

SPECIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO LGBTIQ HATE CRIMES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

3.	Walter John BEDSER #4	Date of Death 02/12/1980	Unsolved [undetected]	SF PARRABELL Insufficient Information	ACADEMIC REVIEW Insufficient Information
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Walter BEDSER, 47, was stabbed numerous times inside his antique shop at 4 Darcy Street Parramatta by unknown person/s. After being stabbed BEDSER ran from the shop and collapsed in the greengrocer directly opposite. BEDSER was conveyed to hospital where he later died. Numerous witnesses provided statements to Police in which they described seeing a male leave the shop moments after the stabbing yelling 'get an ambulance'. The male was possibly in company with a young female. A male with the same description as seen running from the shop had purchased the murder weapon (a sheath knife) from Toyworld shortly before the murder. Toyworld was located in the same arcade as BEDSER's antique shop. The murder weapon was located inside the shop. Several people came forward to Police about BEDSER's sexuality and their involvements with him. The overall consensus was that BEDSER was either homosexual or bi-sexual, with statements indicating that he had a penchant for 'young males'. It appears he would employ them at his shop with the hope of engaging them in some type of future sexual activity, keeping a mattress in the upstairs loft for those purposes. No clear motive was ever established for this murder and no suspect/s identified. This murder remains unsolved.

SF Parrabell concluded there was insufficient information. (Il on bias)

Status: The matter was referred to the UHT by the Coroner and is classified as 'unsolved'. The matter was reviewed in 2008 by the UHT and it was established that it had limited investigative potential [detailed analysis outlined in review document]. The matter was recently triaged by UHT and will be reviewed again under the current process.

*On tracking file - Review 2008

*Inquest Conducted in 1983

*Findings - Murder remains unsolved.

* No exhibits located during 2008 review

* Thorough investigation at the time – addressing all lines of enquiry