

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SCOTT COUNTY

MICHAEL GOULD,)
)
 Plaintiff,)
)
 vs.)
)
 BISHOP LAWRENCE D. SOENS,)
 IOWA CITY REGINA HIGH SCHOOL,)
 REGINA INNER PARISH CATHOLIC)
 EDUCATION CENTER, f/k/a IOWA)
 CITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, INC.,)
 AND THE DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT,)
)
 Defendants.)

Law No. 104526

AFFIDAVIT OF
DR. WAYNE SLIWA

STATE OF IOWA)
) SS:
 COUNTY OF SCOTT)

Dr. Wayne Sliwa, being first duly sworn upon oath, depose and states as follows:

1. I am a Licensed Psychologist in the State of Iowa and Licensed Clinical Psychologist in the State of Illinois. A copy of my curriculum vitae is attached which provides a summary of my professional experience and publications.
2. I have provided consultation in cases involving sexual misconduct and abuse by a variety of types of professionals and others, including clergy such as Roman Catholic priests.
3. I have evaluated and counseled victims of sexual trauma and assessed damages of sexual abuse.

EXHIBIT 31

4. In addition to my own professional training and experience, I am knowledgeable about the professional literature in a number of fields insofar as it concerns sexual abuse by priests and other clergy, its impact, post traumatic stress disorders, as well as other mental disorders.

5. I have been employed by the firm of Betty, Neuman & McMahon, P.L.C, counsel to the Plaintiff in this case, to examine the facts and provide expert opinion. The opinions which follow are based on my professional training, knowledge, experience, review of Michael Gould's records and my interview of Michael Gould.

6. My opinions assume that the Plaintiff was a minor at the time of all perpetrations of sexual abuse, which occurred from 1963-1967.

7. It is my professional opinion, to a reasonable degree of psychological certainty, the Plaintiff in this case sustained considerable damage as a result of sexual trauma perpetrated by Bishop Lawrence Soens.

8. Michael Gould stated the memories of the abuse started when he was a freshman at Regina High School. Bishop Soens was the principal at Regina High School at that time. Mr. Gould remembers students standing around a space heater near the gym and Bishop Soens would come along and randomly select one of the boys to follow him to his office. Bishop Soens would summon Michael Gould into his office. While in his office, Bishop Soens would talk to Michael Gould and while talking, would pull his chair up next to Michael Gould so that Michael's body was between Bishop Soens' legs. Bishop Soens would continue the conversation and would rub Mr. Gould's nipples and if they got hard, he would pinch them. Bishop

Soens would rub his fingers on Mr. Gould's zipper to his slacks. He would then stick his fingers between Mr. Gould's legs and fondle Mr. Gould's testicles.

9. These incidents occurred in Bishop Soens' office throughout Mike Gould's freshman and sophomore years at Regina High School.

10. Beginning in Mike's sophomore year and continuing through his senior year of high school at Regina, the same behaviors continued in Bishop Soens' office with the addition of Bishop Soens squeezing Mr. Gould's penis. This behavior progressed to the point where Bishop Soens unzipped Mr. Gould's pants and began fondling Mr. Gould's penis and testicles.

11. Throughout Mr. Gould's high school years at Regina, the incidents in Bishop Soens' office lasted anywhere from 5-10 minutes. The number of times he went to the Bishop's office was one to several times per month.

12. During these incidents, Mr. Gould would bite his lips, stand at attention and look at the wall and disappear in his head so as not to become aroused.

13. Mr. Gould viewed Bishop Soens as a priest and he was raised to believe that priests are the direct hands of God the Almighty. He was taught he would go to hell if he did not obey the priest. He felt Bishop Soens controlled his entire social life because he was the principal of the school. Mr. Gould thought no one would believe him if he told of the sexual abuse because and it would be him vs. the priest. Mr. Gould states that he did tell his father about the sexual abuse during his sophomore year at Regina. His father told him "no priest would do that". Following his attempt to tell his father and his father's reaction to the sexual abuse, Mike began acting up in school in hopes of getting kicked out and his grades dropped from A's and B's to D's

and F's. Mr. Gould states that never told anyone else of the sexual abuse by Bishop Soens.

