

Case 32 - Bias Crimes Indicators Review Form

File Number: 314
Product Type: TEXT DOCUMENTS:Investigators Note
Date of Note: 3 Mar 2017
Brief Description: Death of Samantha RAYE (32) on 20 March, 1989.

Samantha RAYE named at birth Frederick Roy Lethbridge was born a hermaphrodite and had "deformed male organs similar to a small non operational penis and internal female sex organs." RAYE was raised as a boy by her parents in New Zealand but emigrated from New Zealand to Australia in the mid 1970's to begin a new life living as a female. In October 1988, RAYE underwent a corrective operative procedure at a Private Hospital in Eastwood, transitioning completely from male to female.

The death of RAYE is not seen as suspicious and the inquest was dispensed with on the 30 July 1989 by the Coroner, who ruled it most likely to be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve.

RAYE was located deceased at South Head, immediately below Hornby Lighthouse. South Head and the Hornby Lighthouse appear to be significant to RAYE as she attended the location to sit, reflect and write poetry. The location was immediately obvious to HURRELL because he knew where to look for RAYE when he discovered the suicide note left by RAYE. RAYE'S note simply read, "At lighthouse. Will be back?????" All witnesses are clearly of the belief that RAYE was more than capable of taking her own life and that she was extremely mentally fragile and unstable immediately prior to her death.

NSW POLICE FORCE

STRIKE FORCE PARRABELL

Bias Crimes Indicators Review Form

Investigation No:	32
Victim/Deceased:	Samantha RAYE
Date of death:	20 March, 1989
Investigation Status:	Solved
Offender/s:	N/A
Investigative Unit:	Bondi Police Station
Description:	<p>Samantha RAYE named at birth Frederick Roy Lethbridge was born a hermaphrodite and had "deformed male organs similar to a small non operational penis and internal female sex organs." RAYE was raised as a boy by her parents in New Zealand but emigrated from New Zealand to Australia in the mid 1970's to begin a new life living as a female. In October 1988, RAYE underwent a corrective operative procedure at a Private Hospital in Eastwood, transitioning completely from male to female. The death of RAYE is not seen as suspicious and the inquest was dispensed with on the 30 July 1989 by the Coroner, who ruled it most likely to be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve. RAYE was located deceased at South Head, immediately below Hornby Lighthouse. South Head and the Hornby Lighthouse appear to be significant to RAYE as she attended the location to sit, reflect and write poetry. The location was immediately obvious to HURRELL because he knew where to look for RAYE when he discovered the suicide note left by RAYE. RAYE'S note simply read, "At lighthouse. Will be back?????" All witnesses are clearly of the belief that RAYE was more than capable of taking her own life and that she was extremely mentally fragile and unstable immediately prior to her death.</p>

Indicator 1 – 9 taken from the 'Responding to hate Crime – A multidisciplinary Curriculum for Law Enforcement & Victim Assistance Professionals. National Centre for Hate Crime Prevention, United States Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime, 2000. Indicator 10 developed by NSWPF Bias Crimes based on research and cases.

1. Differences	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Immutable characteristic differences between victim and POI's sexual orientation</i> 	<p>Samantha RAYE, aged 31, was located deceased at South Head, immediately below Homby Lighthouse on the 20 March 1989. RAYE, named at birth Frederick Roy Lethbridge was born a hermaphrodite and had "deformed male organs similar to a small non operational penis and internal female sex organs" (ST-664). RAYE was raised as a boy by her parents in New Zealand but emigrated from New Zealand to Australia in the mid 1970's to begin a new life living as a female. In October 1988, RAYE underwent a corrective operative procedure at an Eastwood Private Hospital, transitioning completely from male to female (OD-404). RAYE formerly resided in a Housing Commission unit at [REDACTED] Macleay Street, Potts Point. RAYE was diagnosed by Dr. Peter STEINHEUER who stated RAYE was suffering, "anxiety neurosis, depression, adjustment disorder (related to sex change and sexual identity) and mild asthma" (ST-664). Friend and Priest, Cliff CONNORS met RAYE in 1976 and described her as "unhappy, restless and alone." CONNORS lost contact with RAYE for a number of years but became reacquainted in 1983, and saw RAYE frequently up until her death in 1989. CONNORS then described RAYE as, "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" (ST-660). Police were initially suspicious of the circumstances surrounding the death of RAYE but it was quickly evident that RAYE had made good on her threats to end her own life and committed suicide. A handwritten suicide note by RAYE was located within her residence and confirmed the opinion of not only Police but all medical professionals involved in the treatment of RAYE. Upon post mortem examination Dr. BRADHURST noted there was "no significant injuries nor were there any signs of violence" (OD-407). Witness HURRELL described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed" (ST-657). Of note also is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. Associate of RAYE, William HURRELL stated, "Samantha attempted to commit</p>

	suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent's Hospital" (ST-657).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Victim is a member of a group which is outnumbered by members of another group in the area where the incident occurred</i> 	RAYE was not a member of any group and appeared to live a solitary and lonely life, having very few friends and no partner.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Victim was engaged in activities promoting his/her group</i> 	RAYE was not engaged in activities promoting any groups. Witnesses state that RAYE was very lonely and isolated and did not socialise with many other people. Father Cliff CONNORS described RAYE as, "a quiet and withdrawn person, very insular" (ST-660). Witness HURRELL described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed" (ST-657).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Incident coincided with a holiday or date of particular significance to the victim or POI's group</i> 	The incident did not coincide with a holiday or date of any significance to RAYE.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Victim, although not a member of the targeted group is a member a member of an advocacy group that supports the victim, or the victim was in company of a member of the targeted group</i> 	RAYE was not a member of any advocacy group and was not in company with a member of any such group.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Historical animosity exists between the victim's group and the POI's group</i> 	There was no known historical animosity between RAYE and any group. RAYE was subjected to considerable harassment by a neighbour at the units where she lived and this was suspected of being bias related. This harassment was described by Dr. Helen BORMAN in a letter to the Department of Housing on behalf of RAYE in 1989. BORMAN wrote, "She [RAYE] is also extremely sensitive and has become the butt of aggressive behaviour in the flats where she lives. Such anti-social behaviour includes urinating outside her front door, and throwing acid through her window" (OD-412). This only serves to demonstrate one of the factors which led RAYE to committing suicide and there is no suggestion that any other person or group was directly responsible for her death.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No

Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
<p>Samantha RAYE, aged 31, was located deceased at South Head, immediately below Hornby Lighthouse on the 20 March 1989. RAYE, named at birth Frederick Roy Lethbridge was born a hermaphrodite and had "deformed male organs similar to a small non operational penis and internal female sex organs." Police were initially suspicious of the circumstances surrounding the death of RAYE but it was quickly evident that RAYE had made good on her threats to end her own life and committed suicide. A handwritten suicide note by RAYE was located within her residence and confirmed the opinion of not only Police but all medical professionals involved in the treatment of RAYE. Upon post mortem examination Dr. BRADHURST noted there was "no significant injuries nor were there any signs of violence." Witness HURRELL described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed." Of note also is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. Associate of RAYE, William HURRELL stated, "Samantha attempted to commit suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent's Hospital." RAYE was not engaged in activities promoting any groups. Witnesses state that RAYE was very lonely and isolated and did not socialise with many other people. Father Cliff CONNORS described RAYE as, "a quiet and withdrawn person, very insular." Witness HURRELL described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed." There was no known historical animosity between RAYE and any group. RAYE was subjected to considerable harassment by a neighbour at the units where she lived and this was suspected of being bias related. This harassment was described by Dr. Helen BORMAN in a letter to the Department of Housing on behalf of RAYE in 1989. BORMAN wrote, "She [RAYE] is also extremely sensitive and has become the butt of aggressive behaviour in the flats where she lives. Such anti-social behaviour includes urinating outside her front door, and throwing acid through her window." This only serves to demonstrate one of the factors which led RAYE to committing suicide and there is no suggestion that any other person or group was directly responsible for her death.</p>	
2. Comments, Written Statements, Gestures	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Bias related comments, written statements or gestures were made by the POI</i> 	<p>There were no suspects or offenders identified during the course of this investigation. The cause of death is listed with the direct cause being: "ACUTE BILATERAL BRONCHOPNEUMONIA AND VIRAL MENINGOENCEPHALITIS. Antecedent Causes: POSSIBLE USE OF INSULIN. Other significant conditions contributing to the death but not relating to the disease or condition causing it: TRANSEXUAL, DEPRESSION" (OD-407).</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Comments and gestures can occur before, during and after the incident</i> 	There were no suspects interviewed or arrested in relation to the death of RAYE, as such there are no comments or gestures attributed to any persons of interest. The death of RAYE is not seen as suspicious and the inquest was dispensed with on the 30 June 1989 by the Coroner, who ruled it most likely to be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Victims may not be aware of the significance of gestures made</i> 	There is no record of any comments or gestures by any persons.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
There were no suspects interviewed or arrested in relation to the death of RAYE, as such there are no comments or gestures attributed to any persons of interest. The death of RAYE is not seen as suspicious and the inquest was dispensed with on the 30 June 1989 by the Coroner, who ruled it most likely to be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve.	
3. Drawings, Markings, Symbols, Tattoos, Graffiti	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were left at the scene or were seen on the POI</i> 	There were a number of drawings and markings left at the crime scene which were photographed by Police (PH-154).

