Special Inquiry into St Andrew's Hostel

Hearing

Held at: Courtroom 2, Level 18, 111 St Georges Terrace, Perth

Thursday, 23 February 2012 at 10am (Day 3)

Before: The Hon Peter Blaxell

.23/2/12 (3)

1 2 3 4	HIS HONOUR: We have counsel appearing today who have not been here before. Ms Tovey, you are representing Ms Dawkins?		
5 6	MS A TOVEY: Yes, if your Honour pleases, I do.		
7 8	HIS HONOUR: Mr Prior, you are representing Peter Kenyon?		
9	MR J B PRIOR: That's correct, your Honour.		
10 11	HIS HONOUR: Mr Elliott, you are representing Ian Carter.		
12 13	MR ELLIOTT: If the court pleases.		
14 15 16 17	MR URQUHART: I also see that my learned friends who are appearing for the media organisations are also in attendance.		
18 19	HIS HONOUR: For any particular reason this morning?		
20 21	MR URQUHART: I am not sure. I have not been able to		
22 23	clarify that with them.		
24 25 26	HIS HONOUR: Is anyone seeking to be heard at this stage? No? Yes?		
27 28 29 30 31 32 33	MR McCARTHY: Your Honour, I appear again. I anticipate that there may be matters that will be raised this morning in relation to the evidence of the witness this morning where I may usefully be able contribute to issues that arise. There is one matter that I learnt of this morning that I do want to bring to your Honour's attention. Perhaps if it suits everyone else, I could do that now.		
34 35 36 37 38	Your Honour will recall that when I appeared before your Honour on Tuesday, there were four suppression orders that I was addressing your Honour on.		
39 40	HIS HONOUR: Yes.		
41 42	MR McCARTHY: The first one was at page 37. It was the suppression of what was termed "the subject of ridicule".		
43 44 45	That was on the transcript at page 35 in relation to a person by the name of Darryl, and I understand that it was Darryl, brother of Mr Stephens who was giving evidence.		
46 47	HIS HONOUR: That's correct.		
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MR McCARTHY: Darryl Stephens is here today. He approached me this morning of his own volition. Mr Hammond is here, as I understand it, acting for Mr Darryl Stephens, but what Mr Stephens told me was that he was here on Tuesday and he heard the argument, and he said to me he has, in fact, no problem with the publication of the ridicule and no problem with the publication of his name. I think I should bring that to your Honour's attention.

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HIS HONOUR: That is extremely relevant. Mr Hammond, do you confirm that?

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MR HAMMOND: That is correct, sir.

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HIS HONOUR: I was not told that on Tuesday, but you have received instructions to that effect since, have you?

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MR HAMMOND: Since that time, sir, and I have clarified that this morning with Mr Stephens. I was not in a position to assist the Inquiry on the day that it came up.

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MR McCARTHY: If I could simply say that the basis upon which I sought the suppression order was that the witness himself did not want to demean his brother in any way by actually stating what that nickname was, so it was taking into account the position taken by the witness rather than his brother.

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I understand, but in all of the circumstances HIS HONOUR: now disclosed to me, it is obvious that it is not appropriate to restrict publication of that particular piece of transcript.

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Yes, your Honour, but the point of MR McCARTHY: significance and the reason why I want to raise the issue rather than leave it to Mr Hammond is this, and it is illustrated precisely by what my learned friend has just if I assume for the moment, contrary to my position, that your Honour does have power to make a suppression order, and one goes to the authorities on when a suppression order can be made, such as Re Robins, Bromfield and the Fairfax case that I referred you to, it is simply not a proper basis to make a suppression order that a witness says that that witness thinks it might not be appropriate, in the interests of the third party.

1 2 HIS HONOUR: I agree. 3 4 That is simply not a basis. MR McCARTHY: 5 6 HIS HONOUR: I agree. 7 8 MR McCARTHY: I raise this for this reason, your Honour, 9 and I know your Honour is reserved on the question which may resolve the whole matter, but one of the reasons I came 10 down here this morning, in anticipation of what a witness 11 12 this morning might say, is that if those circumstances arise - and this is the practice that has been employed by 13 14 Justice Siopis in the Federal Court when these issues have 15 arisen - your Honour may well be assisted by, firstly, having a contradictor. 16 17 18 HIS HONOUR: Yes. 19 And, secondly, by having someone appear 20 MR McCARTHY: effectively as amicus curiae in relation to these issues of 21 22 media questions. 23 24 HIS HONOUR: That would be very helpful. 25 26 MR McCARTHY: That is something that I say, and Justice 27 Siopis has employed in the Federal Court. He has effectively made a direction that I appear before him to 28 29 appear in those two capacities. 30 31 HIS HONOUR: I'm very happy for you to appear on those 32 occasions. 33 34 MR McCARTHY: Your Honour, the only other thing I wanted 35 to say to your Honour is this: I wanted to check that your Honour has in fact received a copy of the comments of the 36 37 Chief Justice before the --38 39 HIS HONOUR: I have, and they are very helpful. 40 41 MR McCARTHY: If it please the court. 42 43 HIS HONOUR: Thank you, Mr McCarthy, you are at liberty to 44 rise at any time in relation to any issue that concerns you 45 in that regard. 46 47 If it please the court. Can I just clarify MR McCARTHY: .23/2/12 (3) 202 MR McCARTHY Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

then that the first suppression order that was made on Monday at page 39, is now lifted?

HIS HONOUR: That is now lifted, and that is on the basis of what I have been told today, without yet ruling upon your original objections.

MR McCARTHY: A practical matter - the practice has been for there to be, if I can use this term, redactions to the transcript.

HIS HONOUR: Yes. What has been suppressed has been removed, but that should now return.

 MR McCARTHY: Yes. I want to clarify that, because obviously your Honour will need to give a direction to the persons responsible in that regard to reissue the transcript.

 HIS HONOUR: I should put on record that I had not appreciated the basis on which Mr Urquhart was seeking to have that material suppressed. My concern was for the feelings of Darryl Stephens.

MR McCARTHY: Yes.

HIS HONOUR: Who, I assumed, would not want that sort of information to be publicised.

 MR McCARTHY: Therein lies the problem, your Honour. Your Honour has probably had an opportunity to look at cases like Re Robins and Fairfax since I was last here, but one of the critical things on suppression orders is that the cases say that there has to be cogent evidence before the tribunal as to the basis for a suppression order. Not only does it have to fit within the recognised categories, but there has to be cogent evidence. In all of the four categories I mentioned, in my respectful submission - and your Honour will recall I did not take your Honour to Re Robins at the end of my submissions, where I would have gone through all of these things; they are helpfully covered in the Chief Justice's comments, but one of the issues is there must be cogent evidence before the court.

In each of those four categories there is no cogent evidence. It's a supposition. So, again, I say that on that basis, there were no grounds to make a suppression

order. If it pleases the court.

HIS HONOUR: Thank you. Mr Urquhart, are you ready to proceed with the witness?

MR URQUHART: Yes, I am, sir, save and except for one short matter - there may be another matter that may take a bit longer, and that is just a clarification, if I can call it that. In relation to Ms Sharon Parker's evidence, she testified on Tuesday, when she was asked by me whether she could recall the names of the relatives of Dennis McKenna who were hostel staff, and this examination commences at page 187, she identified Neil and Wendy McKenna, who are husband and wife, and Wayne and Robin McKenna, who were also married. She then stated at transcript page 188, at the top, line 1:

I believe there was also Troy McKenna who was there at some point. Troy was there. I think he was a cousin. I'm not 100 per cent sure.

In order to clarify that, investigations by the Inquiry have determined that Troy McKenna was in fact a younger brother of Dennis McKenna, not a cousin, and whilst he did board at the Katanning hostel as a student when his brother was warden there, he was never employed in the hostel in any capacity.

The witness that I propose calling now is Margaret Allana Dawkins. However, sir, I understand that my learned friend, Mr Elliott, will want to make some submissions and it might be appropriate to deal with those before Mrs Dawkins is actually called. I think most people realise that will be via CCTV, or closed-circuit television.

HIS HONOUR: Mr Prior?

MR PRIOR: Your Honour, I have an application I wish to make on behalf of Mr Kenyon, which Mr Elliott, who acts for Mr Carter, is aware of, and in the sequence of events, when you hear the applications, it is probably better that you hear this application first.

My application on behalf of Mr Kenyon is that the evidence of Mrs Dawkins be adjourned to another date.

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The basis on which I make that application is the following: on 10 February this year, Mr Kenyon received a letter from the executive officer suggesting that there may be - and I am just supplying the words - may be some adverse comments made by a witness and highlighted that was Mrs Dawkins and she would be giving evidence today.

Can I hand up a copy of that letter, because your Honour may not have ever seen these letters.

I'm aware they are in a standard form. HIS HONOUR:

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I think I'll take you to the specific letter. MR PRIOR: I have only seen Mr Kenyon's letter as his counsel, so I'm handing up to you the letter of 10 February. Halfway down it states this:

A brief summary of the anticipated adverse evidence based on the submissions and statements received [my emphasis] from relevant witnesses is as follows...

I do not need to go into the detail there, but there are two paragraphs there that I suspect are not the standard form, because it changes from person to person. So that was Mr Kenyon being placed on notice about possible adverse evidence, and I do not have any quarrel with that with respect to the procedural fairness of it for Mr Kenyon.

But, because of the quote in it "based on the submissions and statements received", my instructing solicitors then wrote to the Inquiry executive officer on 16 February this year and 21 February seeking copies of whatever the submissions and statements were that were being relied on before Ms Dawkins gives evidence.

At 5pm last night, I received from the Inquiry, via I think the executive officer, and Mr Urquhart was kind enough to ring me about five minutes before to tell me it was coming, an eight-page statement from Mrs Dawkins and a covering letter saying that effectively, because of health concerns, she will be reading that as opposed to giving detailed evidence-in-chief.

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That statement had a facsimile cover sheet with it dated 31 January 2006, so the only inference Mr Kenyon and his legal advisers can draw is that that statement was

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MR PRIOR

prepared some time ago, and possibly was in the possession 1 2 of this Inquiry, but nevertheless the sequence of events is 3 the statement became available at 5pm to be her 4 evidence-in-chief, subject to perhaps some additional 5 questions from counsel assisting at 10am today. 6 7 That statement obviously is going to be read at a public inquiry, and also be her evidence. 8 9 statement - I don't know probably - I suspect your Honour 10 has not yet seen the statement --11 12 HIS HONOUR: I have seen the statement, yes. 13 I don't need to take you to it, but I think on 14 MR PRIOR: 15 an objective analysis, you would accept there are also adverse comments made in relation to these people: Ainslie 16 Evans, Elizabeth Stroud and Peter Sherlock. None of them 17 18 is represented here by counsel today. 19 20 If I can pause here, I can check the list but HIS HONOUR: I am sure they received some letters. 21 22 23 My understanding from Mr Kenyon is certainly he has spoken to Mrs Stroud and Mr Sherlock. They both did 24 receive letters, so obviously the particularity of what is 25 26 contained about Mrs Dawkins' evidence may be different to 27 the letter I've just handed up to you, but I suspect the wording "a brief summary of the anticipated adverse 28 29 evidence based on the submissions and statements" was there in the letter, the point being this statement - the 30 31 statement which may have come into existence in January 32 2006 - was somewhere around about for the last six years. 33 The problem about that --34 35 HIS HONOUR: What are you saying about six years? 36 37 MR URQUHART: Can I just clarify, sir? That is an error. I take it that my learned friend is referring to the 38 39 facsimile transmission which appears there - 13/1/2006, 40 That is clearly a wrong date. 41 42 HIS HONOUR: Did you state a different year, did you? 43 44 Yes, 2006. MR PRIOR: 45

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My learned friend is inferring from that

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MR UROUHART:

that the statement was made --

 HIS HONOUR: What is the date there?

MR URQUHART: -- six years ago, or even earlier. That's not the case.

HIS HONOUR: Was there a typographical error in that date, is that what you are saying?

MR URQUHART: Obviously, the facsimile machine that has been used has not had the correct date fixed to it. By way of explanation, Ms Dawkins indicated to me she might have problems faxing that statement through to me yesterday, because she has had difficulties with the fax machine.

HIS HONOUR: So that's the fax machine at the other end?

MR URQUHART: Yes, at the other end, sir, not ours.

HIS HONOUR: I understand.

MR PRIOR: I accept Mr Urquhart's version of the events --

HIS HONOUR: I am quite certain that there is no statement in the possession of this Inquiry prior to the one we received from Mrs Dawkins quite recently.

That having been said, it is my submission possibly that statement existed before 10 February, when Mr Kenyon received the letter, and Mrs Evans and Mrs Stroud and Mr Sherlock. Certainly, when we wrote to this Inquiry on 16 February and 21 February, I suspect the statement existed. We now get it at 5 o'clock last night, and there are medical reasons why it is being read, as opposed to evidence-in-chief. But the concern I have is this - and this is on behalf of Mr Kenyon, and he has provided a copy of that statement, and it was provided to me not on a confidential basis, and it was going to be read in a public inquiry the next day, and a copy to Mr Sherlock and Mrs Stroud last night. Mrs Stroud is in Laos working, and Mr Sherlock lives in Queensland. They are both alarmed -I've seen some emails they have sent to Mr Kenyon. not Mr Sherlock or Mrs Stroud's counsel, but they first became aware of this statement last night. They can't physically be here.

HIS HONOUR: I suggest to you they would have previously

been aware as a result of a letter from the Inquiry --

MR PRIOR: I accept that.

HIS HONOUR: -- as to the substance of what was going to be said.

MR PRIOR: I accept that, but the problem is the eight-page statement goes into a lot more detail, in my submission, and it impacts on Mr Kenyon, notwithstanding I'm not counsel for those three people, as to whether they would then change their instructions and their position as to whether they would seek to be represented by counsel today and cross-examine Mrs Dawkins. The problem I have, and possibly Mr Elliott on behalf of Mr Carter, is about six pages of it have nothing to do with the people we represent and, obviously, if there were was any issue factually to be contested by way of cross-examination, it would be for those people to put it.

I accept what your Honour said a minute ago. They were put on notice, so to speak - probably around 10 February, I suspect, the same time as Mr Kenyon - I don't know - but given the principles of procedural fairness and natural justice and what the Public Sector Management Act says at section 24J(3)(b) and, in particular, also, your practice direction, paragraph 13, which talks about material being provided within 15 days - one can take the view, I suppose, say, five days before the hearing that the material with the letter - it is my submission this is significant material. It is a statement that has certainly been in existence before five days ago, and I am guessing, but my learned friend for the Inquiry can tell me if I'm wrong about that.

 The concern we have is this: Mr Kenyon is not in a position to cross-examine, obviously, about things that relate to those other three witnesses. They are only aware specifically what has been put by Mrs Dawkins now in the statement, because of what they have heard overnight.

HIS HONOUR: Are you suggesting there is anything in the statement which is different from the summary that those other people were given?

MR PRIOR: I don't know. I don't know. That's the problem. I'm not acting for them. I was not given the

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HIS HONOUR: My understanding --

MR PRIOR: -- for them.

 HIS HONOUR: -- and my instructions were that witnesses or other people to be the subject of adverse evidence should be given notice and a summary of that adverse evidence should be given to them.

MR PRIOR: Yes.

HIS HONOUR: I assume that has been done, but Mr Urquhart will tell me that in a moment.

MR PRIOR: He can tell you about that. I don't know, because for obvious reasons I did not see the letter, so I can't answer your question. That sort of highlights the problem that they don't have counsel representing them today. I accept implicitly what you are saying: they have had the letter --

HIS HONOUR: We will hear from Mr Urquhart shortly, but I suggest to you that this matter could be appropriately dealt with by proceeding with the evidence today and considering any application for leave that Ms Stroud and the other person might have to have Ms Dawkins recalled.

MR PRIOR: That is where I am going to, your Honour. I'm saying this for the benefit of Ms Tovey, and I put her on notice before we convened this morning, because she acts for Ms Dawkins. Potentially, there could be piecemeal taking of evidence, obviously subject to your Honour's leave, but what may happen today is that the evidence of Mrs Dawkins will be given, primarily, one would suspect, similar to her eight-page statement, and then at a later stage - next week or this week - counsel may come down on behalf of those three individuals I've named and seek leave that she be recalled.

That may then result in myself, possibly Mr Elliott on behalf of Mr Carter, seeking leave that we be allowed to further cross-examine, because things may come out in the cross-examination.

HIS HONOUR: I understand that.

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MR PRIOR: What is at risk here, and a solution, with respect, is what your Honour has raised, is this will become piecemeal evidence of Mrs Dawkins, and to go back to my original application, that is why I make the application on behalf of Mr Kenyon. Perhaps the better option is she gives her evidence at a later stage when the three people I've identified have had an opportunity to consider their position, having now been aware of this statement, but I accept that a solution is that, but I'm just highlighting that may create a problem, for example, for Mrs Dawkins. I don't know. It is something you may need to hear from counsel for Mrs Dawkins. That is all I wish to say. Mr Elliott has a totally separate application.

HIS HONOUR: I'll hear from Mr Elliott after I've dealt with this one. Ms Tovey, do you wish to say anything briefly?

MS TOVEY: If your Honour pleases, my instructions are to oppose the adjournment application. The witness is here, she is prepared to give her evidence.

 By way of background, your Honour, she is recovering from major surgery and she is on considerable pain killers. She has indeed reduced her pain killers over the course of the past week so that she is in a position to attend today, but, of course, because she has reduced her pain killers so that she is in a position to attend, she is in great pain at the moment.

HIS HONOUR: I am concerned about the timing of all this, because I think there is a 2.5 hour difference with South Australia, so it is almost lunchtime or thereabouts in South Australia.

MS TOVEY: That's correct.

HIS HONOUR: We have a limited window to deal with this evidence.

MS TOVEY: That's correct, sir, yes.

HIS HONOUR: I'm keen to see that window utilised.

MS TOVEY: My instructions are to oppose the adjournment application. The witness is here, she wishes to give her

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evidence. As to other people who may or may not be here, I am sure counsel assisting will advise you, but my understanding would be that they would receive the appropriate letters and it is their choice to attend today or not. In our submission, today is the day for her evidence and today is the only day, your Honour.

HIS HONOUR: Thank you. Yes, Mr Urguhart?

 MR URQUHART: Thank you, sir. I overlooked that my learned friend, Mr Prior, was going to make that submission when I suggested that Mr Elliott goes first with respect to his submissions. I apologise to him for that.

 The position that I submit should take place, sir, is that this witness has incurred incredible difficulties in making herself available today. My learned friend, Ms Tovey, has already referred to the fact that she has prepared some days in advance with lessening her medication. The reason why her statement was provided to those lawyers that we expected would be attending on behalf of witnesses upon which Ms Dawkins may give adverse evidence against was because of the fact that we were going to take that procedure of having her just read her statement into evidence.

But, in my submission, sir, with respect to the other three, they were provided with a rather concise outline of what the proposed adverse evidence of Ms Dawkins was going to be, and that each of the three has advised the Inquiry that they did not intend to have a legal representation at the hearing.

HIS HONOUR: Do you say that there is anything in the statement that has been supplied to counsel which varies from or exceeds the summary that each of those people has seen?

MR URQUHART: I can say, sir, that the statement that is going to be read by Ms Dawkins will not contain any additional evidence of a substantial nature in regard to the adverse evidence that will be given. I do note that my learned friend, Mr Prior, did not state that, with respect to his client, there was anything necessarily additional that should have been included in the letter that went to his client, and the same summary was undertaken with respect to the other three persons.

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HIS HONOUR: Thank you.

 MR URQUHART: So that where the letters in the generic term said "a brief summary", in fact, in some instances, they were somewhat lengthy. I can assure my learned friend, also, that whilst the pro forma letter that was used with respect to his client indicated "a brief summary of the anticipated adverse evidence based on the submissions and statements received from relevant witnesses is as follows", to be more precise, it should have read "from the relevant witness referred to" --

HIS HONOUR: So there is only one relevant witness.

MR URQUHART: There is only one relevant witness, yes, and that will be Mrs Dawkins.

HIS HONOUR: Thank you.

MR URQUHART: I do also say, sir, that, yes, the added difficulty with Mrs Dawkins coming back to give evidence is that she has made it abundantly clear it has taken her some time to get ready for this one, and given the pain that she is suffering, she would rather she complete her evidence here today in its entirety.

HIS HONOUR: Thank you. Do you want to say something, Mr Elliott?

MR ELLIOTT: Yes, if your Honour pleases. I join in the application by Mr Prior, and I have a little more to say about that, and the application that I make I will foreshadow, because it bears upon the course that this Inquiry might take in relation to Mrs Dawkins.

To join in the exchange that you had with counsel assisting, can I indicate that the material that was outlined to us I suspect is exactly the same as the material in a letter that Mr Prior handed up. There are three statements.

