



Royal Commission
into Institutional Responses
to Child Sexual Abuse

Statement

Name Patricia RIDSDALE
Address Known to the Royal Commission
Date 25 November 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 Patricia RIDSDALE. I was born in 1962 and I am 53 years old.
3. I am the eldest of nine children. David RIDSDALE is my younger brother.
4. In the early 1990s, David advised me by phone that he was going to contact George PELL ('PELL') and tell him that he had been abused as a child by our uncle, a Catholic priest, Gerald RIDSDALE.
5. David subsequently called me in a highly emotional and distressed state and said that he had telephoned PELL and that he was disappointed with PELL's response. During that phone call, David said that he had told George about the abuse and George asked him what it would take to keep him silent. He also said 'the bastard tried to bribe me'. He said that Pell had alluded to David's family responsibilities and the need for him to provide for his family.
6. Some years ago I spoke with 60 Minutes about my recollection of this conversation. I have been shown a transcript of that interview [TRAN.0001.001.0001]. That transcript is an accurate record of these events, to the best of my recollection.
7. I cannot verify whether the phone call between David and PELL took place, the content of the discussion if it did, nor David's interpretation of what was allegedly said by PELL.

Signature: Patricia Ridsdale Witness: [Signature]

