

I John Sanderson was born at Gundagai on the 26/2/51. In 1954 – 1957 my brother and sisters were sent to a Boys Home and Girls Home in Goulburn. My brother and I were sent to Gill Monaril boys home we spent 6 years in there. In 1960 or 1961 we went to Church of England boys home in Pennant Hill Rd. Carlingford Sydney.

We got in a house with about 50 other boys. A Mrs Go ran the house. One night I was talking in my sleep, Mrs Gox gave me a terrible hiding she was a big fat women. The day I got transferred to the next house which was ran by Mr Hadden he was a big man about 6 foot tall and solid build with short hair, he had a yellow FJ Holden. I think I was about 10 or 11 years old. About a month after I went to George Hadden House, I was called into the lounge room it was about 7pm we sat on the lounge. He put his arm around me and started to play with my penis and then he told me to go to his room and get undressed and then he started to penetrate my behind. He made play with his penis and then tried to make me suck his penis. I was not the only boy he made do this; there were about 10 to 20 other boys. It was like a smorgasbord to him. It also happened to my brother Peter by a Bill Hickey at C/E Carlingford, after George Hadden assaulted me he made me have a shower.

I ran away from there when I was 12 years old, I got charged with uncontrollable behaviour at Goulburn Police Station I reported the sexual assault to the Goulburn Police. I got 6 to 8 months at Doruke Training Centre Windsor I went to Yasmer Remand Centre first for 2 weeks were I was taken for medical test. Then I was taken to the centre 2-3 days later I went back to Doruke. While at Doruke I leant to steal cars, break into houses and a lot of other things.

A Legacy man came to see me while I was there to see if I was getting sexually assaulted at Doruke I said "I wasn't". I got out after doing my time and went back to Goulburn to my mother brother and sisters.

I got into trouble again and got a good behaviour bond. Than I broke my bond and got 6 to 8 months at Mount Penn training centre and they were very cruel and used to use a brush and I seen a lot of boys have their spirit broken and they were mental wrecks when they went home after there time was up. We got locked in little rooms no bigger than a toilet for 24 hours and only feed bread and milk. There are a lot of other things they use to do to us but I can't remember. I got out of there when I was about 16 or 17 year old. I went to Redfern Sydney and lived with a boys family that I meet while at Gosford I left Sydney because he go booked for murder his name is Robert he got life in Long bay, than I knocked around with a couple of other guys from the home. Than I moved to ACT were I meet my wife Wendy and had three children, Troy, Natasha-Lee and Aaron. I did not tell my wife about the sexual assault until about 2002 which I keep to myself all those years. I have 3 grandsons and 1 granddaughter they are great children and I hope they never have to go through what I went through.

I have a long criminal record I think if the system wasn't so cruel to me I would be a better person and I wouldn't buck the system so much and wouldn't carry a big chip on my shoulders. I hope when I told my children about my life it would have sunk in and make them better people and when they grow older they have successful lives. I am just sorry I have kept the sexual assault to myself all those years but I felt I had

no-one I could trust enough to talk to about it and I was assumed to tell anyone it had happened to me.

I have really good friends who have helped me a lot; just a few like Margie and her family, Dave and Gabe, Tracey, Adrian, Graham, Russell and Gemma (cousins) and half brother Johnny and his wife Deb. They have all helped me talk about my stuffed up life. Without these people I don't think I would be here today, I would be either dead or serving a long sentence in jail.

1) People that ran homes. Mr Wilson – in-charge of homes.

2) Mrs Cox carer of the first home she used to bash me I called her a fat mole.

3) Mr George Hadden carer of second home sexually assaulted me and other boys also at night time, it went on for about 2-3 years.

4) Bill Hicky sexually assaulted my brother Peter he won't talk about it.

5) Boys Home.

*John Sanderson

*Peter Sanderson

*John Fitzgerald

*Ken Fitzgerald

*Cockran Brothers

*Garry Sutton

*Lou Shepard

*Other boys I don't remember their names.

6) Punishment by George Hadden and Mr Wilson belted with the cane, hit with fist or kicked in backside or hit around the legs.

7) My work record – left school at 12 and half years old.

- Various jobs at Goulburn

- Various jobs at Sydney

- Various jobs at ACT

8) Boys Homes.