



Statement

Name

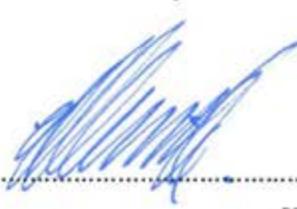
Address Known to the Royal Commission

Date 7 September 2015

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. My full name is and I was born in 1962. In this Royal Commission, my brother is known as BLF.

Schooling at Geelong Grammar

3. I started at Corio in 1975. BLF went to Timbertop in 1975, and then started at Corio in 1976. We were both full time boarders. In 1976, BLF was in Cuthbertson House. Jonathan Harvey as house tutor at Cuthbertson House then, and it is where he would have met BLF. HARVEY lived in a flat in the boarding house, directly accessible to the dormitories.
4. My brother finished at Geelong Grammar at the end of 1978, and by then HARVEY had moved to his a school residence situated in the centre of the school campus. I finished at Geelong Grammar at the end of 1979.

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5. In my view, HARVEY was very good at singling some people out. He concentrated on BLF and I had the impression that HARVEY worked very hard to keep us apart while we were at school, despite the fact that we had always been close as children. Although he singled out BLF for special treatment, towards me, HARVEY was patronising, he would put me down, sap my confidence, and make comments about me not being 'sophisticated' enough. There were a couple of years where things were very awkward between my brother and I because of HARVEY's behaviour towards me. HARVEY would sometimes invite Mum and Dad for dinner at the school without my knowledge. I would find out my parents were at the school, and I would go over Harvey's residence and knock on the door. He would often answer the door and say to me, 'What do you want?. If I was allowed in it would only be for a few minutes before HARVEY would say to me, 'You have prep to go to' and shut the door. He was very dismissive. Sometimes I saw my brother in there with Mum and Dad.
6. Towards my brother, in contrast, HARVEY behaved more like a close friend or uncle. HARVEY gave my brother quite a lot of responsibility and coached him in planning the overseas tours that HARVEY would run. I was quite suspicious of the close contact between HARVEY and my brother. Looking back on it now HARVEY was, in my view, grooming my brother.
7. Looking back on things, I think Mum had a sixth sense and suspected something was going on with HARVEY and my brother. Even my Father had suspicions and expressed his anger

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on at least one occasion about it. Mum would come down to the school to keep a close watch on HARVEY and I believe she was convinced something was going on. There was an extraordinary tension at the time. It was the 1970s and no-one talked about these things of course.

8. At the end of 1979, I passed my HSC and I had a gap year overseas. I went to dinner with my parents the night before I left. I said that I worried about BLF sometimes, and Mum said 'Do you know anything? Because if something was going on between BLF and Jonathan HARVEY it would kill me'. It was quite a devastating comment. I said I didn't know if anything had been going on. I hadn't had anything to do with HARVEY because he didn't like me. That conversation made me think back about Mum coming down to the school often on Sundays and taking us out to lunch – partly because she missed us, but other times she would come for lunch at HARVEY's occasionally on a Wednesday and she would invite us over to 'gatecrash' those lunches. I now feel that this was her way of coming and checking in with us at school. She was very suspicious of the attention HARVEY paid BLF. BLF was always a very quiet brother and child, never really quite knew what he was thinking. So you never quite knew his mind really.

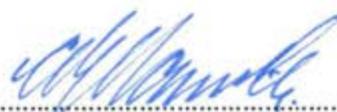
Employment at Geelong Grammar

9. In January 2003, I began my appointment as a senior non-teaching staff member of Geelong Grammar School. I kept pushing my brother to come and stay with me at the

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school. He asked me if HARVEY was still there. I said he was and he said, 'I'm not coming near the place'.

10. I had never said a word about HARVEY before 2004 but it was something that was always at the back of my mind. It had always been a suspicion since my school days. In 2003, when I was appointed REDACTED I recall a number of friends/ex-students making comments about HARVEY and his reputation. There was also a body of staff at the school at the time who had been there for a long time, who often talked about HARVEY's antics at dinners and things like that. I went to one or two in-house staff dinner parties where HARVEY was discussed. I heard comments at those dinner parties like, 'Oh but he is such a nice person, you have to forgive him things like that'. I was party to one or two of those dinner parties.

