

Review Board

July 28, 1993

Case #22

1. Allegations:

Initial contact:

Licensed psychologist (former nun - who had known about one or two of the women). She contacted CEM then told one woman about this office. She in turn met and told second woman.

There are three allegations. They were all young women. The incidents began in the early or late high school years. The allegations include lovemaking, inviting her to undress, inviting her to his bedroom; touching and fondling, everything short of intercourse; bride of Christ, imagine Christ touching, kissing, having intercourse with her, hugging him around waist and kissing of genitals. All under guise of spiritual counseling. These complaints took place about twenty-five years ago.

2. Complainants:

All high school girls went to the convent and went to person for spiritual counseling. Two women have left the convent. Initial contact heard him on the TV - "sick religious talk." One complainant is anonymous and made the complaint seven years ago. She was recontacted but will not be asked to repeat her allegations.

3. Response:

Person is stunned. He remembers the girls who are named. They were active in CYO. He taught them to be brides of Christ. He does not know why they are saying these things. He admits to hugging people. He tried to teach girls to love Christ, to go to daily Mass and to make sacrifices. In his talks he emphasizes sex as very special, as God's gift.

4-1 Background of Person:

He is sixty-four years old. He is very intelligent and is known to be deeply spiritual. He does a lot of counseling. He has had problems with ecclesial authority in previous years. He projects an image of sincerity, idealism, and perfectionism.

4-2 Impressions:

A summary of the assessment: He learned it is necessary to express love to other people. He has used self-control throughout his life in order to channel his sexual energy. Regarding the allegations, he denies any sexual motivation in his behavior. In hugging people, if he touched them on any sexual parts, it was accidental. He admits that he was hugged around his legs by a kneeling female, but notes that he was not sexually aroused.

He appears to have difficulty understanding the presence of sin and evil impulses within himself. His personality profile suggests he may attempt to present an unrealistically favorable picture of his personal virtue and moral values. He tends to avoid self-disclosure and places strong value on adhering to the expectations of others. He may be excessively rigid and authoritarian in a defensive way. He tends to see things in an overly simplistic light. He has strong dependency needs while simultaneously has less than usual needs for emotional closeness.

MEFFAN-2 281

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4-2 Impressions:

A summary of the assessment:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RCAS Redaction

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REAS Redaction

[REDACTED]

5. The person has a very aged mother to whom he is closely devoted. He does not want to leave her and enter residential treatment. He is open to outpatient treatment and wants to retire.

6. Delegate Recommendation:

That he continue in regular contact with his monitor. That he be allowed to live at home ~~with his mother~~. That he be engaged in outpatient psychotherapy. That he not have faculties to carry out ministry. That this case be reviewed within one year to see if there is progress in his being able to look at the negative factors in his personal history and personality and inability to handle his personality in a more healthy way.

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