Whilst the eight-page narrative from Mrs Dawkins does not contain anything further by way of adverse allegation, it does contain substantial narrative which one might think is going to bear upon the question of whether her adverse allegations are accepted. It goes to the question of her

1 I pose the question: if we have only been credibility. 2 given that which is an allegation, and the 3 adversely-affected parties that Mr Prior has spoken of have 4 been given the same thing, there is a great deal potentially, by way of background and discussion, which 5 6 they have not seen and which might be pertinent to their 7 choice whether to be represented in this Inquiry or not. 8 9 I go further by indicating that one of my concerns 10 about the material that is proposed to be read is that it contains numerous portions which, we say, are completely 11 12 irrelevant or scandalous and serve only to sensationalise. These are matters which will affect these other parties and 13 14 upon which they have had no notice. 15 16 You might find that if they were in the position of having the statement which we just received yesterday 17 18 evening, they might be here saying the same thing as me, 19 that they are concerned --20 Before you go on, what is the nature of the 21 HIS HONOUR: application that you are foreshadowing? 22 23 24 I am concerned that the statement is --MR ELLIOTT: 25 26 HIS HONOUR: What will you be applying for? 27 28 MR ELLIOTT: That the statement not be read in its current 29 form. 30 31 HIS HONOUR: Because you object to some of the content? 32 33 MR ELLIOTT: Because I object to some of the content. 34 35 HIS HONOUR: I am intervening now, because I suspect this 36 is going to take a little time. In order to facilitate the 37 probability of - let me put it that Mrs Dawkins will be 38 giving evidence today, I think she should take some lunch 39 now, otherwise we will get to the end of your argument and 40 I'll give some rulings and then she will be starving and want to go and have lunch. 41 42 43 If that message could be sent through to Mrs Dawkins, that she should have lunch and take no longer than half 44 45 If that can be arranged, thank you. 46 47 What else do you want to say, Mr Elliott?

MR URQUHART: I think my learned friend has gone on to his application that he is going to make with respect to redactions of the --

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HIS HONOUR: Relevant to this application for an adjournment, what do you want to say?

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17 18 MR ELLIOTT: What I say is that the quality of the statement that is to be read also bears upon the question of whether we should proceed with the matter now, and if it does, as I assert, contain extraneous materials which are in themselves sensational and damaging - and there are portions which, I say, are completely irrelevant, which are going to be the portions that catch the ear of the media and are going to be the portions which are reported, notwithstanding that they have limited or no relevance, or are scandalous in their nature, or are simply self-bolstering assertions --

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I propose that we deal with your application HIS HONOUR: now, because I think that needs to be dealt with. If the position is that Mrs Dawkins is going to be unable to read from her statement, it may affect her ability to continue today because she has some medical problems.

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MR ELLIOTT: Indeed.

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HIS HONOUR: I would like you to bring your application What do you want to deal with?

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MR ELLIOTT: Does your Honour have a copy of the statement?

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> I do. HIS HONOUR:

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It's probably easier for me to point to MR ELLIOTT: illustrations of how the statement contains what I suggest is inappropriate material.

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HIS HONOUR: Have you discussed these objections with counsel? Have you come to any agreement?

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I have, and I can indicate that counsel MR ELLIOTT: assisting indicated that he was happy to remove a couple, and I'm grateful for that.

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I put that on the record now, if I can, sir. 2 It is the fourth paragraph on the first page, starting with the words, "The actual administration". It is accepted 3 4 that that is of marginal relevance, so that entire 5 paragraph. 6 7 HIS HONOUR: Are you saying that you are not going to have her read that paragraph? 8 9 10 MR UROUHART: No, I will not, sir. Going on to page 2 and the second full paragraph starting with the words, "The 11 12 relationship", I won't be leading the second sentence there commencing, "She sought". I won't have Ms Dawkins read 13 14 that in and, indeed, the balance of that paragraph either. 15 16 HIS HONOUR: You say you won't be? 17 18 MR URQUHART: No, I won't be. 19 20 HIS HONOUR: So it will only be the first sentence of that 21 paragraph. 22 23 The first sentence and the balance of it, MR UROUHART: 24 save and except the last sentence. 25 So it is the second and third sentences that 26 HIS HONOUR: 27 won't be --28 29 The second, third and fourth sentences, sir. MR URQUHART: 30 31 That is the only agreement I've been able to come to 32 with respect to my learned friend's application. 33 Returning to you, Mr Elliott, I think you 34 HIS HONOUR: 35 should deal seriatim with what you object to. 36 37 Thank you, your Honour. From page 1, MR ELLIOTT: paragraph 5, which is the following paragraph, you will see 38 39 that in the second sentence, the witness engages in 40 self-bolstering, which should be apparent. The sentence is argumentative and, indeed, this is particularly relevant to 41 42 the point that Mr Prior makes, because it is her immediate 43 superiors who might need to put any challenge to that, and 44 they are not here. 45 46 Before you continue, I think we should lay HIS HONOUR: 47 some ground rules. As you would be aware, under MR ELLIOTT .23/2/12 (3) 215

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MR URQUHART:

section 24J(3) of the Public Sector Management Act, in conducting this Inquiry, I'm not bound by the rules of evidence. You need to bear that in mind.

MR ELLIOTT: Yes, I'm mindful of that, sir.

HIS HONOUR: And I can inform myself as I think fit, and that means I could have just simply spoken to Mrs Dawkins, but obviously the principle of open justice requires and suggests that I should be hearing this evidence in public. That does not mean that I have to abide by rules of evidence in hearing what she has to say.

I must act according to equity and good conscience and the substantial merits of the case and without regard to technicalities - that's an important thing.

MR ELLIOTT: Yes.

HIS HONOUR: Or to legal form. We need to bear that in mind. It may be that submissions you make to me might have substance when it comes to rules of evidence, but in terms of the outcome of my ruling, it might be quite different and contrary to the usual position in a court.

 MR ELLIOTT: I understand that the approach will be different. My concern really is two-fold. The first is that given what my learned friend has said, there is material in here that is not in the nature of an allegation which these other people seemingly have not been put on notice of. That is a matter of alarm.

My second point is that this statement is going to be read publicly, and whilst your Honour, I have every confidence, will disregard the self-bolstering portions, as I began my submission by saying, it is this sort of material that is going to catch the ear of the media, they are going, one supposes, to race off and report sensational claims which are largely irrelevant to the allegations against my client, Mr Carter, and Mr Kenyon, for whom Mr Prior acts, and because of their link to the allegations generally, in the sense that they appear at paragraphs 6 and 7 of the statement, they are going to be linked to all of these other claims.

The media are not going to - history has proven this time and time again - exercise the intellectual restraint

that we expect from your Honour and which we know your Honour will bring to the task. That is why I am alarmed that the material is to be read publicly when it does contain assertions, claims, self-bolstering and the like, which will have the effect of publicly damaging the reputation of those who are spoken of. Had it been the case --

HIS HONOUR: I'm obliged to apply rules of procedural fairness. That means that your client and the other people adversely affected by this sentence should be given the opportunity to be heard and they should also be given notice of the substance of what is going to be said against them. It is my understanding that that has been done.

It is a simple fact that in an Inquiry such as this, it is inevitable that some people's reputations are going to be harmed, but that does not mean that we do not lead the evidence that harms their reputation. Procedural fairness requires that they be given the opportunity to say what they want to say about that and to cross-examine the witness, and that is what is happening.

MR ELLIOTT: But there is also the requirement to act in accordance with equity and good conscience. If my learned friend were leading the evidence, I dare say that he would not ask the witness questions to evoke self-bolstering, self-serving, self-corroborating answers. The restraint that we would expect from learned counsel assisting is not present in this statement, and that is the very difficulty.

If my learned friend were asking the questions, he would not say, "Do you have anything that you can say that is self-serving that supports that view?" He would just move on, but the statement contains many such assertions, and they serve to give this account, if you like, a greater air of reliability --

HIS HONOUR: All right. Returning to the paragraph, which particular sentences do you object to?

 MR ELLIOTT: I object to the second sentence in particular, and I have to say that the next sentence is argumentative in its character. If it was made by way of a submission, it would be fine, but it's not; it's made as a factual assertion.

 HIS HONOUR: In that second sentence, she is expressing an opinion based on her perceptions at the time of what was happening.

MR URQUHART: Which she then goes into in substantial detail in the balance of the statement.

HIS HONOUR: Yes.

MR ELLIOTT: In which case, the detail that she gives will allow this tribunal to reach conclusions - and the witness's conclusions about these matters are irrelevant. The very reason that my learned friend gives means that the paragraph or the opinion that he is speaking of is valueless. Her opinion as to whether or not something did or didn't happen, or happened dramatically or not, is not material, particularly if she sets out the basis for that opinion later. You will have the basis for the claim --

HIS HONOUR: The thrust of what she says there is that there is no problems with head office up until a certain event which she refers to, and thereafter things were different. That is basically what she is saying.

MR ELLIOTT: Yes.

HIS HONOUR: If that is a fact, that is relevant to the issues that I am considering as to whether or not things were said.

MR ELLIOTT: I accept that, but it's not the witness's place to engage in argument. It is the function of counsel appearing before the tribunal to appear to present the arguments - not the witness. When we come later, you will find that the witness finishes with an enormous amount of argument.

HIS HONOUR: Perhaps if we deal with these seriatim, I think it is helpful to hear from Mr Urquhart at this stage on that particular paragraph.

MR URQUHART: Certainly, sir. It is not argument at all; it is simply what the witness is saying occurred with respect to her relationship with her superiors. To start with, it was fine. Then there was another incident that, she is saying, was the catalyst for that change in that relationship. When I said that Mrs Dawkins then goes on to

describe in detail what is said in the statement as to why that was the case, it was to say that this was not just a bald-faced assertion which was left without any substance.

In my submission, sir, it would stay in, and if I were examining her, I would ask her what her relationship was like with her superiors. To start with, she would say it was fine. Then I would ask, "Did that relationship remain in that same way?" She would say, "No." I would say, "Can you provide us with what it was that caused that change in that relationship?" Then she would say exactly what is in her statement.

HIS HONOUR: Anything briefly in reply?

MR ELLIOTT: I don't think that my learned friend could sensibly ask her what caused the change when the change was brought about by someone else. He could ask, "Is there anything else that you observed at the time?" He could not ask her --

HIS HONOUR: She can give evidence of at a point in time when it changed.

 MR ELLIOTT: Yes, she could give evidence of that, but she goes further than that here. I'm not concerned about the factual assertions at all; I'm concerned about the argumentative nature and the bolstering that she goes into. She says --

MR URQUHART: It's not --

MR ELLIOTT: I'll give illustrations of that later.

HIS HONOUR: I am going to rule on this. In my view, that paragraph should be permitted to be read. I don't see it as being argumentative. I think, in essence, it states facts that she perceived to be the position, and she refers to a change in attitude of the head office, she says, coincident with a particular event. I am going to allow that to be read.

 MR ELLIOTT: Thank you, sir. Can I take you to the bottom of page 2, the second-last paragraph. You will see that the witness poses questions beginning with the words "If participants".

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It would be just a question of weight, sir.

46 47

MR URQUHART:

It's of marginal weight, so it can come out. 1 2 3 She is really suggesting there that what she HIS HONOUR: 4 asserts is corroborated by others, but that is for me to 5 decide, isn't it? 6 7 MR URQUHART: Yes. 8 9 So those six words in brackets should not be HIS HONOUR: 10 read. Yes, Mr Elliott? 11 12 MR ELLIOTT: Turning to page 3, the second full paragraph, you will see on the third line she speaks about gut 13 14 feelings, in the context of saying: I wasn't sure about something; I had a gut feeling, but was uncertain how to 15 16 act. 17 18 HIS HONOUR: What is your objection to that? 19 20 MR ELLIOTT: My objection is to narratives about her gut 21 feelings as to whether things are or are not true. 22 23 But how is she to express herself? She said HIS HONOUR: 24 she was not sure about something, but she had a gut 25 feeling. That is probably the simplest way in which 26 an ordinary person would express that fact. It is relevant 27 to what she did. 28 29 MR ELLIOTT: What is important is what she did --30 31 HIS HONOUR: That's right, but she's explaining --32 33 MR ELLIOTT: -- not whether she had a belief --34 35 HIS HONOUR: -- why she believed it. 36 37 MR ELLIOTT: Her belief is irrelevant. What is relevant 38 here, and what is the focus of this Inquiry is what she did 39 in relation to the allegations, not what she thought about 40 them. 41 42 HIS HONOUR: No, the relevance here is why she was motivated to do what she did. It has to be seen in 43 the context of what might be described as the saga that 44 45 she describes generally. I'm going to rule that that 46 should be received. 47

Thank you. Then you will see the last five 1 MR ELLIOTT: 2 lines speak about some other issue completely, which just 3 appears to be a gratuitous criticism. 4 5 HIS HONOUR: In the same paragraph? 6 7 MR ELLIOTT: Yes, the same paragraph. A gratuitous criticism of the programme. I don't know what driver's 8 9 licences can possibly have to do with the issues about this 10 Inquiry. 11 12 HIS HONOUR: What do you want to say about that, 13 Mr Urquhart? 14 15 MR UROUHART: It just explains the relationship with that particular public officer that she made her initial 16 complaint to, but if my learned friend is concerned about 17 18 any criticisms of that head office, we could leave it on 19 the basis that the second sentence that is objected to, 20 starting with "Head office", comes out, as does the third sentence there. So the first and fourth sentences stay. 21 22 23 HIS HONOUR: I think that is appropriate. What is your 24 next objection, Mr Elliott, if any? 25 26 MR ELLIOTT: My next objection, sir, comes on page 7. It really is the combination of paragraphs 2 and 3 read 27 together. The difficulty that I have is that, on the one 28 29 hand, she seeks to bolster her position by saying whether 30 other people agreed with her or not, and then she seeks to 31 become argumentative in the next paragraph by --32 33 HIS HONOUR: Pausing there, the first paragraph you object 34 to --35 36 MR ELLIOTT: Particularly the second sentence. 37 38 HIS HONOUR: If that person referred to there ends up 39 being a witness before me, it is relevant to know whether 40 or not she agreed with Ms Dawkins at some other time, isn't it? 41 42 And that is one of the difficulties. 43 MR ELLIOTT: sure this is one of the reasons why Mr Prior raised his 44 45 concern in relation to that witness, because you can see 46 what is being asserted here is that someone who has been

given notice of the possibility of adverse findings --

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HIS HONOUR: But at this stage it could well become relevant, that's the whole problem.

MR ELLIOTT: I do accept that, sir. At the end of the page, your Honour will see the rhetorical questions resume, and they seem to have no useful purpose whatsoever.

HIS HONOUR: Are you referring to the last full paragraph on the page; is that right?

MR ELLIOTT: The last full paragraph and then the paragraph that goes over the page. They are both argumentative and serve no purpose.

HIS HONOUR: The second line of that paragraph you object to contains an assertion of fact.

MR ELLIOTT: Yes, but that is mentioned earlier. It is mentioned separately and I have not challenged the earlier reference, but I challenge the resort to argument.

HIS HONOUR: Really, what has happened there, she is asserting facts, but preceded by a rhetorical question. Isn't that just a way of expression? I understand what you are saying, it being argumentative in the sense that she is putting an argument, but the argument contains assertions of fact which are relevant.

MR ELLIOTT: As I've said already, I am not troubled by assertions of fact, but I am troubled by the presentation of argument in this form.

HIS HONOUR: When I make my findings, I am not going to take that paragraph as anything other than being relevant to the assertions of fact which it contains.

 MR ELLIOTT: I've already indicated to your Honour that I'm not so much concerned about the approach that you will take, but I'm concerned about the approach that arguments from a witness at a point in time now, when we don't get to present arguments, leaves us in the position that a lot of time will go by before we get to be able to respond to these argumentative claims, and that is why you should not receive argument. I'm happy for you to receive facts, and it is a simple matter: if it is the case that there are facts in there that my learned friend needs in, let him

introduce the facts, not the argument. 1 2 3 It seems to me, Mr Urguhart, that these HIS HONOUR: 4 objections could be dealt with - you could lead the same 5 material in a proper form --6 7 MR URQUHART: Yes. 8 9 HIS HONOUR: -- and adduce exactly the same evidence in a way which meets the objection. What do you have to say 10 about that? 11 12 I could, sir, but in my submission, dealing 13 MR UROUHART: 14 in just a form that your Honour will take into account, and 15 it will achieve the same objective at the end of the day. 16 17 HIS HONOUR: With regard to the very last paragraph, you 18 could ask did the witness read what's referred to. 19 20 She did read it. MR URQUHART: 21 22 HIS HONOUR: Did it make sense to you? 23 24 MR URQUHART: I suppose I could, but --25 26 HIS HONOUR: You would probably say what comment do you 27 have to make about that assertion about what she read. 28 29 MR URQUHART: The purpose of having this argument is the statement was provided on the basis that the witness would 30 read it into evidence. My learned friends will have the 31 32 opportunity of cross-examining her with respect to those 33 last two paragraphs, should they wish to do so. 34 35 HIS HONOUR: Mr Elliott, I don't fully understand your concerns. Given that I'm not going to have regard to the 36 37 argumentative aspect of that, what are you saying is the 38 harm that can be done? 39 40 MR ELLIOTT: This is just part of an overall package where I say the witness has, on numerous occasions, engaged in 41 self corroboration and bolstering. 42 43 44 Just restrict yourself to these two HIS HONOUR: 45 paragraphs, what is the harm done in her reading out these 46 paragraphs, given it is not going to affect me, the aspect 47 that you refer to? 225 MR ELLIOTT .23/2/12 (3)

MR ELLIOTT: I am concerned that others --

I am not a court of law. The point you HIS HONOUR: raise would be very valid in a court of law. a court of law. I am not going to have regard to argumentative aspects of what she reads out.

MR ELLIOTT: Indeed.

HIS HONOUR: I am going to base my findings on the facts as I find them to be.

MR ELLIOTT: Others who read the evidence may not approach it in the same way as you, and the fact that it contains arguments will be lost on them. I don't know that these two particular paragraphs have any great moment, but it is the --

HIS HONOUR: That's my impression, too.

MR ELLIOTT: It's the fact that the statement contains this sort of argumentative and self-supporting material that concerns me, when it should not contain argument. The time for argument is later, and we don't get to respond to the argument, and people who read the evidence, they are not going to be alive to the nuances, and they may be influenced by this material when it is reported publicly on the website and/or in the media.

There is one further point --

HIS HONOUR: One further point about these paragraphs?

MR ELLIOTT: No.

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HIS HONOUR: Dealing with those, if I was applying the rules of evidence, I would accept your objection and uphold it, but I'm not a court of law and I've explained why it won't have any bearing upon my handling of the evidence. You yourself have said that these two particular paragraphs are not of great moment, I agree, and I don't see any harm in them being read out as is, so I'm going to allow that to happen.

44 45 46

Thank you, sir. MR ELLIOTT:

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HIS HONOUR: What's your last point? 1 2 3 My last and most important point - that's why MR ELLIOTT: 4 I've saved it for the end - is the third full paragraph on 5 this page. Your Honour can see --6 7 HIS HONOUR: On page 7? 8 9 MR ELLIOTT: Page 7. 10 11 HIS HONOUR: What paragraph again? 12 13 MR ELLIOTT: It's the one that begins, "I called 14 Elizabeth". It is a paragraph I would invite you, first of 15 all, to read with particular attention to the last 16 sentence. 17 18 HIS HONOUR: I understand that. I fully understand your 19 objection there. What do you have to say about that, 20 Mr Urquhart? It is really an objection to the last 21 sentence. 22 23 MR URQUHART: It is, sir. However, if Ms Stroud's lawyer were here, they would be arguing that it should stay in 24 because, as a matter of fact, that understanding of the 25 26 witness's evidence is important for assessing the role of 27 Ms Stroud in these telephone calls and, in fact, Ms Dawkins 28 views it as Ms Stroud not placing herself into that category. So it is --29 30 31 HIS HONOUR: It might be important to know on what basis 32 the understanding referred to in the last sentence was 33 arrived at. Was it because of something that was said by 34 the person she was speaking to, or --35 36 MR URQUHART: That was one of the matters I was going to 37 ask by way of clarification of the witness. 38 39 I'm going to rule that when she reads that 40 part of the statement, before she reads the last sentence, I direct that you lead what evidence she can give in 41 42 respect to that last sentence. 43 44 I'm sorry, sir, I missed that --MR URQUHART: 45 46 HIS HONOUR: I am saying that rather than read that 47 sentence out, because we don't know whether it is .23/2/12 (3) MR ELLIOTT 227

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speculation or what it might be - there might be a proper basis for her to assert that - but I am directing you should lead evidence as to the assertions made in that last sentence in the usual way.

MR URQUHART: I will simply ask her about that.

HIS HONOUR: In other words, if there is a proper basis for her to make that assertion, and it is not just some figment of her imagination, but if there is a proper basis as a result of what she was told, then it is admissible - or it should be received, I should say.

MR URQUHART: Yes, sir.

HIS HONOUR: In any event, I would want to know on what basis she reached that understanding before I could give it any credence.

MR URQUHART: Yes. I intended to ask her that, because, as I said, I am not just --

 HIS HONOUR: What I'm saying is intervene before she reads that last sentence, and ask questions in the usual way you would when calling evidence-in-chief to see what she has to say about that.

MR URQUHART: Perfect, sir. I don't have any problems with that.

HIS HONOUR: Are you happy with that?

MR ELLIOTT: I am, thank you, your Honour.

 The second reason I left that to the very end is because that whole contention is not something that was the subject of the letter to Mr Carter of 10 February 2012, which brings me back to the proposition that my learned friend, Mr Prior, was making earlier, and that is that there is a distinct possibility - in fact, we would say a likelihood - that there is much disclosed here that is of moment, and might be of moment to the witnesses Stroud, Sherlock and Evans, and this is simply an illustration.

Your Honour will see the significance of that paragraph to us. If that is something that was not set out in the letter to Messrs Kenyon and Carter, one might have

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to have concerns along the lines that Mr Prior has already articulated, and I repeat that I join in the submissions that he has made concerning their involvement.

We would like to see them here to test this person's credibility on important matters of credit and reliability now, when the public hears about all of her claims, rather

May I say that the rules of procedural fairness require that I allow you - your client - and the other persons represented here today - to call their own witnesses if they wish, so I'm offering you that If you want to call them, that can be

I very much doubt that it can be arranged

No, I have to deliver a report on 31 May, so you have all the time until April to call evidence. can be done at any time by arrangement. So you have that opportunity, and that deals with that position.

