

Marist Brothers
8 Keen Street
LISMORE NSW 2480
30 January 1997

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STATES:

1. I am a member of the Institute of Marist Brothers. I was born in 1916 and I have been a Marist Brother since 1938. At the time of my profession I adopted the religious name of "Brother Kevin" and I was known by that name until 1969 when there was a procedural change and I was allowed to change my name to "Brother Kenneth". I have been known by that name and title since that time.
2. When I entered the Order I started in New South Wales and then had postings in Bendigo, Springwood and Brisbane before teaching at Bougainville. I returned to New South Wales in 1960 and spent six years at the Marist Brothers at Maitland. In January 1967 I was posted to the Marist Brothers High School at Lismore and I have been here ever since. The school was renamed Trinity College, after an amalgamation with St Mary's College in 1984.
3. Brother Gregory Sutton, as he then was, arrived at Lismore at the beginning of 1985 and left in April, 1987. He was a Primary School Teacher and taught Year 5 at St Carthage's, which was the Primary School. I taught at Trinity College, which was the Secondary School so I did not have a lot of contact with him during the working day, nor see much of him in a class room setting.
4. We did live together as members of the Marist Brothers Community in Lismore. During those years there were six

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or seven Brothers living here and teaching at either St Carthage's or Trinity College. I remember Brothers Francis Fahey, Lawrence McCane, Dominic O'Sullivan, Michael Procajlo [who has since left the Order] and Paul Turner. Brother Anthony Hunt was the Brother Superior over that same period.

5. During those three years I lived and worked with Brother Gregory I found him to be a fairly good community man who got on well with his colleagues and took an active part in the various community affairs. I could offer no assessment of him as a teacher as I really did not see him action but it was my understanding that he had a good reputation.
6. Brother Gregory had his model trains set up in the laundry of the Monastery and it was common for boys from his class to attend there to play with the trains. Some boys were very regular visitors but I am unable to say after all this time just what the names were. One of the boys used to look after the trains during the Christmas holidays when Brother Gregory was not here.
7. I noticed nothing unusual about Brother Gregory's behaviour and attitudes and nothing that marked him as different in any way from any of the other Brothers at Lismore.
8. Brother Gregory often had children with him or around him but I could not remember any of them by name now. During 1985 and 1986 I certainly had no suspicion that there was anything improper in his association with the children,
9. I never received any complaint from a parent, a Brother or a student that Brother Gregory had acted improperly in

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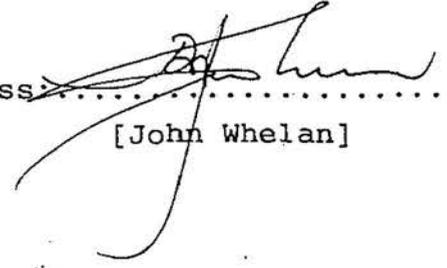
any way. No one ever told me that they had any suspicions about the manner in which Brother Gregory conducted himself with respect to his students. No one ever told me that they had seen him kissing or hugging children. I never noticed or heard that Brother Gregory had spent time in a class room with one or two students with the door locked.

10. I first learned there was some sort of problem with Brother Gregory about April, 1987 when he was transferred from Lismore back to Drummoyne. It is quite unusual for a Brother to be transferred in the middle of a school year but it is not unknown. However, I did not really know the reason for it. It was kept fairly quiet. It was not until about 1989 when I became aware that the School Counsellor, Mrs Kay Rolfe, had been counselling some children at the School who had made serious allegations about Brother Gregory.
11. About 12 months ago I was interviewed by police detective who was making inquiries about Brother Gregory. I remember him asking me about a holiday cottage which the Brothers have at Watego's Beach, Byron Bay and about the location of the model trains. He also wanted to know whether it was common for children to be about the Monastery. I told him that there was nothing unusual about it at Lismore.
12. I have been told that Brother Gregory has admitted that, during his term at St Carthage's he was involved in improper sexual associations with students there named

ACV [redacted], ACU [redacted], ACZ [redacted],
 ACT [redacted], ADB [redacted], ADM [redacted] and

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ADQ . I would have to say that the only one of those I actually know would be ACU .

Witness: 
[John Whelan]