	The words 'Syanti love Jaja' signed 'Jaja' underneath it and beside that were the words 'Swanny Forever' written on the cave wall where RAYE'S body was located. The Officer in Charge of the investigation Constable WILCHER made a number of enquiries in relation to the apparent names written on the wall but these names were not recognised by any witnesses that were spoken to by Police (OD-429).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Before discounting symbols, ensure that you understand the meaning of the symbol</i> 	There were no symbols located at the crime scene, just the words which were believed to be names written on the cave wall.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
There were a number of drawings and markings left at the crime scene which were photographed by Police. The words 'Syanti love Jaja' signed 'Jaja' underneath it and beside that were the words 'Swanny Forever' written on the cave wall where RAYE's body was located. The Officer in Charge of the investigation Constable WILCHER made a number of enquiries in relation to the apparent names written on the wall but these names were not recognised by any witnesses that were spoken to by Police.	
4. Organised Hate Groups (OHG)	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Objects or items that represent the work of an OHG were left at the scene, e.g. business cards, flyers, burning cross</i> 	No objects or items that represent the work of an OHG were left at the scene.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>An OHG claimed responsibility</i> 	No OHG claimed responsibility in the death of RAYE.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>There are indications that an OHG was involved or active in the area</i> 	There are no indications that an OHG was involved or active in the area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>MO is similar to known MO of an OHG</i> 	MO is not similar to any known OHG.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
No objects or items that represent the work of an OHG were left at the scene. No OHG claimed responsibility in the death of RAYE. There are no indications that an OHG was involved or active in the area. MO is not similar to any known OHG.	
5. Previous existence of Bias Crime Incidents	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Victim was visiting a location where previous bias crimes had been committed against members of the victim's group</i> 	The location has no record of any previous bias crimes on COPS. Prior to 1992 however the data collected by the NSW Police has not had the details converted onto the COPS computer system. A number of internet 'gay cruising' sites mention the location due to its proximity to popular Lady Jane Beach which is a known 'beat'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Several incidents occurred in the same area and the victims were members of the same group</i> 	The death of RAYE was ruled most likely a suicide and not a homicide. There are no other listed incidents in the same area and none indicating incidents

	involving victims of any group. Due to a lack of converted data on COPS prior to 1992 however, there is no further information available for comparison. As mentioned above, a number of internet 'gay cruising' sites mention the location due to its proximity to popular Lady Jane Beach which is a known 'beat' so it is possible that other incidents occurred at the location.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victim has received previous harassing mail, email, social media posts or phone calls or has been the victim of verbal abuse (anti-gay) based on his/her affiliation with a targeted group 	RAYE was subjected to considerable harassment by a neighbour at the units where she lived and this was believed to be bias related. This was described by Dr. Helen BORMAN in a letter to the Department of Housing on behalf of RAYE in 1989. BORMAN wrote, "She [RAYE] is also extremely sensitive and has become the butt of aggressive behaviour in the flats where she lives. Such anti-social behaviour includes urinating outside her front door, and throwing acid through her window" (OD-412). This only serves to demonstrate one of the factors which led RAYE to committing suicide and there is no suggestion that any other person or group was directly responsible for her death. Witness HURRELL described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed" (ST-657).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent bias incidents or crimes may have sparked retaliatory bias crime 	No recent bias crimes or incidents sparked any retaliatory bias crime.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	Yes