Thank you, sir.

I need to rule on the application for In my view, it should be refused because, for reasons which have been explained by counsel assisting, it is highly desirable that Mrs Dawkins' evidence be heard today, because of her medical condition and the medications

We do not in fact have any application for an adjournment from the people whose concerns have been expressed about, namely, Elizabeth Stroud and Peter If they do decide to bring an application to have Mrs Dawkins recalled at some future time, I'll deal with those applications on their merits.

We can proceed, and I'm aware that Mrs Dawkins should be there now, because I sent her away until 11.35.

Can I raise one matter before she starts, which hangs off the back of Mr Elliott's submissions?

HIS HONOUR: Yes.

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47 Q.

Α.

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HIS HONOUR: It won't be. What will happen is it is going to be read and what is on the transcript is what will appear on the website.

by your Honour's ruling, there are parts of her statement which are redacted or deleted. My understanding is that in

available to the public and the media, at the moment it is

just, subject to suppressed items, the running transcript. I just want to clarify in the event that this statement is

terms of the website and the public information made

My understanding is now, either by agreement or

MR PRIOR: You can understand where I was going.

tendered as an exhibit, to make sure --

HIS HONOUR: I think we need a brief adjournment to Yes. establish the video link again, so I will adjourn for about five minutes.

SHORT ADJOURNMENT

MR UROUHART: The next witness will be via video link, and I now call Margaret Allana Dawkins.

<MARGARET ALLANA DAWKINS, SWORN:

<EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MR URQUHART:

HIS HONOUR: If you could stand, Mr Urguhart.

Can you see Mr Urquhart, Mrs Dawkins? Q.

MR UROUHART: Can you see me?

Α. Yes, I can.

Yes.

Mrs Dawkins, at any time where you hear someone speaking to you and you can't see them, just let us know.

Yes, I will, Mr Urquhart.

We can also see that there is a noticeable delay at this end, so much so that it looks like you are performing some acts of ventriloquism at times, so we are going to, hopefully, bear that in mind with the delay back here.

We didn't get that answer. Can you just say that

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2
         Α.
              Yes.
 3
 4
              We have you there. Mrs Dawkins, are you 54 years of
         Q.
 5
         age?
 6
         Α.
              Yes, that's correct.
 7
 8
              Do you reside in South Australia?
         Q.
 9
              Yes, I do.
         Α.
10
11
         Q.
              With your husband, John?
12
              Yes.
         Α.
13
14
         Q.
              Can I ask you when you got married?
15
              2 March 1987.
         Α.
16
17
              So it was after 1985. What was your maiden name in
18
         1985 - what was your surname?
19
         Α.
              Maruff.
20
21
              Is "Maruff" spelt M-A-R-U-F-F?
         Q.
22
              That's correct.
         Α.
23
24
              You are a farmer by occupation now?
         Q.
25
              I sure am.
         Α.
26
27
         0.
              And what qualifications do you have?
28
              I have a BA, DipEd.
         Α.
29
30
              When did you obtain those degrees?
         Q.
31
              I beg your pardon - where?
         Α.
32
33
              When? Was it before 1985?
         Q.
34
              Yes, it was, my BA, but my DipEd I think I finished
35
         after 1985.
36
37
              Mrs Dawkins, is it the case that you are recovering
38
         from major surgery?
39
              Yes, that's correct, Mr Urquhart.
40
41
              In fact, did you sustain a compound tibial plateau
42
         fracture of your right leg late last year?
43
              Yes, I did.
44
45
              And that was as a result of being kicked by one of
46
         your horses on the farm?
47
         Α.
              That's correct.
    .23/2/12 (3)
                                             M A DAWKINS x (Mr Urquhart)
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again?

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1 the end and also initialled at the bottom of the first 2 seven pages? 3 Α. Yes. 4 5 Mrs Dawkins, I'm going to ask you to read that out. 6 Could I ask you to read it slowly, because there will be, 7 moments from time to time when I will ask you to not read out certain portions of that statement. 8 9 Α. Okay. 10 11 If you can go to the first page, and if you could begin, thank you. 12 Yes: 13 Α. 14 15 In 1985 I was employed by the WA Department of Employment and Training as a Group 16 Leader for the pilot project Westrek. 17 18 was a 9 month secondment from my position 19 as Electorate Research Officer for the 20 Federal Member for Swan. 21 22 Westrek was an attempt to adopt the 23 Canadian community programme Katimavik for youth in Western Australia. My role as 24 25 a Group Leader was to manage 12 young 26 people referred to as "participants" at 27 my allocated project location, Katanning. There were a number of projects in 28 29 different locations throughout the State. 30 The first group of participants stayed for around 10-12 weeks, then moved (known as 31 the "rotation") to another location and 32 33 a second group came to Katanning for 34 a similar length of time. The participants 35 were young people from a wide variety of educational and social backgrounds. 36 37 were aged between 16 and 25. While at Katanning they worked full time planting 38 39 trees and building pine log fencing for the Shire of Katanning, the project's sponsor. 40

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The Westrek experience focused on giving young people the confidence to make creative decisions about all aspects of their lives from study, or work related training to personal life choices. 1985 was the International Year of Youth and

1 2 3		I wanted to contribute by making a practical difference.
4 5	Q. A.	I'm going to stop you there. For me
6	_	
7	Q.	Forget that fourth paragraph and continue on as you
8		about to do. Thank you.
9	Α.	Yes:
10		
11		For me my relationship with Head Office at
12		the start of the project was fine. I was
13		reasonably self-sufficient and didn't give
14		Head Office any cause for concern. This
15		only changed and rather [drastically] with
16		Mrs Ainslie"
17	_	
18	Q.	Stop there. Did that word read "dramatically"? Just
19	_	ack, "This only changed and rather dramatically",
20		er than "drastically".
21	Α.	Oh:
22		
23		dramatically"
24	_	
25	Q.	Start that sentence again, if you can, please?
26	Α.	
27		
28		This only changed and rather dramatically
29		with Mrs Ainslie Evans reaction to my
30		suggestion that allegations of Dennis
31		McKenna's sexual abuse of [young men] be
32		investigated.
33		
34	Q.	Stop there. Does that read "of a young man"?
35	Α.	Sorry:
36		
37		a young man be investigated.
38	•	
39	Q.	Stopping there, that sentence reads:
40		-1.
41		This only changed and rather dramatically
42		with Mrs Ainslie Evans reaction to my
43		suggestion that allegations of Dennis
44		McKenna's sexual abuse of a young man be
45		investigated.
46 47	T	nat connect). Thank you
47	15 TI	nat correct? Thank you.
	.23/2/12	(3) 234 M A DAWKINS x (Mr Urquhart)
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1 Α. Yes, that's correct. 2 3 If you could read on. 0. 4 Yes: Α. 5 6 Mrs Evans was a Shire Councillor for 7 Katanning and was my community liaison officer. 8 9 10 The participants..." 11 12 Sorry, Mrs Dawkins, can you try that again -"Mrs Evans as a Shire Councillor"? 13 14 Α. Yes: 15 Mrs Evans as a Shire Councillor for 16 17 Katanning was my community liaison officer. 18 19 The participants, an assistant group leader and I lived together at Kartanup on Amherst 20 Street. The building was a former convent 21 22 known as St Rita's. I recall from my 23 initial briefing that the State Government owned these premises. From the outset 24 25 Mrs Ainslie Evans and Dennis McKenna were 26 unable to respect the privacy of those of 27 us who lived at Kartanup. For reasons 28 I have never comprehended they felt it was 29 their right to enter the premises without 30 invitation or consultation. Dennis McKenna appeared to have a proprietorial interest 31 32 in the Kartanup property. Even with 33 intervention and assistance from my 34 superior Elizabeth Stroud and later Peter 35 Sherlock, for the duration of my stay at Kartanup, neither Mrs Evans nor Dennis 36 McKenna adhered to the simple courtesy of 37 38 knocking and waiting to be invited in. 39 40 My working relationship with Dennis McKenna was tolerable - for the sake of the project 41 - I tried to ensure it remained workable. 42 From the outset we viewed each other with 43 suspicion. He spent a lot of energy 44 45 demonstrating to me that he had power over 46 Mrs Evans. I remember a conspiratorial 47 wink from Dennis when he got Mrs Evans to

do as he requested after she had first 1 2 objected to whatever it was. Dennis was at 3 pains to let me know that he knew my every 4 move. An elderly woman also lived at 5 Kartanup. I can't remember her name but 6 I do recall that she worked in a domestic 7 capacity at the Hostel. Dennis told me that she was his "plant", his "spy" and 8 9 would inform him of my every move. said he would twist whatever information 10 11 she gave him to his own advantage. 12 on notice from the early days. 13 14 If I can stop you there, for this next paragraph, could you please read the first sentence that goes just 15 past halfway down the second line, and then the last 16 sentence, which is five words long on the last line. 17 18 you see that, and have you heard that correctly? 19 Yes, I have. Α. 20 21 Q. So the first sentence. 22 Α. 23 24 The relationship I witnessed between Dennis 25 McKenna and Mrs Evans was that Mrs Evans 26 was deferential to Dennis McKenna. 27 28 And now this doesn't make sense, but however I'll read it. 29 30 0. Just read it out. 31 A. : 32 I felt alone and isolated. 33 34 35 A Westrek participant named Simon, I do not recall his surname, became very friendly 36 with Dennis McKenna. Simon became more 37 38 interested in spending time with Dennis 39 McKenna at St Andrew's Hostel. This 40 culminated in Dennis McKenna arranging a position for Simon as a supervisor at 41 42 [a] high school hostel in Albany. 43 44 I raised with Ms Elizabeth Stroud the 45 Coordinator for all Westrek projects, my 46 suspicion (corroborated with ..." 47

- Q. Just stop there. Sorry, I didn't get that in time. Could you just not read out what is in brackets there in the second line?
  - A. Okay.

7

Q. Mrs Dawkins, if I could ask you to read that sentence again without what's in the brackets?

8 A. Okay:

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28 29 I raised with Ms Elizabeth Stroud the Coordinator for all Westrek projects, my suspicion that Dennis and Simon may have been in a sexual relationship. unsure whether it was an issue for me as a Group Leader or not? Because Simon was supposed to have been in our care, yet he was around 23 years old. I certainly felt uncomfortable about it and sought direction. Elizabeth advised sexual I remained uncomfortable tolerance. because of what I perceived as a conflict of rules for participants to adhere to and [for] me to attempt to enforce. If participants were not allowed to have sex with each other - whether heterosexual or homosexual how was it then OK for a person in a position of power, such as a warden of a hostel for secondary students to be able to come into our residential project and recruit sexual partners?

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In the course of raising Simon's departure from the project in a meeting with Mrs Evans I suggested that there might be more to the relationship between Dennis McKenna and Simon. Mrs Evans was delighted that Dennis had recruited a supervisor for the Albany hostel, they were hard to come by she said, and politely but categorically refused to be drawn into firmer discussion on the matter.

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However, during my time as Group Leader at the Katanning project, a Westrek participant had met a former resident of St Andrew's Hostel at a pub and came to me with his new friend's account of being sexually abused by Dennis McKenna. The young man who had been a former resident of

St Andrew's Hostel told me of his experiences first hand and asked me to have the activities of Dennis McKenna investigated.

- Q. I'll just stop you there, Mrs Dawkins. Just for the next paragraph, could I ask you not to read out the second-last sentence. If you have a pen there and you want to put a line through that one, by all means do so, but it starts "Head office", and then also the very short sentence after that commencing with "In fact". All right? So, just those two sentences, but you should read out the last sentence. Do you have that?
- A. Okay. Yes, I have.

- Q. Thank you.
- 16 A.

I was unsure how to handle this situation. I was 27 years old and had had limited training by Westrek in youth work. I wasn't sure if these serious allegations were true, I had a gut feeling they were but I was uncertain how to act appropriately, to have them investigated. I first went to see the local policeman Mr Bill Todd. We had a warm working relationship. He had assisted me when I first arrived in town with a 14 seater bus and no licence to drive it. Mr Todd kindly gave me some lessons and then took me through the test.

I felt comfortable going to Mr Todd seeking advice on this matter. He said that he needed a statement with names, dates, times et cetera. Mr Todd warned me of the severity of the allegations being made against "the golden boy" of Katanning Dennis McKenna, who was then Citizen of the Year. I recall Mr Todd making a comment along the lines that he had to live in the town, while I would leave when my contract expired. I asked him what I should do to have the allegations brought to someone in authority who could act to investigate them. Mr Todd advised me that I had very little to go on - maybe I should contact my

1 supervisor. 2 3 I telephoned Elizabeth Stroud who was at 4 Head Office in Perth. She advised me to 5 raise my concerns with Mrs Evans. 6 7 I sought Mrs Evans assistance to have the allegations of sexual abuse by a former 8 9 resident of St Andrew's investigated, she 10 did not for a moment focus on the 11 allegations but lost her composure berating 12 me for daring to besmirch the glowing reputation of Dennis McKenna who was 13 14 Citizen of the Year. 15 I tried in vain to convince Mrs Evans that 16 it wasn't a case of believing me against 17 18 Dennis McKenna. I appealed to her to have 19 the allegations investigated. I became a pariah for raising these concerns and was 20 on the receiving end of a tirade of verbal 21 22 abuse. 23 24 My vivid recollection of this meeting was that I was surprised at Mrs Evans' loss of 25 26 control and her down right refusal to agree 27 to raise these allegations with anyone else 28 let alone to have them investigated. 29 30 With Ms Elizabeth Stroud's support, I assumed we, that is Mrs Evans, Ms Stroud 31 and I would have Dennis McKenna's 32 33 activities at St Andrew's Hostel investigated. Naively, as it turned out, 34 35 I thought that Mrs Evans would alert others, for example, the board of the 36 hostel to these allegations. 37 38 39 I made it clear to Mrs Evans that it was 40 not up to her to judge whether these allegations had substance or not, it was 41 42 important that others, such as the Country 43 Hostels Association, or the Education Department investigate or some other body 44 outside of Katanning. Mrs Evans asked me 45 46 to name the boy who had come to me. 47 I divulged his name she dismissed him as

being nothing but trouble. I volunteered 1 2 to Mrs Evans that it was quite possible that his "troublesome" behaviour was [a] 3 4 direct result of sexual abuse by Dennis 5 McKenna. She was not interested in my 6 views or in having these concerns 7 investigated. [She] told me that she would contact my superiors and have me removed 8 9 immediately. During the course of the 10 meeting Mrs Evans turned from a warm motherly person into an aggressive 11 12 vindictive woman out to have me sacked. 13 14 Directly after my meeting with Mrs Evans 15 I drove to the hostel and confronted Dennis McKenna. I was beyond mad. I was furious. 16 I told him I knew what he was doing and 17 18 I made it clear that I would do what 19 I could to have his disgusting activities stopped. Dennis never denied what I 20 21 accused him of [he] laughed in my face. He 22 threatened me by saying that he would have me sacked. He told me he had friends in 23 high places. He would crush me. 24 25 been a tutor in Fremantle and Canningvale Prisons, and [I] told him I had friends in 26 27 low places and that he would meet them 28 soon. 30

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I am unclear who phoned whom. I contacted Ms Elizabeth Stroud at Head Office or she contacted me at Kartanup. I am unclear whether it was later that day or the next day but I remember her directing me to pack up and move to the Westrek project at Bunbury. I was given 48 hours to do so. Ms Stroud informed me that Dennis McKenna had threatened to withdraw the accommodation of Kartanup from Westrek. This would have put an end to the project I had worked so hard to set up.

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HIS HONOUR: We have lost the call, have we? Α.

> He asked for my removal in exchange for the project's continuation.

MR URQUHART: Hold on - Mrs Dawkins --1 2 Α. 3 4 Ms Stroud appeared as upset as I was with 5 the unexpected outcome of the meeting I had 6 with Mrs Evans. It was unclear I did not 7 have the support of Mrs Evans. I felt that I had..." 8 9 10 HIS HONOUR: Just pause there, Mrs Dawkins, you have Q. misread that sentence. If you start again with the 11 12 sentence, "It was clear". 13 14 MR URQUHART: In fact, sir, I was going to suggest that if 15 we could just start, when we had that problem with the 16 screen. 17 18 HIS HONOUR: We didn't miss anything from the statement. 19 It was just something went wrong with the picture. 20 sure that the full paragraph was read. 21 22 MR URQUHART: Maybe if we can go back, sir. 23 24 HIS HONOUR: Mrs Dawkins, we had a problem at this end 25 with something going wrong with the video link, but we're 26 going to ask you to go back and read again. Where from, 27 Mr Urquhart? 28 29 I think if we just start again from the MR URQUHART: 30 sixth line from the bottom of that paragraph starting with, 31 "This would have put an end". 32 33 HIS HONOUR: If you read from that point. 34 Α. Yes, Mr Blaxell: 35 This would have put an end to the project 36 37 I had worked so hard to set up. He asked 38 for my removal in exchange for the 39 project's continuation. Ms Stroud appeared 40 as upset as I was with the unexpected outcome of the meeting I had had with 41 42 Mrs Evans. It was clear I did not have the 43 support of Mrs Evans. I felt I had no 44 option but to acquiesce and depart 45 Katanning. 46 47 By raising the need to investigate the .23/2/12 (3) M A DAWKINS x (Mr Urquhart) Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

sexual activity of Dennis McKenna with 1 2 Mrs Evans and her over the top reaction, 3 which was unexpected, it appeared that the 4 department had formed a view that it was 5 impossible for me to continue at Katanning. 6 This was always the reason I was given for 7 my move to Bunbury. I followed the advice of my superior Ms Stroud to raise the 8 9 allegations of sexual abuse of Dennis 10 McKenna with Mrs Evans. Advice that even 11 today I think was appropriate. 12 MR URQUHART: Q. Mrs Dawkins, a small point, but you read 13 14 out "I followed the advice of my superior Ms Stroud", but it actually reads "supervisor" there. 15 I'm sorry. I'll read it again. 16 17 No, that won't be necessary. Just go to the 18 HIS HONOUR: 19 next paragraph, thank you. 20 Α. 21 22 Once at Bunbury I am unclear with the 23 passage of time how many meetings I had with [supervisors] and where the meetings 24 25 were held. At some stage soon after 26 meeting Mrs Evans I was required to meet 27 with Elizabeth Stroud and Peter Sherlock. Mr Sherlock worked at the Department of 28 29 Employment and Training and though I cannot recall his precise position, I believe he 30 was senior to Ms Stroud. I do not recall 31 32 the location of these meetings. However, 33 I do have a lasting impression that 34 Elizabeth Stroud and Peter Sherlock took 35 the approach that I was a politically savvy person, who understood the sensitivity of 36 the programme. When I expressed a lack of 37 understanding [for] their lack of support 38 39 for me, I was told that I had put the 40 Katanning project in jeopardy by upsetting Mrs Evans and Dennis McKenna. 41 When 42 I pressed them about how to get my concerns 43 addressed, they made it clear to me that

I was sticking my neck out about mere

unreliable troubled youth, who refused to

make a police statement. I did not have

suspicions of allegations made by an

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1 much to go on. It was Elizabeth Stroud who 2 advised me to put in writing what the young 3 man had told me of his allegations of 4 sexual abuse and my concerns to have Dennis 5 McKenna investigated. I did as advised and 6 I handed Elizabeth Stroud and Peter 7 Sherlock a copy of that account. I recall Peter Sherlock giving me an undertaking 8 9 that even though it was very little to go on, he would try to alert the relevant 10 authorities. 11 12 13 I continued to work managing the Bunbury 14 project. Around this time Elizabeth Stroud 15 seemed to have been removed from the Coordinator's position. I recall having 16 17 more to do with Peter Sherlock at Head 18 I remember being [summonsed] to Office. 19 Perth for a day of meetings. 20 21 Prior to driving to Perth I received a 22 phone call from another Group Leader 23 Patricia Thomson who was working in Head 24 Office and she advised me that my superiors were going to demand my resignation. 25 26 27 With the passage of time I do not recall 28 the sequence of events that day in Head 29 Office. I do remember meeting with Peter Sherlock, Peter Kenyon and Ian Carter. 30 I recall [that] Mr Kenyon and Mr Carter 31 32 held positions senior to Mr Sherlock. I recall Peter Kenyon or Ian Carter 33 34 informing me that I had caused serious damage to the working relationship with 35 Mrs Evans and Dennis McKenna at Katanning. 36 37 I remember being told that Vic, the Group 38 Leader who replaced me was experiencing 39 difficulties with Mrs Evans and Dennis 40 McKenna was continuing to insist that I be 41 I recall being presented with a 42 prepared letter of resignation to sign. 43 was only a few lines on a page. I refused 44 . . . 45 MR UROUHART: Just read that out again, that last 46 Q. 47 sentence, "It was only"?

