

## STATEMENT

Name: Anthony INKSTER

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### STATES:

My full name is Anthony James INKSTER. I am 43 years of age. I live at an address known to Police. I do not wish my personal details to be given out to any person without my consent.

Halfway through 1998 I was appointed to the position of Head of Boarding at the Geelong Grammar Highton campus located in Waurin Ponds. I held this position until the end of 1997 when the campus was relocated to Corio and Bostock House in Newtown.

My responsibilities included the day to day administration of the boarding house, and all matters regarding staff and student welfare. One of my boarding house staff members was Phillipe TRUTMANN. When I took over as Head of Boarding Phillipe was already a boarding house staff member (assistant) and he remained there until around half way through 1996.

Phillipe's duties included rostered boarding house supervision, to assist in boarding house activities, excursions, events and to support all staff in the day to day running of the boarding house.

To best of my memory sometime around the early 90's a young boy was enrolled at the Highton campus as a boarder. I can't recall his name. I believe that we took this boy on as he had been asked to leave his previous school, I can't recall why. I think he entered the boarding house mid term. Possibly within a week of his arrival he telephoned his mother one morning claiming that an adult had come to his room during the night and

put a hand under his doona and started rubbing his back. The first I became aware of the situation was when John BUGG, the Head of Campus called me into his office to explain the allegations. John BUGG, Kate HOOK (Matron) and myself then met with the boy and impressed upon him the need for absolute confidentiality in this matter and that he must not under any circumstances mention the situation to anyone else. The boy

was unable to maintain this confidentiality and spoke to some other children. REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED The unknown boy was

withdrawn from the school the same day by his mother. REDACTED

REDACTED

As a staff member Phillipe was highly valued for his ability to support all boarding house routines, activities and events. You could always rely on Phil being there to help. Phillipe maintained high levels of discipline amongst the students and by and large was well liked by the students. He had a strong relationship with many students, particularly the boys, and they came to rely upon him for much assistance. He particularly developed a strong bond with the boys in the adjoining corridors to his bedroom. The development of student staff relationships was certainly encouraged.

An open door policy was professional educational practice and this was re enforced at both academic and boarding house staff meetings. It was known that Phillipe would give the children back rubs. To the best of my knowledge this would have occurred on some occasions in a child's bedroom, to the best of my memory this would have occurred at different times on different nights. Sometimes bedroom lights were on and sometimes they were not on. I never felt that there was anything untoward about this.

On some occasions Phillipe took boys to his property at REDACTED to give them an outing and to give them the opportunity to muck around on a farm property.

I believe it was in 1996 that two female staff members approached me independently to raise concerns about boys sitting on Phillipe's lap during roll call. I spoke directly to Phillipe and explained to him that this situation must not occur to which he agreed. I

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spoke in general terms to the student body explaining that students and staff should not have physical contact. This seemed to resolve the situation in the immediate yet at a later stage the staff members reported to me that this situation was reoccurring. I felt at this stage it was proper for Phillipe to leave the boarding house. He had been with us for a considerable amount of time and I was concerned for his own welfare and the establishment of personal relationships. I was, of course, concerned about the possibility of physical contact with the boarding students continuing. Phillipe was asked to leave the boarding house mid 1996 which he did.

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(Anthony INKSTER)

Statement taken and signature witnessed by me  
at ..... on 05/04/2005 at Corio

T. GROVES  
Senior Constable 31179

I hereby acknowledge that this statement is true and correct and I make it in the belief that a person making a false statement in the circumstances is liable to the penalties of perjury.

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(Anthony INKSTER)

Acknowledgment made and signature witnessed by me  
at ..... on 05/04/2005 at Corio

T. GROVES  
Senior Constable 31179