GENERAL COMMENT

The location has no record of any previous bias crimes on COPS. Prior to 1992 however the data collected by the NSW Police has not had the details converted onto the COPS computer system. A number of internet 'gay cruising' sites mention the location due to its proximity to popular Lady Jane Beach which is a known 'beat'. The death of RAYE is a suicide and not a homicide. There are no other listed incidents in the same area and none indicating incidents involving victims of any group. Due to a lack of converted data on COPS prior to 1992 however, there is no further information available for comparison. As mentioned above, a number of internet 'gay cruising' sites mention the location due to its proximity to popular Lady Jane Beach which is a known 'beat' so it is possible that other incidents occurred at the location. RAYE was subjected to considerable harassment by a neighbour at the units where she lived and this was believed to be bias related. This was described by Dr. Helen BORMAN in a letter to the Department of Housing on behalf of RAYE in 1989. BORMAN wrote, "She [RAYE] is also extremely sensitive and has become the butt of aggressive behaviour in the flats where she lives. Such anti-social behaviour includes urinating outside her front door, and throwing acid through her window." This only serves to demonstrate one of the factors which led RAYE to committing suicide and there is no suggestion that any other person or group was directly responsible for her death. Witness HURRELL described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed."

6. Victim/Witness Perception

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Witnesses (actual) perceive that the incident was motivated by bias</i> 	<p>No witnesses expressed any views or perceived that the death of RAYE was in any way bias related. All witnesses are clearly of the belief that RAYE was more than capable of taking her own life and that she was extremely mentally fragile and unstable immediately prior to her death. Witness HURRELL described RAYE and her long term depression in his statement to Police, saying, "Since I have known Samantha RAYE, I have seen her in severe states of depression. Since December 1988, Samantha has been upset over a number of different things." HURRELL also described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed" (ST-657). Of note also is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. HURRELL went on to say, "Samantha attempted to commit suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent's Hospital" (ST-657). The death of RAYE is not seen as suspicious and was dispensed with on the 30 June 1989 by the Coroner, who ruled it most likely to be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve.</p>

Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
<p>No witnesses expressed any views or perceived that the death of RAYE was in any way bias related. All witnesses are clearly of the belief that RAYE was more than capable of taking her own life and that she was extremely mentally fragile and unstable immediately prior to her death. Witness William HURRELL described RAYE and her long term depression in his statement to Police, saying, "Since I have known Samantha RAYE, I have seen her in severe states of depression. Since December 1988, Samantha has been upset over a number of different things." HURRELL also described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed." Of note also is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. HURRELL went on to say, "Samantha attempted to commit suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent's Hospital." The death of RAYE is not seen as suspicious and an inquest was dispensed with on the 30 June 1989 by the Coroner, who ruled RAYE'S death to most likely be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve.</p>	
7. Motive of Offender/s	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>POI was previously involved in similar incident or is a member/associates with members of an OHG</i> 	<p>There is no indication from any of the evidence available that any other person was involved in the death of RAYE. Of relevance is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. Associate and friend of RAYE, William HURRELL stated, "Samantha attempted to commit suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent's Hospital" (ST-657). The death of RAYE is not seen as suspicious and was dispensed with on the 30 June 1989 by the Coroner, who ruled it most</p>

	likely to be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The victim was in company of a member of the targeted group</i> 	RAYE was not in company of a member of a targeted group and was alone at the time she committed suicide.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The victim was perceived to be breaking from traditional conventions or working non-traditional employment</i> 	RAYE had previously worked as a singer/dancer but was not employed and at the time of her death, was receiving a disability pension.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The POI has a history of previous crimes with similar MO and involving other victims of the same group</i> 	There is no indication from any of the evidence available that any other person was involved in the death of RAYE.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
There is no indication from any of the evidence available that any other person was involved in the death of RAYE. Of relevance is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. Associate and friend of RAYE, William HURRELL stated, "Samantha attempted to commit suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent's Hospital." The death of RAYE was not seen as suspicious and was dispensed with on the 30 June by the Coroner, who ruled it most likely to be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve.	

8. Location of Incident	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The victim was in or near an area or place commonly associated with or frequented by members of a particular group e.g. beat</i> 	<p>South Head although not a well known 'beat', is mentioned on a number of internet 'gay cruising' sites. They mention the location due to its proximity to popular Lady Jane Beach which is a known 'beat'. Due to this, it is possible that other incidents occurred at the location. South Head and Hornby Lighthouse are only a short walk from the known suicide location known as 'The Gap' and the death of RAYE is a suicide and not a homicide. There are no other listed incidents in the same area and none indicating incidents involving victims of any group. Due to a lack of converted data on COPS prior to 1992 however, there is no further information available for comparison.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The location of an incident has specific significance to the victim or POI group e.g. cemetery, religious building, historical landmark, etc</i> 	<p>South Head and the Hornby Lighthouse appear to be significant to RAYE as she attended the location to sit, reflect and write poetry. The location was immediately obvious to the witness HURRELL because he knew where to look for RAYE when he discovered the suicide note left by RAYE. RAYE'S note simply read, "At lighthouse. Will be back?????" (ST-657). RAYE may have also viewed the location as a 'beat' or place to meet men but this is not commented on by any witnesses.</p>
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No

