

New South Wales Police

STATEMENT in matter of:

Place: Bondi Police StationDeath of Samantha RAYEDate: 12 April, 1989.Name: Cliff CONNORS

(Surname in capitals)

Address: [REDACTED] ErmingtonTel. No. [REDACTED]Occupation: Minister of Religion

STATES:—

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
2. My date of birth is the
3. I first met Samantha about December, 1976, when she was Mark Oliver, who was acquainted with the Metropolitan Community Church, where I was a student Clergy of that church.
4. I knew Mark to be a quiet and withdrawn person, very insular, he was dressing and behaving as a male at that time. My memory of Samantha as a male is very limited as I knew Samantha mainly as a female. When I got to know her better about 1980, when she definitely had adopted the identity of Samantha.
5. In that time she would occasionally attend Sunday services and we would occasionally exchange small talk. She would seem to be unhappy, restless and alone. I saw more of her at Sydney Church from 1983 to 1986. In 1986 I formed my own church and in early 1987 Samantha became a member of my church and I had quite a bit to do with her then I got to know her more personally and I advised her often, and I and other members of the church tried to help her.
6. She had become worse, more withdrawn, more depressed, very emotional, my impression of her at the time was that she was out of control, had no control over her life.

Witness: [REDACTED]Signature: [REDACTED]

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..... Name: Cliff CONNERS.....  
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7. About the middle of 1987 I spoke to her psychiatrist I can't remember his name. He told me that the reason for Samantha not having a sex change operation was the lack of Government funds. This had made Samantha very distressed and I noticed a greater lack of control, she would burst into tears and sob for long periods, for no reason, and I felt the whole thing had become to much for her.

8. I had a student clergy look after her and after about two months I saw this was getting out of hand, as she would ring up after midnight depressed and expect you to listen to her crying on for hours. So I took him off Samantha's responsibility and it became increasingly obvious to me that Samantha's needs were beyond our recources. It was about this time that she attempted suicide by pushing a sharp instrument into her forehead, between the eyes. I was not presant at the time but found out about it when she came to church with her eye blackened looking as she had been beaten up I asked her about it, I was concerned because I thought she had been bashed but she said, "No", "I tried to finish off my life." but went on to explain she bungled the effort. She claimed after that she was blind and she'd come to the church with black glasses and a walking stick, someone picking her up and dropping her off at home form the church. I'd do small tests on her without her knowledgeto see if she was blind, as she would exaggerate things, and from these tests I learnt she wasn't blind or at least had partial sight. Others in the church had formed similar opinions that she wasn't blind and this was one of her attempts to gain attention or get help. This all occured about October to November in 1987.

9. In early December, 1987, Samantha just stopped attending the church, we tried to communicate with her by mail, but with no reply and about july 1988 we sent her a letter asking if she wanted to remain as a member, but we received no reply and she was dropped as a member.

Witness: ..... *Cliff Connors* ..... Signature: .....



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10. Over the time I had known Samantha she gradually deteriorated becoming more depressed, emotional, and more out of control. It seemed to me that her personality was disintergrati Samantha was given to melodromatic actions at times to get attention.

WITNESS *Pat Duncombe*  
Pat Duncombe  
Constable  
Bondi Police

SIGNATURE.....

Witness: ..... Signature: .....

