

NOTE OF A MEETING BETWEEN HOWARD STACK

AND BQA [REDACTED] ON 30 APRIL 2001



U0151

- 1 I opened by telling BQA [REDACTED] and his mother REDACTED that I had made up a file of all communications between him and the School and was therefore generally familiar with his allegations. I said that I thought the meeting should be "without prejudice" and explained what that meant and why it would be likely to result in a freer exchange of information and comments. They agreed that this was sensible.
- 2 He opened by saying he wanted to know what the School's position was regarding settlement. We did not discuss that further then.
- 3 He then said that he had first approached Shine Roche McGowan ("SRMcG") and instructed them to approach the School. He said they advised him he had a claim against the School, hence his instructions to make the approach. He said SRMcG said they should try to get media attention and get multiple plaintiffs. BQA did not want media attention, or multiple plaintiffs, and instructed SRMcG to approach the School. They ignored that instruction and used his instructions to get media attention. When he realised that from Courier Mail publications on 26, 27 and 29 May 2000, he complained to them and SRMcG terminated his retainer on 2 June 2000. He says SRMcG name mentioned in these press articles. He says he is going to take legal action against them.
- 4 He said he first complained to the police. A detective, John Laws. He told BQA Lynch was dead and he had no case. He had at that time made an appointment to see Dr Lennox, but he cancelled that appointment when Laws told him he didn't have a case. He said that at the time he wrote his September 29, 1999 letter he had not had legal advice. Only the advice of Detective John Laws.
- 5 He said he first went to SRMcG after the Nigel Parodi publicity. They were in the same class and were friends. He was disappointed at the media portrayal of Parodi; they were friends. They had previously discussed Lynch. They believed there were only four or five. They had no idea of the extent of his activities.
- 6 So he then went to Nicol Robinson Halletts ("NRH"). SRMcG said he had a claim. He likewise instructed NRH to approach the School. I said they did. He said he did not have a copy of their 24 August 2000 letter. I gave him one at the end of the meeting, but we referred to paragraph 18 and 19 of its contents from time to time.
- 7 He now has a complaint with NRH. He said they did not tell him he had a right to apply for an extension of time. He said they let that slide until weeks ago. BQA says he has checked the information on the internet, and says he thinks he has until 15 May 2001 to sue, being 12 months from the date he says he became aware of material facts. He said he was also under a disability, but didn't want to rely on that alone. He didn't want to lose his strongest extension argument. NRH have now offered to bring that action for him.
- 8 He said he wanted to put his cards on the table outside legal actions. Explain the ramifications of what had happened to BQA [REDACTED]
- 9 He said he had seen 10/15 psychologists/psychiatrists. He said it was only the last doctor who told him that what Lynch had done was wrong. This occurred in 1999. He said that until the breakdown of his marriage, he did not revisit Lynch. He then said he realised the



ramifications for the last three years now. I asked him when his marriage broke down and he said in 97/98. He said his marriage broke down when Lynch visited him at work in 1997/98, months before Lynch died. He said he was elated. Lynch was his adopted parent. After his marriage broke down he recalled the Lynch sex acts and wanted to get help about it.

10 He said he saw Joan Lawrence, who says he needs two years of extensive therapy. He realises he will have to put in alot of effort. That is a problem for him. He is tired emotionally.

11 He said SRMcG 18M is ridiculous. Only interested in class action, and not diligent. He doesn't trust solicitors. He said it would be a massive toll on him personally if he went on and he had had too much already. He wants an amicable solution. He wants resolution before he is 33 (soon).

12 He said he is prepared to discuss liability, but he will not be tolerant if we hide behind legal/insurance defences. He would then devote himself to his idea of justice. This would be different from other people's views. He has lost alot of tolerance for the legal profession, and a society which stands back. He feels rejected by society. BQA stepping over the line will not be difficult. But he does not want to spend his life crusading for justice.

13 BQA and REDA then moved to Max Howell. BQA said Howell insulted him personally. REDA said likewise. She said Howell said to her that "KL cared more for BQA than her". BQA said that Howell told him that his relationship with KL was improper. HLS asked what did he mean. BQA said he was not sure. He was confused. BQA was later more explicit about this.

