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I have been requested by Mrs Joan O'Grady to write a report on conversations I have had with [REDACTED] concerning her daughter [REDACTED] and her relationship with her 5th class teacher Brother Gregory.

[REDACTED] called at school one afternoon in 1st Term 1995 and asked if I could spare some time to talk with her about a problem. I said I certainly could if she thought I could be of any help.

[REDACTED] and I were acquainted through our association with "Pregnancy Help".

She said the matter she wanted to talk over concerned her daughter [REDACTED] and her relationships with her teacher Brother Gregory and she proceeded to describe the cause of her worry.

Up until recently [REDACTED] had been a very open child and would come home from school and pour out the details of the day. Her mother described her as a sexually aware child (in that she was very interested in the changes in her own body).

She started her year in 5th class normally, telling her mother little incidents of the day. These included certain things which began to worry the mother. Jokes or stories were being told which [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] considered unacceptable (a) to be told to children by an adult, (b) to be told by a brother (c) to be told by a teacher to children. At some stage she commented more strongly, that she had thought Brother Gregory should not relate this sort of thing to children. [REDACTED] apparently went to school and said to Brother Gregory that her mother had said this and he was very cross with her and told her that if she was the sort of person who told her mother everything she certainly wasn't a friend of his. This comment hurt [REDACTED] very much as she enjoyed the "special status" she felt she had with him and as a result became very uncommunicative with her mother concerning happenings at school. [REDACTED] regards Brother Gregory as being directly responsible for destroying the open friendly relationship she

\* This was demonstrated for the mother by ADB on her own person.

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had with her daughter.

Another incident she brought up was the familiarity which existed between Brother Gregory and members of his select group. On one occasion during an earlier discussion between \* ADB and her mother it "some how" came out that she was "touched" "rubbed" or "felt" on the upper thigh by Brother Gregory. Back rubbing was another form of touching that was mentioned.

REDACTED was prepared to admit that it could have been perfectly innocent but what was worrying to her was that ADB might consider that it was

O.K. for someone to touch you beneath your clothes if they were a "special friend". She also mentions that small groups of children (girls chiefly) were allowed to be in the classroom with Brother Gregory at lunch times or out of school times.

I told REDACTED that she really should see the principal and she said "yes" she knew that she should but she was very concerned that the child might be identified and suffer as a consequence.

I told her that I would speak to the Principal and assured her that no names would be used. I also told her that if she had further cause for complaint it would be much more satisfactory for her to go straight to the Principal.

REDACTED asked me if I would keep my ears open if anyone else (parents) of the "special" group should make any comments.

a few days later I was presented with the opportunity to do this when I bumped into REDACTED the mother of a former pupil of mine and of a friend of my own daughter. I asked her in quite a natural manner how REDACTED was enjoying 5th class. He began to answer normally. When said why are you asking me that have you heard any "funny stories"

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(or words to that effect) about Brother Gregory and the way he acts with the children. I said "Heavens what do you mean" and she said I suppose I shouldn't even be thinking such things (about a Brother) but some of the things [REDACTED] has told her older sister aged 16 had caused the sister to comment "What do you know about this Brother Gregory man he seems to be a bit queer" or some such modern expression.

I told the Principal about the visit of [REDACTED] and why she was apprehensive about coming to see her. I told Sister Julia that if she contacted me again I would refer her to the Principal after giving her the assurance that the identity of the child would be protected.

Some time later I was again contacted by [REDACTED]. She asked if she could come up again. I said certainly and informed the Principal that she was coming and would she be available if I could persuade the mother to come and see her. Sister Julia agreed. That afternoon when [REDACTED] came to me I said "Have you got more worries about Brother Gregory" she said "yes" and I told her that it really wasn't my business and would she please consider coming with me to see Sr Julia and take a more positive step. I explained to her that I had told Sr Julia but not identified her. She agreed. I took her to Sister Julia's office and introduced them and left.

Roslyn Howard 27-2-85

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In response to your direction to report any other instances that have been brought to my notice I feel obliged to report that while visiting a particular friend of mine very early this term we were discussing her child's reactions to their new teachers. She said that her child was very thrilled to be in Brother Gregory's class this year and he was very happy to have been singled out as a particular favorite and had even been taken to the monastery to see his trains. I asked no questions at all as we are close friends and I was fearful of saying anything which might arouse suspicion.

I said yes I believe they are wonderful train set even though I had not seen them and let the matter drop.

She also indicated certain demonstrations of fondness Brother Gregory used but the only thing that comes to mind was tickling the child's face with his tassel of the cord of his habit. Her comments did not at any stage during the short conversation indicate that she thought there was anything irregular in the relationship.

Roslyn Howard 27-2-85