



Statement

Name Timothy Andrew GREEN
Address Known to the Royal Commission
Date 22 April 2015

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I am prepared to give to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. My full name is Timothy Andrew GREEN. I was born in 1961. I am currently 53 years old.
3. I was born and raised in Ballarat with my mum, dad and my older brother. My parents were not strong Catholics, but we considered ourselves 'church-going Catholics'. We used to go to mass every Sunday.

St Francis Xavier College, Villa Maria

4. In 1966, when I was four years old, I started school at St Francis Xavier College Villa Maria (**Villa Maria**) which was a school run by Sister of Mercy nuns.
5. As a child I was sexually abused by a person I came into regular contact with. He was four years older than me. I was abused by him on a regular basis, I would say on every occasion that I saw him, which was fortnightly. I'm not sure when it started, but I don't remember it not happening to me. He abused me until I left Ballarat to go to University, about 1979. This person was a student at St Alipius Primary School, and one of his teachers was Brother Robert BEST.

St Patrick's College

6. In 1973, I commenced High School at St Patrick's College (**St Patrick's**), Ballarat, as a day student. I was 11 years old when I started, I was the youngest student in my year. Brother

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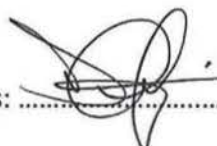
Edward DOWLAN was my teacher for many subjects including maths, english and religious studies. The Headmaster of the school at the time was Brother Paul NANGLE.

7. On one occasion during Form 1, my whole class was invited to a sleepover at a fellow student's home. We camped out in the yard. Brother DOWLAN was at the sleepover. DOWLAN was the only adult that was present at the sleepover. I recall that Neil Diamond's album Hot August Night had just been released and we listened to this music throughout the night. We played lots of games and I was having a fun time. DOWLAN was very involved in the games and the students all vied for his attention. All the students wanted to be his favourite and get his attention.
8. The sleeping arrangements at the sleepover were tents and the kids slept in their own sleeping bags in the tents. I was in a tent with some other boys, but I can't recall how many or who they were. During the night I awoke to find DOWLAN lying beside me with his hand inside my pyjama pants fondling my genitals. When I looked at him he stopped and said to me in a low voice, *'You are having a bad dream, go back to sleep'*. He gave me a little shake as if to reassure me everything was alright and then left.
9. At one time DOWLAN was my physical education teacher. He was quite rigorous with his lessons and on one occasion made me run until I was physically sick. I sat down on a bench seat and DOWLAN sent the rest of the class off on another run around the oval. DOWLAN then came to me and stood behind me with one hand on my shoulder and the other on my stomach. He began rubbing my stomach up and down, telling me he would ease my pain. DOWLAN then moved his hand down inside my shorts and again fondled my genitals. My penis became erect and DOWLAN told me that I was a good boy. This made me cry as I was very embarrassed and upset by what he was doing. I was also concerned that some of the other students would see what was happening. As the other boys came around the oval towards us, DOWLAN removed his hand from my shorts.
10. At the completion of the physical education lessons DOWLAN would always ensure that we all had a shower. The showers consisted of a wall with four shower heads. DOWLAN required all of the boys to strip naked, even the ones who could not shower because all the showers were occupied. DOWLAN would stand amongst the boys looking at us all.

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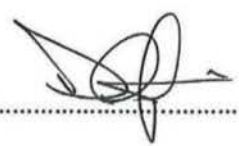
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11. The last time DOWLAN abused me was in the classroom. The class was full of students and he sent me to the back of the classroom during class, to a place where all the boys' jackets were hung on the wall. After a time DOWLAN came to where I was. We were behind the other students and they would only have been able to see us if they turned around. Of course, no-one turned around because then they would be sent to stand there too. He cupped my face in his hands, then slapped me across the face hard enough to make me cry. Once I was upset, he comforted me by cupping my face in his hands again and started thrusting his hips towards me as he was whispering to me. I can't recall what he said. I said to him, *'This is not fair, I can't fight back'*. He just stopped and let go. That was the last time DOWLAN tried to touch me.
12. The kids at St Patrick's used to snigger about DOWLAN's behaviour, and say things like *'He's touching the kids again.'* There were particular boys at school who were given more attention by DOWLAN. There are only two boys in my class that I never saw being sent to the back of the classroom. I remember many boys returned to their desks crying after being at the back of the classroom with DOWLAN.
13. Everyone in the class knew what was going on but it was never discussed. We used to say *'He's [DOWLAN] got him again, he's got him again, he's touching him again'*. It was common knowledge among the students in my year that DOWLAN was abusing many of the boys at the school.
14. The boys that DOWLAN seemed to particularly favour were generally boys who were not as strong or mature as some of the other boys in our grade.
15. I find it inconceivable that none of the Brothers, lay teachers, the nurse, or even some of the parents knew about the abuse by DOWLAN. It was just so blatantly obvious and every boy in the class knew that their turn was going to come up at some stage.