GENERAL COMMENT

South Head although not a well known 'beat', is mentioned on a number of internet 'gay cruising' sites. They mention the location due to its proximity to popular Lady Jane Beach which is a known 'beat'. Due to this, it is possible that other incidents occurred at the location. South Head and Hornby Lighthouse is only a short walk from the known suicide location known as 'The Gap.' The death of RAYE is a suicide and not a homicide. There are no other listed incidents in the same area and none indicating incidents involving victims of any group. Due to a lack of converted data on COPS prior to 1992 however, there is no further information available for comparison. South Head and the Hornby Lighthouse appear to be significant to RAYE as she attended the location to sit, reflect and write poetry. The location was immediately obvious to the witness HURRELL because he knew where to look for RAYE when he discovered the suicide note left by RAYE. RAYE'S note simply read, "At lighthouse. Will be back?????" RAYE may have also viewed the location as a 'beat' or place to meet men but this is not commented on by any witnesses.

9. Lack of Motive

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>No clear economic or other motive for the incident exists</i> 	<p>There is no indication from any of the evidence available that any other person was involved in the death of RAYE. Witness HURRELL described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed" (ST-657). All witnesses are clearly of the belief that RAYE was more than capable of taking her own life and that she was extremely mentally fragile and unstable immediately prior to her death. HURRELL described RAYE and her long term depression in his statement to Police, saying, "Since I have known Samantha RAYE, I have seen her in severe states of depression. Since December 1988, Samantha has been upset over a number of different things." HURRELL also described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed" (ST-657).</p>
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes

<p>Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim’s and/or witnesses.</p>	<p>No</p>
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GENERAL COMMENT

There is no indication from any of the evidence available that any other person was involved in the death of RAYE. Witness HURRELL described RAYE as, “a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed.” All witnesses are clearly of the belief that RAYE was more than capable of taking her own life and that she was extremely mentally fragile and unstable immediately prior to her death. HURRELL described RAYE and her long term depression in his statement to Police, saying, “Since I have known Samantha RAYE, I have seen her in severe states of depression. Since December 1988, Samantha has been upset over a number of different things.” HURRELL also described RAYE as, “a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed.”

10. Level of Violence

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The level of violence and injuries sustained by the victim/s is greater than would be expected for a crime of that type</i> 	<p>The cause of death is listed with the direct cause being: “ACUTE BILATERAL BRONCHOPNEUMONIA AND VIRAL MENINGOENCEPHALITIS. Antecedent Causes: POSSIBLE USE OF INSULIN Other significant conditions contributing to the death but not relating to the disease or condition causing it: TRANSEXUAL, DEPRESSION” (OD-407). Upon post mortem examination Dr. BRADHURST noted there was “no significant injuries nor were there any signs of violence” (OD-407). Of note also is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. Associate of RAYE, William HURRELL stated, “Samantha attempted to commit suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent’s Hospital” (ST-657). The death of RAYE was not unexpected and was not violent in nature.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Weapons of opportunity are used in the incident</i> 	<p>There is no indication from any of the evidence available that a weapon of any type was used in the death of RAYE. As stated above, there were no significant injuries or signs of violence located during the autopsy by Dr. BRADHURST.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The number of POI’s is greater than the number of victims and all POI’s take an active role in the assault</i> 	<p>There were no suspects or offenders involved in the death of RAYE. RAYE was thought to have possibly died of natural causes relating to the serious medical conditions listed on her death certificate. Suicide is also listed as a probable cause of death by the Coroner, which RAYE did by orally ingesting two (2) ‘Valium’ tablets and then injecting a dose of insulin intravenously. RAYE was</p>