1 Α. 2 3 It was only a couple of lines on a page. I refused to cooperate, as I had sought and 4 5 had followed the advice of my supervisor. 6 I do not recall where Elizabeth Stroud was 7 during these meetings. I am unclear whether she attended them. I asked what 8 9 they had done to have the allegations of sexual abuse investigated, which to me 10 remained at the centre of the issue. 11 12 13 I do not recall who said the actual words, 14 but the view I came away with that day and remains with me to this day is that the 15 sexual abuse of a former secondary school 16 17 student at a government hostel was not 18 a "Westrek" concern. This has always been 19 the major difference between me and my superiors at the Department of Employment 20 21 and Training. 22 23 During the course of that day I spoke informally to the Head of Department Mike 24 25 Cross and asked him to intervene to have 26 the allegations investigated and [to] have 27 Peter Kenyon and Ian Carter leave me alone 28 as I had followed the advice of Ms Stroud 29 and I would therefore not resign. 30 31 Later I think it was the same day I was 32 given an assurance by Peter Kenyon and Ian 33 Carter that they would have my concerns raised with the appropriate authorities. 34 35 I was advised by them to return to my project and keep my head down. They 36 complimented me on my running of the 37 38 Bunbury project. I was told not to discuss 39 with anyone the contents of these meetings. 40 To this day I do not know whether my 41 42 concerns were followed up by anyone from 43 the Department of Employment and Training. 44 45 After the 1991 court case when Dennis 46 McKenna was first convicted I phoned 47 Mrs Evans and asked her how she felt about

what had transpired between us in 1985. 1 2 She explained to me that she felt an 3 obligation to the town, as the economic 4 benefits of having the hostel were 5 considerable. Mrs Evans said I threatened 6 the continuation of this economic 7 prosperity and she was not concerned that I had suffered as a result. When I pressed 8 9 Mrs Evans to express any remorse towards the victims, she refused. 10 12

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Also after the 1991 conviction of Dennis McKenna I was interviewed by a television current affairs programme and wrote a letter to the Great Southern Herald newspaper expressing my relief that he had been revealed for what he was. My family moved to South Australia in 1994. preparation for the move I disposed of all notes and files relating to Dennis McKenna, as I wrongly thought that his conviction was the end of the matter.

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In September 2011 I was contacted by the office of the Member for Albany Peter Watson and asked to assist victims of Dennis McKenna who were seeking compensation from the State Government.

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During that September I phoned Elizabeth Stroud on her mobile and reached her in Africa. She was warm and friendly readily assisting me when I told her the purpose of my call. I requested Elizabeth's assistance to refresh my memory, as I couldn't recall the Katanning Councillor's name. Elizabeth recalled Ainslie Evans's name immediately. chatted comfortably with Elizabeth and I agreeing on the key points regarding the circumstances of my departure from Katanning.

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Mrs Dawkins, if I could just stop you there. For this Q. next paragraph, I just want you to not read out the last sentence commencing with "It is" on the second-last line. Α. Yep.

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the course of that conversation, identify who "they" were? 1 If you can just answer "Yes" or "No" to that? 2 3 A. Yes. 4 5 Did she identify them, or did she not identify who "they" were? 6 7 She identified them along with other names. Do you want me to give you all the names? 8 9 10 Q. Yes. 11 Α. Are you sure? 12 13 HIS HONOUR: Q. Before you go on, what I would like you 14 to do, as best you can, is to say what the words were that you were used, like "she said", "I said", et cetera. 15 you understand? Do you understand that? I'm asking you to 16 17 give evidence of that part of the conversation you had with 18 Elizabeth Stroud when she identified who "they" were. 19 asking you, as best you can, to say the exact words used, 20 if you can. 21 We had a conversation where a number of names -22 additional names, Mr Blaxell, were included in this. 23 were not only departmental people, but they were a former politician, they were Ainslie Evans, they were a prominent 24 25 West Australia businesswoman. There was a number of other 26 names included with Mr Peter Kenyon and Mr Ian Carter's 27 names. It was my understanding --28 HIS HONOUR: 29 In what context did she say those Q. 30 names - what was she saying about those people? 31 It's my understanding, Mr Blaxell, that Ms Stroud was 32 trying to --33 34 HIS HONOUR: 0. Just one moment. I don't want you to 35 say what your understanding was, do you understand? trying to get you to give evidence of the conversation that 36 37 you had with Ms Stroud and you say that she mentioned some 38 What did she say about those people? 39 That they were together in conversation, sort of 40 concocting a different or an alternative - they were making 41 up another story. It was very clear to me that it was 42 a warning that these were people that were very well-versed 43 in being able to talk to each other and make up another 44 story. It was quite plain to me, really. 45 46 HIS HONOUR: In the statement you read out, you used Q. the word "they". You said: 47

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2	[Ms Stroud] appeared tense and warned me
3	that "they" were out to bring my reputation
4	into disrepute.
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6	Did these names have anything to do with that?
7	A. Yes.
8	
9	HIS HONOUR: Q. You also said in that context she gave
10	these names, is that what you are saying?
11	A. Yes, that's correct.
12	A. Tes, that s correct.
13	HIS HONOUR: Q. In your statement you also said:
14	TITS HONOOK. Q. IN your statement you also said.
	Che told me that "they" new had contrived
15	She told me that "they" now had contrived
16	alternative reasons for having me removed
17	from Katanning.
18	
19	Was it in that context that she mentioned those names?
20	A. Yes, that's correct.
21	
22	HIS HONOUR: Q. That being so, I think you should now
23	state those names.
24	
25	MR URQUHART: Perhaps those names that are relevant to
26	the terms of reference of this Inquiry, sir.
27	
28	HIS HONOUR: I think she should state all names. This may
29	have consequences in terms of adverse notices to other
30	people, but the effect of the evidence is that she was told
31	by Elizabeth Stroud that a group of people was out to bring
32	her reputation into disrepute and that they had now
33	contrived alternate reasons for having her removed from
34	Katanning. That goes, in my view, directly to the terms of
35	reference and I believe that, in all the circumstances, she
36	should state those names. As I say, it may well result in
37	changes to the way in which this hearing proceeds, but
38	I think it should happen.
39	
40	MR URQUHART: Sir, the names to be stated in open court or
41	by another means?
42	by another means:
43	HIS HONOUR: No, they should be stated now.
44	nis noncon. No, they should be stated now.
45	O Do you undonstand Mns Dawkins? Ro canoful about
45 46	Q. Do you understand, Mrs Dawkins? Be careful about this. I'm asking you to state the names that you clearly
46 47	
4/	remember that Ms Elizabeth Stroud said to you were doing
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         these things.
 2
              Ms Stroud named Peter Kenyon and Ian Carter, and Peter
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         Dowding.
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 5
         HIS HONOUR:
                       Q.
                            Were there any other names mentioned?
 6
 7
         MR ELLIOTT:
                       Who is the witness talking to, sir?
 8
 9
         THE WITNESS:
                        No.
10
         MR ELLIOTT: You turned to someone and I heard a voice
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12
         HIS HONOUR:
13
                       O. Is there someone talking to you there,
14
         Mrs Dawkins?
              I'm sorry, what - I beg your pardon, Mr Blaxell?
15
16
17
         HIS HONOUR:
                            Were you talking to anyone just then?
                       Q.
18
              My husband is in the room. He just wanted to know if
19
         I wanted to have my Panadol, but I'm fine, thank you.
20
21
         HIS HONOUR:
                            Thank you. You've given three names.
                       Q.
22
         Were there any others that were mentioned by Elizabeth
23
         Stroud?
24
         Α.
              No.
25
26
         MR URQUHART:
                        Q.
                             Mrs Dawkins, would you go on to the
         next paragraph now, please, which commences "After my
27
         contract"?
28
29
         Α.
30
              After my contract expired and I returned to
31
              my position as Electorate Research Officer
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33
              for the Member for Swan, I received
              a complimentary unsolicited reference from
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35
              Peter Sherlock of Westrek. The reference
              mentioned my leadership abilities in a
36
37
              positive light and my personal integrity
              when dealing with participants and the
38
39
              local community.
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41
              Since making it known that I would support
42
              the victims of Dennis McKenna in their
43
              quest for adequate compensation it has been
              brought to my attention by Ms Elizabeth
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              Stroud as referred to above, that I now
46
              have a questionable work history with the
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              WA Government.
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Why in 2012 has there been a revision of my employment record? Especially when I was provided with an unsolicited favourable reference when I was offered an employment contract only 2 years later with the same department in 1987. Then again in 1991-92 I was employed in another government position as a teacher at Rockingham TAFE.

It did not make sense to me, when I read in the West Australian newspaper in November 2011 that Mr Peter Kenyon claimed I was unsuitable for the Katanning position and that is why I was removed from my project. In fact, the Bunbury project had exactly the same responsibilities and pressures as the Katanning position. Then after my contract expired, I was sent a letter thanking me for my participation in the pilot programme of Westrek by Peter Sherlock, which I later used as a reference.

- MR URQUHART: Q. Is that the conclusion of your statement?
- Yes, it is, Mr Urquhart. Α.
- Thank you, Mrs Dawkins. Would you like a break now, because that took a little while, or are you happy to continue?
- No, I'm fine. I'm happy to continue.
- Do you need to take a Panadol? Α. Ta.
- Mrs Dawkins, I was going to ask you, I have some areas to clarify. This one is at page 3.
- Mr Urquhart, I've just dropped it all on the floor. Can you wait a tick?
  - I thought you might have done that. Get somebody else to do that. Has your personal assistant done that, has he? He's got a crook knee, sir.
- Do you now have the statement there in front of you? Q.
  - I have now, Mr Urquhart. Α.

A. I'll suggest it.

- Q. I'll ask you about the first paragraph on page 3 the first full paragraph, where you recount about the young man who spoke to you and told you he was a former resident of the St Andrew's Hostel. You said here in your statement that he told you of "his experiences first-hand". Did he actually say to you what had happened to him?
- A. Yes, he did. Do you want me to graphically describe what I was told?

- Q. If you can recall what he said, yes.
- A. He told me that he'd been given alcohol I think it was Scotch, but it was alcohol it was spirits, and he was fondled in his private, you know, business, and that he was made to perform oral sex with Mr McKenna and he was raped and it happened repeatedly; it wasn't just once.

- Q. Mrs Dawkins, are you able to remember about how old he was when he spoke to you in 1985?
- A. I think he was about 18 or 19. He may have been as young as 17, but I have a feeling I didn't ask him his age. I think, because he was drinking in a pub, I just assumed he was about 18 or 19.

- Q. You then said that you spoke to the police officer, Mr Bill Todd?
- A. Yes.

- Q. When you spoke to him, what details did you give of what this young man had said to you?
- A. In the beginning of the conversation, I didn't name the young man; I just said that, you know, this guy had come and spoken with me and this is what he told me and I gave as graphic a description about the sexual activity, and Mr Todd asked me if I would name him and I originally preferred not to, but then I did tell him who he was, and --

- Q. That's fine. Is it the case now that you can't remember that young man's name?
  - A. That is the truth. I wish I could.

Q. It's all right. When police officer Todd said to you - and I'm looking halfway down page 3 of your

1 statement - that he needed a statement with names, dates 2 and times, can you recall who he said would need to make 3 that statement? 4 The young man - the young boy. 5 6 HIS HONOUR: Q. Did you see Mr Todd make any note of any 7 sort while you were talking to him? No, not at all. 8 9 10 MR URQUHART: Q. Can you recall where you saw Mr Todd? Well, it was at the police station. It was just sort 11 12 of in the front of the - you know, inside the police 13 station. We were just chatting. 14 15 Then, Mrs Dawkins, you go down to the bottom of that page when you refer to seeking Mrs Evans' assistance. 16 17 Α. Yes. 18 19 Do you see that? Q. 20 Yes. Α. 21 22 Can you recall where it was that you spoke to 23 Mrs Evans about what this young man had told you? 24 I have a vague recollection it was at her house, in 25 her front yard, but I'm not really sure about that. I feel 26 it was sort of in front of her house. 27 Again, Mrs Dawkins, are you able to recall how it was 28 29 that you described to her what the young man had told you? 30 I referred to it as sexual abuse - I referred to it 31 that Dennis had been sexually interfering. I used the word "rape". I can't really remember if I - I don't know if I 32 33 remember - I can't recall saying "oral sex", but I remember using the word "rape", "sexual abuse", "sexual 34 interference", those sorts of terms. 35 36 37 With respect to you following the advice of Ms Stroud to speak to Mrs Evans, was it the case that Ms Stroud also 38 39 suggested that you speak to Dennis McKenna, or was that 40 something that you did on your own volition? That was something I did on my own volition. 41 42 43 You also, Mrs Dawkins, referred to the fact that you spoke informally to the head of the Department of 44 45 Employment and Training at one stage, and you named him as 46 Mr Mike Cross, and that's at page 6. 47 Α. Yes. M A DAWKINS x (Mr Urguhart) .23/2/12 (3)

1 your client?

MS TOVEY: There may be one or two questions, your Honour. As a matter of procedure, though, it would be my submission that my learned friends, Mr Prior and Mr Elliott, cross-examine the witness first and that I go third.

HIS HONOUR: I can invite you to effectively re-examine afterwards, but if you are going to lead any evidence from her, I think you should do that now.

MS TOVEY: If your Honour pleases.

## <EXAMINATION-IN-CHIEF BY MS TOVEY:

MS TOVEY: Q. Mrs Dawkins, can you see me and hear me? A. Yes, I can.

A couple of questions from me, Mrs Dawkins. You told us or read in your statement that you were directed to pack up and leave Katanning and you were given that 48 hours to do so. What reasons were you given for having to do so? Well, it was very clear. I had only one reason given, that I had damaged the relationship with the local community by upsetting Mrs Evans and Dennis McKenna, and you know how I did this, I've made it plain in my By asking for Mrs Evans' support at the statement. suggestion of my supervisor, I wanted Mrs Evans to investigate, or help get an investigation into what we now know to be the criminal abuse of boys by Dennis McKenna. This was the only reason I was ever given for why I was to be removed, because Westrek was a community-based programme, and I had damaged the relationship of Westrek by following, I might add - I followed the direction and advice of my supervisor.

Q. From what you are saying, was any reason given to you that related to your work performance?

A. No, not at all - not at all. That was never - there was no other reasons ever given or ever raised with me at that time, or within my employment in relation to my performance at work. This was all about that I had upset Mrs Evans and Dennis McKenna, and I had broken the relationship of Westrek with the community.

Q. I take it, given what you said, that nothing was indicated about your personal behaviour as any reason for

2	A. No, not at all. Not at all.
	O You've told us in your statement that you were
4	Q. You've told us in your statement that you were
5	transferred to the project in Bunbury?
6	A. Yes, I was.
7	
8	Q. And that had the same duties and responsibilities as
9	the project in Katanning?
10	A. Exactly the same. It was exactly the same
11	responsibilities, the duties, and the salary and
12	conditions. They were all the same.
13	conditions. They were dire same.
14	Q. In your evidence - and someone will ask you this
15	question - you mentioned that one of the persons Ms Stroud
16	mentioned was a prominent businesswoman. Was a name given?
17	A. Look, I can't remember - I just don't want to go
18	there, all right? I'm not sure
19	
20	Q. That's all right.
21	
22	HIS HONOUR: Q. What aren't you sure about?
23	,
24	MS TOVEY: Q. What aren't you sure about, Mrs Dawkins?
25	A. I'm not sure - Mr Blaxell asked me to remember
26	
	a conversation and whether Ms Stroud or I mentioned names,
27	and I mentioned the names that Ms Stroud mentioned in that
28	conversation, and I was clear about that. I'm not clear
29	about the other name - of who mentioned that name at the
30	time, so therefore I'd rather not raise it, because I'm not
31	100 per cent sure.
32	
33	MS TOVEY: If your Honour pleases, those are the only
34	questions I have.
35	
36	HIS HONOUR: Thank you. Mr Prior?
37	,
38	MR PRIOR: I'm going to be about 30 minutes, your Honour,
39	if that helps everyone.
40	The that helps everyone.
	UTC HONOUR. I think wo'll do that and then take a year
41 42	HIS HONOUR: I think we'll do that, and then take a very
42	brief lunch break.
43	
44	I should explain to you, Mrs Dawkins, it's nearly
45	1 o'clock here, but we want to minimise the time that you
46	are sitting there giving evidence. We are going to go with
47	Mr Prior, who is the first of counsel who wishes to
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being transferred or being told to pack up within 48 hours? A. No, not at all. Not at all.

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1
         cross-examine you, and when he completes, we'll take a very
 2
         short lunch break.
 3
 4
              Do you want to say something, Mrs Dawkins?
 5
 6
         THE WITNESS:
                        No, Mr Blaxell, not at all.
 7
         <CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR PRIOR:</pre>
 8
 9
                         Mrs Dawkins, at any stage if you can't see
10
         MR PRIOR: Q.
         me or hear me, could you please tell us?
11
12
         Α.
              Yes.
13
14
         Q.
              Can you hear me all right?
15
         Α.
              Yes, I can.
16
17
              Do you still have your statement there? Can you
18
         access it?
19
              Yes.
         Α.
20
21
              I act for Peter Kenyon, one of the people you have
22
         mentioned.
23
         Α.
              Yes.
24
25
              Can you go to page 6 of your statement? I want to
26
         pick up your evidence and your evidence in relation to the
         paragraph starting, "I called Elizabeth". What you gave
27
         evidence of there is about a phone call between you and
28
29
         Elizabeth Stroud; is that correct - page 7, sorry; the
30
         third paragraph.
31
              Yes, okay.
         Α.
32
33
              You gave evidence, and you read that statement.
34
         is about a telephone discussion you had with Elizabeth
35
         Stroud; is that right?
              That's correct.
36
         Α.
37
38
              Two people talking, you and she.
         0.
39
         Α.
              Yep.
40
41
              In that telephone discussion, she mentioned the word -
         in your statement you referred to "they" - T-H-E-Y - and
42
         it's in inverted commas twice in your statement, and
43
         Mr Urquhart took you to that; is that correct?
44
45
         Α.
              Yes.
46
47
              When you were asked to identify who "they" were, your
         Q.
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                                             M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Prior)
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words, you are mentioned a former politician, a prominent 1 2 businesswoman, Peter Kenyon and Ian Carter. Do I have that 3 correct? 4 Yes, that's correct. 5 6 0. And, also, Ainslie Evans; is that correct? 7 Yes, but that was in the conversation. I didn't say who mentioned what names precisely. 8 9 10 So five names, or five entities were mentioned - Peter Kenyon, Ian Carter, Ainslie Evans, and a former politician 11 12 and a prominent businesswoman. Is that what was mentioned 13 to you, or were actual names given? Yes, there were names given, and I can explain --14 15 16 Well, who was the - sorry. Who was the former 17 politician? What name was given? 18 I mentioned his name, it was Peter Dowding, and he was 19 minister for that department. 20 21 So the other person, the prominent businesswoman, was 22 her name mentioned? 23 Yes, there was a name mentioned. 24 25 Who was it? Q. 26 She was Janet Holmes a Court. Α. 27 28 Q. Thank you. 29 She was the chair of the Westrek programme. Α. 30 31 So your evidence under oath is the "they" that you 32 referred to in your statement and in the evidence you've 33 given comprised five people - Peter Kenyon, Ian Carter, Peter Dowding, Ainslie Evans, and Janet Holmes a Court; is 34 35 that correct? I don't understand what your question is. Are you 36 37 saying that these were names that were mentioned in 38 a conversation, is that the question? 39 40 Yes, in the conversation that you've given evidence 41 about today. 42 Yes, there was a conversation, and those names were 43 mentioned. 44 45 Any others besides those five I've just named? Q. 46 Α. 47

So that I can completely understand what you are 1 saying, those five names came out of the mouth of Elizabeth 2 3 Stroud as she was talking to you on the phone. 4 I didn't say that --5 6 Q. Well, who --7 -- Mr Prior. Α. 8 9 Who said that? Q. I said there was - well, I said there was a 10 Α. conversation. We were discussing the fact that I was going 11 12 to make a statement and assist Mr Hammond, who was seeking compensation for the victims of Dennis McKenna. 13 14 mentioned to me the names of your client, of Mr Ian Carter. 15 I'm not sure whether Elizabeth mentioned Mrs Holmes a Court, and that's why I hesitate, because I'm not sure 16 whether she mentioned her first or I - it may have been - I 17 18 don't know which one of us did, but that was discussed 19 because Mrs Holmes a Court was the chair, the patron, of 20 Westrek, and Peter Dowding was mentioned by Elizabeth. 21 22 So that we understand, what were the names that you're Q. 23 sure Elizabeth mentioned? 24 25 HIS HONOUR: Perhaps in what context. 26 Elizabeth Stroud, yes, and in what context. 27 MR PRIOR: Q. Look, you're asking me two questions there, Mr Prior. 28 29 You're asking me in what context. Do you want the names or 30 the context? 31 32 I think if we pause here, we could be getting HIS HONOUR: 33 at cross-purposes. You are asking the witness to specify the names mentioned by Elizabeth Stroud in the context of 34 35 the "they" --36 37 MR PRIOR: Yes. 38 39 HIS HONOUR: -- who allegedly were "out to bring my reputation into disrepute", and that "'they' now had 40 contrived alternative reasons for having me removed from 41 42 Katanning", is that what you are asking, Mr Prior? . 43 44 MR PRIOR: Yes. 45 46 HIS HONOUR: Q. Do you understand that, Mrs Dawkins? 47 You might have mentioned other names in the course of .23/2/12 (3) M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Prior)

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- the conversation between you, but you are being asked to be more specific --
  - A. Well, I don't understand to be absolutely specific, when it was my understanding that the "they" that Elizabeth referred to were Peter Kenyon and Ian Carter, and that was it Peter Kenyon and Ian Carter were the ones, and in the course of the conversation we named we talked about other people such as Peter Dowding and Mrs Holmes a Court, but --

- MR PRIOR: Q. The transcript will reveal this I don't have a running transcript but when Mr Urquhart was asking you who was the "they", my note is you identified the "they" as being a former politician, a prominent WA businesswoman, Peter Kenyon, Ian Carter and Ainslie Evans. That's what you said before, when Mr Urquhart was asking the questions. Were "they" --
- A. Well, hang on a minute, Mr Prior. Mr Blaxell has tried to clarify the situation for me and he made it very clear to me exactly what the question was. The question was what was my understanding for the "they" that Elizabeth referred, you know, to in that conversation, and they were your client and Mr Ian Carter. There was a subsequent question asking me what other names were mentioned in that conversation, and I have tried to give that answer to the best of my ability.

