

REPORT

The following has been reported to me by Father Bernard Frize.

At 2 pm on 18 February 1998, [REDACTED] had a meeting at the Cathedral Presbytery Armidale NSW with Father Bernard Frize, Administrator of the Cathedral Parish.

[REDACTED] She is married to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] made allegations to Father Frize to the effect [REDACTED] John Farrell had sexually assaulted [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is now aged about fifteen. When the alleged offence took place did not emerge at the meeting.

[REDACTED] further alleged that John Farrell had also sexually assaulted another [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] The time of this alleged assault did not emerge during the meeting.

After discussion, [REDACTED] left her meeting with Father Frize with the intention of contacting her [REDACTED] with a view to having a talk with her [REDACTED] about the alleged offence.

[REDACTED] is going to place the matter in the hands of the police through the Community Services department. Father Frize supported her in her intentions in this and offered to go with her to the civil authorities if that was thought to be helpful and/or necessary.

On 19 February 1998, Father Frize informed me of a telephone conversation he had with [REDACTED] on the morning of 19 February. [REDACTED] informed him that further allegations were now being made that John Farrell had sexually assaulted two other [REDACTED] and had sexually assaulted some children of [REDACTED] as well.

It was reported that [REDACTED] was in a state of deep and somewhat traumatic shock after having been informed of the allegation of her [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] The various alleged victims were being encouraged to talk. [REDACTED] is still resolved to report the whole matter to the Community Affairs department. Father Frize continues to encourage the [REDACTED] to report the matter to the civil authorities. He also counselled the [REDACTED] to say nothing to John Farrell prior to reporting the matter to the civil authorities.

W J Peters
Armidale NSW
19 February 1998