	not diabetic which would have led to an overdose and her subsequent death. As detailed above, RAYE had attempted to commit suicide previously in exactly the same manner.
Indicators	(y/n)
Evidence of Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
No Evidence of Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim’s and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
<p>The death of RAYE was not unexpected and was not violent in nature. The cause of death is listed with the direct cause being: "ACUTE BILATERAL BRONCHOPNEUMONIA AND VIRAL MENINGOENCEPHALITIS. Antecedent Causes: POSSIBLE USE OF INSULIN. Other significant conditions contributing to the death but not relating to the disease or condition causing it: TRANSEXUAL, DEPRESSION." Upon post mortem examination Dr. BRADHURST noted there was "no significant injuries nor were there any signs of violence." Of note also is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. Associate of RAYE, William HURRELL stated, "Samantha attempted to commit suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent's Hospital." There were no suspects or offenders involved in the death of RAYE. RAYE was thought to have possibly died of natural causes relating to the serious medical conditions listed on her death certificate. Suicide is also listed as a probable cause of death which RAYE did by orally ingesting two (2) 'Valium' tablets and then injecting a dose of insulin intravenously. RAYE was not diabetic which would have led to an overdose and her subsequent death. As detailed above, RAYE had attempted to commit suicide previously in exactly the same manner on an earlier occasion.</p>	

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Indicator: No Evidence of Bias Crime (NEBC)

Comment: Samantha RAYE, aged 31, was located deceased at South Head, immediately below Hornby Lighthouse on the 20 March 1989. RAYE, named at birth Frederick Roy Lethbridge was born a hermaphrodite and had "deformed male organs similar to a small non operational penis and internal female sex organs." RAYE was raised as a boy by her parents in New Zealand but emigrated from New Zealand to Australia in the mid 1970's to begin a new life living as a female. In October 1988, RAYE underwent a corrective operative procedure at an Eastwood Private Hospital, transitioning completely from male to female. RAYE formerly resided in a Housing Commission unit at [REDACTED] Macleay Street, Potts Point. Associate and friend William HURRELL described RAYE as, "a very lonely person, which also caused her to become depressed." There was no known historical animosity between RAYE and any group but RAYE was subjected to considerable harassment by a neighbour at the units where she lived and this was suspected of being bias related. This harassment was described by Dr. Helen BORMAN in a letter to the Department of Housing on behalf of RAYE in 1989. BORMAN wrote, "She [RAYE] is also extremely sensitive and has become the butt of aggressive behaviour in the flats where she lives. Such anti-social behaviour includes urinating outside her front door, and throwing acid through her window." This only serves to demonstrate one of the factors which led RAYE to committing suicide and there is no suggestion that any other person or group was directly responsible for her death. There were no suspects interviewed or arrested in relation to the death of RAYE, hence there are no comments or gestures attributed to any persons of interest. The death of RAYE is not seen as suspicious and the inquest was dispensed with on the 30 June 1989 by the Coroner, who ruled it most likely to be of natural causes although suicide was also listed as a probable cause. RAYE informed numerous witnesses of her intention to commit suicide if her situation did not improve. The location has no record of any previous bias crimes on COPS. Prior to 1992 however the data collected by the NSW Police has not had the details converted onto the COPS computer system. A number of internet 'gay cruising' sites mention the location due to its proximity to popular Lady Jane Beach which is a known 'beat'. No witnesses expressed any views or perceived that the death of RAYE was in any way bias related. Of relevance is a previous suicide attempt by RAYE in June 1988. HURRELL stated, "Samantha attempted to commit suicide by taking some other drug and not taking her insulin. The Police had to kick her door in to save her. The Police then took Samantha RAYE to St Vincent's Hospital." South Head and the Hornby Lighthouse appear to be significant to RAYE as she attended the location to sit, reflect and write poetry. The location was immediately obvious to HURRELL because he knew where to look for RAYE when he discovered the suicide note left by RAYE. RAYE'S note simply read, "At lighthouse. Will be back?????" RAYE may have also viewed the location as a 'beat' or place to meet men but this is not commented on by any witnesses. All witnesses are clearly of the belief that RAYE was more than capable of taking her own life and that she was extremely mentally fragile and unstable immediately prior to her death. RAYE was thought to have possibly died of natural causes relating to the serious medical conditions listed on her death certificate. Suicide is also listed as a probable cause of death which RAYE did by orally ingesting two (2) 'Valium' tablets and then injecting a dose of insulin intravenously. RAYE was not diabetic which would have led to an overdose and her subsequent death. As detailed above, RAYE had attempted to commit suicide previously in exactly the same manner. The death of RAYE was not unexpected and was not violent in its nature. As per the initial investigation, it has been shown that this case is clearly a suicide and is not a gay bias related homicide.