

1. In 1976 I commenced at St Augustine's College, Cairns in Grade 7 as a boarder. I continued there until I finished Grade 12 in 1981.
2. In Grade 7, my dorm master was Br Leonidas, who was in charge of *Dorm 6*. There were six dorms at the school; Dorm 6 was for the Grade 8 boys with some younger boys from Grades 5, 6 and 7. We were the youngest boys in the school.
3. At the end of each day, Br Leonidas would supervise all of the Dorm 6 boys having showers. Ten boys at a time would have to shower in open cubicles that did not have doors or shower curtains for privacy, even though a curtain rail was in place. The shower cubicles in every other dorm had lockable doors. Brother Leonidas would closely watch us showering for the full duration of our showers and for every boy in the dorm. Brother Leonidas never touched me or anyone that I know of, but it was the way that he watched that was troubling. I was 11 years old and never understood why I had to go through this. When Br Leonidas was away, other Brothers would oversee us showering. They would never watch us
4. I was regularly caned, beaten and punished during my first year at St. Augustine's. I was 11 years old! I was scared and I had to shower in front of an old man every day of my life
5. I started piano lesson during my first year. Sue Harris was the music teacher who formed the College band when I was in about Grade 7 or 8. The music rooms were my haven; it was the only place where I felt safe. I could escape there. I also joined the college band playing the euphonium.
6. Very early on, I think also in Grade 7 I injured my foot after dinner one evening. I think that it was winter as it was getting dark early. The nurse from the infirmary had finished for the day and the procedure was to inform the Brother in charge of the infirmary. He told me to come to his room where he then told me to take my pants off and lie on the bed. He then fondled my genitals, he bandaged my ankle and told me to go. I was shocked and frightened and could not understand why this happened. Thereafter I never reported any ailments after hours.
7. In 1979, when I was in Year 10, Br Ross Murrin arrived at St Augustine's College. He was put in charge of Dorm 6 and taught in the primary school section. Br Ross joined the College band playing bass and sat next to me. He was very kind to me and was the only Brother who I was not afraid of. Br Ross would invite

me back to his bedroom to talk about music and the band. I started going to see Br Ross in his bedroom attached to dorm 6, during the night time study period.

8. I recall on a number of different occasions, Brother Andrew came into Br Ross' room whilst I was there. I would be sitting on the bed talking with Br Ross and he would come in and get extremely angry. He would stay but I would be ordered to leave. Br Ross would always invite me back after this.
9. At the end of Year 11, in 1980, or the beginning of Year 12 in 1981, I was in Br Ross' bedroom. Br Ross appeared to have been drinking, and we were talking, as usual. Br Ross put his hands down the front of my pants and touched my genitals. He also tried to kiss me. I was terrified and moved away from him. Br Ross became very angry and started swearing at me, and told me to get out. I was shocked and afraid and ran out of the room and back to my own dorm.
10. After this, I became even more terrified of the Brothers. Br Ross was the only Brother I had trusted. He betrayed my friendship and my trust. I could not understand how this happened. My one point of refuge was no longer available to me. For the rest of my time at Saint Augustine's I was miserable.
11. By the end of Year 12, my marks had fallen dramatically. I failed almost every subject. Prior to this, I had been receiving 4s, 5s and 6s, which were above average. I remember I wasn't even allowed to attend a talk from St. Johns College at the University of Queensland. When I tried to attend I was ordered to leave the room by Brother Gerald. During grade 11 I was coming third in the Modern History class that was taught by Brother Peter Rodney. It was my favourite subject. I had been receiving 5's and 6's and I really looked up to him. So much so, thirty years on I have still got assignments from this subject with his comments. After the Ross Murrin incident, Brother Peter Rodney began failing me in this subject
12. I remember hearing that Br Ross had sexually abused a Grade 8 boy from his dorm on a school camp, and that the boy's parents had reported it to the Brothers. I remember finding out in front of the refectory before breakfast one morning. The whole school was talking about it. From memory, Brother Ross was removed as the Dorm the dorm master following this incident.

