

"A"

This is Exhibit "A" AN _____ to the Statement of _____

Dated: 10 October 2013

VICTIMS IMPACT STATEMENT

My name is AN and I am AO's mother. I am 44 years of age and I have 100% care and sole parental responsibility of AO

I was introduced to John Lord through his mother who was a work colleague of mine, Jill Yankos. At the time I met John I was working with a director of a very prominent and successful real estate agency. My work required me to work Saturdays. I am an only child and both my parents died approximately five years ago. AO and I have no family support network.

John started working as my babysitter every Saturday from approximately November 2010 to September 2011. John also looked after AO at the YMCA after school program.

John became a big part of our lives. I trusted him with AO. He became an integral part of our lifestyle. AO and myself cared and became friends with John. He was always available to look after AO - he would go out of his way to organize and plan things to do with AO - things he knew AO would love and enjoy - he would bring play station games and DVD's which they would both watch. AO admired John and thought very fondly of him - as did I.

When I found out I

I thought that my heart had been ripped out - I comforted AO and said that I loved him and that it would never happen again. AO was so brave and courageous. He told me that he was so confused, and embarrassed and that everyone loved John and that he thought I would not believe him. I sat with AO until he went to sleep. After AO was asleep I rang my boss and he came to my house. I was physically sick and started to shake uncontrollably.

AN

I felt like I had failed as a mother to protect my son from this man. I felt violated as this had happened in my home. This had happened to a friend of AO in my home. Why did I not know! - How could I have not known! - Why didn't AO tell me. I felt so ashamed and guilty how could this have happened without me being aware, what sort of mother was I.

My son had shown such incredible strength - he was 9 years old when John first indecently assaulted him. I had to find strength to now protect him and find a way for him to understand that this was not his fault - that what John did to him was illegal and wrong, and adults are not allowed to do that to children. I needed for him to feel safe and protected, and to know that he would never see John again.

Initially I felt like I could not cope, I was unable to see how we would survive this - I had lost both my parents yet this was a physical pain and a dread that I could not escape. For the first couple of weeks I would take AO to school and come home and go to bed and cry. I was unable to attend work. John's mother was a colleague of mine and I felt like I was living in a surreal world where I would drop him to school and pick him up and act like everything was perfect around him and when he was not in my presence I would crawl into a ball and cry. I felt like my will had drained from my body. But I knew that I had to pull myself together for AO. This did not happen to me it happened to him. I wished it had of happened to me, I wished that I could take it all away.

We attended the Police at JIRT and I believe the pain I felt that day and the heartbreak was something that no mother or parent should experience and yet my brave boy was a tower of strength. Upon the Detective exiting the interview room I cried and asked "is he ok - please tell me he is ok". She answered "you have the most beautiful boy AN - he loves you so much - he is worried because he does not want you to cry or worry". I cried and held my head in my hands the Police comforted me. That was when I knew I had to find strength to be strong for AO.

Counselling has been a journey for AO and I and we are extremely lucky to have been involved with Sydney Children's Hospital and in particular our counsellor Jessie.

I attach copies of letters received from Jessie. AO is allowed to continue counselling until he is an adult and provisions has been made for myself as well. Jessie had enabled AO to understand how wrong what John has done

AO now believes that he is a hero for having the courage to tell me and as a result stop John from continuing to do all the awful things he had done. AO received a bravery award from Sydney Children's Hospital and I call him my hero. I will always be grateful to Jessie as she enabled us to work out what has happened and deal with it. AO does not want to talk about John, he hates him, as do I.

AO is a beautiful child with such a caring heart - I pray that what John did to AO will not haunt him. I worry that it will have an affect on his adult life and the relationships he has. AO is extremely angry towards John - he is worried that he may one day see him again and this frightens him. He is also so very embarrassed and ashamed initially so very confused.

He understands now that what John did was illegal and John will be punished. AO wants John to be punished and sent to Goal so that he cannot do this to anyone else.

This has affected AO and I emotionally, physically and financially. I left my employment as I could not continue to face John's mother

I eventually resigned and my salary has decreased by more than 50%. The actions of John Lord directly resulted in my resignation, I found the gossip within the workplace extremely stressful and caused me significant anxiety which was addressed through counselling and my doctor.

John Lord has assaulted young children, he has caused grief to families, which is inconsolable. He has taken away safety, trust and childhood from these children. He has caused my child such upset, and confusion. He has caused physical hurt to my child. I pray that AO will be able to forget what happened, but I have been told that is very unlikely. I have been told that at every milestone of AO life I have to be aware and watch for signs that something in relation to John may have triggered certain feelings in AO I pray that AO grows into a kind, well adjusted man, who understands right from wrong and that Jonathan Lord is never in his thoughts. His being put in gaol for many many years will alleviate AO fear and apprehension and my own sense of protection for young children and their families.

I thank you for considering my Victim Impact Statement.

AN

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Dated: 5 November 2012

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