Conversation with Father George PELL

16. Around late 1974, when I was 12 or 13 years old, I went to Eureka Swimming Pool in Ballarat with two of my friends. Both of my friends went to St Alipius Primary School (**St Alipius**) and then to St Patrick's.

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17. We were in the changing room when Father George PELL walked in. Father PELL was an old St Patrick's boy, and used to say mass there occasionally. Father PELL was a big imposing figure. He strutted around the college when he was there as if he was superior to everyone else. Because of that I just assumed that he was superior. I don't think Father PELL would have known our names, but he would have known that we were students from St Patrick's. He would have known my two friends from St Alipius, and knew me from Villa Maria, in fact I was the student that thanked him on behalf of the school community for his attendance at a school function on one occasion.
18. Father PELL came in to the change room and said something like '*G'day boys*' and went and stood behind us and started getting changed. Then I just said something like, '*We've got to do something about what's going on at St Pat's*'. Father PELL said, '*Yes, what do you mean?*' I said, '*Brother DOWLAN is touching little boys*'. Father PELL said '*Don't be ridiculous*' and walked out.
19. Father PELL didn't ask any questions, he didn't ask '*what do you mean?*' or '*how could you say that?*' He just dismissed it and walked out. His reaction gave me the impression that he knew about Brother DOWLAN, but couldn't or wouldn't do anything about it. My two friends never said a word while I was talking with Father PELL, although they nodded in agreement. I believe they were aware of similar things happening at St Alipius with Brother BEST.
20. One of these friends later committed suicide by blowing himself up in his car overlooking St Alipius. I only found this out when I was back in Ballarat for work.
21. I didn't do anything more after I spoke with Father PELL which was really unfortunate, and I felt a bit guilty about it. People say I was a 12 year-old boy then and couldn't have done much more anyway. I probably could have, although it would have been at the risk of exposing my own abuse and I couldn't do that. I was too embarrassed, humiliated ashamed by it to talk about it.
22. I don't remember why I told Father PELL about Brother DOWLAN. I still don't know where I got the courage to say it, because my biggest fear was exposing myself.

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23. There was this boy who was one year younger than me from St Joseph's Home, an orphanage run by the Sisters of Nazareth. It was always referred to as Nazareth House and it was in Sebastapol, south of Ballarat. I used to put him on the handlebars of my bike and ride him to the bus stop. For some reason I really liked this kid. I don't even know his name, but I was really scared that he was going to be abused. I recognised that he was vulnerable and the type of boy who would be targeted by someone like DOWLAN. Maybe this was why I went and told Father PELL.
24. At the end of 1974, Brother DOWLAN told us that he was going to be our under 14 football coach the following year. When we came to school at the start of 1975, Brother DOWLAN was gone. A different Brother coached us that year. No-one told us why Brother DOWLAN had left, or where he had gone. The school Headmaster, Brother NANGLE, also left St Patrick's around that time. While I was at St Patrick's there was a rumour that all of Form 1C went to see Brother NANGLE and put in a complaint against Brother DOWLAN, and that they were all in detention. I don't know whether that happened or not, but I think if Brother NANGLE didn't know what was going on with DOWLAN there was something wrong.
25. Brother O'HALLORAN became the acting Headmaster after Brother NANGLE left.

Disclosure of abuse

26. In 1975, I was having an argument with my mother when I said in anger '*DOWLAN was touching boys!*' I never told her I was a victim but I did tell her that he had been touching other boys at St Patrick's. My mum didn't believe DOWLAN would do such a thing because he is a Christian Brother. She told me never to say those things again. Years later my mum saw Brother DOWLAN's conviction on the news. She rang me and apologised.
27. I didn't tell anyone else about my abuse by Brother DOWLAN until I was around 40 years old. I spoke with an employee of mine who I had befriended. He had a girlfriend who had been raped and he knew the symptoms. He asked me what was wrong and I ended up telling him I was abused, but I never mentioned DOWLAN. I didn't tell anyone else. In fact I denied the abuse if asked until I reported the matter to Police in April 2014.

