

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

HKZ

Support person present: No

1. My name is HKZ. My date of birth is 1950 and I am presently sixty-nine years of age. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

General information

2. I have already provided a statement to the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry regarding my experiences as a pupil boarding at Loretto School in Musselburgh. This supplementary statement provides additional information for clarification and should be read in conjunction with my earlier statement as the paragraph headings relate to that statement.

Paragraph 23

3. I was about thirteen-and-a-half when I was moved to Pinkie House.

Paragraph 24

4. I was about sixteen when I moved into a study room.

Paragraph 25

5. As a general note regarding this paragraph and the following one, school rules were school rules and where they came from I don't know. I suppose we were told what to do by one of the older boys, or a master, when we started at the school.

[APG]

6. Nobody instructed us to jump in a cold bath every morning, it was just the way the system worked. All the kids did it, with the exception of the heads of house or senior prefects, who got a hot bath as far as I remember. I think one of the older boys supervised the bath, certainly someone was standing there to make sure we got wet.
7. Being expected to be outside fifteen minutes later, ready to go for a run was, again, just what we did. I don't know who expected it of us. The run itself was orderly, so I suppose an older boy supervised it. It could have been a master, I don't recall.

Paragraph 32

8. I can't remember how the rules regarding how we dressed were communicated, again it was just what we did.

Paragraph 56

9. Like the word 'gay', which used to mean 'happy', 'fag' and 'fagging' later became slang for homosexual behaviour, however in those days it was just a younger boy being a sort of personal servant to an older one. Loretto didn't have the system.

Paragraph 58

10. I'm not sure 'strict' is the right word to describe how bed wetting was dealt with. It was managed 'efficiently', might be a better word to use, or that it was just managed. I can't remember boys being penalised.
11. I don't remember exactly what happened to anyone that wet their bed. I can't remember any punishment being meted out to them.

Paragraph 64

12. I'm not sure I said that boys were going in and out of each other's beds in Pinkie House. It would be disingenuous to infer that I think there was frequent sexual activity in the Pinkie dormitory. I cannot remember anything of that sort. I think it

[APG]

might apply better to Terrington, the prep school, but again it was hardly an orgy, more of an occasional event and rather innocent.

13. My recollection is based on what I heard in the dormitory at night. Again it should not be taken to mean there was some kind of regular orgy, there wasn't. There was the occasional scuffling, indicative that boys were not always in their own beds.
14. As far as being told about it, all I can recall were rumours, but nothing specific, and I can't recall the details of the rumours.

Paragraph 67

15. I think I was probably fourteen when the sexual abuse stopped, but that's a guess. Of more lasting effect was the social implications of being called [REDACTED] or latterly [REDACTED] which persisted until I was a senior boy around sixteen.

Other information

16. I have no objection to my witness statement being published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

HKZ [REDACTED]

Signed.....

Dated..... 7 July 2020

[APG]