 Q. So does your answer that you have just given this Inquiry mean that the "they" that she mentioned - the only people she mentioned in the "they" were Mr Kenyon and Mr Carter - and if you don't know -- A. Yes.

- O. -- tell us.
- A. No, I'm saying it was my understanding that the "they" Elizabeth mentioned to me was your client, Mr Kenyon, and Mr Ian Carter.

- Q. Why was it your understanding? What was said by her?
  - A. I don't know what you mean.

- 42 Q. Did she name them, or did you name them?
  - A. She named them.

Q. Did she name Janet Holmes a Court, did she name Peter Dowding and did she name Ainslie Evans?

1 2	MR URQUHART: That's three questions there, sir. If you can break them down.
3	
4 5	MR PRIOR: We'll go through them one at a time.
6	Q. Did she name Janet Holmes a Court?
7	A. I've said to you I don't remember which one of us
8	mentioned Mrs Holmes a Court by name.
9	mentioned Mrs notines a court by hame.
10	Q. So one of the two of you - because there were only two
11	people in the conversation - you or Mrs Stroud mentioned,
12	during that conversation, Janet Holmes a Court; correct -
13	that's your memory?
14	A. That's correct.
15	
16	Q. Which of you said her name you don't know now;
17	correct?
18	A. Not now. I've said that all along I can't remember.
19	
20	Q. What about Peter Dowding?
21	A. Are you asking me who named Peter Dowding first?
22	
23	Q. Yes.
24	A. It's my recollection that Elizabeth raised his name
25	first.
26	
27	Q. So, like Mr Kenyon and Mr Carter; is that correct?
28	A. I don't - I can't hear what you're saying. Did you
29	say "like"?
30	
31	Q. Yes. You said a minute ago that Kenyon and Carter's
32	name were raised by Mrs Stroud. Did she also raise
33	Mr Dowding's name?
34	A. In the course of the conversation, his name was
35	raised, but it wasn't my understanding that he was
36	the "they" that were changing the reasons for my departure
37	from Katanning. Yes, he may have had something to do with
38	it. I don't know.
39	
40	Q. When you keep talking about "understandings", I'm
41	talking about what people actually said over the telephone,
42	either you or Mrs Stroud. So, Mr Urquhart initially asked
43	you earlier who constituted the "they", and you named four
44	or five entities, some by name and some by description. So
45	just tell me who you can say accurately were mentioned by
46	Mrs Stroud.
47	A. Mr Prior
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All these meetings occurred after you had left

In relation to your client, yes.

45

46 47

Q.

transferred to Bunbury because they weren't happy with your personal performance working at the hostel in Katanning? Mr Prior, that was never raised with me.

43 44 45

42

Never said that you weren't --Q.

They may have --Α.

1 I'll let you finish, yes? Go ahead. Because I'll 2 suggest to you --3 4 MR URQUHART: Let her finish. You invited her to do it. 5 6 MR PRIOR: The delay is not helping. 7 8 HIS HONOUR: Perhaps ask the question again. 9 10 MR PRIOR: Q. I'll suggest to you that at these meetings, at least one of them, it was put to you that you were being 11 12 transferred to Bunbury from Katanning because of your work 13 behaviour. 14 Α. That is incorrect, Mr Prior. That never happened. 15 There was only one reason I was ever given for being transferred from Katanning to Bunbury, and that was that 16 17 the community contact between Westrek and Katanning had 18 broken down because I - with the advice that I was given, 19 with the support I was given from Ms Elizabeth Stroud, my 20 supervisor, she asked - I asked her what I should do about these allegations. She told me to go and see Mrs Evans. 21 22 I did so. I didn't expect the reaction that I got and, from then on, I was the one in the firing line because 23 24 Mrs Evans and Dennis McKenna were upset and - they were 25 threatening to remove, you know, the Westrek programme from 26 Katanning. Mr McKenna was going to withdraw the 27 accommodation, which was Kartanup, and, with that, the 28 project would have folded. There was no - there was never 29 any suggestion that I had any other reason to be going from 30 Katanning. 31 To summarise what you're saying, really you are 32 33 telling the Inquiry that the only reason you were moved to Bunbury was your complaint that you had relayed that had 34 been made by this young man concerning the behaviour of 35 Mr McKenna? 36 37 38 MS TOVEY: One moment, that was not her evidence. 39 40 MR PRIOR: Q. And that had affected the relationship with other people at Katanning involved at the hostel, such as 41 42 Mrs Evans and Mr McKenna. 43 That's correct, but I've said that. How many times do 44 I have to --45 46 Okay. So your sworn evidence is that at no stage Q. 47 whatsoever did anyone in the department say you were being

1	moved because of your behaviour. That's your evidence,
2	isn't it?
3	A. It is.
4	
5	Q. On another topic, you made a complaint around 1985 to
6	the policeman at Katanning, whose named you mentioned is
7	Bill Todd; correct?
8	A. I did not make a complaint.
9	
10	Q. All right. You told him about the man's complaints to
11	you, and then he told you what to do about it. That was
12	the evidence you gave.
13	A. No, it wasn't the evidence I gave, with due respects
14	to you. If you go and have a look at my statement, and
15	I can read it to you again if you like.
16	_ can read _c co you aga_n _r younc
17	Q. Go to page 3, I think.
18	A. It says:
19	A. 10 Suys.
20	I felt comfortable going to Mr Todd
21	T Tele comforcable going to in Toda
22	I sought his advice on the matter.
23	1 300gire his advice on the matter.
24	Q. I won't use the word "complaint".
25	A. It wasn't a complaint - it wasn't anything other than
26	I was asking somebody I had a good working relationship
27	with what I should do.
28	with what i should do:
29	Q. So did you seek advice from any other police officers
30	in Western Australia around 1985?
31	A. Not that I recall, no.
32	A. NOT CHAC I recall, no.
33	Q. If I understand correctly, around 1985, when you
34	obtained this employment working down at Katanning in the
35	Westrek position, you had a Bachelor of Arts; is that
36	, · · · · ·
37	right? A. Yes, that's correct.
	A. Yes, that's correct.
38	O And you gualified with a Dinlama of Education at
39	Q. And you qualified with a Diploma of Education at
40	a later stage after 1985; is that correct?
41	A. Yes, that's correct.
42	O Co have did in some share their core shire in a life of
43	Q. So how did it come about that you obtained that
44	position in 1985 working on the Westrek project first in
45	Katanning and then Bunbury?
46	A. I applied for the position.
47	
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3
 4
              Am I correct that at the time you were working as
 5
         an electoral officer for Mr Kim Beazley, the member for
 6
         Swan, the Federal member?
              Yes, that's correct.
 7
 8
 9
              How long had you been working for him for,
         approximately?
10
              About a year or 18 months before that.
11
12
13
              And you had a reasonable relationship with Mr Beazley?
         Q.
14
              Yes, I did.
         Α.
15
              He was a Federal Minister at that point of time -
16
         Minister of Defence; is that correct?
17
18
              Was it defence or was it aviation and Special Minister
19
         of State? I'm not really clear on his portfolio.
20
21
              He was a Minister.
         Q.
22
         Α.
              He was.
23
24
              Your now-husband, John Dawkins, he was also a Federal
25
         Minister; is that correct?
              He wasn't my husband then, Mr Prior.
26
27
28
              That's not the question I asked. Mr Dawkins, were you
29
         in a relationship with him in 1985?
30
         Α.
              No, I wasn't.
31
32
              Did you know him?
         Q.
              I did.
33
         Α.
34
35
              Did he go down to Katanning to see the hostel project
         or to visit you, for example?
36
37
              He came down to see me. We were friends, Mr Prior.
38
39
              I'm not suggesting anything sinister in that, but is
40
         your answer --
41
         Α.
              No.
42
43
              -- that you've just given that he went down to
         Katanning to see you, not the project?
44
              I beg your pardon? I don't - what distinction are you
45
46
         making?
47
                                            M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Prior)
    .23/2/12 (3)
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What was your Bachelor of Arts majoring in?

1

2

Q.

Α.

Social science.

Did Mr Dawkins go down to Katanning to see you --1 Q. 2 Α. Yes, he did. 3 4 -- to visit you. At the time, he was a Federal 5 Minister as well, wasn't he? 6 Α. As well as --7 8 Mr Beazley. Q. 9 Α. Yes. 10 And one of Mr Dawkins' jobs was he was the minister 11 12 advising the Prime Minister on youth affairs, wasn't he? 13 Yes, that may have been correct. 14 15 The extent of your relationship is you knew Mr Dawkins well enough as a friend for him to visit you in Katanning; 16 17 is that right? 18 I didn't - I didn't know that the Westrek project 19 prohibited me from having friends, whether they were male 20 or female. 21 22 You might have answered my question indirectly, but I'll go to my next question. Did you tell Mr Dawkins or 23 24 Mr Beazley in 1985 about what this young man had told you 25 was going on with Mr McKenna down at the hostel? 26 I didn't tell Mr Beazley, I'm pretty sure of that, in 27 that year. In 1985 I don't think I said anything to Mr Dawkins either, because I was somebody that tried very 28 29 hard to solve my work problems myself. 30 31 You were a friend of Mr Dawkins', he's visiting you in 32 Katanning and you become aware of what this man has 33 complained about going on. You didn't see fit to say, 34 "Look, Mr Dawkins, you're a Federal Minister. I've got 35 some concerns"? 36 I don't recall raising them in that way. I had other 37 concerns. I had participants who were distressed. One boy 38 used to go and lie in the middle of the road waiting for 39 sheep trucks to run over him. I had other boys that used 40 to howl at night. I had - I had - I had a lot of other 41 participants doing other things, and this was something 42 that I don't recall raising with Mr Dawkins at the time. 43 Maybe I did --44 45 Did you ever raise it with him? Q. 46 -- but at the time I don't remember it.

1 Q. Did you ever raise it with him, your concerns about 2 what --3 I raised it - yes, I did raise it --Α. 4 5 Q. When? 6 Α. I did raise it. 7 8 Q. When? 9 I can't remember the exact date or the exact time --Α. 10 11 Q. In 1995? I probably raised it after I left the project, because 12 13 I was - I was sort of sworn to secrecy that I wasn't to 14 mention why I left Katanning. The department had told me 15 not to discuss any of those details, and I didn't, but --16 17 Do you think you --Q. 18 -- I did raise - what did you say? Α. 19 20 Do you think you told him about it before you got 21 married on 2 March 1987, your concerns? 22 Yes, I did. Α. 23 24 So, some time between 1985 and March 1987, you told 25 him? 26 Α. Yes, I did. 27 28 Going back to how you came to get the position you 29 held at Katanning, you told us a minute ago you applied for 30 Did you get any people to recommend you or give 31 you references for the job? I don't remember. 32 Α. 33 34 0. Mr Dowding, did he recommend you for the job? 35 I don't remember. I don't know. He recommended me for another job two years later, but I don't know whether 36 37 he recommended me for this one. 38 39 Mr Beazley? Q. 40 I've just answered the question, Mr Prior. I don't Α. 41 remember. 42 43 So you don't know if anyone recommended you for the job - possibly, but you can't remember; is that right? 44 I didn't say "possibly". I just said I don't 45 46 remember. 47 .23/2/12 (3) M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Prior)

1 In the meetings you had with the department heads, if I can call them that, in Perth, and you think at least one 2 3 of them, Peter Kenyon, was present, was anyone taking 4 minutes, or was there any recording keeping of these 5 meetings that you're aware of? 6 No, I don't remember any record keeping at all. Ιt 7 was really a sort of - a crisis management programme. There were people running sort of here and there and - the 8 9 administration was just a shambles. I don't remember any 10 order or any calmness or any minute taking or anything that would normally happen in a department. 11 12 13 When you got the job at Westrek which started at 14 Katanning, you had limited training - you were 27 years old 15 at the time; is that right? Well, I was 27 years of age and I felt I had limited 16 17 training to handle allegations of sexual - of this sort of 18 sexual nature. This had never come up in any training that 19 I had been given. 20 21 No, no, I'm talking about when you got the job before you were aware of the allegations that your experience in 22 23 vouth work was limited, wasn't it? 24 Yes, it was. They did employ me. 25 26 I understand that. So at the time you had a Bachelor 27 of Arts degree, with no or limited experience in youth work and you were 27 years of age; is that right? 28 29 Yes, that's correct. 30 31 And you went from that job - you had previously worked as an electoral officer in Mr Beazley's office in Swan? 32 33 Α. Yes, and I went back to that position. 34 35 That was after you left Bunbury; is that right? that the sequence of events? 36 37 That's the sequence of events - when my contract 38 expired. 39 40 How many times did Mr Dawkins, to your memory, go down to Katanning when you were there? 41 42 I can only remember once, actually. 43 44 How long, approximately, were you at the Katanning Q. 45 46 I've tried to work this out myself. It must have been

about three or four months, because a rotation was 10 to

1 2 3 4	12 weeks and my first group of participants had moved on and my second group had arrived, and then I was removed soon after.
5 6 7	Q. Did Mrs Holmes a Court visit the project at Katanning while you were there? A. Yes, she did.
8	, and the second
9	Q. Did you tell her about your concerns?
10	MD LIDOUHUADT. Libera 2
11	MR URQUHART: When? .
12	MD DDTOD
13	MR PRIOR: Q. When she visited
14	A. No, I didn't tell her - the concerns had not been
15	raised with me, Mr Prior, at that stage. When Mrs Holmes
16	a Court came down to visit, these allegations had not been
17	raised with me.
18	
19	Q. Subsequent to her visit, then the allegations came to
20	you from this young man; is that right - that's the
21	sequence?
22	A. I'm sorry, I can't hear you. Would you say that
23	again?
24	
25	Q. After Mrs Holmes a Court visited the hostel down at
26	Katanning, then was when you became aware of these
27	allegations from the young man who told you in the bar; is
28	that right?
29	A. Yes, that's right. Yep.
30	MD DDTOD. Therely your That I all my appear assemble as
31 32	MR PRIOR: Thank you. That's all my cross-examination.
33	HIS HONOUR: Mrs Dawkins, we're going to take a relatively
34	short break of half an hour for lunch. If you could be
35	back there in half an hour from now, thank you very much.
36	
37	THE WITNESS: Okay, thank you.
38	
39	HIS HONOUR: We'll now adjourn.
40	
41	LUNCHEON ADJOURNMENT
42	
43	
44	
45	
46	
47	
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1 2	UPON RESUMPTION
3	HTS HONOUR: Places he seeted New Mr Elliatt would you
	HIS HONOUR: Please be seated. Now, Mr Elliott, would you like to cross-examine?
4	like to thoss-examine:
5	
6	MR ELLIOTT: I would, if the Inquiry pleases.
7	
8	HIS HONOUR: Q. Mrs Dawkins, can you see Mr Elliott?
9	A. (No audible answer).
10	
11	Q. Mrs Dawkins, can you see Mr Elliott? Do we have a
12	sound link?
13	A. I beg your pardon?
14	
15	Q. Can you see Mr Elliott? Can you see Mr Elliott on the
16	screen
17	A. Is it Mr Elliott, is it?
18	··· == == ··· =====•••, == == ···
19	Q wearing the bright tie?
20	A. Yes, I can see Mr Elliott. How do you do?
21	At lesy I can see in Liliate. How do you do.
22	<pre><cross-examination by="" elliott:<="" mr="" pre=""></cross-examination></pre>
23	CROSS EXAMINATION OF MR ELLIOTT.
24	MR ELLIOTT: Q. Mrs Dawkins, can I just begin by asking
25	you - following up something Mr Prior inquired about.
26	First of all, I'll tell you, I appear for Mr Ian Carter. I
27	assumed that you'd know that. When you prepared
28	A. I didn't know that.
29	
30	Q. All right. When you prepared your statement, is it
31	fair to say that you had absolutely no aids to your memory
32	whatsoever?
33	A. Well, the only - that's not fair. I did have aid. I
34	had - if you have a look at the letter I wrote to the
35	'Great Southern Herald' in 1991
36	
37	Q. Yes.
38	A I had that, and I had the article - that whole
39	page. I had that.
40	
41	Q. I see. All right. And did you refer to that in
42	preparing your statement of eight pages that we've seen?
43	A. Yes, I did. I - I read it and that - you know, that
44	jogged my memory.
45	
46	Q. All right. And when you wrote the article that went
47	to the 'Herald' - what was it?
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1
 2
         HIS HONOUR: You mean the letter to the --
 3
         THE WITNESS:
 4
                       The 'Great Southern Herald'.
 5
 6
         MR ELLIOTT:
                       Q.
                            That's the one. In 1991, were you using
 7
         any --
              Yes.
 8
         Α.
 9
10
              -- aids to recollection then?
         0.
              In 1991?
11
         Α.
12
13
              Yes, when you wrote that letter?
         Q.
14
              Yes, I would have because at that stage I still had my
         Α.
         notes and other details. I had a file that was a McKenna
15
         file, a Katanning file.
16
17
18
              Now, the location you're in right now, is that at the
19
         hospital or somewhere else?
20
              No, it is - it's somewhere else.
21
22
              Okay. Apart from Mr Dawkins, who was there with you
23
         earlier, is there anyone else in the building?
24
         HIS HONOUR:
25
                       Well, in the room? Perhaps you mean the
26
         room, do you?
27
28
                       No, I really mean in the building. Your
         MR ELLIOTT:
29
         Honour, you'll see where I'm going with it in a minute.
30
31
                       All right. Very well.
         HIS HONOUR:
32
33
         MR ELLIOTT:
                            Anyone else in the building?
                       Q.
34
              Yes, there is.
35
36
              Now, Mr Dawkins is in the room with you, isn't he?
         Q.
37
              Yes, he is.
         Α.
38
39
              He's close enough for you to see him?
         Q.
40
         Α.
41
42
              And close enough for you to hear him?
         Q.
43
         Α.
              He's not talking.
44
45
              I didn't ask that question, Mrs Dawkins. I asked
         whether he was close enough for you to hear him?
46
47
              Well, I - I suppose, but he hasn't been talking to me.
         Α.
                                             M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott)
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MR ELLIOTT: I'm concerned, if the court pleases, or the Inquiry pleases, that there should be someone in the room with Mrs Dawkins, who possibly has an interest in her answers --

THE WITNESS: Now, listen, Mr Elliott.

MR ELLIOTT: Excuse me, I'm talking.

THE WITNESS: Now, listen, Mr Elliott, I want to tell you this. I need somebody here because I can't walk. I can't even stand up without having somebody next to me to assist me to stand. That's why I need my husband here.

MR ELLIOTT: Right.

THE WITNESS: I don't need him as a crutch in an emotional or in a memory sense. I need somebody physically here to keep me safe.

HIS HONOUR: Mr Elliott, I'm going to rule that it is appropriate to have her husband present.

MR ELLIOTT: If you say so, sir. Thank you.

Q. Now, at the time when you prepared that letter to the - I'll get the name right eventually, the 'Southern' -- A. It's the 'Great Southern Herald' newspaper.

- Q. Yes, it's not one of my usual reads. You'll have to forgive me, Ms Dawkins.
- A. I recommend it to you, Mr Elliott.

Q. What aids do you say that you had at that time?A. I've already answered that question.

- Q. Yes. But I'm sorry I've forgotten your answer, and I need to ask you again.
- A. I had a file that I had retained from 1985. It had notes about Dennis McKenna. It had notes about my time at Katanning with Mrs Evans. It had notes about my dealings with Westrek. It was the file on Katanning and Dennis McKenna.

