

## PROBATION AND PAROLE SERVICE

## PRE-SENTENCE REPORT

John Raymond HOKIN

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]  
 Penrith District Court  
17th June, 1991.

Mr. Hokin is a forty-seven year old divorced man who resides in a home he is purchasing in Merrylands. He is presently in receipt of unemployment benefits.

Family Details

Mr. Hokin is the youngest of two siblings. His father died in 1978 and his mother now resides in the Gosford area and is elderly and infirm.

The offender described his family in hostile terms. He said that they hated him and he hated them. He said that family relations had deteriorated following his first admission to Cumberland Hospital in 1966 when he was diagnosed as a schizophrenic. Further that from this time he was labelled as the family moron.

The offender described his father as suffering from manic depression and abusing alcohol at times, and his mother as a nagging, interfering woman who tried to dominate him. He also described his ex-wife Carol Hokin in the same terms.

Mrs. Hokin senior claims to have been supportive of her son and stated that it is John who is rejecting his family and she expressed hurt at his current attitude.

The offender stated he married in 1975 and was divorced in 1980 when his son [REDACTED] was approximately fourteen months old. Since this time he said he has not had a major relationship. Until the offence took place, Mr. Hokin said that he had regular access with his son in spite of continual difficulties over the years with his ex-wife over the arrangements.

Education and Employment

Educated in public schools, Mr. Hokin said he qualified as a first class machinist in 1964. His stated work record includes firms such as Hawker de Havilland, James M. Kirby, A.W.A. (defence section) and Victa.

Mr. Hokin stated that he lost his position at Victa in 1989 due to retrenchments. Further that since then he has had a number of different jobs. He is currently unemployed and finding it difficult to obtain work.

Additional FeaturesHealth:

Mr. Hokin said that his physical health is reasonable, although due to a back condition he is unable to do heavy lifting.

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In regard to his mental health he attends Merrylands Community Health Centre where the diagnosis of manic depressive psychosis has been confirmed. Prescribed drugs include lithium to stabilise his mood swings and an anti-depressant drug.

Workers at the Health Centre state that he is stable on his medication at the present time.

Offences

The offender is emphatic that this offence was caused by his ex-wife's provocation. He said that for over eleven years she has continually harassed, criticised and nagged him over the access arrangements. He portrays himself as being pushed by her beyond the limit as a result of her publicly abusing him in front of their son for being late returning him.

Regarding the commission of the offence he said at this stage he must have been very irrational as he had forgotten about the presence of his ex-wife's defacto. Mr. Hokin said that he now realised he should have ignored her behaviour as his actions have worsened his relationship with his son. He said his intention was simply to talk to her about Andrew and the access arrangements. Further that he had never intended to harm her.

Whilst the offender admits committing the offence, he takes no responsibility for its occurrence and does not perceive himself as being guilty. He sees that the major problem in his life is Carol Hokin and that she created and instigated the offence by driving him to cracking point where he said to himself "no more". Further that he now claims to realise he will have to stay away from her to prevent her from influencing his actions in the future.

Assessment

Mr. Hokin presents as a lonely self-centred man who has isolated himself from family supports. He appears to have no insight into the bizarre nature of his offence and takes no responsibility as to its occurrence.

He attends Merrylands Health Centre where he receives medication for his mental illness and his progress is monitored.

He does not see the need to attend counselling to address areas such as: relationship issues, anger, stress management, self-esteem.

Although Mr. Hokin does not see himself as guilty of the offence as he was not responsible for its occurrence he has stated his willingness to comply with the conditions of any sentence that is imposed.

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Concerning sentencing options, it is noted that:

1. Mr. Hokin would have a limited capacity to pay a fine due to his low income and mortgage commitments.
2. In view of the involvement of the Merrylands Health Centre it is felt that intervention by this Service would be of limited benefit other than in a strictly monitoring role.
3. Mr. Hokin has been assessed as unsuitable for a Community Service Order.
4. As at 14th June, 1991, vacancies exist for periodic detention for weekends at Malabar, Silverwater and Windsor.



Sally Clements,  
Probation & Parole Service,  
Parramatta District Office.

14th June, 1991.