11. About halfway through 2003, my brother asked me if HARVEY was still at the school. He made a comment to me along the lines of there being a whole bunch of people who were prepared to take legal action against the school because it had failed to act on HARVEY's behaviour. I had made some comment in response along the lines of, 'He is still here and people are very uncomfortable about him being around'.

Disclosure of abuse

12. Finally, in the first week of February 2004 and in my second year of working for the school, my brother admitted to me that HARVEY had sexually abused him. I think at that stage he had already engaged lawyers to take legal action against the school. I told him that I was

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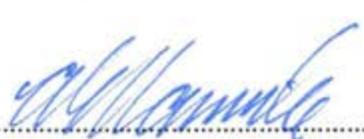
compelled to tell the headmaster, Nicholas Sampson. BLF said 'What do you mean?' I said I had a duty of disclosure, and that the information could be a way to get HARVEY out of the school. I told him that I had no choice but to report to the Headmaster if someone discloses to me that they have been sexually abused. My brother thanked me for that. I think that things were difficult for him at that time and I now know that the school was being very belligerent to him at the time.

13. My brother didn't give me any details of the abuse and never has, other than the abuse happened over a period of time. It wasn't until his trial was coming up later that he disclosed the facts of what happened. Before then, he never really went into great detail because, as he has always been, he is a very private man.

14. My brother told me that he and quite a few other people were victims of HARVEY's behaviour. He said he knew of at least seven or nine others who were really angry about the fact that HARVEY was still at the school. I think the proceedings he was talking about were against the school but I understood he was also talking to Corio police at the time. I said to my brother that if the police wanted to talk to me, then he could give them my number. My brother had never said anything to me about being abused by HARVEY before this time.

Meeting with SAMPSON and school response

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15. I made an appointment with Nicholas SAMPSON in the first week of February 2004 and told him what my brother had told me about HARVEY. All the staff at the school had come back from Christmas holidays and it was in the lead up to our staff conference on the Australia Day weekend, before school goes back. At the conclusion of the conference I told SAMPSON that I needed to speak to him about a sensitive and urgent matter. SAMPSON invited me to his residence to chat and we sat in his study. I told him it was quite difficult for me to tell him because of my position at the school and my relationship in all of this, but I told him 'My brother was sexually abused by Jonathan HARVEY.' I told him it wasn't a once off, it was over a long period of time and it was multiple times. I also described to SAMPSON my brother's connections with HARVEY at the school such as his role in organising the school tours. I clearly said it was sexual abuse and that it had happened over a number of years. I didn't provide details beyond that because my brother hadn't disclosed those details to me. I also disclosed my own memories of HARVEY around the school. I also told SAMPSON that my brother considering taking legal action against the school and that there were a number of other students also considering taking legal action if HARVEY wasn't removed from the school.

16. When I made the disclosure about my brother's abuse SAMPSON responded by immediately saying, 'He is a dangerous and manipulative man who has for many years slipped through the net'. He then said something along the lines of, 'Our suspicions are that he has done this to many students over many years and we have never caught him out because nobody has ever written a letter of complaint. He is an evil man.' There was

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nothing they could act on, he said. He did say that there was one letter where the parent of an ex-student had seen HARVEY in a South East Asian country and they questioned his behaviour and wrote a letter of concern to the school. SAMPSON said it was the only letter the school had.

17. The conversation with SAMPSON continued during which time he said to me, 'We will deal with all of this and get rid of him'. SAMPSON said that this information would give him the permission to terminate HARVEY's employment and move him away from the school, and that he would take care of it. He assured me that my brother and I had his complete support and that if my brother needed anything he could be in touch. I'm not sure if SAMPSON knew at the time that my brother was already taking some action. I assumed from that moment that HARVEY would be called in and sacked on the spot and removed from the school. But nothing happened for the rest of that year and HARVEY continued to teach. SAMPSON never talked to me about it ever again.