13. At the end of 1981, Br Gerald and Br Murrin were transferred. It was generally known amongst the boarders that it was because of the Grade 8 boy's parents complaining.
14. As of today my life is wrecked. Brother Ross is in jail having been convicted of multiple charges relating to child sexual assault. Brother Peter Rodney has had a very successful career with the Marist Brothers, Brother Gerald was awarded an OAM and Brother Andrew lives in a beautiful vineyard. I am angry with the injustice of this.
15. After school I started in the [REDACTED] as [REDACTED]. I left this after 6 weeks.
16. I then got a job at the [REDACTED] in Mackay. I discovered alcohol at this time began drinking heavily, behaving badly and was subsequently sacked.
17. Following this I worked in Brisbane in a number of dead end jobs. I lived an itinerant lifestyle sleeping on the floor of mates places who were living in Brisbane, until I wore out my welcome.
18. In 1985 I got a job at the [REDACTED] as a [REDACTED]. I almost lost my job on many occasions because of my problems with alcohol. I would drink heavily and then become very angry and take my anger out on my co-workers. I started saying inappropriate things to people in authority, and rebelling against my teachers.
19. I scraped through [REDACTED] and managed to complete my training at the end of 1988.
20. In 1989, whilst working part time as a [REDACTED], I commenced a Bachelor of Commerce at Griffith University. I failed a number of subjects and was excluded two or three times without completing a degree.
21. Between 1991 and 1997 I was employed at [REDACTED] firm and then subsequently for a client of that firm.
22. I married my first wife in 1994. We separated in 1995 and then divorced in 1996. I was always angry and withdrawn. Our relationship deteriorated and she left me.
23. When my wife and I divorced, she took everything. She took our house on five acres in [REDACTED]. I lost everything.

24. I still had not finished my Commerce degree. I had been kicked out of university three times for failing subjects.
25. In 1997, I was also declared bankrupt.
26. In late 1997 I moved to the country and retrained as a REDA and worked at REDACTED
27. In 1998, I returned to university on a part-time basis. At the end of 1999, I finally finished my degree, which had taken 10 years to complete.
28. I have been working as an REDACTED since 2000. I am a member of the REDACTED
29. In 2001 I married my current wife.
30. I have great difficulties with trusting people. I find that I cannot open up or let anyone close to me. My wife tells me that I am susceptible to being taken advantage of by dominant men. This has indeed happened with bad business relationships over the years, that have always ended in disaster for me.
31. As I have gotten older, I have abused alcohol less. Instead, I abuse food.
32. After our son was born in 2009, I started thinking more and more about the abuse I suffered at Saint Augustine's. I was afraid for my son and could not imagine sending him to a Catholic school.
33. I decided to return my school magazines to St Augustine's and I wrote a letter to Br Michael Green, who is the current headmaster of the school.
34. I also telephoned John Doolan, who is the current deputy headmaster. I told him that I had been abused while I was at St Augustine's. John told me that there was no protocol to deal with my complaint, and gave me a 1800 number for *Towards Healing* in Brisbane. When I telephoned, there was just an answering service and I became so angry I just hung up. I then made a few more calls and came into contact with Br Alexis Turton.
35. I have recently become aware of a news story about St Saviour's Catholic school in Toowoomba. This made me extremely angry that the Catholic Church was still covering up abuse, even today.

36. I have seen a psychiatrist in the past. I have trouble sleeping and have felt depressed and suicidal. I still suffer from terrible sleep patterns.
37. I am aware of other boys that were abused by Ross Murrin and others at Saint Augustine's. It is constantly on my mind and I feel guilt for not doing something about this earlier.
38. I have finished writing this and I do not feel that what I have written is comprehensive, nor does it do justice to how I feel. I have had pain and shame for thirty years and I know in my heart and soul that this is all directly linked to the night with Ross Murrin and the subsequent treatment by the Brothers that covered up his actions and behaviour.