



VICTORIA POLICE  
STATEMENT

Name: AGO  
Address:  
Occupation: Company Director

Ph Home:  
Ph Work:

STATES:

My full name is AGO. My date of birth is the RE of REDACT 1957, and I am 42 years old. I live at an address known to police at the Greensborough Community Policing Unit. I live at home with my husband, REDACTED, and two of our three daughters, AGQ REDACTE and REDACTED. We have another daughter, AGN REDACTED, who lives in REDACTED. AGN was born on the RED of REDACT 1980, and she is 19 years old. AGN was born at 9.32pm at the REDACTED Hospital REDACT. I am AGN's biological mother. AGQ was born on the RED of REDACTE 1982, at 2.15pm at REDACT. I am AGQ's biological mother. RED is our foster child and she has been living with us for 12 months.

AGQ and AGN both attended Northside Christian College, McLeans Road, Bundoora. AGQ started at the school in grade prep and stayed until the end of year eight. AGQ then moved to Mill Park Secondary College, Junior Campus. She has been at this school since and is completing VCE this year. AGN started at Northside Christian College in prep and stayed until the end of year nine. She then went to Plenty Valley Christian School for 12 months and then moved to Mill Park Secondary College where she did VCE.

When AGQ started school I had some free time so I spent time at their school helping with reading and going on excursions. I was also on the mothers club committee. I helped with reading mainly in AGN's class. From grade one to grade three AGN's teacher was Ken SANDILANDS. When I picked the children up from school I would go in to see their teachers. I would always notice that when I went to see Ken he always had children around him and always had children tucked in under his arms. By this I mean that when children came up to stand near him he would put his arm around them. I continued to noticed this for the three years that AGN was in Ken's class.

I noticed that one of the girls in AGN's class, Emma HAYES, was having difficulty reading and I approached Ken and asked him if I could spend more time with Emma helping her to read. Ken agreed to this and I would sit at the back of the class room in the corner with Emma to help her read and go through the sounds of the alphabet. If we weren't at the back of the room doing this we went into a little room adjoining the class room to read in there. This room was used for storage but we would sit in there because it was quiet. If I was in the class room helping with reading Ken would sometimes go into this room with other children. He would go into this room to help the children with reading but he also went in there to discipline the children.

Ken used to use a paddle to discipline the children. I never saw Ken paddle a child in the class room. Ken would paddle the children in the back room and then leave them there to settle down. When we enrolled the girls in the school we signed an authority to allow firm discipline of our children. This was signed in front of the principal and the Senior Pastor of the Church. I am aware that Ken gave AGN the paddle on one occasion and she was very upset about this.

When AGN was in grade two in 1987 I spent more time in her class helping with reading. It was during this year that I became more aware of the way Ken was with the children. When children would approach Ken for some help most of them would stand on the other side of the desk to ask him

a question or speak to them. Those children were always told by Ken to come to the other side of the desk where he was and to stand in front of him or beside him. He would put his arm around the children and when he spoke to them it was almost in a whisper. Generally he was a softly spoken person anyway.

When we went to assembly he would always get two children to hold his hand to lead him to assembly. If he ever had to get up on stage he would get one of the children to lead him up and I remember that he would put his hand on their shoulder as they walked in front of him. He would usually get girls to walk with him. I noticed that Ken would quite frequently hug children. I would see him hug them in the class room or out in the yard. He was a very huggy, affectionate person. I thought that because Ken didn't have children of his own he enjoyed hugging the children at school.

On the day that Ken left the school the school held a farewell for him and I attended. At some stage during the day I was speaking to Ken and his wife, REDAC and I had AGN with me. Ken started stroking the back of AGN's hair and told me that AGN was one of his favourites. AGN had been in Ken's class for three years. Ken told me that he wanted us to visit him at his home because he would like to see the girls and he had a picture that AGQ had drawn for him on his wall at home.

About 18 months ago AGN told me some things that Ken had done to her when she was in his class. She told me that Ken would pull her in between his legs and right up to his crotch area. She didn't go into a lot of detail about things because at the time she was quite upset. When AGN was in grade one she started a wetting problem. The problem got really bad that she was wetting herself in the class room at school. She was only wetting herself at school and never wet herself at home or during the night. I took AGN to a specialist about this and they were not able to find anything wrong with her bladder or anything else wrong with her to explain the wetting. All this time Ken was making out to me that he was being sympathetic to what AGN was going through with her wetting at school. AGN told me though that Ken would humiliate her in the class room in front of the other children. AGN told me that Ken had a cupboard full of old underpants and he would make her put on big underpants that would fall down or bloomers that were also too big. AGN told me that Ken would give her pants in front of the whole class and humiliate her. He would also make her stand in the corner. Into grade four and definitely grade five AGN stopped wetting her pants at school. It was in these grades that AGN had a different teacher.

AGN told me that Ken would also get the children to tell him that they loved him. Before giving them a word to learn or help he would pull them close and would get the children to tell him that they loved him before he would help them. She mainly told me about the humiliation and how he would pull her in close and hug her. She was quite distressed and I asked her if she wanted to do anything about it and she said no.

AGQ had Ken as her teacher in grade two. In January, 1998, AGQ and I went to Africa as part of a mission trip. We went with a group of other children and adults. One night one of the children that I was the official guardian for on the trip, AGS, let out a scream and I went into the room to check on her. AGS told me that she had had a bad dream about Ken SANDILANDS. She was confused about the dream because she felt that this had actually happened to her. AGQ was there and she then told me that Ken had done things to her when Ken was her teacher. She told me that on one occasion she went up to Ken to get a word and he told her to say she loved him. AGQ didn't want to say this and this made Ken quite mad. In the end AGQ told Ken she loved him just to get a word but because he was mad he wouldn't give her a word.

AGQ also told me that Ken always tried to hug her and she didn't like that. When AGQ was in grade two with Ken as her teacher she got quite sick. Her tonsils were taken out but that was not the problem. She was having trouble with her throat and ears and her concentration in class. The doctors thought that it could have been related to allergies but they couldn't come up with any

substantial explanation. AGQ was always a very bright student in prep and grade one and then she had problems in grade two.

AGQ

Statement taken and signature witnessed by me  
at 11:18 on 1/03/2000 at Greensborough

P. L. ELSTON  
Senior Constable 30307

I hereby acknowledge that this statement is true and correct and I make it in the belief that a person making a false statement in the circumstances is liable to the penalties of perjury.

AGQ

Acknowledgment taken and signature witnessed by me  
at 11:20 on 1/03/2000 at Greensborough

P. L. ELSTON  
Senior Constable 30307