Q. Okay. And did it have your papers relating to your employment with the Westrek project?

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1 2	Α.	No, no.
	0	Did you have any of these?
3	•	Did you have any of those?
4	Α.	, ,
5		that I had, that I used to write the - the article or
6		- the letter, it was a letter, this was about notes and
7		t my time at Katanning. It wasn't anything other than
8	that	•
9		
10	Q.	All right. Now, before you went to the Westrek pilot
11	proj	ect, you've already indicated you were working for the
12	Fede	ral Member for Swan?
13	Α.	Yes.
14		
15	Q.	That was Mr Beazley?
16	Ä.	Yes.
17		
18	0	And you're - if I can use the phrase "diversion to the
19		rek pilot project" was on secondment, wasn't it?
20	Α.	It wasn't a diversion.
21	7.	ie wash e a aiversion.
22	0	Well, don't worry about that phrase, just worry about
23	_	her you were going on secondment for nine months?
24	A.	Yes.
	Α.	ies.
25	0	Okay Ca your mosition with Mr. Boarley was seemed)
26	Q.	Okay. So your position with Mr Beazley was secured?
27	Α.	Do you mean was I going back to Mr Beazley?
28	•	N T ''' ''' N D 1
29	_	No, I mean your position with Mr Beazley was secured?
30	Α.	I do - what do you mean by that? I was - I was
31	•	ding nine months with Westrek, and then after Westrek
32		finished, I was going to go back to my job at Mr
33	Beaz	ley's.
34		
35	Q.	
36		s asking you about whether the job remained open for
37		but you've answered that now. And your involvement, I
38	_	er, with the Westrek pilot project came about because
39	-	thought that it was a matter of some interest; is that
40	fair	?
41	Α.	I did have an interest in it, very much.
42		
43	Q.	Okay. And in relation to that project, is it fair to
44	say	that that was undertaken under the overall supervision
45	of t	he Department of Employment and Training?
46	Α.	That's correct, yes.
47		
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1 And you became an employee of that Department? Q. 2 Α. Yes, that's - that's my understanding. 3 4 Thank you. And have you been shown a flow diagram or 5 organisational chart which is headed "Westrek", in the top 6 left-hand corner? 7 Yes, I've got it in front of me, Mr Elliott. 8 9 Thank you. Can I provide a copy to you, sir? MR ELLIOTT: 10 HIS HONOUR: 11 Yes. 12 13 MR ELLIOTT: I have provided a copy to counsel assisting 14 previously. 15 16 Have you had an opportunity to examine that chart, 17 Mrs Dawkins? 18 I have, and, Mr Elliott, there are a few things here 19 that don't look quite right. 20 21 All right. That's why I'm inviting you to look at it. Q. 22 Which things don't seem quite right? Well, I don't recall a Wyndham project. I recall a 23 24 project at Norseman and Geraldton that are not listed here, 25 but I don't remember Wyndham, and also I didn't know that -26 I didn't know there was a board of a Westrek Advisory 27 Group. I didn't know there was anyone else other than - we 28 were introduced, or my recollection is that Janet Holmes a 29 Court was the patron --30 31 0. 32 -- I didn't know that she was a chair. Α. 33 34 0. 35 Α. I believe that that happened later, after the pilot 36 program. 37 Okay. When you say "the pilot program", was that 38 0. 39 Katanning or were there a number of these operations 40 happening in tandem? 41 They're - the 1985 program that I was a part of was 42 known as a pilot program, and then it went on in a modified capacity in 1986, but I'm - I don't recall there being an 43 44 advisory group or a board and I don't - I don't believe to 45 my recollection that her role - the role of Mrs Holmes a Court was anything but a ceremonial role, and she was the 46 47 patron. M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3) 275

1 2 3 4 5 6	came to my project, and they were there for 10 to 12 weeks, and then there was a changeover and there was - known as a rotation, and then another group came, but I don't know where - why are we dealing with Westrek. I'm here about a totally different matter.
7 8 9	<ul><li>Q. Well, wasn't Mr Ian Carter one of the managerial staff in Westrek?</li><li>A. Yes, that's correct.</li></ul>
10 11	Q. And - and wasn't he the subordinate to Peter Kenyon?
12 13	A. Well, on this form he - he is. I wasn't aware of that.
14 15	Q. Okay.
16 17	A. I didn't know what his role was. I just knew that he and Peter Kenyon were superior to Peter Sherlock.
18 19	Q. And Peter Sherlock's subordinate position to those two
20	is shown there?
21	A. Yes, it is.
22	O As is Elisabeth Churudla subandinata masitism to Daton
23 24	Q. As is Elizabeth Stroud's subordinate position to Peter Sherlock?
25	A. That's correct.
26	
27	Q. And ultimately your subordinate position to her is
28 29	also shown?
30	A. Yes, I'm - well, I was definitely the bottom of the food chain, wasn't I?
31	1000 0.10211, 110511 0 11
32	Q. Well, only you can answer that, Mrs Dawkins. The
33	question that I pose from this is leaving aside your
34 35	criticism about Janet Holmes a Court being the patron rather than being on a Westrek
36	racher chan being on a westrek
37	HIS HONOUR: Just a moment, that wasn't a criticism.
38	
39 40	MR ELLIOTT: No, she criticised the document.
40 41	THE WITNESS: I did not criticise at all.
42	THE WITNESS. I did not criticise de dii.
43	HIS HONOUR: No, no, I thought you were saying - you were
44	putting to her that she criticised Janet Holmes a Court.
45 46	MP FILTOTT: No I haven't finished the question If your
46 47	MR ELLIOTT: No, I haven't finished the question. If your Honour will just bear with me, I'll finish the question and
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1 you'll see the point. 2 3 HIS HONOUR: All right, yes. 4 5 MR URQUHART: Well, I am still going to object to the word 6 being used "criticise". The witness made a correction to 7 the document, not a criticism of the document. 8 9 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr Urguhart, that's correct. 10 11 HIS HONOUR: Please ask your question. 12 13 MR ELLIOTT: Q. Apart from your criticism that Mrs Janet 14 Holmes a Court was a patron rather than the head of the 15 advisory group, does the document generally speaking represent, and with the qualification you've said about 16 Kenyon and Carter - you thought that they were of a similar 17 18 level, does it fairly represent the structure as you knew 19 it? 20 Α. I was not aware of an advisory group. 21 22 We've heard that now three times. I asked you 23 leaving that to one side, and leaving to one side --24 25 MR URQUHART: Look --26 27 Please don't interrupt, Mr Urquhart. MR ELLIOTT: 28 29 I can shortcut this, and that might be of MR URQUHART: 30 assistance to everyone. If my learned friend is trying --31 32 MR ELLIOTT: I don't need your help. 33 34 MR UROUHART: If my learned friend is trying to tender 35 this document through the witness, I don't have any 36 objection if it's tendered now. 37 38 HIS HONOUR: Is that what you want to do? 39 40 MR ELLIOTT: Yes, that's what I'd like to do. 41 42 EXHIBIT #5 FLOW DIAGRAM/ORGANISATIONAL CHART HEADED "WESTREK" 43 44 45 HIS HONOUR: Have we lost the connection? The IT expert 46 is here. How long do you think it will take to reconnect? 47 Right now. Very good. M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3) 278 Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

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1
 2
         MR URQUHART: Sir, originally we were advised that the
 3
         connection would only be open until 5 o'clock
         South Australian time, but --
 4
 5
 6
         HIS HONOUR:
                       That's now.
 7
 8
         MR URQUHART: -- I understand there were some changes.
 9
         Yes, it may - I was going to say, it is 5 o'clock there
               Sir, shall we adjourn for a moment?
10
11
12
                       I'll just check with the IT man.
         HIS HONOUR:
                                                          Is there
         any hope, do you think? I'm told it's been booked until
13
14
         6 o'clock. What I'll do is I'll adjourn and I'll come back
15
         when we're ready to proceed.
16
17
         SHORT ADJOURNMENT
18
19
                       Be seated, thank you. Would you stand, Mr
         HIS HONOUR:
20
         Elliott.
21
22
              Mrs Dawkins, do you see Mr Elliott?
         Q.
23
              No, I can see you, Mr Blaxell.
         Α.
24
25
         HIS HONOUR:
                       We'll just have that fixed. Can we have the
26
         camera on Mr Elliott, please.
27
28
         THE WITNESS:
                        Yes.
29
30
         HIS HONOUR:
                       Very good. Yes, Mr Elliott.
31
                            Now, Mrs Dawkins, I know it's been a
32
         MR ELLIOTT:
                       Q.
33
         long run. If for any reason you're tiring, please let me
34
         know, to be fair to you?
35
              Well, how about making the questions to the point and
         getting on with it. I've been here for six hours.
36
37
38
         0.
              As have I, Mrs Dawkins. I'm doing my best. Now --
39
              That's lamented.
         Α.
40
              Well, thank you for that. At the time you were 27 in
41
         Q.
42
         1985 --
43
         Α.
             Mr Elliott --
44
45
              Bear with me, please, it will go a lot faster,
         0.
46
         Mrs Dawkins.
47
              Well, come on, get on with it.
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was Peter Sherlock. I know that in the course of the day 2 it was those three, but there were other people moving 3 about the building and moving about the rooms. I don't 4 know all their names. I don't know who they all were. 5 6 0. Was this one meeting or a series of --7 It was - I said - I've said in my statement it was a series of meetings throughout the day, or it could have 8 9 even been over two days. I can't remember how long they were. It was - it was a bombardment, like you're doing to 10 11 me right now. 12 13 I'm not bombarding you at all, I'm just asking you 14 questions. Now --15 Is that what you call them? 16 17 Could you perhaps instruct the witness? The MR ELLIOTT: 18 comments are unnecessary. 19 20 Mrs Dawkins, I understand you are feeling HIS HONOUR: under strain, but it doesn't help to make comments. 21 22 wait for his question and answer as succinctly as you can. 23 Thank you very much. 24 25 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr Blaxell. 26 27 MR ELLIOTT: Q. Now, if I can get back to the question I 28 was asking, which was: you didn't have many dealings with Mr Carter, did you? 29 30 No, that's right, I didn't. 31 32 Was he involved in training when the project first Q. 33 began? 34 I don't recall him being there, no. 35 Were you a group leader --36 Q. 37 Yes, I was. Α. 38 39 Q. -- was that your title? 40 Α. 41 42 Was there training delivered to group leaders? Q. 43 Α. Yes, there was. 44 45 And you don't remember if Mr Carter was a part Q. Okay. of that? 46 47 Well, I don't recall him being a part of that. M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3) Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

1 2 3	recall Tarklyn being there in, like, outdoor ed work, and I remember Elizabeth Stroud and a number of other women. I can't recall their names.
4 5 6 7	Q. All right. And is it fair to say he was not someone to visit the project site regularly?  A. He - to my recollection he never visited my project.
8 9 10 11	Q. And you only remember seeing him at head office? A. That's correct.
12 13 14 15 16	Q. Okay. And is it fair to say that your chain of command was Elizabeth Stroud and then Peter Sherlock? A. Yes, that was right. That's according to what you've given me, yes.
17 18 19	<ul><li>Q. And according to your observations of things, that's how it worked</li><li>A. That's correct, yes.</li></ul>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	Q Elizabeth first, and Peter above her? A. Let me just clarify that. That was up until I was removed from Katanning and there was - as I explained in my statement, there was something that happened that - listen, I don't remember Elizabeth being around much after that, and it was really then Peter Sherlock.
27 28 29 30 31 32 33	Q. All right. And is it fair to say that - well, I'll withdraw the question. When this business about the move to Bunbury occurred, who were you speaking to about that - it was Elizabeth Stroud or Sherlock?  A. I said in my statement that I don't know whether I phoned Elizabeth or Elizabeth phoned me, but she informed me that I was to move to Bunbury.
35 36 37 38 39 40 41	Q. Okay. Did you have any dealings with Peter Sherlock about your move to Bunbury?  A. That's a rather open-ended question. I probably did have dealings with him once I got to Bunbury, or maybe just as I was leaving, but I don't really recall the details of those. They're sort of procedural things.
42 43 44 45 46 47	Q. So far as being told, "You have to move, you're going to Bunbury, you've upset the apple cart", was that Elizabeth Stroud who said those sorts of things to you?  A. Yes, Mr Elliott, yes, it was, in a telephone conversation.
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- 2
- 3 Kat 4 par
- Q. Now, is it correct to say that when you were at Katanning, you lived in the same accommodation as the participants to use your word?
  - A. Yes, that's correct.

Q. And were there two group leaders?A. Yes, there were.

8

10 Q. And the other person, was that a man?

11 12

14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21

A. Yes, yes, he was.

12 13

Q. And sometimes would you and he go to the local pub?

A. Yes, that's correct. We usually used to go to the pub because the participants - you know, they were a group of young people. They were aged, as I've said in my

statement, between 16 and I think about 25, and on a Friday or Saturday night, you know, they'd want to have some sort of recreation and let their hair down and they - they were given a small - like a pocket money, a stipend - and it wasn't much - and these kids would often go - sounds funny

now, but they enjoyed dancing to a jukebox, Mr Elliott, and they had fun. And we went along more in a supervisory role because I've had a conversation with Mr Todd and he pointed

out to me that it would be a good idea in keeping those participants who were under age - and I had a number of,

you know, I think - I don't remember exactly the number, but it might have been two or three participants who were not 18, but they wanted to go and dance in the lounge of

the pub - but my co-worker and I to go along and, you know, keep an eye on what was going on. And one of the things

that Westrek was about, was they - they never prohibited alcohol. There was no mention of prohibiting alcohol for participants who were of the legal age, but I - you know,

it was my duty to make sure that the younger ones didn't partake.

37 38

39

Q. Did people ever get drunk in the pub from the project?

A. There wasn't - there wasn't that much money to get drunk in the pub.

40 41 42

- Q. Right.
- A. They may have I don't remember anyone getting drunk in the pub.

