

But sometimes, there didn't seem to be much to be happy about
~~So it turned to others~~

I was fortunate to have

~~been~~ a series of good teachers who showed

me that I had talents and abilities to be

proud of

Taught me

~~And~~ to keep

This and the preceding...²...pages comprise the annexure marked "A" referred to in the annexed affidavit of John Andrew Ellis sworn at Syd. this 10th day of November

20~~04~~⁰⁴ before me

trying of things didn't work out

~~but~~

Seemed to understand my need for encouragement, for being extended.

And I was getting to know God as a good

friend who loved me - and that was very

special.

also

There was a priest that I became very

close to during my adolescence, who helped

me to begin to know a little about myself

to see the beauty inside To try and understand the outbursts & difficulties I had with getting along

It made me feel very special.

~~I thought this was the love of God the unconditional kindness.~~

~~My pen is frozen I can't write the~~

with my peers
my need for control, for perfection.

~~would need to say~~

But the sexual abuse which followed became

It was ~~the~~ secret ~~that~~ ~~was~~ ~~for~~

6
the secret that I carried for

M

* so many years that I carry still. That shut down my feelings, and that forced me to lock away a part of my life.

to deny it to myself because I was so ashamed

To deny my feelings about it because I had

no one to share them with. Because I didn't

know that I could share them with myself. I didn't want to share them with myself

~~I can see now that the sexual abuse~~

This

became ~~was~~ a barrier that one of the very strong

barriers to getting to know myself

continued to be

I became very outward looking, seeking

success and popularity, but afraid to look

back - to look inside

what would I find?

~~In fact~~ I felt ^{so} unworthy of love and I continued to have those feelings which I could only ~~feel~~ ^{know} as ~~it~~ ^I seemed to be unable to sustain a "bad" or "dark" from time to time only now ~~relationships~~

looking back can I identify them as loneliness

and as anger and deep shame

Anger at being betrayed Anger at not being
valued for what I was ~~but I was~~

~~But~~ Those strong feelings frightened me. I didn't
understand them

I just wanted everything to be nice
and perfect

Then I would be perfect

I told myself I'd had a lot of happy times in my
And I, ~~but had a happy~~ childhood and I'd never
been hungry or cold or had to go without
things

So I should be happy

And I was afraid to look beyond that because,
well, things were OK. I was getting on
and things were working out

I did well at school and got a good
mark in my HSC. I could do anything