

REPORT BY:

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INCIDENT:

Conversation with [REDACTED] X
(resident of Blaxland Wing) and
consequent actions thereafter.

On the morning of 25 May 1988, following an "environmental bush-walk" outing and abscondings the previous day (24 May), the residents in our section were quite unsettled.

* At the commencement of normal programme times, [REDACTED] had not completed his daily chores, so he was to remain behind until they were done. During this time, I sat down with [REDACTED] and attempted to discuss exactly what had him upset.

During this time [REDACTED] started crying and was very distressed. Some people were entering our section, so [REDACTED] went off to his room, simply to avoid embarrassment. This was a convenient time to phone Wendy Kropp (Supervisor, John Oxley Youth Centre) for some extra information and support. Wendy said she would get back to me or ask Peter Coyne (Manager, John Oxley Youth Centre) to contact me.

In the meantime, [REDACTED] and I continued talking and eventually, with a little prompting, [REDACTED] told all - all the details and reasons etc for the outing and abscondings the previous day.

This is my account of the details that [REDACTED] described to me, to the best of my ability.

[REDACTED] told me that during the outing, Annette Harding had been swimming wearing only her underpants and a t-shirt. Then, after swimming, Annette and some boys, namely [REDACTED] started kissing.

Another two boys, namely [REDACTED], along with the previously named boys were all fondling and caressing Annette, all over her body. [REDACTED] told me that Annette was inviting them to do what they wanted.

[REDACTED] said that the boys took off their jumpers and laid them down so Annette could lay on the ground and not hurt her back.

After this, [REDACTED] tells me, [REDACTED] had sexual intercourse with Annette Harding. While this was happening, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were both watching this and masturbating.

Later in the day, [REDACTED] informed me that not only did [REDACTED] have sex with Annette, but [REDACTED] did as well. I asked [REDACTED] whether he did or didn't and he told me that he did have sex with Annette as well.

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So the story goes, both [redacted] took turns at having sex with Annette while the other three boys watched and masturbated.

At this stage, I asked [redacted] "Well, where were the staff while all this was going on?". [redacted] replied, "They were all down the bottom of the hill talking".

[redacted] said that one staff member, namely Jeff Manitzky, had come up to where the young people were and had seen [redacted] masturbating and said "Cut that out". [redacted] ran off into the bush and then returned shortly.

I asked [redacted] whether either he or [redacted] had ejaculated into Annette. [redacted] said that [redacted] went off into the bush and fertilized the trees. [redacted] said he did the same (meaning they had both masturbated instead of ejaculating during sex).

[redacted] also informed me that Annette had gone crying to the staff after this incident and he had overheard the staff saying how distressed they were feeling for Annette and her situation.

The boys discussed this situation together and they assumed that the teachers had already sided with Annette so because they didn't want to get into trouble for something they didn't see as really being wrong, they would try and abscond.

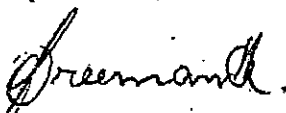
This information was to say the least, startling and in my opinion, had to be passed onto management as soon as possible.

Soon afterwards [redacted] completed his chores satisfactorily and joined his programme as usual.

At this time, I went to see Wendy Kropp who had already arranged for Peter Coyne to be present. I just simply reiterated all the information to Peter and Wendy (to the best of my ability).

Peter requested that I not speak to other staff members about this incident until he had had the opportunity to speak to all the persons involved and gather more information himself, this I did.

At this stage, my direct involvement ceased until 5.00pm Tuesday, 31 May 1988, when Peter asked me to complete this report and this report took a few days to complete.


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