

Record of conversation held at Darwin Police Station on
 23rd February 1965 between Reginald POWELL of Wests Dixon
 Home and Det. Const. D. MARSHALL.

- Q. Now first Mr Powell like my duty to warn you that you are not
 obliged to say anything or answer any questions unless you
 wish to do so as anything you say will be typed down here and
 may be used in evidence in any future Court proceedings. Do
 you understand that
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now first I want to ask you some questions regarding your
 association with young [redacted] as he ~~is~~ alleged that
 recently you played with [redacted] whilst he was laying in
 bed.
- A. Yes
- Q. Is that true
- A. That's true
- Q. He said you put your hand inside his pyjama shorts and pulled
 his penis up and down
- A. Yes thats true
- Can you remember when it was
- A. No I don't remember
- Q. Was it fairly recently
- A. Recently
- Q. Do you remember where it was
- A. In his bedroom
- Q. Where's his bedroom
- A. Right at the end of the building oppositemine.
- Q. Is it a Mission house
- A. Yes
- Q. Is it the house where you and your wife sleep
- A. Yes
- Q. Do you know what time it would have been when this interference
 with this lad took place
- A. Between 8 and 9 p.m.
- Q. What was your reason for going into his room
- A. To say goodnight, this is what they ask for, come and have a
 prayer with us.
- Q. Did the lad ask you to play with his penis
- A. He didn't say do it and he made no resistance
- Q. Can you remember if was last Saturday when you interfered with
 him
- A. It must have been the Saturday before

L.H. Benson

P. B. [Signature]

Q. Did you know it was wrong to interfere with the lad

A. Yes I had a conscience that told me it was wrong

Q. Did on that occasion the lad play with your penis

A. It could have been

Q. Do you remember having an erection and putting his hand on it

A. Yes

Q. Have you any explanation for this type of conduct

A. Well I think pressure of work, I'm weary, I sense that, we're understaffed, its a depressing type of climate and hot weather makes you excited.

Q. Did this behaviour worry you

A. It did worry me, my conscience told me, well it must have given ~~me~~ ^{me} a sense of sadness. One of the girls, Gloria, told my wife ~~she~~ ^{she} said.

Q. Have you discussed your behaviour with anyone

A. No, I was too ashamed I suppose, I didn't ever talk to Mr PATTERSON about it

Q. How long have you been working at the Retta Dixon Home

A. Since July 1965

Q. How many children at the home.

A. Between 70 & 80

Q. How many children in your cottage

A. 6 boys and 5 girls

Q. What is your designation

A. House parent

Q. What does that involve

A. Caring for the home and the children as a normal home

Q. Did AJZ your cottage

A. Yes

Q. When you played with his penis, were the lights on or off

A. Off. Probably off.

Q. Were there other children in the room when you done this

A. Yes, REDACTED

Q. Who is he

REDACTED

Q. How old is he

A. Seven

L.L. Mason

H. B. ...

Q. Has [redacted] ever made any complaints about your behaviour

A. Only to Mr RA TERNORE

Q. You know what young [redacted] allegations are, are they all true

A. Yes

Q. Well Mr POWELL, you will be charged with indecent assault on the boy and again its my duty to caution you that you are not obliged to say anything or answer any questions unless you want to 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 what I propose to do is to hand a copy of this to you and ask you to read it over. If you agree its a true record of the conversation we've had here, I'll ask you to sign it, however you are to understand that you don't have to sign it unless you want to and that you are under no threat or promise in order to get you to sign it, is that quite clear

A. Yes

*L.R. Mason
Det Sgt 4c Reg No. 36
2.25pm 23/2/66*

Powell