

COPY

12 December 1996

CONFIDENTIAL
PSYCHIATRIST REPORT

Ms A Lace
WA Reconciliation Trust
55 St George's Tce
Perth

Dear Ms Lace

RE: GORDON GRANT **REDACTED**

I have been seeing the above for psychotherapy since November 1991. He is a sixty three year old retired wood machinist ex-career soldier who lives in Perth. He has been married twice and has five children. Three from his first marriage and two from his second marriage. He was referred to me by Dr Andrew Dean at the Mirrabooka Medical Centre where he had been seen for bowel disorder which was diagnosed as Irritable Bowel Syndrome and attributed to stress after the exclusion of physical pathology. His bowel symptoms first became problematical when he returned to Perth in 1981 having been discharged from the army. This he attributes to reuniting with his childhood friends who were willing to share their common experiences when child migrants at Bindoon, Clontarf, Castledare and Tardun. During the course of therapy Gordon has expressed multiple occurrences of physical and sexual abuse including anal penetration by Father Eugene on the pretence of medical examinations for worms and also by other brothers mainly Brother Boulter, Brother Angus and Brother Dawe. He describes voyeurism and floggings by Brother Keaney often given mainly privately but sometimes publicly to the bare bottom causing humiliations. During such assaults he received a broken nose and had a metal pointed stick thrust up his rectum causing internal injuries, bleeding and psychological trauma that now presents as features of the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as described in DSMIV. These horrendous experiences occurred against a background of starvation, hard labour, denial of basic education and other privations which have greatly and adversely affected his life over a number of years. He described suicidal tendencies and the breakdown of his marriage. Abnormal behaviours include a fascination with bondage and discipline which is acted out and has led him into trouble with the law. He has required long term psychiatric counselling for anxiety, depression and Irritable Bowel Syndrome. He has been prescribed with greater or lesser success, over a period of about nine years Donnatabs, Colofac and Feldene. He became dependant on Ativan and Diazepam. He was managed with the antidepressant Prothiaden for several years. Although his medical condition is now stable he will need long term psychotherapeutic support. His prognosis for recovery is poor.

OPINION

Mr Grant presents with a severe Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as described in DSMIV. I would advocate the full level of benefits in part compensation for the traumata that he has experienced at the hands of the Christian Brothers.

Yours sincerely

Dr J Fellows-Smith