



QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION
COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Statement of Witness

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Grace Hazel CHONG
<i>Date of Birth</i>	13/04/1946
<i>Address and contact details</i>	Known to Detective Senior Constable Denise PARER
<i>Occupation</i>	Retired
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Senior Constable Denise PARER
<i>Date taken</i>	23/10/2012

I, Grace Hazel CHONG state;

1. I am a former employee of the Department of Family Services [herein referred to as the department].
2. I commenced employment with the department around 1990 at the John Oxley Youth Centre [herein referred to as JOYC] when the department were still in charge of running juvenile detention centres. My position at JOYC was that of a training officer. I was the first indigenous officer to ever work in Queensland youth detention centres and my role was to care for young indigenous females who were in the system. I would often accompany the girls on home visits as well identifying and bringing up cultural issues as they arose at the centre. I continued these duties until the closing of JOYC at which time I transferred to the Cleveland Youth Detention centre in Townsville. I continued similar duties as those I had done at JOYC until my retirement.
3. I do not recall there being any major issues or having experienced any problems personally whilst employed at JOYC. I was a strong enough person to take any problems I identified straight to management and those issues were resolved. The

Signature of Witness:

G. H. Chong

Signature of Officer:

[Signature]

manager at JOYC when I commenced was Ian McIntyre. There was a gentleman named Alan who was either deputy manager or later became manager after Ian. I believe Peter Coyne had been the previous manager to Ian McIntyre but had left before I started at JOYC.

4. I have some slight recollection of talk about there having been some sort of Inquiry at JOYC prior to me starting there. I do not know what the Inquiry was about as I was not involved in it in any way. I do not know what the Heiner Inquiry is or means.
5. I have no knowledge of any sexual abuse allegations or incidents during my employment at either JOYC or the Cleveland Youth Detention Centre Townsville. I personally could not see how any such incidents could occur as staff always accompanied each other as centre policy required. If in the event any such incidents had happened I would expect that they would have been reported, by incident report, to management and nursing staff. At no time did I make any such report or have cause to make such report at any youth detention centre I was employed at.
6. The only incident of sexual inappropriateness I ever observed during my employment in youth detention was several male children standing behind each other making inappropriate sexual gestures and comments towards each other. Such actions were dealt with immediately by staff by way of reprimand or appropriate discipline.
7. At no time previously have I ever been approached or asked to provide any statement, either orally or in written form, to any Inquiry, person or body about my period of employment at JOYC or any other youth detention centre.
8. On the 23rd October 2012 Detectives Parer and Brewer attended my home address during which time I provided them with this statement.

Signature of Witness:



Signature of Officer:



9. During our conversations numerous JOYC staff members names were discussed. I recall the following staff members working with me at JOYC: 'Lorraine', 'Beth', Arty Muckin, Noel King, Trevor Cox, Dawn Webb (deceased), Margaret Huer, Ken Gerke, Dianne Fields, Wendy Kropp, Brian Palmer, Bruce Cassidy, Oidea Rapatu, Gordon Hopps, Narend Nath, David Lloyd, Lorraine McGreggor (nurse), Colin Bray, and Cheryl Long (deceased).

Grace Hazel CHONG

Declaration

This written statement by me dated 23/10/2012 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 3 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

G.H. Chong Signature
Signed at IPSWICH this 7TH day of NOVEMBER 20 12

Witnessed: [Signature] Signature
Name DENISE PAREN Rank DSC Reg. No. 10786

Signature of Witness: G.H. Chong

Signature of Officer: [Signature]