



**QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION  
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

**Statement of Witness**

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Deirdre Denise DUNCAN
<i>Date of Birth</i>	22/07/1941
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Detective Senior Constable Denise PARER
<i>Occupation</i>	Retired
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Senior Constable Denise PARER
<i>Date taken</i>	01/11/2012

I, Deirdre Denise DUNCAN state;

1. I am a former employee of the Department of Children’s Services [herein referred to as the department].
2. I commenced employment with the department I believe in 1979, at which time I undertook duties as a ‘Domestic’ at the Sir Leslie Wilson Youth Centre. The manager of Sir Leslie Wilson Youth Centre was Janice Doyle. There I attended to duties such as cleaning offices, setting up kitchen tables, providing tea at meal times to the children, and attending to clean up after meals. Just prior to the official opening of the John Oxley Youth Centre [herein referred to as JOYC], I was transferred to that location to commence employment. I commenced there a few weeks prior to its opening as part of its set up before it received the first of the children. At JOYC I performed the role of domestic and later was promoted to the position of Head Housekeeper. That position required me to oversee several domestic staff and attend to the ordering and maintenance of stores. I remained in that position until my resignation early 1989. After my resignation I commenced my own private cleaning business Blemrose Pty Ltd. I continued operating this business until my retirement.

Signature of Witness:

Signature of Officer:

3. During my employment at JOYC I recall a few of the staff members I had contact with. Essentially, contact with staff at the centre was minimal as we, as domestic staff, were physically separated from other staff and would mainly see them only in passing. I do recall that when I commenced at JOYC the manager was Terry McDermott and his second in charge was Anne Dutney. Other staffs I recall were Brian Parker, who was head of administration and my in-line supervisor, and fellow domestics Gloria McNeven, Josie Russo and Lorraine Logan. During my time at JOYC I worked under another centre manager who I remember only as Peter. He was a young, tall, dark haired, handsome man who was 'going to change everything'.
4. During my time at JOYC I was never involved in any sort of management issues or other major issues that were said to have occurred in the Centre. I was aware at different times through staff gossip that there were issues surrounding a major outbreak of the children from the centre and rioting of the children but this information was only hearsay as I did not witness any of these events.
5. I am unaware that an Inquiry in relation to JOYC ever took place in 1989/1990. This could be because I left JOYC to start my own business mid-1989. I am not familiar with the term Heiner Inquiry and have never met any person named Noel Heiner.
6. At no time was I ever approached or requested to provide any statement to any person, inquiry or union, either orally or in written form, about management or issues having occurred during my period of employment at JOYC.
7. I am unsure if I was a member of a union.
8. During my time of employment at JOYC I did not see or have any direct knowledge of any sexual abuse or sexual inappropriateness between staff or children at the Centre. I have some recollection that several years after I left

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Signature of Witness:

*DD Duncan*

Signature of Officer:

*[Signature]*

JOYC, I was speaking to Gloria McNeven who had been a fellow domestic whom I had kept in contact with. Gloria is the mother of Peter McNeven who was a youth worker at JOYC. I remember Gloria telling me that Peter had since married [REDACTED] and had several children with her. I do not know who this girl is and do not know any further details of that relationship.

9. If ever I had an issue at JOYC, I reported immediately to my supervisor Brian Parker or directly to the Centre manager if it was important enough. At no time did I ever have need to report any issues of concerns about any sexual abuse as none ever came to my attention.
  
10. On the 23rd October 2012 Detectives Parer and Mison attended my home address during which time I provided them with my knowledge of this matter.

Deirdre Denise DUNCAN

**Declaration**

This written statement by me dated 01/11/2012 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 3 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

DD Duncan Signature

Signed at GOLD COAST this 7<sup>TH</sup> day of NOVEMBER 20 12

Witnessed:

[Signature] Signature

Name Denise Parer Rank DSC Reg. No. 10736

Signature of Witness: DD Duncan

Signature of Officer: [Signature]