14. Plaintiff has experienced significant psychiatric problems throughout his life. He first started seeing psychiatrists and psychologists around the age of 10. His father was in counseling at that time for his drinking, and, therefore, all of the family members went for individual therapy for a few months. In his late teens, after the trauma by Soens, he began treating for depression. At that time, he was placed on medication for his depression for approximately six months to one year. In his early 20's, he was again treated for depression and placed on medication. In his mid 20's to mid 30's, he was seen by psychiatrists and psychologists every 1-2 years for depression and anger. In 1990, he went to a hospital seeking antidepressants and was admitted due to their concern he was suicidal. Shortly thereafter, he again sought psychiatric help and was placed on medication for approximately six months. He was suicidal at that time. He had prior psychiatric counseling in 1990, 1992, 1993 and 1995 for his depression, anxiety and anger. He was given medication for these conditions throughout that time frame. In 1995, he was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. In 1996 and 1997, he treated with a psychiatrist three times for medication and counseling. Those treatments focused on his depression, loneliness and trust issues. In 1999, he saw a psychiatrist for anxiety and placed on medication. In 2002, Mr. Gould again sought psychiatric help and took medication.

15. Mr. Gould does not report any problems or difficulties with gender or homosexuality.

16. Mr. Gould has been married four times. He currently reports feeling

depressed and exhausted. He demonstrates extensive symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress, including occasional crying spells, difficulty sleeping, forgetfulness, moodiness, diminished sense of pleasure, loss of motivation, feelings of hopelessness and worthlessness, problems concentrating, and suicidal ideation. Mr. Gould reports he is a worrier and suffers from panic attacks, muscle tension, and daily muscle tension headaches. Mr. Gould has nightmares and recurring flashbacks of episodes of the sexual abuse by Bishop Soens. Mr. Gould experiences intense psychological distress at exposure to cues that symbolize sexual abuse. He states he cannot watch movies with any type of sexual abuse in it. He takes great effort in avoiding activities, places and people that arouse recollections. He stays away from churches and has not gone back to Regina High School. He has outbursts of anger and definite irritability.

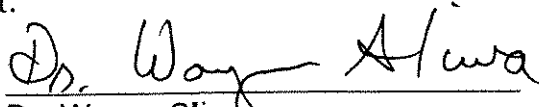
17. Bishop Soens has severely injured this client and the molestations have been devastating in shaping his personality. He suffers from ongoing symptoms of Major Depression and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

18. It is my professional opinion, to a reasonable degree of psychological certainty that symptoms manifested by the Plaintiff Michael Gould resulted in various coping mechanisms which prevented Plaintiff from appreciating the nature and impact of the sexual abuse. This is common with victims of sexual abuse. It is further my opinion that the passage of time, to the age of majority alone, would not bring about any greater ability to comprehend what happened and its impact, nor would the impact of such abuse be likely to diminish without the Plaintiff receiving psychological assistance. It is further my professional opinion, to a reasonable degree of

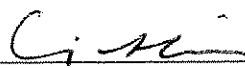
psychological certainty, that the Plaintiff has manifested in the past, and currently manifests symptoms, consistent with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder – Complex with Dissociative Features, Major Depressive Disorder with Suicidal Ideation-Recurrent which is attributed to the sexual trauma perpetrated by Bishop Soens. It is also my professional opinion that the Plaintiff has suffered with these mental illnesses from the time of the abuse to the present. As a result of these conditions, the Plaintiff suffers a significant psychological disability and impairment.

19. It is further my opinion, to a reasonable degree of psychological certainty, based on my education, training, experience, interview and testing of the Plaintiff in this case and a review of Plaintiff's health records, Mike Gould was mentally ill, disabled and unable to file his lawsuit and vindicate his legal rights against the Defendants from the time of the sexual abuse he suffered as a minor until the lawsuit was filed.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.


Dr. Wayne Sliwa

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 15th day of September, 2006.


Notary Public in and for the
State of Iowa