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28. About 2002, I read an article which said that Archbishop PELL had denied something. I can't remember what he denied, but I remember thinking *'you can't just keep denying it.'* I went straight to the journalist, Peter ELLINGSEN, at *The Age* newspaper, and told him about my conversation with Father PELL.
29. I also told Mr ELLINGSEN some personal stuff about how I felt and how I'd lived my life, although I didn't tell him what had happened to me. I told him about my friend who had committed suicide, and that I believed it was because he had been sexually abused.
30. After this article was published, Archbishop PELL is quoted as saying *'At a distance of 28 years, I have no recollection of any such conversation. If I was approached and thought the stories plausible, I would have informed the Christian Brothers.'* Essentially, PELL denied that I had told him about DOWLAN, and denied any knowledge of sexual abuse in Ballarat.
31. In July 2011, Broken Rites contacted me and asked if I was the boy that spoke to the journalist Mr ELLINGSEN. I said 'yes'. In 2013 Broken Rites contacted me again and asked if they could give my details to another journalist, David MARR. David MARR interviewed me, and included my story in his article for the Quarterly Essay. The article was titled *'The Prince: Faith, Abuse and George Pell'*. Mr MARR asked me if I would be prepared to have my name in the article. I felt I could trust MARR and decided to put my name to it to add credibility.
32. After this article was published, Archbishop PELL again denied that I had told him about Brother DOWLAN. PELL stated *'A predictable and selective rehash of old material. G.K. Chesterton said: A good novel tells us the truth about its hero; a bad novel tells us the truth about its author. Marr has no idea what motivates a believing Christian.'*

Going to the police

33. One of the police investigating the original complaints against Brother DOWLAN was Paul JOLLY. He was a student at St Patrick's in the 1970s, and I played football with him. I've known Paul for a while. I think he always suspected I was a victim, but when he asked me, I absolutely denied this. He later told me of the police investigation into sexual abuse in Ballarat and the possible link to many suicides.

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34. In February 2014 I approached Victoria Police and reported the abuse by DOWLAN. I provided a signed statement and told the police I was willing to give evidence in Court against DOWLAN. The matter became part of Task Force SANO and DOWLAN was charged with his abuse of me. There were numerous victims who had proceeded against DOWLAN and he was facing a large number of charges. I know there was some plea bargaining in relation to DOWLAN pleading guilty to some charges if other charges were dropped.
35. Ultimately, DOWLAN pleaded guilty to my charges and I was not required to give evidence. I provided a Victim Impact Statement but I was still uncomfortable about being identified as an abuse victim. I was still feeling humiliated, embarrassed and guilty. My statement was read out by the prosecutor at the sentence hearing. I found the police to be very good. They were sympathetic and sensitive, and they believed my story.
36. I am very glad I attended the sentence hearing. Listening to the other 15 or so Victim Impact Statements helped give me some self-respect. For the first time in my life I knew I wasn't alone. I recognised that I was not being oversensitive or exaggerating.
37. I was very disappointed with the sentence that DOWLAN received for his abuse. Three years in prison for abusing 20 boys and for all of the trauma that he has caused, not just to the victims, but to their families as well, was totally inadequate. Outside the Court I spoke with the media and publicly acknowledged myself as a victim and publicly made my claims about telling George PELL. I wrote to the DPP asking that the sentence be reviewed and if deemed appropriate, an appeal against the leniency be lodged.

Personal impact of abuse

38. When I was at St Patrick's, I was one of the more intelligent students in the class. I certainly didn't utilise that intelligence because I started to become progressively withdrawn from everything when I was about 15 years old. I did not concentrate on my schooling or care about learning. I was school captain at Villa Maria, if not in name, certainly by the expectation of me being a leader. The abuse caused me to withdraw into myself.
39. I have attempted suicide on a few occasions, but I am not sure they were serious attempts or if I was attention seeking, if it was a cry for help. I drank bleach once. Even when I was at St

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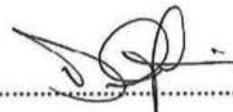
Patrick's I started self-abusing and I started cutting my arms. I don't know why I did that, it was out of character and I only did it a couple of times.

40. Guilt and humiliation have always been my overriding emotions. Knowing about all the abuse that took place in Ballarat makes me feel totally ashamed and abjectly guilty. I have tried to cope with this all my life, but by the time I reached 40 it was beginning to consume me. I felt guilty about not doing more than what I did. I have heard through the media and Police that there could be as many as 40 to 50 suicides in Ballarat alone that were related to child sexual abuse.
41. I was Catholic and I think the Catholic Church is founded on guilt, so it's probably the biggest thing for me. If something happens to you, you are guilty because of what happened to you. You are guilty because you were complicit in it, even though you had no control over it.
42. I don't have any male friends. I get hyper-vigilant when males are around and I am not good with relationships. As a personal trainer, I train young guys but I would not go out and socialise with them. When I used to go to a gym, I stood in the back corner and I used to look around for potential threats. After about an hour of watching and realising there were no threats there, I could move on to the gym floor. I don't feel comfortable about working in a male environment in the gym. I use work to socialise and escape. If I don't, I won't speak to anyone.
43. I rarely go out. I can't go outside. I don't do any of the typical masculine things. It is almost as if I have taken every male trait in my life and gotten rid of it. I don't talk about cars, I don't talk about sport. If I had to go to the supermarket, I used to take my daughter with me, and she was only seven or eight years old then. She was a bit of security for me. She could tell when I was going to have a panic attack and she would get me out of the house.
44. If someone takes me out to some place that I'm not familiar with, I can't cope and I can't talk to people. I don't like new situations or meeting new people. The abuse has affected my relationship with my ex-wife and my kids. I became so withdrawn I couldn't do anything. I can't go outside and I can't socialise with people.
45. Alcohol is a big part of my life. I drink to escape, but I know that it doesn't control my life. I deliberately stayed away from drugs because I knew I could become very easily addicted.