14 HLS then drew BQA attention to Coote's enquiry of him as per paragraph 18 of the 24 August 2000 letter of NRH. HLS asked BQA "what did you say?" and he said he defended Lynch to Coote. He later confirmed that he did not tell Coote what Lynch was doing with him.

15 BQA then described how Lynch got his trust. He drove a wedge between BQA and his parents. While counselling BQA at BQA home, KL told BQA his parents were rich, all they cared about was money, didn't care about BQA and would be happier if he was off the scene. He wished BQA could be his son. KL's son David was not affectionate. He felt protected by KL. His behaviour became terrible at home, and he ran away. He phoned KL from a public phone at 8.30 pm and asked KL to save him and come and live with him. KL said he would come and get him, but KL obviously phoned his father who came. He lost faith in KL then, and decided to get out of Brisbane. He stole his father's cash and car, and his mother's jewellery and drove to Noosa. Arrested there. He told the Family Services he would not go back home, and they put him in the custody of an improved person at Beenleigh. But he found photos and this person turned out to be a paedophile also. BGS was not impressed about all this, but because his fees were paid (he thinks) let him stay on till the end of the year.

16 BQA returned to Howell, and personal issues he had with him. He said he took matters into his own hands. Dealt with matters the way society expected. Would not refer issues to police when he should have. He instanced 1982 when he and REDACTED were suspended after stealing a .22 calibre rifle from a Valley pawnbroker. They brandished it in public, seen by lady who reported it to Howell. Howell ordered them to return gun to pawnbroker, suspended them, but did not report it to the police. There was another event

with dynamite which his mother found. Coote was told but not the police. Howell and Coote imposed culture that the School handled its own problems. Things like Lynch were brushed under the carpet.

- 17 BQA said boys will say teachers know. REDA and Cochrane were mentioned. HLS told BQA Cochrane denies what RED reported to have said, that REDA had never made allegations to BGS, and that Cochrane had a track record which tended to corroborate his denial. BQA said there were people who were alive who know. KL not acting alone.
- 18 BQA and REDA asserted Howell knew. BQA missed classes. Exams. He said called up to Howell to explain why he was seeing Lynch all the time. Howell said he was spending more time with Lynch than in class. Howell would see BQA waiting outside Lynch's office to see KL. REDA said Howell said the same thing to her. HLS said what you are really saying is Howell should have known. Not that he knew. BQA and REDA then went on about their belief that Howell had an alcoholic problem. Smelled of it. Lasting memory of bottle of scotch in his office. REDACTED also believes this. Accosted him and tore pocket. REDA quizzed me of my (HLS) knowledge of alcohol and Howell.
- 19 HLS put it to BQA that he did not disclose KL's behaviour to Coote when Coote told him as per paragraph 18 of August 24 letter. He agreed. And HLS said that effectively BQA showed him the evidence he may have been looking for. BQA said he understood my point, but why would he put such a question to BQA if he did not know.
- 20 There was repeated discussion between BQA and REDA on the impact all this had had on BQA life. No permanent job. Sexually dysfunctional, no normal relationships, bi polar disorder, schizophrenic depressive, etc. He could not follow ideas up like his sisters, one of whom got B???'s Award, yet he was smarter than them. REDA confirmed, saying she was a teacher. Always fighting police, solicitors, society in general. Family have a boy who wouldn't do anything. Parodi got into guns. BQA didn't. His behaviour so bad even now neither his father nor sisters will have anything to do with him. Parents split, took different sides, and only mother shows him consideration.
- 21 We ended again on discussion about what he wanted. He wants to be satisfied the Lawrence treatment would not be cut off. I said that was a given, and we ought to be able to satisfy him about that fairly easily, for example via a Joan Lawrence commitment direct to him. But he made it clear he wanted a cash settlement as well. He declined to nominate an amount when I asked. I said I would consider it and phone him Thursday. I said the SRMcG actions claiming \$13M pushed BGS down the defence/insurance line irrevocably, and he should realise therefore that any payment would be without insurance contribution and therefore limited. That said I said with strict confidentiality I might be prepared to consider something which was "not nothing" and sufficient to be regarded as "closure" by BGS. I did not say, but think it should be made a condition that he give Corrs a full proof. I am not sure how we do that with him unrepresented.