45 46

- Q. Did anyone ever moon anyone?
  - A. I beg your pardon?

```
1
 2
         MR URQUHART: I gather there's some relevance to this
 3
         questioning, your Honour
 4
 5
         MR ELLIOTT:
                     Yes, there is. You can trust me, Mr
 6
         Urquhart.
 7
                       Well, I'm - proceed at the moment.
 8
         MR URQUHART:
 9
10
         HIS HONOUR:
                       I accept your assurance it's relevant.
11
         Please continue, yes.
12
13
         MR ELLIOTT:
                            Did anyone ever moon anyone? Do you
                       Q.
14
         know what I mean by the phrase?
15
              Yes, I do, but I don't remember.
16
17
              All right. You don't remember. Whilst drinking was
18
         permitted, is it correct to say that sexual relations were
19
         not?
20
         Α.
              Are you talking about participants?
21
22
              I'm talking generally, but we can confine it to
23
         participants if you wish?
              Well, there's a very big difference between
24
25
         participants and group leaders.
26
27
              We'll come to group leaders in a minute. I'll confine
28
         my question to participants for the moment. There was a
29
         rule about participants, was there not?
30
              Yes, there was. Yes, there was.
31
32
              They weren't allowed to have sex; is that true?
         Q.
33
              That was correct, yes.
         Α.
34
35
         Q.
              There was no rule about group leaders, was there?
36
              Having sex?
         Α.
37
38
         0.
              Having sex?
              No, there was no rule.
39
         Α.
40
41
              All right.
         Q.
42
              But there couldn't have been a rule, Mr Elliott,
43
         because there were two group leaders that were a husband
         and wife team that were in the project. How could you
44
45
         prohibit a husband and a wife from having - having - not
46
         having sex for nine months?
47
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3
              At another project.
         Α.
 4
 5
              All right.
         Q.
 6
         Α.
              At another project there were two more.
 7
 8
              Don't worry about another project, I'm just concerned
         Q.
 9
         about your --
         Α.
              But you're asking.
10
11
12
              Mrs Dawkins --
         Q.
13
              But you're asking.
         Α.
14
15
              I'm asking about your project. If you will just
         confine yourself to your project, and my question was,
16
         relevantly, there was no rule about group leaders not
17
18
         having sex, was there?
19
         Α.
              That's correct.
20
21
              Okay. Was there any rule about having relationships,
         Q.
22
         and by that I mean something not simply intimate?
23
24
         HIS HONOUR:
                       Between whom though?
25
26
         MR ELLIOTT: Group leaders.
27
28
         HIS HONOUR: Between group leaders.
29
30
         MR ELLIOTT: I'm still on the same topic, sir.
31
32
         HIS HONOUR:
                       All right.
33
34
         THE WITNESS:
                      What do you mean by --
35
                            A relationship --
36
         MR ELLIOTT:
                       Q.
37
              -- relationship?
38
39
              -- Mrs Dawkins. You can put your own --
         Q.
40
         Α.
41
42
         0.
              -- your own meaning on that, it's an ordinary word.
              Well, if you mean that group leaders could have a
43
         relationship with each other, is that what you mean?
44
45
46
              Indeed.
         Q.
47
              Yes, that was fine.
         Α.
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Sorry, I thought there was only two group leaders.

1

2

Q.

Was there more than two?

1 2	of the programs at each location. If there's a husband and
3	wife group leader - well, that speaks for itself. But you're not putting to the witness that there was some rule
4	
5	governing sexual relationships between group leaders.
	MD CLITOTT. The not suggesting she brooked any mule
6	MR ELLIOTT: I'm not suggesting she breached any rule,
7	sir.
8	
9	HIS HONOUR: All right. At the moment I don't see the
10	relevance of where you're going, but I'll allow you to
11	continue.
12	
13	MR ELLIOTT: Well, it will become apparent.
14	
15	HIS HONOUR: Well, continue.
16	
17	MR ELLIOTT: Q. Now, you've had time to think about my
18	question, Mrs Dawkins. Do you need me to repeat it or can
19	you tell me the answer?
20	
21	MR URQUHART: You'll need to complete it because I
22	interrupted it before you completed it.
23	
24	THE WITNESS: What was the question?
25	THE NETHESS. Milde was the question.
26	MR ELLIOTT: Q. Did you have a relationship with the
27	other group leader?
28	A. Yes, I did. I did have a relationship. We were
29	single, we were
	Single, we were
30	O Van dan't mand to so into any mana datail them that
31	Q. You don't need to go into any more detail than that,
32	Mrs Dawkins. Can I ask you was that a matter that was
33	raised by your superiors?
34	A. No departmental officer raised this as a problem with
35	me, Mr Elliott.
36	
37	Q. All right. Is it the case or otherwise that you were
38	informed that the reason for your transfer was because of
39	behaviour within the local community, including getting
40	drunk at the pub and having a relationship with your
41	co-worker and - I won't give any more details - but
42	inappropriate behaviour, Mrs Dawkins?
43	A. Well, I - I can assure you, Mr Elliott, that no
44	departmental officer ever raised either of those
45	allegations with me, either verbally or in writing. And
46	it's news to me now that you refer that I had inappropriate
47	behaviour.
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1
 2
         0.
              Now, when you left the gossip was running hot in
 3
         Katanning about your departure?
 4
 5
         HIS HONOUR:
                       Well, just a moment, how can she comment on
 6
         that or answer a question about that if she wasn't there.
 7
                       Well, she can, if your Honour pleases.
 8
         MR ELLIOTT:
 9
10
         HIS HONOUR:
                       Very well. But perhaps frame your question
11
         another way.
12
13
         MR ELLIOTT:
                            You became aware of the local gossip,
                       Q.
14
         didn't you, Mrs Dawkins?
15
              Yes, I was aware of the local gossip after I left.
16
17
              About the reason for your departure?
         Q.
18
              The gossip wasn't anything to do with the reason that
         Α.
19
         I was given by the department. The local gossip was that
20
         I - I - I was not suitable for - not fit or something along
21
         those lines, and it was Dennis McKenna and Ainslie Evans
22
         making these allegations.
                                    It bore no relation to the
23
         community, you know, the fact of why I left.
24
         wasn't - there was never - even in the gossip it didn't say
25
         that I was - what, getting drunk in the pub and what did
26
         you say I'd done?
27
28
         Q.
              Involvement in --
29
              You know, I find this --
         Α.
30
31
              Involved in a relationship.
32
              -- just - I don't know where you're going with it.
         Α.
33
         This is --
34
35
              Well, don't worry about where I'm going, Mrs Dawkins,
         that's for me to worry about.
36
37
              But the --
38
39
              You just answer my questions, if you don't mind.
         Q.
              Well, well, I --
40
         Α.
41
42
              This gossip was speculating throughout the town,
         Q.
43
         wasn't it --
              I didn't --
44
         Α.
45
46
              -- about you being an inappropriate person for the
47
         position?
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1 2	A. No, Dennis McKenna referred to me as being inappropriate.
3 4	Q. So was it circulating the town or not?
5 6 7	MR URQUHART: Again, sir, it's a bit difficult for this witness to say that when she's in Bunbury.
8 9 10	HIS HONOUR: Well, perhaps you could ask how she became aware of the gossip.
11 12 13	MR ELLIOTT: Yes.
13 14 15	Q. How did you become
16 17 18	MR ELLIOTT: Well, I'd like to stay with question, if I can, sir.
19 20 21	HIS HONOUR: Well, she wasn't there, and you were asking what was circulating in the town when she wasn't there.
22 23	MR ELLIOTT: Yes.
24 25 26 27	Q. Did you know what gossip was circulating the town?  A. I had heard a very - a few words that another group leader had told me who replaced me.
28 29 30 31	Q. You wrote about this to the 'Great Herald Sun', didn't you - the 'Great Southern Herald', I should say, when you wrote to them?  A. That's correct, yes.
32 33 34 35 36	Q. You said that after leaving Katanning you heard malicious gossip defaming your character, circulating the town; yes?  A. Yes.
37 38 39 40 41	Q. You're nodding. And this was about you being unsuitable, wasn't it? This was what people were apparently saying.  A. Well, it was Dennis McKenna, it wasn't "people". The
42 43 44 45	<pre>Only group leader Q. How do you know it was Dennis McKenna? A. I beg your pardon?</pre>
46 47	Q. How do you know it was - it originated from him?
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1 2	official community liaison officer.
3	Q. All right. But that's just a title. I'm exploring
4	the purpose. Have I got the purpose right, Mrs Dawkins?
5	A. Yes, I think so.
6	A. 163, I CHINK 30.
7	Q. Thank you. Now, it was not your responsibility, was
8	
9	it not, to be involved in questions about staffing levels?
	A. Did you say it was not or it was?
10	O Thurs not Thurs not
11	Q. It was not. It was not.
12	A. It was - yes, that's correct. It was not anything to
13	do with me.
14	
15	Q. Where they live?
16	A. What do you mean where they live?
17	
18	Q. Where the staff live, it wasn't
19	A. Where we live?
20	
21	Q your responsibility to deal with questions such as
22	where you live?
23	A. No.
24	
25	Q. Okay. What projects you do?
26	A. What do you mean, I
27	
28	Q. The specifics of what projects the group does. Just
29	listen to my questions please, Ms Dawkins.
30	A. Well, they're not questions. You just say a few
31	words. I don't know if that's a question or not.
32	·
33	MR ELLIOTT: All right. I'll put the question again.
34	
35	HIS HONOUR: So when you mean "projects", you mean the
36	work that was to be done by the participants.
37	norm and to be done by the particle particle.
38	MR ELLIOTT: Indeed.
39	THE ELLIOTT. THACCA.
40	Q. These were all questions dealt with substantially
41	above your level, weren't they?
42	A. Yes, they were.
43	A. 163, they were.
44	O These were the focus of meanle like Mn Kenyan and
44 45	Q. These were the focus of people like Mr Kenyon and Mr Carter?
46 47	A. I don't think that's quite right. I think that was actually the focus of Elizabeth Stroud.
4/	actually the rocus of Elizabeth Stroud.
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- 2 Q. 3 were given for your departure was to do with you upsetting the apple cart relating to Mr McKenna and Ainslie Evans. 4 5 Am I right in my understanding that you say that was 6 conveyed to you by Elizabeth Stroud, first of all? 7 "upsetting the apple cart". 8
- 9 10
- 11 12 advice from my supervisor, my superior, to go to Mrs Evans. I didn't go there unsolicited. I didn't go there off my 13 14 own bat. I went there because my superior, my supervisor,

HIS HONOUR:

MR JENKIN:

HIS HONOUR:

MR SAAYMAN:

HIS HONOUR:

MR URQUHART:

MR ELLIOTT:

sir.

re-examination no doubt.

- 15 advised me that this was the best possible way to deal with what had come to me. 16
- 19 20 21

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M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott)

remember, I can only remember a conversation with Elizabeth

Stroud prior to leaving for Bunbury. That may - after that

Yes, before you left Katanning? Q. Mr Elliott, to the very best of my ability to

Are you asking me before I left Katanning?

Ms Dawkins, my question was directed to you had some trouble and you had some trouble that you've told us about. My question was - was the only person who talked to you about that trouble, and why you were moving, Elizabeth

Okay. Thank you. Now, you say the one reason you

Mr Elliott - Mr Elliott, I've never used the term

a note that this video link will come to an end at 4.30pm,

so you will need to bear that in mind. Can I just check,

No, I don't think so, sir.

Mr Jenkin, will you be having any questions?

And Mr Saayman.

All right.

No, sir.

Yes.

I just want to - I just want to say to you I followed

Can I just interrupt at this stage. I've got

I'm not sure Mr Urquhart is capable of brief,

Yes, I realise that.

Stroud?

So that only leaves us some brief

2 in the early settling period in Bunbury. 3 4 And is this within days of your confrontation with Ainslie Evans and McKenna? 5 6 What is this - I'm sorry? 7 This communication from her, that you have to move, is 8 9 this within days? Α. From Elizabeth? 10 11 12 Q. Yes. It was either that day or the very next day. It was a 13 Α. 14 very short period of time. 15 There was no letter, just the call? 16 Q. 17 No letter. That's right. Α. 18 19 And was it distressing? Q. 20 It was very distressing. I worked very, very hard to 21 make Katanning for Westrek work. 22 23 All right. If you just answer my questions, it will 24 go quicker. 25 26 MR URQUHART: With respect to my learned friend, the 27 witness was doing precisely that. 28 29 All right. Well, let's continue. HIS HONOUR: 30 Either a yes or no would have sufficed to, 31 MR ELLIOTT: "Was it distressing?" 32 33 34 THE WITNESS: Mr Elliott, if you wanted me to answer yes 35 or no, just tell me that. I've never done this before. 36 37 MR ELLIOTT: Were you upset that you had to move from 0. 38 this project? 39 Α. Yes. 40 41 So did you take it further with any of her 42 superiors? 43 Α. Who's her? 44 45 Mrs Stroud? Q. 46 Not that I can recall. I may have, but I don't 47 recall. .23/2/12 (3) 293 M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

I know that I spoke to Peter Sherlock and Elizabeth Stroud

4

- 0. Well, who might you have taken it up with? If I had of, I may have taken it up with Peter
- Sherlock, but I don't recall doing so. It doesn't say that I didn't.

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- Did you canvas with him at any later stage your discontent at having been moved?
- Mr Elliott, I wasn't discontent. I accepted that because of the situation, because I had followed the advice of my supervisor and the subsequent turn of events, that the relationship I had personally with Elizabeth - with Mrs Elliott - what's her name, Mrs Evans, and Dennis McKenna, that it was unreasonable to assume that I could be a part of that project. I actually, when I got to Bunbury, really enjoyed the Bunbury project.

16 17 18

- Weren't you literally run out of Katanning? Q.
- Α. Well, they're the words I used, yes.

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- And are you telling us that having been run out Q. of Katanning, a project that you really loved and wanted to see succeed, and being distressed at being told that you had to go, that you didn't raise it with the supervisor of the person who told you you had to leave, particularly when they told you that the reason you had to leave was that someone who was doing the wrong thing had complained about Is that what you're telling us? you?
- Mr Elliott, I thought I had told you that I may have spoken to Peter Sherlock prior to leaving Katanning. I --

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- Sorry, continue. Q.
- I feel you're trying to confuse me. I can't make it much plainer than what I've told you. I - while I understand that it was untenable for me to be at the Westrek project at Katanning, I did, however, raise concerns about doing something about the allegations of sexual abuse by Dennis McKenna. I raised that with Elizabeth - well, Elizabeth knew already, and when - by the time I got to Bunbury, or maybe it was even before I got to Bunbury, I'd raised that with Peter Sherlock, and from that moment on I didn't let up about what they were going to do about it. And I was a broken record. I drove them nuts, That's what I was told by one of them. apparently. don't recall which one. But, yes, I realised that my time at Katanning was untenable. I moved to Bunbury, and I always believed - and I still believe to this day that one

1 of these - my superiors took this matter further. And, so, 2 for me to move to Bunbury and keep advocating and 3 requesting what they were going to do about - I understand there wasn't much to go on, but what they all said to me 4 5 was that this matter would be handed on to the relevant 6 authorities, and that's the crux of it. Look, you know, 7 the major difference between me and these bureaucrats were that they were interested in saving that project, the 8 9 Katanning project. They did not put as a priority the care 10 or the - any feelings about this abused boy that had come 11 to me.

12 13

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- Q. Now, is that your opinion, or is that something that they said?
- A. Well, it was an opinion that I formed over a period of meetings and times between the time that I left Katanning and those meetings I had in head office in Perth.

17 18 19

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- Q. So I take it that it wasn't something that was said, it was your opinion?
- A. Yes, yes.

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- Q. Thank you. Now, if I can go back to your narrative about the young man who you met, who told you of his experiences first hand. He went into some graphic detail with you; correct?
- A. Yes.

27 28 29

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- Q. Did you, when speaking with Elizabeth Stroud, share that with her?
  - A. I don't know the words I used. I can't remember them, but I made it known what it was about.

32 33 34

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- Q. Okay. You went into some detail in talking to her about what could have happened?
  - A. I don't I don't recall the detail, Mr Elliott, but I let it be known what affect you know, what sexual abuse had happened.

38 39 40

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Q. I'm not trying to pin you down to the words, Mrs Dawkins, and I'm not going to be asking you were they the same, but you conveyed with some details, according to your recollection, the sort of misbehaviour that you'd been told about to Elizabeth Stroud.

44 45 46

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HIS HONOUR: Well, she said that she let Elizabeth Stroud know what sexual abuse had happened?

MR ELLIOTT: Yes.

- Q. Had you written this down anywhere, the account from the young man?
- A. After I went to head office, Elizabeth Stroud suggested that I put something in writing of my account of what the young man had told me, and in my statement I have already said that I did as she suggested, and I gave her a copy and I gave Peter Sherlock a copy, and I kept a copy --

- 12 Q. Yes.
  - A. -- and you asked me before just a minute, Mr Elliott, you've just reminded me of something. You asked me before the link collapsed I can't remember what you were the nature of it, but you've I know, when you asked me how I was preparing --

Q. Indeed.

A. -- the article, I used those notes, the written statement that I had given Elizabeth, under her direction, and Peter - I'd given - I used that copy and other notes about that time to write the 1991 piece to - for the 'Great Southern Herald'.

Q. All right. Now, I'm just trying to tie you down on time here, Mrs Dawkins. When you were first told about this by the boy, around about the time when you first went to Bill Todd, did you make any notes then, or did you make them when the issue arose when you were called in to head office?

A. Mr Elliott, I kept a journal - you know, like a daily journal of the project. It was a personal journal. It wasn't a - it wasn't a work document, it was - you understand that? So, yes, I did write in my journal about that, and then I - I did make - I - from my journal, from the account I did put down that, you know, what Bill had said and what I should do.

- Q. Okay.
- A. They were just sketchy notes, but they were notes.

- Q. All right. Now, dealing with the account that you say you prepared later, that was something you gave to Elizabeth Stroud and Peter Sherlock only, is that right kept one for yourself?
  - A. That's correct, and one for me, yes.

I used that term, or somebody used that term and it 1 2 was - I suppose I was hoping that Mr Todd would be able to do more, and he explained to me that he needed a very clear 3 4 I just wanted him to - to help, and to do it -5 to do whatever it was that needed to be done, and he said 6 he needed a detailed statement from the board. So I felt I 7 was being brushed off. 8 9 Yes. It's fair to say the boy didn't want to go to Q. 10 the police? That's correct. 11 Α. 12 13 And having raised it with Mr Todd, you didn't raise it 14 with any other police officers, did you? 15 Α. No. 16 17 But what you did was you consulted Elizabeth No. 18 Stroud, who said you should go to Evans? 19 That's correct. 20 21 Okay. Now, can you just explain to me, please, what 22 did you think Mrs Evans - if the police were unable to do 23 anything, what did you think Mrs Evans was able to do? Well, she was my community liaison officer --24 25 26 Q. Yes. 27 -- she was there for me to take those sorts of 28 concerns to her. 29 30 0. Yes. 31 She was also - she was also, I was led to believe, on 32 the hostel board. 33 34 Yes. I see. Are you saying that what you thought she 35 might do would be to take it up with his superiors in order that action could be taken from another angle? 36 37 Yes, that's correct. 38 39 I understand. And so far as you were aware, did that Q. 40 ever happen? 41 As far as I'm aware, no. 42 43 All right. Is it correct to say that that was the 44 only likely avenue you thought that she might take it, or 45 did you have an expectation that she might take it to the police, or she might take it to some other authority, apart 46 47 from the hostel's authority? M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3)

1 2	A. I was hoping - I was hoping that she would - she would take it far and wide.
3 4 5 6	Q. All right. But instead is it fair to say that she made it very plain that she wasn't going to do anything? A. Yes.
7 8	
9	Q. And you'd been told by Elizabeth Stroud that that was the lady that you should put your trust in, is that right -
10 11 12	you're nodding yes.  A. She didn't use those words. She didn't use those words.
13 14	Q. But that was the effect of what she was telling you,
15 16 17	"Go to this lady, she could help"? A. That's right, she could help.
18 19 20	Q. And you went to this lady and she didn't help. Did you go back to Elizabeth Stroud? A. I didn't have to.
21 22 23 24 25 26	Q. Is that because she came to you first? A. Well, Ainslie Evans and Dennis McKenna had contacted head office and called for me to be sacked or removed or whatever.
27 28 29	<ul><li>Q. And that's a narrative you get from Elizabeth Stroud?</li><li>A. That's correct.</li></ul>
30 31 32 33	Q. Now, what you said in your statement was that when you confronted McKenna, he told you that he had friends in high places, yes.  A. Yes.
34 35 36	Q. Yes. A. Yes.
37 38 39 40	Q. And the next thing that happened was apparently those friends in high places had done something to have you removed from the town.
41 42 43	MR URQUHART: I don't know whether this witness could answer that, sir.
44 45 46 47	MR ELLIOTT: Q. Apparently? A. I don't know, I have no idea.
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that happened is you get told, "Well people above Elizabeth 2 3 Stroud want you moved", or something to that effect? 4 5 MR URQUHART: No, she wasn't. That wasn't her evidence 6 either, sir. 7 Moved within 48 hours? 8 MR ELLIOTT: Q. 9 She - Mrs Evans and Dennis McKenna contacted the 10 Department. I don't know who else did. 11 12 But you see, my question for you is at this 13 stage you had friends in - not just high place - very, very 14 high places? 15 I didn't consider that to be an issue. 16 17 Did you mention this issue about being run out of 18 Katanning to them? 19 Α. Who's "them"? 20 21 Your friends in high places. Q. 22 23 Well, name them, Mr Elliott. MR UROUHART: 24 25 Mr Beazley, Mr Dawkins. MR ELLIOTT: Q. Well, definitely no to Mr Beazley, and definitely no 26 27 to Mr Dawkins, because by the time this event occurred, Mr Dawkins and I had severed our relationship, our friendship. 28 29 It was - it - we - I didn't speak to him much. I barely 30 spoke to him again until long after the project had 31 finished. So the answer is definitely no to both people. 32 33 Okay. Why not talk to Mr Beazley, who was your boss, Q. 34 who was to do - to do with your ongoing employment, who was 35 a powerful man by any measure of the situation, where you've done the right thing, you've gone to the police, 36 37 you've gone to your boss, you've gone to the shire lady to 38 complain about this man's wrongdoing, and you've been run out of town. Why didn't you mention it to him? 39 40 I didn't have that sort of relationship with him, Mr Elliott. And also this was a state matter, it wasn't a 41 federal matter. We - he was in parliament, in Canberra. I 42 43 didn't even - he was - he was not my boss at the time. I was employed by the Department of Employment and Training. 44 That was my workplace, and that was my - they were my 45 46 He wasn't. I didn't even consider him to be my bosses. 47 boss. M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3) Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

Well, he threatened you with that. The next thing

were here on a short-term secondment. You were going back to him and you said it was your intention. He - he was a man surely that if all of what you say is accurate, you could have very easily spoken to him, "Look, Mr Beazley, I don't know who to talk to, but this is what's happened". Is it correct to say --

Α.

.23/2/12 (3)

Q.

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Q. -- that you could have talked to Mr Beazley?

Well, first --

A. I don't think that's correct, because we didn't have access to mobile phones in those days. I would have had to have gone and placed a - a long distance call down at the post office or some such place. It's very difficult to find a politician in Parliament House and then hook up a mutually convenient time. I couldn't be apart from my project. This is all fantasy. This is just fantasy. I didn't even consider it. That's my answer. I did not consider it.

But you were his electorate research officer. You

Q. And just a moment ago when you said that this was a state issue not a federal issue, is that something that you considered at the time, or something that you just grasped on to now when you were trying to avoid an answer to my question?

MR URQUHART: With all due respect, sir, the witness was not trying to avoid an answer to Mr Elliott's question at all.

MR ELLIOTT: I will put it another way.

MR URQUHART: It's unnecessary to make a comment like that.

MR ELLIOTT: I will put it another way.

Australia. That's all I knew.

But I asked you --

- Q. When you mentioned it's a state issue, not federal, just a few moments ago, what was that all about?

  A. There was nothing about it. I just stated it. It had nothing to do with the federal government issue. It was an issue, it was a criminal offence in the State of Western
- A. I couldn't see why a Minister in a Federal Government

1 had anything to do with it, but I didn't think of that at the time. I thought of that just then five seconds ago to 2 3 try to clarify to you that I don't understand where this is 4 leading me. 5 6 Is it possible, Mrs Dawkins, that there are other 7 things amongst what you've said that are things that have popped into your head some time long after the events that 8 9 we are really concerned with, and you've grasped them the way you grasped the Federal/State dichotomy just minutes 10 11 ago? 12 13 Well, I don't know what the value of that MR UROUHART: 14 question is, sir, unless my friend puts specific matters to 15 the witness. 16 HIS HONOUR: 17 I think it is difficult for her to answer 18 that question. You'll probably have to repeat it. Perhaps 19 you could cut it down to chunks. 20 21 MR ELLIOTT: It may well be that the comment having been made, I don't need to take it any further. We have 22 23 mutterings at the bar table. I don't know if --24 25 I would have thought that my learned friend, MR URQUHART: in his many years of experience, would know he's not 26 27 supposed to make a comment to a witness but actually ask He has just conceded to your Honour that that 28 questions. 29 was a comment that he made. 30 31 MR ELLIOTT: No, I have not. 32 33 MR URQUHART: That's what you said. 34 35 HIS HONOUR: In any event, let's not pursue this. Let's 36 just get on with the questions. 37 38 MR ELLIOTT: 0. When you were at Bunbury, is it correct 39 to say that you had some sort of meeting or conversation 40 with Elizabeth Stroud and Peter Sherlock about the events at Katanning? 41 42 43 HIS HONOUR: Are you saying at Bunbury, in person, or what 44 are you putting? 45 46 I'm not exactly sure. MR ELLIOTT: 47 .23/2/12 (3) M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) 303 Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

1 When you're at Bunbury, and you've either had a 2 meeting or a conversation with both Elizabeth Stroud and 3 Peter Sherlock about the Katanning events; is that correct? 4 I don't understand your question, Mr Elliott. Are you 5 asking me did I have a meeting or can I recall a meeting at 6 the Bunbury project --7 8 Q. No. 9 Α. -- or during my time at the Bunbury project? 10 11 HIS HONOUR: Let's just pause here. She has given 12 evidence that after going to Bunbury she had a number of meetings with him at the Perth office. Are you referring 13 14 to one of those or --15 16 MR ELLIOTT: No, I'm not referring to one of those. 17 18 HIS HONOUR: Are you referring to a meeting at Bunbury? 19 20 MR ELLIOTT: I'm referring to a meeting when the witness 21 was at Bunbury, and she said that she was required to meet 22 with Elizabeth Stroud and Peter Sherlock. 23 24 And they discussed you being a politically savvy 25 person, or that that was something you picked up on, and the Katanning events were seemingly examined or discussed. 26 27 Do you remember the meeting or the conversation that I'm 28 describing? 29 Yes, I remember the conversation you are describing. 30 31 And you've said, to be fair, that you can't remember 32 the location of these meetings in your statement at page 5; 33 correct? 34 That's correct, yes. Α. 35 36 There was more than one? Q. 37 Yes, there was more than one meeting. Yes. Α. 38 Am I right in thinking that they were meetings rather 39 40 than telephone conversations - or could they have been a 41 combination? 42 There was - yes, there was a combination of both. 43 44 Nothing particularly turns on whether they were meetings or phone conversations. My point is there was a 45 46 number of them, were there not, and you expressed concern, 47 or a lack of understanding for their lack of support; is .23/2/12 (3) M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) 304

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2
         Α.
             Yes, yes.
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 4
              You pressed them about how to get your concerns
 5
         addressed; is that right?
 6
         Α.
              Yes.
 7
 8
              Am I right in thinking that your concerns are concerns
 9
         about, first of all, the misconduct of McKenna that you had
10
         been told about?
         Α.
             Yes.
11
12
13
              Did it go further and cover the reaction of Mrs Evans
         Q.
14
         when you confronted her?
15
              I don't recall that. What do you mean by that?
16
17
              What I'm asking is, you've already indicated that when
18
         you went to see Mrs Evans about it, she dismissed you.
19
              That's right.
         Α.
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21
         HIS HONOUR:
                       Just to clarify the question, are you putting
         it to the witness, or asking her, what concerns were
22
23
         discussed --
24
25
         MR ELLIOTT:
                       Exactly.
26
         HIS HONOUR: -- with Ms Stroud and Peter Sherlock?
27
28
29
         MR ELLIOTT: That's exactly --
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31
         HIS HONOUR:
                       Q.
                           You are being asked what concerns you
32
         discussed with them.
33
34
         MR ELLIOTT:
                     Yes.
35
              The first concern you said certainly discussed was
36
37
         McKenna's behaviour. I'm going further to ask did you tell
         Elizabeth Stroud and Peter Sherlock at these meetings post
38
39
         move to Bunbury about the dismissive behaviour by Ainslie
         Evans - do you recall, "Yes" or "No"?
40
              I don't recall, but I think what you are asking me is
41
42
         was this sort of - was there a debriefing of this, is that
         what you are asking me? Did they debrief me about how
43
         I had reacted to Ainslie Evans dismissing me and asking me,
44
45
         you know - and asking them to remove me from Katanning.
         that what you're asking, was that discussed?
46
47
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                                            M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott)
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that right?

That's not quite the way I would have put it, but if 1 2 you can answer that question, I'm sure we will cover most 3 of the ground, yes. That's what I'm asking. 4 It was discussed, yes. 5 6 Did you press with them your view that this matter 7 needed to be investigated? 8 Α. Yes. 9 10 McKenna needed to be investigated. Q. I felt that we should follow it up. I felt that that 11 12 should happen. 13 14 Did you explain to them the difficulties about him not Q. 15 having made a police statement and alert them to complications such as that? 16 17 I felt they were aware of that, yes. 18 19 And this was something that was discussed more than 20 once? 21 I would imagine so, but I can't recall how many times. Α. 22 23 Elizabeth Stroud seemingly took it seriously, because she told you to put things in writing and make a record? 24 25 Α. Yes. 26 27 But that was a record that you never gave to Ian 28 Carter? 29 I didn't, no. Α. 30 31 0. Nor to Peter Kenyon? 32 Α. 33 34 Is it correct to say that when it came to departmental 35 officers, the people that you really entrusted your story to were Elizabeth Stroud and Peter Sherlock? 36 37 That's correct, yes. 38 39 They were the ones who got the details about the oral 40 sex and the rape and all of that other stuff. nodding "yes". That's never something you confronted Ian 41 42 Carter with, was it? 43 No, I didn't confront him with that. I confronted him with was the fact that I had followed my 44 45 supervisor's advice, and that is what I confronted him 46 with, but I did, however, say that I wanted the 47 allegations - I wanted it investigated, but I didn't go M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3) 306

into details, because I - well, I felt that it had already 1 2 been made known and obvious to both your client and Mr Kenyon. 3 4 5 Am I right in thinking you assumed that that had been Q. 6 done by your supervisors? 7 Yes, that's right. 8 9 You've mentioned head office in your statement a 10 number of times. Can you just tell me was the project initially - the Westrek project initially managed out of 11 12 the office in May Holman Centre, to your recollection? I don't think so. I can't remember the address. 13 14 15 Was there later an office at the Hillston Centre in Stoneville; do you recall that? 16 17 Is that - Stoneville, is that also Parkerville? 18 19 I imagine that's probably right. My impression is 20 that it's out that way - certainly not in the city. Yes, we were in the city. I don't know the name of 21 22 the building. I can't recall the name of the building, but the meetings were in the city; they weren't out at -23 24 I think it was called Parkerville - it was out in the 25 country, but that was - that was really where we did other 26 things. It wasn't where the offices were. 27 28 Before you continue, it's now nearly 4.15. HIS HONOUR: 29 Do you mind me restricting you to another 10 minutes? . 30 31 MR ELLIOTT: I'm getting near the end. I'm trying to go 32 as quickly as I can, your Honour. 33 34 HIS HONOUR: Very well. 35 36 The day or two of meetings that you've MR ELLIOTT: Q. 37 spoken of, do you recall them being in the city? 38 Yes, I think they were in the city. It was a building 39 that had a lot of light on the left-hand side. I just 40 can't - I just can't tell you the address. 41 I'm not sure that will help us, so let's move on. 42 43 you recall who presented the resignation letter to you? I think it was Mr Sherlock. 44 45 46 Was anyone else in the room at the time? Q. 47 I tried to answer this question before, Mr Elliott, Α. .23/2/12 (3) 307 M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

I felt there were other people in the 1 and I can't recall. 2 I know that day that I was also spoken to by your client and by Mr Kenyon, but I can't tell you precisely who 3 4 else was in the room at that stage, but it wasn't just 5 Mr Sherlock. There were - you know, people were coming in 6 and out. 7 8 Do you have a clear recollection that at some stage 9 during the day, Mr Carter and Mr Kenyon each complimented 10 you on the running of the Bunbury project? That was - yes, there was a discussion either at 11 12 the end of that day or it may have been the next day, I'm not really clear on that at the moment, but it was a sort 13 14 of a wrap-up meeting where, you know, they realised that 15 I wasn't going - well, that they had been told or something - they realised I wasn't going to voluntarily 16 17 resign and, you know, they said that I was going - I was 18 going off back to Bunbury and they said that I was doing 19 a good job and it was going well, and --20 21 So you remember that? Q. 22 Α. Yep. 23 24 And you remember seeing Carter and Kenyon around 25 the place from time to time? 26 Α. In the building that day, is that what you're asking? 27 28 Q. Yes. 29 Yes. Yes. Α. 30 31 0. And maybe having more than one dealing with them. 32 Possibly. Α. 33 34 Is it a sensible possibility that Mr Carter wasn't 35 there when Mr Sherlock, you think, presented the resignation letter to you? 36 37 That could be - yes, it could be sensibly - it could 38 be so. 39 40 Is it fair to say that by the time of this meeting, you had been gone from Katanning for a number of weeks, 41 42 perhaps? 43 Α. Yes, I'd say a number of weeks. 44 45 When you were in Bunbury, you weren't, if I can use 46 the phrase, rocking the boat the way you had been when you 47 were in Katanning?

A. Well, nobody had come forward with some child sex allegations to me, sir, so nobody - so I wasn't rocking the boat.

- Q. What I'm saying is that the position when you were in Bunbury was very different, and when you were in Katanning, you were making trouble I don't use that phrase in a disparaging way you were making trouble for McKenna, and when you --
- A. No, I wasn't making trouble.

Q. Let me finish. I'm not saying you were doing anything wrong. What I'm saying is when you were there you were making noise in Katanning, and when you were in Bunbury -- A. I didn't make noise. I did not make noise. I had a meeting with my community liaison officer.

Q. Mrs Dawkins, it's a shorthand term so that I don't have to describe all of the things that you have described about what you did in Katanning to you again. My proposition is that when you were in Katanning, you were letting people know about things in Katanning and -- A. I let one person know about it.

Q. Let's not split hairs. What I'm trying to do is to say that when you went to Bunbury, you were no longer doing the same sort of thing that you were doing in Katanning; isn't that true?

A. I don't know what you're trying to get at. What are you trying to say? I didn't - the situation did not present itself, because in Bunbury, no boy came to me with an allegation of sexual abuse, and my supervisor then had no need to advise me to go and see my there, in Bunbury, community liaison officer. I wasn't making trouble, I wasn't causing whatever you call it. I went - I can't

see - what do you want to know?

 Q. What I'm saying - what I'm putting to you, Mrs Dawkins, is that, at least according to McKenna, when you were in Katanning, you were causing trouble. I'm not saying that you were, but your account is that McKenna thought you were causing trouble and he said he was going to make life difficult for you. That might not be your words but that's the thrust of the picture you painted.

HIS HONOUR: Perhaps if you put it on the basis she was having a difference of opinion with McKenna and Evans.

.23/2/12 (3)

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1
 2
         MR ELLIOTT: Yes.
 3
 4
              But by the time you got to Bunbury, that was no longer
 5
         occurring; you were no longer a thorn in their side, were
 6
         you?
 7
                        In whose side?
 8
         HIS HONOUR:
 9
10
         MR ELLIOTT:
                       McKenna and Evans'.
11
12
         HIS HONOUR:
                        I see.
13
14
         THE WITNESS:
                        I don't know whether they thought I was
15
         a thorn in their side or not.
16
17
         MR ELLIOTT:
                             But from your point of view, when you
                        Q.
18
         were in Bunbury, you weren't rocking the boat about the
19
         issue, were you?
              I was.
20
         Α.
21
22
              All right.
         Q.
23
                       Another five minutes, if you don't mind.
24
         HIS HONOUR:
25
26
         MR ELLIOTT:
                        Thank you, I'm just about done, your Honour.
27
28
              If I understand the position, you say that on this
29
         day, or a couple of days of meetings, you effectively were
30
         warned that they were going to sack you?
31
         Α.
              Yes.
32
33
              They never sacked you; is that correct?
         Q.
34
              I missed that, because you turned away.
         Α.
35
36
              I'm sorry, they never sacked you?
         Q.
              They never sacked me?
37
         Α.
38
39
         Q.
              Yes.
40
              That's correct.
         Α.
41
42
              But you say they then invited you to resign, but you
         Q.
43
         wouldn't?
44
              That's right.
         Α.
45
46
              They then said they were going to assist you by having
47
         the allegations investigated?
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                                             M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott)
                     Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation
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1 Α. Yes. 2 3 Then they said you were doing a great job running the 4 Bunbury project and they complimented you. 5 Α. Yes. 6 7 0. It didn't strike you as a remarkable, if you like, fluctuation of their attitude towards you in the course of 8 9 this day or day and a half? 10 Considering how Westrek was run and considering how these bureaucrats or officials ran a shambolic programme, 11 12 it didn't surprise me at all. I wasn't sacked or I wasn't removed, but other group leaders were sacked, removed, 13 14 shifted. I was just one in a series of crisis, sort of, management situations that they were dealing with. 15 16 17 I infer from what you say that they had no hesitation 18 in sacking people where they thought the need arose. 19 No, I wasn't making an inference, Mr Elliott. I was 20 just saying that it was a tumultuous time, and it wasn't unusual to be whacked on the head one minute and 21 22 complimented and patted on the head the next. 23 24 HIS HONOUR: Another two minutes, Mr Elliott. 25 26 THE WITNESS: Am I able - how much longer, because I would 27 like --28 29 It will be no more than another seven HIS HONOUR: 30 minutes. I'm asking Mr Elliott to wind up. 31 32 MR ELLIOTT: I'm trying to wrap up, sir. 33 34 There's a comment in your statement about a revision 35 of your employment record. Have you seen your employment record in 2012? 36 37 No, I was told that there was a revision of it. 38 39 Q. By whom? By Ms Stroud and also - yes, by Ms Stroud. Look, 40 Mr Elliott, I know that this link is going to go because it 41 42 is flashing and I want to clear up a couple of things that I got very confused about, so can I have the opportunity to 43 do that, please? 44 45 46 I wonder if I might be permitted to finish. MR ELLIOTT: 47 I have one or two questions. .23/2/12 (3)

