

REPORT

My name is [REDACTED] ATQ [REDACTED] and I was born on the [REDACTED] ED [REDACTED] 1982

This report is stating in my own words what happened to me on Wednesday 23rd August 2000. The incident occurred at approximately 2:45pm.

I was walking back from David Harding at around 2:40, when Mr Nisbitt approached me on the main driveway of the school, to tell me that Mr Degotardi wanted to see me regarding absentees. He asked if I would mind dropping by at his office on my way to wherever I was going after I saw Mr Degotardi. I asked Mr Degotardi what Mr Nisbitt wanted to see me about, as I felt very uncomfortable in his office, as I had nothing to do with him. I clearly stated that I did not wish to go to Mr Nisbitt's office.

When I arrived at the office, he told me to take a seat. When I did so, he said that Chuck Adron, (the Ewan boarding house –house master) had told him a little bit about what had been going on in Ewan house regarding sexual harassment amongst boys. He also said that Chuck asked him to just follow up with me, to see if everything was running smoothly, after sorting things out. I indicated that yes things were going well, and Chuck had been very good in handling the situation which I found myself in the previous Thursday.

I stated that I didn't know how much or how little Mr Nisbitt knew about what had been going on, and gave him a very brief rundown on the situation. I told him that I was angered by the fact that two of my friends had been sexually propositioned by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] in the boarding house, and also said that this behavior was unacceptable and should not be tolerated. He agreed.

He asked me how I felt about the whole issue personally. I said that I had prior encounters with [REDACTED] and knew what he was like. I told Mr Nisbitt that I was homosexual, and could deal with that fact, but could not deal with [REDACTED] propositioning my friends. Mr Nisbitt asked me if my parents knew if I was homosexual, and I said yes. He asked if they were comfortable with the fact. I said that yes my mother was comfortable, but my father was still coming around. He said that things will work out, and my father would eventually get used to the fact and be comfortable. I agreed.

Mr Nisbitt then asked me if I knew that [REDACTED] had been asked to leave cadets because he propositioned a 14 year old boy. I said that I did not know. I suggested that [REDACTED] behavior was not normal and pointed towards sexual harassment. Mr Nisbitt agreed and said that [REDACTED] behavior was certainly not normal. I suggested that Mr Nisbitt possibly talk to [REDACTED] about what he was doing, and point out how it is wrong. He told me that he had already done that, and [REDACTED] could not understand what he was doing wrong.

At this point I brought the conversation to an end and said that I should be leaving. I said that I was willing to help out in any way possible should he require any further assistance. He said that would be good, and we should talk some more on the issue. He asked if I had ever been down to Koooyong boarding house. I said that I had been down

with cadets and my agriculture subject. He suggested that I should come down and visit at Kooyong some time in the future. I said that I didn't really get on with the Kooyong boarders very well. He said that they were basically day boys, and that I should come one weekend, when there are no boys there. At this point I started to get a little nervous about the whole situation.

I tried to leave, and said that I would try to visit again later in the week. Mr Nisbitt asked me when I was going to come to visit at Kooyong. I started to mumble and get confused in what I was trying to say. At this point I was considerably uneasy about the situation and wanted to leave his office. He said that I was not thinking straight and I should think straight. I agreed that I was not thinking straight and told him the reason for this was because I had a big day. The conversation ended at this point and I left the office.

Later that same evening when I went back to Ewan house, I asked Chuck whether or not he had spoken to Mr Nisbitt, asking him to follow up the issues that had happened the week before with me. He was fairly certain that he did not ask Mr Nisbitt to do such a thing, but couldn't quite remember. He thought it unlikely this were the case, because he had specifically requested that I speak to him every day after the following Thursday to make sure that I was feeling alright.

At no point during the conversation between Mr Nisbitt and I did he try to make any physical advance on me.

I felt it completely inappropriate for Mr Nisbitt to ask me to Kooyong on the weekend when there would be no boarders down there.

I felt it completely inappropriate for Mr Nisbitt to tell me about issues concerning **REDACTED** **REDACTED** and cadets. I did not wish to know any of this, as it was between Knox Grammar School and **REDACTED**

Chuck indicated to me that he did not know how Mr Nisbitt found out about the incident, as the only person he had told was Mr Cannon and Miss Steel, but did not mention to Mr Cannon what the incident was about. Chuck later told me that during conversation with Mr Cannon, Mr Cannon indicated that Chuck had not told him about anything concerning any incident. I thought it strange that Chuck had told Mr Nisbitt about affairs in place at Ewan house, as I had been told by Chuck to come to him or go to Miss Steel in order to follow up the issues, should there be any further problems.

I have written this report in strict confidence. I am handing a copy of the report to Chuck Adron and Miss Steel. I do not wish for this report to be used at all, or shown to anybody else until I have finished my HSC examination period. Miss Steel can then use this report any way she wishes to further assist her obligation of duty of care of boys at Knox Grammar School.