember about six months after I started, after the investigation was over, Peter Coyne left.
- 10. I also remember not long after I arrived there was an investigation regarding being handcuffed during a riot. I didn't get involved and I don't know what happened.
- Justice Commission (CJC) regarding an allegation made against me while I was at JOYC. I advised Detective Barber that in 1998 I was interviewed by CJC in regarding an allegation that in 1991, during an excursion to the Wivenhoe Dam, I inappropriately touched up one of the young females. I think the girls name was something like Detective Barber asked me if the girls name could have been I'm not sure.

#### QCPCI Reference:

- 12. The excursion involved about six kids and about four workers. I remember the workers being the arts teacher, the mechanic, Alex, I don't remember his last name, myself, and possibly another youth worker. We took the kids to Wivenhoe Dam for a swim.
- 13. It wasn't until a few days after the excursion that the manager Ian McIntyre told me that an allegation had been made that I inappropriately touched up one of the young females on the excursion. I couldn't believe it. The place was toxic. I had done my best to stay out of the politics but when it turned on me, I just decided I had had enough and resigned. Ian told me to take a couple of days to think about it and not make any hasty decisions. Ian never gave me any kind of ultimatum to resign or be sacked, I had just had enough and over the next couple of days I just decided to resign.
- 14. Years later, in 1998, I was interviewed by the CJC about the allegation. Some time later someone from the CJC contacted me and told me that I had been cleared. I don't remember who that was and I don't think I ever received anything in writing, but nothing else happened. Since then I've just tried to put it behind me.
- 15. Detective Barber advised me that this incident and my name had been mentioned in a number of statements taken by the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry. He offered to provide me with a copy of the relevant statements for my reference. I told Detective Barber that I wasn't interested in what other people had to say about it and that I didn't want a copy of the statements.
- 16. The only other information I can offer regarding child sexual abuse at JOYC is that I once heard that one of the detainees, was kissed by one of the youth workers. I don't remember the worker's name. He was a skinny bloke with long hair. Detective Barber asked me if the workers surname could have been I think it was. I'm not sure.

### QCPCI Reference:

- 17. I never personally saw anything that could be considered child sexual abuse while I was at JOYC.
- 18. Apart from the CJC in 1998, I have never been approached by the police, the media or any other person regarding my time at JOYC. I have never given evidence at any other investigation, inquiry or hearing, and I have never provided any statement, document or other written material to any person regarding my employment at JOYC.
- 19. I haven't kept any records, and do not have in my possession any books, documents, or writings, including any electronic records, relating to the John Oxley Youth Centre.



## Declaration

This written statement by me dated		and contained in the pages numbered			
1 to is true and correct to	the best of m	y knowledge and belief.			
Signed at	Signature this	day of		_ 20	
Witnessed:					
	Signature				
Name B. Barber	Rank	Det. Senior Sergeant	Reg. No.	6382	
,					
Signature of Witness:		Signature of Officer:		Dags 4 of 4	
			1.	Page 4 of 4	