```
1
 2
         HIS HONOUR: You had better be very quick.
 3
 4
         MR ELLIOTT: Yes, I'm trying. Sir, the witness --
 5
 6
         HIS HONOUR:
                       Just ask the question.
 7
 8
         THE WITNESS:
                        Yes, but I've only got five minutes.
 9
10
         MR ELLIOTT:
                            You spoke, on page 5, about one of these
                       Q.
         meetings being told by Peter Kenyon or Ian Carter that
11
12
         serious damage had been caused by you to the working
         relationship at Katanning. Is it fair to say that you
13
14
         don't recall with any precision who that was?
              I knew it was one or the other, sir.
15
16
17
         HIS HONOUR:
                       I'm going to have to cut you off, I'm sorry.
18
         We have six minutes.
19
20
         <RE-EXAMINATION BY MR URQUHART:</pre>
21
22
         MR UROUHART:
                         Q.
                              Mrs Dawkins, I want to talk to you
23
         only about that second phone call you had with Ms Stroud
         towards the end of last year, okay?
24
25
              Mr Urquhart, could you get the camera to move to you,
26
         please?
27
28
         Q.
              Can you see me now?
29
              Yes, thanks.
         Α.
30
31
              From what I understand from the questions by Mr Prior,
32
         there are a number of names mentioned in that second
33
         conversation you had with Ms Stroud; is that correct?
34
         Α.
              Yes. I got confused.
35
36
              That's all right.
         Q.
37
              Could I --
         Α.
38
39
         Q.
              No, Mrs Dawkins --
40
              Could I --
         Α.
41
42
              No, Mrs Dawkins, please, I'll ask you. Some names
43
         were raised by you; is that correct?
44
              Yes.
         Α.
45
46
              And some names were raised by Ms Stroud.
         Q.
47
         Α.
              Yes.
    .23/2/12(3)
                                             M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott)
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1
         Α.
             Yes, Mr Urquhart.
 2
 3
              -- "Tweedledee"?
         0.
 4
              That's right.
         Α.
 5
 6
              Are they the only names you have put in your statement
 7
         as being what you understood to be the persons that
         Ms Stroud was speaking about when she used the word "they"?
 8
 9
              Yes, Mr Urquhart.
                                Thank you.
10
11
              Why is the fact that you've only named those two
12
         persons?
13
              Because they are the two that I believe were trying to
         Α.
14
         create a difference or other reasons for why I was removed
15
         from Katanning. Ms Stroud was saying that that was the
16
         case.
17
18
              Ms Stroud had not used the word "we" to describe those
         0.
19
         who were --
20
21
         MR ELLIOTT: My friend should not lead.
22
23
         HIS HONOUR: No, we have two minutes.
24
25
         MR URQUHART:
                       I know.
26
27
              Did she use an expression other than the word "they"?
         0.
28
         Α.
              No.
29
30
              You said in your statement she was actually warning
31
         you about this; is that correct?
32
              I felt it was a warning, yes.
33
34
            Tell me this, in your impression of this, was she
35
         including herself in that group or not?
36
37
                       I object to the question.
         MR ELLIOTT:
38
39
                        From time to time, she did include herself
         THE WITNESS:
40
         in that, yes.
                        She did --
41
42
         HIS HONOUR:
                       It's going to be too late to rule on it and
43
         I'll strike it out if I have to. Please continue.
44
45
         THE WITNESS: I - Ms Stroud did --
46
47
         MR URQUHART:
                        Q.
                             I want to ask you who you --
    .23/2/12 (3)
                                314
                                            M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott)
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1 Α. The link's dying. 2 3 Who can you be certain with, about the names of those 4 people who were in this group, or this group that's 5 referred to as "they"? 6 Α. Ian Carter and Peter Kenyon. 7 8 MR URQUHART: Thank you. That's all the questions I have, 9 sir. 10 Can I address a concern? 11 MR ELLIOTT: 12 13 MS TOVEY: Oh - okay. 14 Ms Tovey, do you have anything of great 15 HIS HONOUR: importance? We have lost it anyway. If we can connect 16 again, we will. Express your concern while that is going 17 18 on. 19 20 I'm concerned that the narrative has MR ELLIOTT: 21 transmogrified from, "Well, I had a conversation with Elizabeth Stroud where she said they were out to bring 22 my reputation into disrepute", and now, in re-examination, 23 counsel assisting is leading from the witness that it's not 24 "they" who were mentioned; it was "Tweedledumb" and 25 26 "Tweedledumber", and the whole substance of the 27 conversation seems to have moved from: well, I was told about "they", and the following names were mentioned in the 28 course of the conversation, to we were told that "they" was 29 30 them. 31 32 HIS HONOUR: What are you asking me to do about it? . 33 34 MR ELLIOTT: I'm expressing my concern, because it comes 35 out in re-examination, number one, at the end of the proceedings, when we don't have a chance to explore this 36 37 whole "Tweedledumb" and "Tweedledumber" thing with the witness, and it seems that the narrative that my learned 38 39 friend is dealing with now is somewhat different than 40 we are given to believe from page 7. 41 42 HIS HONOUR: I think we've got --43 44 With respect, it's not at all certain. is a matter that my learned friend can make by way of 45 46 submissions in due course. 47 M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3) Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

1 2	HIS HONOUR: What I'm going to do is allow Ms Tovey a few minutes - would that be enough?
3 4 5	MS TOVEY: Yes, sir, thank you.
6 7 8 9	HIS HONOUR: Be quick. Then I might give you the opportunity to further cross-examine if the link is still there.
10 11	<pre><re-examination by="" ms="" pre="" tovey:<=""></re-examination></pre>
12 13 14	HIS HONOUR: Mrs Dawkins, can you see Ms Tovey? Can you hear me, Mrs Dawkins?
15 16 17	THE WITNESS: Yes, I've got the sound on again. It had gone off.
18 19	HIS HONOUR: Can you see Ms Tovey?
20 21	THE WITNESS: Yes, I can.
22 23 24 25	MS TOVEY: Q. Mrs Dawkins, a couple of questions. You were asked some questions about when Mr John Dawkins visited you?  A. Yes.
26 27 28 29 30	Q. When was that in relation to when the young boy told you of the allegations involving the sexual abuse? A. It was prior to me learning about those allegations.
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40	Q. You were also asked some questions about speaking with Mr Dawkins about the allegations?  A. I think I've said earlier that Mr Dawkins and I didn't have very much to do with each other for most of that year, and it was - he did come down and visit and then, after that, we sort of severed ties, so to speak, and weren't in contact until well after the project. However, as you might have worked out, we've been married for 25 years next week.
41 42 43 44 45 46 47	Q. Later, though, you did discuss it with Mr Dawkins? A. After the project had ended, yes, I did, and John talked to me about - I told him that I had provided a written statement, and that I had provided that to my supervisor and to Mr Sherlock, and he considered that was the appropriate course of action and, with that, I expressed a bit of frustration that I hadn't heard from
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anyone, and he said, "Look, just leave it with them. 1 They'll handle it in their own way and their own time" and 2 3 I believed they would, and I still haven't heard. 4 5 Q. Mrs Dawkins, you were asked some questions about 6 having a relationship with a co-worker. Can you hear me? 7 Did I ask - what did you --8 9 HIS HONOUR: Bring the microphone closer to you. 10 11 MS TOVEY: Q. You were asked some questions about 12 having a relationship with a co-worker. Yes, I was asked questions - yes. 13 14 15 Did any of your supervisors say anything to you about that shouldn't happen? 16 It was never raised, my relationship with my 17 18 Look, we were two people that were obviously co-worker. 19 adults, we were on the same money, we had the same sort of conditions. There was nothing in my contract to say that 20 21 I was prohibited from having a relationship with my 22 co-worker. Look, I did live in a former convent. I didn't 23 have to adopt the former occupants' sexual practices. 24 You've got to remember, my sexual practices in 1985 were 25 legal. Dennis McKenna's weren't. That's the difference here, and nobody is talking about that. 26 They're talking 27 about a 27-year-old that had friends and sex with people that were, you know, legal and with adults and normal, as 28 29 far as I can see. 30 31 You were asked some questions about your personal 32 behaviour whilst you were at Katanning. Were you ever 33 given any verbal warnings about your personal behaviour whilst you were at Katanning by your supervisors? 34 35 No, Ms Tovey, neither verbal or written. never, ever raised, and Mr Elliott's suggestion that I was 36 37 somehow rather wild is - it's just never, ever been raised or even discussed. 38 39 40 HIS HONOUR: Ms Tovey, have you finished? 41 42 MS TOVEY: If your Honour pleases, yes. 43 44 Mr Elliott, I'm permitting you further HIS HONOUR: 45 cross-examination. Bear in mind that the link may cut out 46 at any moment. 47 M A DAWKINS xx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3) 317

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1 2	<pre><further by="" cross-examination="" elliott:<="" mr="" pre=""></further></pre>
3	MR ELLIOTT: Q. Can I just follow, in relation to your
4	conversation with Elizabeth Stroud, your statement says
5	that you received a warning that "'they' were out to bring
6	my reputation into disrepute". Did Elizabeth Stroud use
7	the word "they"?
8	A. Yes.
9	A. Test
10	Q. Did she say that you would be portrayed as
11	unprofessional and unreliable if you named your superiors?
 12	A. Yes.
 13	
 14	Q. Was Peter Sherlock one of your superiors?
15	A. Yes.
16	
17	Q. Indeed, was he the person who was seemingly
18	responsible for your move to Bunbury?
19	A. I don't know who was - who made that decision.
20	
21	Q. He was at head office at the time?
22	A. Yes, yes.
23	
24	Q. And you later spoke to him about your activities - and
25	I just mean in connection with work - once you moved to
26	Bunbury? Yes?
27	A. Mr Elliott, I've tried to answer that. I don't know
28	who directed Elizabeth to make the phone call. You'll have
29	to ask her that. I don't know.
30	
31	Q. Again, when you used the word "they" later on in your
32	statement, that's the word that she used. She said "they
33	had contrived alternative reasons". Is that correct?
34	A. Yes.
35 36	O Am T winks in thinking that in the course of this
36 27	Q. Am I right in thinking that, in the course of this,
37 20	she never said: well, Ian Carter or Peter Kenyon or
38 39	Tweedledum or Tweedledumber did these things, that they contrived
40	A. Did what things?
41	A. Did what things:
<del>4</del> 1 42	Q and they were going to bring your reputation into
42 43	disrepute. Do you follow me?
44	A. I'm a bit confused with - no, I don't follow you.
45	A. I iii d bic confused with ho, I don't follow you.
46	Q. She said "they" were going to do it, but she didn't
47	tell you who "they" were.
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In the context of the conversation when we were 1 2 talking about Tweedledee and Tweedledum and having a laugh 3 about that, it was then raised that "they" were going to -4 you know, were already working at saving their butts, 5 basically, and this is how they were going to do it. 6 7 So there was an earlier discussion about them and you say it was followed by this series of questions or comments 8 9 about "they". Have I understood correctly? 10 I can't be sure about this, Mr Elliott. I'm just all jumbled up. I am trying, but I just can't get clear. It's 11 12 been a long day. 13 14 I understand. Do you recall whether the other people 15 you mentioned earlier - Peter Dowding, Janet Holmes a Court, Ainslie Evans - whether they were mentioned before 16 or after the use of the word "they"? 17 What I was trying to explain, and I thought I would 18 19 make clear, I think, with Mr Urquhart, his questioning, was that we had a conversation about all of these people, and 20 these names were raised, but it wasn't in that context, if 21 22 you get what I mean. I thought that all of these names 23 were what - every name that was mentioned in the conversation you wanted to know, or somebody wanted to 24 25 know, I can't remember who it was. But what I'm saying now is that in relation to who was trying to create a new 26 27 reason for why I left Katanning, it was Mr Kenyon and Mr Carter. That was what I - the way it came out to me, or 28 29 my understanding or - that's how I remembered the 30 conversation. 31 32 I concluded from something you said earlier that at 33 some point substantially earlier in time in 1991, there was some alternative explanation that was going around the town 34 35 of Katanning that we spoke about; do you remember that? Mr Elliott --36 Α. 37 38 MR UROUHART: This is to cover what? 39 40 THE WITNESS: -- I don't remember, and I really - it's 10 41 past 7 here. 42 43 MR URQUHART: That doesn't cover, sir --44 45 THE WITNESS: -- I can't keep going. 46 47 -- what your Honour was going to allow my MR URQUHART: M A DAWKINS fxx (Mr Elliott) .23/2/12 (3) 319 Transcript produced by Merrill Corporation

1 2	learned friend to cross-examine on.
3 4 5	MR ELLIOTT: Well, the question is are those two related, because Ainslie Evans came up in this conversation as well - that's where it was going, sir.
6 7 8 9	HIS HONOUR: Can you put the question again more succinctly.
10 11 12 13 14 15 16	MR ELLIOTT: Q. I'm reminding you of that, because you said that Ainslie Evans was mentioned in the conversation and I'm wondering whether this alternative reason came up in that context, or could conceivably have been raised in that context in this discussion with Elizabeth Stroud?  A. I can't answer that question, Mr Elliott. I'm feeling terrible.
17 18 19 20	Q. Thank you. I'm sorry. A. I've been here for seven hours.
21 22	MR ELLIOTT: Thank you, sir.
 23 24 25 26 27	HIS HONOUR: That completes your evidence, Mrs Dawkins. I do apologise for the fact that you've been kept much longer than what was planned and I'm sorry for the inconvenience, but I thank you for your cooperation. We'll now cut the link and you are free to go. Thank you.
29 30	THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.
31 32	<the td="" withdrew<="" witness=""></the>
33 34	HIS HONOUR: I shall now adjourn
35 36 37 38 39	AT 4.42PM THE HEARING ADJOURNED TO FRIDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2012 AT 10AM
10 11 12 13	
14 15 16 17	
+/	