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46. I class myself as a victim. I can't get my head around not being a victim, even though psychologists or psychiatrists that I've spoken to say '*You're a survivor*', but I didn't survive what happened.
47. Five or six years ago, I was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder. I cry over anything, whether it be a happy or a sad occasion. I will even cry if someone is randomly nice to me. I cry pretty much every day and the scar of what happened to me just stays there.
48. Previously I was not interested in seeking compensation. I didn't believe it would help me. I used to think professional help rather than monetary compensation would be more beneficial. I have seen a few psychologists and psychiatrists over the course of the years. It hasn't worked for me so far. I have not seemed to find anyone that I could really relate to.
49. I have changed my opinion on compensation. After being at the court matter for DOWLAN and hearing the stories of the other victims, I am aware that we are all having to endure hardship and the fallout from the abuse. At least compensation could help provide victims with the things in life that they have missed out on by not being able to follow their dreams and career goals. I also think it may encourage others to come forward and seek help.
50. I am happy that there is research being conducted into the long term effects of male childhood sexual abuse. The symptoms victims suffer are finally being recognised as real. For me, those symptoms include fear, helplessness, isolation, self-blame/guilt, shame and humiliation, masculinity issues, anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, substance abuse and loss of confidence in my manhood.

Impact on family and community

51. The first time I told my mother about the abuse was in 2012 or 2013. I was at home arguing with her. She asked me if I was abused whilst at school and in anger I said 'yes'. I gave her no details of the abuse but did confirm that I had been a victim. She knew it was DOWLAN because of our previous conversations. I know that she has a lot of guilt about this. Since the article by David MARR, my mother no longer considers herself a Catholic. Previously she would donate to the Church and attend weekly mass. She no longer does either of these things.

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52. I don't often go to Ballarat, but I did go in 2009 or 2010. I ran into a guy I went to school with, and who I hadn't seen since I left St Patrick's. He told me he had been abused by Brother DOWLAN, and that he was one of the first to make a complaint to Police which resulted in charges against DOWLAN. He spoke as if the abuse happened yesterday.
53. I started to think *'that's really really bad'*, because I always just believed that it happened to me, but it didn't happen to anyone else. I have now realised that there must be a lot of hurting people out there in their 50's. I made a few phone calls to people I had been to school with, and I tried to get together as much information as I could. Most of the people I spoke to said they didn't want to do anything about it. They said things like, *'it's a long time ago, don't worry about it.'*
54. I rang the *Ballarat Courier* and said, *'has anyone done any stories on this? I really think there should be some sort of peer group support organisation happening.'* I was put through to a journalist. She asked what years I was at St Patrick's, and started telling me about how many people she knew who had been abused in those years. Everywhere I went in Ballarat on that trip people were telling me stories about being abused by Christian Brothers. It's still so raw and the impact is still so great.
55. I believe there is a huge story to be told in Ballarat. There are people who are really hurting in Ballarat. There are some older men that will still be suicidal. What I want from the Royal Commission is for their stories to be told. Ballarat was a town of 60,000 people. There's a lot of people there, and a lot of people are involved. I reckon there were probably 100 kids in my year at St Patrick's, and that around 80% of them were abused in some form or another. I know what happened to me has affected my life and that I've underachieved my whole life. It will affect generations of people like that.

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56. There has not been a day since 1973 that I haven't thought about what DOWLAN did to me. Having the reaction I had from both Father PELL and mum made me hesitate to come forward sooner as I felt no one would believe me. As I got older I was too embarrassed and ashamed. I have been having counselling over a period of time and I am of the opinion that since the Parliamentary Enquiry and the commencement of the Royal Commission I will be believed.

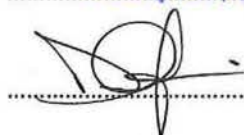
Signed:



Date:

22/04/2015.

Witness:

 Darren Lattimore

Date:

22/4/2015