

AGH

STATES:

1. My full name is AGH. My date of birth is REDA 1978. I am 21 years old.
2. I started second grade school year in 1985 at Northside Christian College McLeans Road Bundoora. Prior to this I had attended St. Pious of Assissi on Waterdale Road and I left Northside Christian College in about May of 1986.
3. My teacher in grade two at Northside Christian College was Mr. SANDILANDS. I had another teacher in grade three.
4. Mr SANDILANDS wore thick glasses, and I thought he was weak in the eyes. I didn't think he was blind but he struggled with some activities. My overall impression was that he was not as quick as other teachers in moving about and doing usual tasks.
5. I remember that when you were good you could sit on Mr SANDILANDS knee. He would do this as a reward. I sat on Mr SANDILANDS knee fairly regularly when I was good. I would say at least once a week over the school year and sometimes more than once a week. When I sat on his knee sometimes I would have to read to him and other times it was a sort of reward for doing good work.
6. I recall that when I sat on his knee he would start to touch my leg. He would fondle my thigh and upper leg. I usually wore skirts and dresses to school. Sometimes I wore the school uniform which was green and yellow check.. After stroking my legs he put his hand down my underwear. He would rub and tickle my genital area. He put his finger into my vagina. I felt discomfort when he did this. I had seen him do this to other girls in my class so I thought it was alright. I remember this happening when other students were busy with other activities. Sometimes I would be sitting on his knee while he was reading a story to the class and the rest of the class would be looking on as he fondled me. Looking back now I just don't know how that could happen but I suppose I just thought it was OK to be touched like that.
7. I remember one girl in our class called AGD. She was a small thin girl with long blonde hair. One lunchtime I remember playing doctors and nurses and AGD being naked in the playground in bushes near an old tram. Other girls and boys who were in my class started to touch AGD like Mr. SANDILANDS touched us. They would put their fingers in her vagina. I knew what they were doing was wrong.
8. It is difficult to remember specific incidents of when Mr. SANDILANDS put me up on his knee because it happened so much it all just went into one incident. I remember one day I had written something really good and he said you've been really good and you can come and sit on my knee. He was wearing a brown cardigan and brown pants and a white shirt. He had bad

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breath and I would feel and smell the heavy breathing on my back and neck. I sat on his knee, with my legs across his two legs. I was wearing a skirt on this day and he stroked my thighs and legs. He lifted my top out and put one hand under my skirt and put his fingers under my underwear. He touched my genital area, he rubbed in and out. I do not remember if he put his finger into my vagina on this occasion. I'm not sure how long this lasted, maybe five or ten minutes, 15 at the most.

9. I remember once or twice having to stay back after school. This was one of Mr SANDILANDS punishments if you had been naughty. He would ask you to stay back after classes finished sometimes too by saying "can you stay back and help me pick up all the books or pack up things". Because I had brothers at the school I mainly couldn't stay back and that's why I particularly remember the couple of times I did stay back. Mainly I had to stay back and help pack up things. Mr SANDILANDS would wait until the other kids left the class and then say I could sit on his lap. He would stroke my legs and put his hand up under my skirt and under my underwear and touch my genital area. I remember his hand rubbing downwards through my labia. I can't remember any penetration on this occasion though it could have happened.
10. During the times I was on his knee he would make me say I loved him. He would prompt me to say this by getting me to say I liked him and that I loved him.
11. On one occasion which I think was near the end of the school year or maybe at the end of the term that everyone at school was packing up. School had finished for the day. I was outside my classroom which was a portable and looked inside. I saw Mr SANDILANDS in the classroom with a female student on his knee. I saw he was touching her in the same way he touched me when I sat on his knee. He had his hand under her skirt or dress. He was stroking her arm in the same way he stroked mine. The girl's surname was REDACT but I don't remember her first name. I think she was in my class but I'm not sure. I went to meet my brother and I told REDA, my brother that Mr. SANDILANDS was touching a girl. REDA was about 13 years old at this time and was also a student at Northside Christian College. REDA went with me to have a look. We both looked in through the portables and saw the female student sitting on Mr SANDILANDS knee. He had his hand up underneath the girls skirt or dress. REDA said he wanted to go and tell a teacher about it. REDA asked me if he did that to me. I said no no that's never happened. I felt really embarrassed about it. REDA was clearly shocked about it and said that was really wrong. I thought I'd get in trouble because I'd been letting him do it to me. When I heard it was wrong to do it I felt guilty about it.
12. I recall Mr. SANDILANDS was very affectionate and there was a lot of touching and kissing. This was mainly amongst the girls I don't remember this being the case amongst the boys. I remember it was OK to touch anyone anywhere. There were no rules about touching.
13. I remember Mr. SANDILANDS would punish his students with a wooden paddle. It was like a bat tennis bat. I was smacked with it once or twice. I

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didn't get smacked very much. The kids that got smacked always had to leave the room. He would take me into a stationary room or a small room off the main classroom. He pulled down my skirt and underwear and he made me bend over a table with my hands on the table. He would hit me on the behind with the paddle. I don't remember him saying anything but he would count out loud as he hit me. He did not hit me that hard and only about three or six times. I don't remember the rest of the class looking at me at this time. I don't remember any sort of inappropriate touching during the paddling.

14. I do not remember telling any other adults about this. I think by telling **REDACTED** at the time this was the best I could do. Looking back now this was sort of my cry for help and that I wanted it to stop.

15. I hated school after this year, and have had many sick days even after I changed schools in grade three. I felt funny about touching adults and even now I don't hug my Dad or anything and am able to detach myself from events

I don't like

AGH [Redacted Signature]

AGH [Redacted Signature]

Statement taken and signature witnessed by me this 10th day of February 2000 at Greensborough Police Station at 2.50 p.m.

REDACTED

J.L. MONK
Detective Senior Constable 25439

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

AGH [Redacted Signature]

AGH [Redacted Signature]

Acknowledgment made and signature witnessed by me this 10th day of February 2000 at Greensborough Police Station at 2.55 p.m.

REDACTED

J.L. MONK
Detective Senior Constable 25439