

Record of conversation between Reginald FOWELL and Det. Const. BIRKING held at Darnley Police Station on 21st. February 1966 commencing at 2.00 p.m.

Q. Now Mr FOWELL [redacted] I must caution you that [redacted] I want to ask you some questions regarding your conduct with one of the boys at the Nettie Dixon Home, however you are to understand that you are not obliged to say anything at all or answer my questions unless you want to or anything you say will be taken down in writing and may be used in any future Court Proceedings, do you understand that?

A. Yes

Q. Now you [redacted] has made certain allegations regarding your conduct with him, do you want to tell us about it?

A. Well I suppose, well how can I put it. The procedure of going into his bedroom and saying "goodnight", sitting on his bed, just in general talking to him about the happenings of the day, it wasn't for prayer. He entered into a fondling and cuddling and I've put my hand in his pyjamas and handled his penis.

Q. Is this bedroom in your cottage?

A. Yes

Q. And are you [redacted] his house parent?

A. Yes

Q. Were the lights on when this happened?

A. No

Q. Were there any other children in the room when this happened?

A. Yes

Q. Who were they?

A. The [redacted] [redacted] and [redacted]

Q. Are they all younger than [redacted]?

A. Younger, yes.

Q. At what time would this have occurred?

A. About 5 or six at night

Q. Have you any idea of the date when it happened?

A. No, no idea

Q. Was it this year?

A. Yes, after he came back from nursing

Q. Did he make any complaint regarding your behaviour?

A. No only to Mr PATTERSON

Q. Did he specifically make a complaint to Mr PATTERSON about you playing with his penis?

A. He went for questioning about running away from the home and during the conversation that took out

Q. So Mr PATTERSON was ~~xxxx~~ aware of [redacted] allegations?

A. Yes

Ed. [redacted]

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- Q. What happened about these allegations
- A. I denied them. In fairness to Mr ~~FATTERSON~~^{LA} would have made further investigations, he wouldn't hide it.
- Q. When you did this to the boy did you know you were doing wrong
- A. Yes, I had a sense of guilt.
- Q. Were you concerned about your behaviour
- A. Yes ~~KICKA~~ I was, I was wondering where I was getting to
- Q. Did you try and get any guidance from anyone on this
- A. I never mentioned it to anyone I was so ashamed. I'd read stories of dirty old men and my prayer was that God would save me from being that
- Q. Would this act with young ~~AJY~~ have been in the last few weeks
- A. It wouldn't be in February, about the end of January although I can't put a date to it.
- Q. Where do you live
- A. Betta Dixon Home
- Q. Are you employed there
- A. Yes
- Q. What as
- A. As caring for the children in the cottage, as a storeman.
- Q. How many children in your cottage
- A. Eleven
- Q. What sex
- A. Males and female.
- Q. What are their ages
- A. From 7 years up to 15 years.
- Q. How many children in the home
- A. Between 70 & 80
- Q. Do your duties associate you with all these children
- A. Not all of them, only those in the cottage where I live
- Q. What brought you about playing with the boys again
- A. Well again I'm sorry, I don't understand it, I can't put it into words, the situation, feeling, fun, a bit sexually inclined to do that. As I've said before I've never been in that sort of attitude towards a boy before.
- Q. How do you feel about the situation yourself
- A. I feel horrid and sickening. Perhaps this is ~~EXACTLY~~ the best way for it to come out to put a stop to it. I know it's not right.
- Q. Do you remember Mr JOWELL on this occasion with your ~~quitting~~ ~~some~~ ~~his~~ ~~pyjama~~ ~~again~~ ~~again~~

P. Powell

AJY

✓ Q. No, I deny that

Q. How long did this act take

A. It wouldn't be more than five minutes

Q. We have [redacted] Mr POWELL, you will be charged with indecent assault on [redacted] and [redacted] it is my duty to warn you that you are not obliged to say anything or answer any questions as anything you say will be taken down in writing and may be used in any future Court proceedings, do you understand that

A. Yes

✓ Q. Well now [redacted] I'm going to hand you a copy of what I'm typing here and I'll ask you to read it over and if you agree it's a true copy of our conversation I will ask you to sign it although you are [redacted] to clearly understand that you are under no obligation whatsoever to sign it unless you want to and any signature you put on here must be written of your own volition do you understand that

A. Yes

L.R. Crossin
 Heb. 4th fl. Reg No. 36
 2:55pm 23/2/16

Powell