

CONFIDENTIAL

File on: P633, P650, P295

Anglican Church

Case Brief

Diocese of Sydney

Professional Standards Committee

Complainant: REDACTED
 REDACTED
 REDACTED
 REDACTED
 BYJ
 BYC

Respondent: Simon Anthony Jacobs

Relationship: Each of the complainants attended CEBS at either St Ives or Pymble whilst Simon Jacobs was a CEBS leader

Third Party: Police – Strike Force Osmond

Organisation: Christ Church St Ives
 St Swithun's Pymble
 CEBS

Opened: 2002

Complaint Summary: Multiple allegations of serious child sexual abuse within the period 1971 to 1984 when Simon Jacobs was a CEBS leader at St Ives from 1971 to 1981 and Pymble from 1982 until 1984.

Background

- In the early 1980's Richard Kells, another CEBS leader, had become concerned about the close friendship of Simon Jacobs with at least 2 junior CEBS boys. He had also been contacted by a parent regarding their concerns. Mr Kells reported the matter to the Branch Governor but was counselled to 'not rock the boat as they were short of leaders'. Mr Kells later observed Mr Jacobs dressing boys and found a boy in his bed at a camp. After a subsequent report to the Branch Governor, Stewart Park, Mr Kells was accused of stirring up trouble. Around this time Mr Jacobs transferred from St Ives CEBS to Pymble CEBS. Mr Kells informed the then acting Rector, Bishop Clive Kerle but Mr Kells was advised to

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be forgiving and give Mr Jacobs a second chance. After being contacted by the **REDACTED** family alleging interference with their son by Mr Jacobs, Mr Kells confronted Mr Jacobs and reported the matter to the CEBS Chairman. It appears that subsequent to this report Mr Jacob's CEBS Leadership Warrant was revoked (in either 1981 or 1982). In 1984/5 Mr Kells made a report to Pymble Police.

- In 1989 **BYC** made a statement to Chatswood Police alleging multiple sexual assaults by Simon Jacobs between 1977 and 1980. These involved masturbation, anal intercourse, oral sex and the shaving of his **BYC** pubic hair. Due to lack of evidence the matter did not proceed and was dismissed at the committal stage. In October 2002 Archbishop Peter Jensen and Phillip Gerber met with **BYC** who outlined his history of abuse. The Archbishop apologised to **BYC** for what had happened to him. Mr **BYC** has received assistance through the Pastoral Care and Assistance Scheme.
- A further allegation, from another victim, of serious sexual assault was reported to Hornsby Police in September 2009. After a second allegation to Police in May 2010, Strike Force Osmond was formed to investigate these and any further cases of sexual abuse by Mr Jacobs.
- On the 11th October 2009 a statement was read to the Congregation at St Ives
- On March 4th 2011, Simon Jacobs pleaded guilty in the District Court to 11 counts of indecently assaulting and raping six boys while he was a leader in the CEBS at Pymble and St Ives between 1977 and 1983 . He was remanded in custody for sentencing
- The victims have fought long battles with substance abuse, depression, panic attacks and anxiety. Two of the victims attempted suicide

Analysis

- This is a case of longstanding serious sexual abuse of young boys. Some of whom may never recover to live healthy functional lives.
- Some of the earlier management by both the CEBS leadership and the Church was lacking in the awareness of and care for child protection.

Recommendations:

1. That Simon Jacobs has offended under 6 (a) (f, g and h)
2. That Simon Jacobs be banned from any further ministry within the Anglican Church (34 (1) (h))

Glenn Murray

*No need for PSC
 Miss Lush
 27/9/11*

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File on:

Director of Professional Standards

Pam Clapshaw

Case Manager

Date: 23/6/11

PSC Decision:

Mr Alan Lucas

PSC Chair

Date: