



**QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

Statement of Witness

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Jennifer Louise Foote
<i>Date of Birth</i>	31/07/1956
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Queensland Child Protection Inquiry
<i>Occupation</i>	Retired
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Sergeant Colless
<i>Date taken</i>	8 October 2012

I, Jennifer Louise Foote state;

1. I am a former Deputy Manager of the John Oxley Youth Centre [JOYC]. I commenced working for the Department of Children's Services in 1979 at the Westbrook Detention Centre. I held a number of positions with the department and was appointed to the position of Deputy Manager of JOYC when the Centre opened in about January 1987. I remained in that position until around January 1989. I later retired from the Department in 2005.
2. When I commenced as the Deputy Manager at JOYC, Terry McDermott was the manager. JOYC was made up of three wings, Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson, and housed somewhere around 25 to 30 children. At that time courts did not actually make the decision about the particular length of time that young people would be detained. The courts made Care and Control Orders in those days, and it was up to the Management team at the detention centre to decide how long the young person would be detained.
3. I don't recall how many workers were employed to supervise the young people, but they comprised youth workers, senior youth workers and principal youth workers.

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4. Youth workers had the responsibility for the direct supervision of the young people either in their wings or if they were at school or whatever they were doing around the place. Senior youth workers had more of a supervisory role. I do not recall how many senior youth workers were on at any one time. The principal youth workers were basically responsible for supervising the senior youth workers.
5. There were also teachers employed. I don't recall how many. I believe they reported directly to the manager. There were also cooks, cleaners and gardeners.
6. Sergeant Mison showed me a list of names and I remembered the following people as workers who were at the JOYC while I was there; Marge Judd; Peter McNeven; Bruce Cassidy; Mark Mills; Brian Cartledge; June West; Col Bray; Chris Edwards; Darryl Hood; Jane Mumford; Jane Thirnbeck; Eileen Bisby; Jan French; Lyn Draper; Gordon Teasdale; Alexander Meulenberg; Gary Truloff; Danny Lannen; Trevor Cox; Brad Parfitt; Rudy Pekelharing; Sabina Konnicanin; Jim Douglas; Mariana Pearce; Lorraine Haywood; Brian Parker; Jeff Manitzky; Mark Freemantle; Bruce Goggins; Scott Healing; Peter Palmer; Brian Parker; Mariana Pearce; Dave Smith; Fred Feige; Gloria McNeven; Lex Clements; Lorraine McGregor; Michael Roch; Kit Mountany; Ted Guzowski; and Wendy Kropp. I also know Anne Dutney from another job. She came after me as the deputy manager at JOYC.
7. After Terry Mcdermott left, Peter Coyne became the manager. Peter remained the manager right up until I left. I think we were only there together for six months or so and for a part of that I was away for two months on leave.
8. Whilst I was employed at JOYC I was not aware of any particular problems. I had not been aware of the problems between the staff and Peter Coyne. I think Peter came to JOYC about June 1988. I went on holiday leave in September I think and I was away until December. I left JOYC soon after, so our period of working together would have been about four months. I knew Peter because we had worked together in the same office at Ipswich. After I left JOYC I went to Corinda.

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9. Whilst I had been on leave I think it may have been Lyn Draper who had relieved in my position. When I returned from leave I can't say I was aware of any staffing problems. Nothing that stays in my mind.
10. After I had left JOYC I heard about the riot, for want of a better word, from other departmental colleagues. I do not know what happened as a result, as I wasn't there, so I can only assume there was an investigation.
11. I am aware that there was an Inquiry conducted at JOYC in about late 1989 and early 1990 which was called the Heiner Inquiry. I had no direct involvement in it. I did not give evidence at the Heiner Inquiry. All I know is really what I read in the paper I suppose. From what I read I'm aware that there was an inquiry set up to look at particular allegations, things that had happened in the Centre. But then there was an issue about how it had been set up or it was alleged that it hadn't been set up properly so the people weren't indemnified. So that the documents were shredded. That's all. No one from JOYC ever told me anything about the Inquiry. I did not keep in touch with anyone who worked there after I left. I did not give any evidence to Mr Heiner about sexual abuse.
12. At no time, whilst I was employed, or after I had left JOYC was I asked by Police or departmental officers to supply a statement or letter in relation to concerns, problems or management issues at JOYC, other than the occasion Bruce Grundy turned up on my doorstep.
13. I am unsure if I have ever been asked to give evidence before any other Inquiry, such as the Forde Inquiry in 1999. I certainly didn't go to a formal setting but I might have been interviewed. I couldn't say absolutely, but whether or not someone came to interview me, they may have. I think that it was Forde because I had worked at John Oxley and I suppose because of my history of working in the system. I don't have any specific recollection of someone but it certainly wasn't a formal setting.
14. I have never given any evidence to any parliamentary inquiry in relation to JOYC. I do not recall ever having been interviewed by the Criminal Justice Commission.

Signature of Witness:



Signature of Officer:



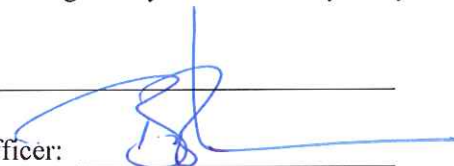
understand. It may well have come back with my handwritten notes and I might have checked through it and the hand written ones may well have been ripped up.

24. I had no other dealings with the incident. I did not go on the field trip and I am not aware of what actually happened with the Annette Harding incident. I can not honestly remember whether police interviewed Annette or whether I had any other involvement in it.
25. During my conversation with Detective Colless he showed me a copy of a type written document titled 'For your Information' which appears to be an outcome of a meeting on the 24th of May 1988 attended by a number of persons. I do not recall writing this document however I acknowledge that this document bears my signature. From review of that document it appears to be about a meeting about protocols for future outings from the centre. I do not know if this was a meeting prior to the Annette Harding incident or not. It appears to be dated the 24th May 1988 which is before Annette's incident. The document appears to outline matters for consideration before an outing from the centre occurs.
26. I recall having been interviewed by Police but I can't remember whether it was to do with Annette's matter or another matter. I do remember going to the Police Station and being interviewed. I recall having been interviewed by a female Detective [Detective Senior Constable Kelly Turnbull] from the Sexual Crime Group.
27. I do not have any further knowledge in relation to allegations of sexual abuse or incidents said to have occurred at the John Oxley Youth Centre during my time as deputy manager.
28. Whilst employed at JOYC I was a member of the QPSU, the Queensland Public Service Union. I do not recall ever being approached by the union in relation to matters at JOYC.
29. During my conversation with Detectives Colless and Mison I was shown a copy of a hand written document dated the 3rd October 1989 signed 'yours sincerely very

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concerned'. Upon review of that document I see that it is dated October 1989. I had left JOYC in January. I am not the author of that document and do not recognise the hand writing contained in it.



Jennifer Louise FOOTE

Declaration

This written statement by me dated 08/10/2012 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 7 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

J Foote Signature
Signed at Brisbane this 18th day of January 20 13

Witnessed:

[Signature] Signature
Name B. B. [Signature] Rank DSS Reg. No. 6382

Signature of Witness: _____

Signature of Officer: _____