

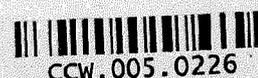


U0043

## STATEMENT OF BARRY MONTAGUE

I, **BARRY MONTAGUE** say as follows:

- 1 I was appointed as an Economics Master at Brisbane Grammar School ("BGS") in 1966.
- 2 In 1970 I was appointed Master-in-Charge of the Middle School, which meant that I was in charge of the fourth form (or Year 10) students. I remained with the School until 1990 at which time I left the School's employment.
- 3 I am presently working as a Teacher at Redlands College.
- 4 I first met Kevin Lynch upon his appointment as a History Teacher at or about 1973. Although I did not really have much to do with Mr Lynch outside of school activities, I regarded him as a friend at School.
- 5 I recall that Mr Lynch assumed the responsibilities of the School Counsellor's position after the previous Career's Officer, Mr Ernie Logan, left BGS in 1975. Mr Logan, who also taught mathematics on a part-time basis, had left a gap in career counselling upon his departure from the School.
- 6 It was my understanding that Mr Lynch had been undertaking some counselling courses at University and that he came to be the full-time School Counsellor at or about 1977.
- 7 In those early years, Mr Lynch and I shared adjoining offices for a period of one to two years. This only changed after Mr Lynch complained to the Principal that he needed more room, and also that he needed more privacy as the noise from my room was intrusive. It fell to me ~~on occasion~~, as Master in charge of the Middle School, to reprimand students from time to time. Hence it proved an unsatisfactory situation where I was raising my voice disciplining students in one room, whilst in the adjoining room, and separated only by a thin partition, Mr Lynch was attempting to provide counselling to other students. Mr Lynch was ultimately moved to a suite of offices upstairs, in a block which he shared with subject Masters.
- 8 Occasionally I would refer students to see Mr Lynch. Mr Lynch had emphasised to me on a number of occasions that he never wanted to have to send for a student, but that he wanted them to come to him of their own volition or through referral. I sometimes suggested to students, when I perceived that they had a particular problem which was beyond my experience to deal with, that they see Mr Lynch. For example if a student was



not coping with his workload, or with the academic requirements of the School, then I would see that as a potential problem for Mr Lynch to assist. Also on occasions I attended on parents and recommended to them that their son should be referred to the School Counsellor for assistance.

9 Upon referral of any student to Mr Lynch for counselling, it was unusual for me to receive any real feedback other than what might be described as administrative feedback. Mr Lynch was very strict in preserving confidentiality in respect of the counselling he provided to students. I also knew that if I followed up and requested feedback from Mr Lynch in respect of any student, that he would tell me those things that I needed to know.

10 Throughout my entire employment with BGS I never received any complaint from any teacher, parent, or student concerning Mr Lynch, or his counselling techniques. Nor did I hear any rumour, innuendo, or gossip, concerning Mr Lynch, or his counselling techniques.

11 At or about 1988 when Mr Lynch left the employment of the School, I recall telling a colleague that Mr Lynch had worked so hard he would work himself into an early grave. I thought at the time that he left that Mr Lynch had decided to cut down his work load, as he was going from a large school, to a much smaller school at St Pauls. Furthermore, Mr Lynch got on very well with Mr Gilbert Case, the Principal of St Pauls, and it was common knowledge that he did not get on all that well with the Principal at BGS, Mr Max Howell. // ?

12 I am also aware that at or about this time, Mr Lynch suffered a divorce. I recall that when I heard about the divorce, my wife and I were very shocked and surprised.

13 I also recall that during the period of his employment with BGS that Mr Lynch worked back late at night on many occasions. Indeed it was not unusual for Mr Lynch to work back at night. Mr Lynch made himself available not just to school students, but also to previous school students and parents.

14 I was also aware that Mr Lynch kept copious records, as I observed from the filing cabinet in his office from time to time. I assume that these records would have been taken by Mr Lynch when he left the School. Furthermore, Mr Lynch had on occasion shown me his new office furniture, including a new couch which he advised me assisted the students in relaxing during counselling.

15 After Mr Lynch left the employment of BGS I bumped into him on a couple of occasions. At those time we had short discussions and he enthused about life at St Pauls. I saw him

