



Royal Commission  
into Institutional Responses  
to Child Sexual Abuse

Statement

Name

Address Held by the Royal Commission

Occupation Retired

Date

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I am prepared to give to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. I am the mother of
3. On 15<sup>th</sup> January 1998 I signed a statement at Newcastle Police Station concerning the indecent assault of my son  by Steven Larkins. Attached to this statement and marked "A" is a copy of that statement which is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
4. After my son  told me that he had been touched by Steven Larkins, as I said in my statement of 15<sup>th</sup> January 1998, I immediately called both the Police and the Department of Community Services.
5. I don't remember speaking to anybody from Scouts at that time apart from Steven Larkins.
6. I remember going to Newcastle Police Station with my son so that he could give a statement. I do not remember who the Police Officer was who  gave the statement to.
7. After I gave my statement to the police on 15 January 1998 I know that an AVO was taken out against Steven Larkins. I can't remember who I dealt with for the AVO. I have been asked

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whether the representative from the Police was Senior Constable Pamela Amloh which rings a bell but I do not have a clear memory of her.

8. I remember that a person from the DPP rang and told me that Steven Larkins could be charged. I do not remember the name of the person who called me.
9. I remember that the AVO was withdrawn on the basis that Steven Larkins had made an undertaking not to go anywhere near AC. I remember that it was something to do with his work because he couldn't work with children with the AVO going ahead.
10. I remember getting two phone calls from a person from the DPP.
11. I was concerned about the delay in charging Steven Larkins because I thought that he'd gotten away with it and wasn't going to be charged after being told that he was going to be charged.
12. I remember being told that there was not enough visible evidence but I am not sure whether it was the DPP or the Police who told me that.
13. I have been read a file note by Sandra Eyre dated 11<sup>th</sup> November 1998 where Ms Eyre records a phone conversation with me where I said "AC definitely does not want to proceed with the matter". I do not remember that conversation. I also do not remember saying to either the DPP or the Police that AC definitely did not want to proceed with the matter. I may have said that.
14. It was at about this time that there was a lot going on in my personal life in 1998. REDACTED  
REDACTED.
15. I remember AC jumping out of windows and REDACTED and I remember AC abusing me. I put it down to what Steven Larkins did to my son AC, AC's behaviour

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went on for months, I often wondered where REDAC were and their father would come and pick them up without my consent.

16. I think it was AC's decision not to go ahead with the prosecution after he had been told that Steven Larkins could not be charged. He just wanted to try and live his life not worrying about what Larkins had done to him.

17. After November 1998 I was not contacted by the Police until 2011 when Detective Nathan Abbott contacted me. I provided him with a further statement on 26 August 2011 which is annexed and marked "B".

18. I do not remember getting any phone call or approach from a member of the Scouts about what happened to my son AC.

19. I have been asked whether I provided something called a "retraction statement" to the Police but I do not remember doing this in 1998 or 1999.

20. AC was very angry when he told me about what Steven Larkins had done to him and was very stand-offish. His behaviour around the house was terrible, he would abuse me and abuse his brother and not do the right thing. That was a lot different to what he was like before Steven Larkins came along. I remember that AC was not interested in doing his homework and used to wag school. That was also different before Larkins touched him. AC's grades and his homework were worse than they were before Larkins assaulted him.

21. I decided to surrender over the kids to AC's father REDACTE. REDACTED REDACTED said "I will have the kids". Even though I had custody I just couldn't take it anymore. I was run ragged.

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22. I had an arrangement with REDACTE for the kids to come and spend weekends from time to time with me but often AC would not come around.

23. After AC turned 16 and started working things changed. He seemed to be a bit closer to me and there was a bit more respect.

24. AC has been with his current girlfriend for about six years now and they have two children, RE REDACTED . AC and his family moved to REDACTED .

25. Before he went to REDACTE I would go around to their place sometimes and he would come and visit me at my house. I think things settled down for AC once he had those children and was involved in a long term relationship.

26. I think about Steven Larkins from time to time and he makes me angry.

Signed: AB

Date: 29.8.2013

Witness: 

TERRY VENEMA

Date: 29 August 2013.