18. About six weeks after my conversation with SAMPSON, HARVEY came into my office one day and said 'Just to let you know, I have decided to resign and I will be leaving at the end of the year'. So, I then knew that he wasn't dismissed immediately by Sampson and that he had a whole other year at the school. SAMPSON never talked to me or gave me a reason as to why HARVEY remained on staff.

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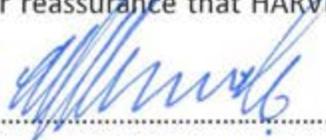
19. In June or July the previous year, in 2003, SAMPSON had announced his resignation as Headmaster at a staff conference. He left the school at the end of term two in 2004 for Marlborough College in England. For one term John GILSON, the vice principal, ran the school and then Stephen MEEK started in term four in 2004.

20. Sometime after my meeting with SAMPSON, I had a conversation with John GILSON, who was the vice principal at the time. I had a conversation with GILSON during which time I queried as to why HARVEY had not left the school. He responded by saying, 'HARVEY is a good maths teacher and the school is unable to find an immediate replacement.'

21. I am aware that HARVEY continued to do home tutoring with Geelong Grammar and other students during 2004. I made a comment about that to various staff members and recall expressing my disgust that the school was allowing children to go into his house. I don't recall the names of the staff members I spoke to about this. I don't recall the response of the staff members. I can say that both SAMPSON and GILSON were renowned for 'not responding' to staff concerns in respect to HARVEY. I recall that was a constant pastoral issue in the fact that I was frequently listening to staff concerns about SAMPSON and GILSON's lack of response to various staff needs and issues.

22. HARVEY left the school at the end of the academic year, which was the beginning of December 2004. What I understand is that, at the end of the year, there was a farewell lunch for leaving staff and HARVEY was denied any special farewell – he would just go.

From that point on I sought reassurance from the school for reassurance that HARVEY

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wouldn't be allowed back to the school nor to allow students to go to his off campus residence for tutoring, which had happened in the past. I can't recall specific conversations on this issue, I just remember speaking to whoever would listen. I don't know what happened after that. I didn't get a response to my concerns and I realised that I was being completely left out of any conversations related to HARVEY.

Leaving the school and events following

23. Around the beginning of the academic year in 2006, I started actively trying to look for another job away from the school because I felt I couldn't be there anymore. I was quite ill and was becoming quite depressed about being there. I got another job and I left in October 2006 which was the end of Term 3. Just after I left, HARVEY's criminal trial for his offences against my brother began. I hadn't seen HARVEY on campus since the end of 2004.

24. In mid-October 2006 the new Headmaster at Geelong Grammar, Stephen MEEK, gathered the staff and students of the school together to tell them there was going to be a trial about sexual abuse at the school. There were things in the paper at the time about the trial. Because I had left for my new job, there was a suspicion that I had resigned because I was the victim. MEEK had to tell the staff who it was – that is, that the victim was my brother. I was shocked at the time to learn that he had told the staff my brother was the victim. I found out that MEEK told the staff this information within the confines of the staff room.

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25. After I left the school I moved to Melbourne. In October 2006, I got a letter from HARVEY in which he apologised for any hurt that he had caused. It was a photocopied letter that had my name written at the top. It wasn't even in an envelope – it was just folded in three and stapled.

26. About the same time I got a book in the mail from Michael Collins PERSSE, a teacher at the school who had been there for about 60 years. Inside the book was a handwritten note from PERSSE dated November 14 2006 (GG5.0008.023.0037_R). In the note PERSSE made a number of remarks about the 'sad business of my brother and HARVEY'. I was disgusted when I read that note. I felt patronised. That was the moment I realised how incredibly grave the situation was because people at the school were beginning to run scared.

27. I think at the time everything was all coming to light and HARVEY was telling people what was happening, suddenly HARVEY's network must have thought they could work on my brother and I and convince us to stop. I felt at the time the culture of Geelong Grammar was a place where people protected each other and I felt completely defeated. The issue for me was my concern for the continuing place of my niece and nephew at the time who were students at Geelong.

28. Also at around the time of HARVEY's trial in late 2006, another member of staff got in contact with me and told me that another staff member was spreading a rumour that my

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brother's legal action against HARVEY was only vindictive. I emailed that staff member and dealt directly with the situation. He's still a staff member at the school.

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