



New South Wales

Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes

Statement of Alexander Paige

11 August 2023

This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence that I would be prepared, if necessary, to give to the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Background

1. My name is Alexander Paige.
2. I am 56 years old. My address is known to the Special Commission of Inquiry.

Events in December 1993

3. A few days before Christmas in 1993, I attended the Bodyline Sauna on Taylor Street, Darlinghurst. It would have been between 11:30pm to 12:30am. It was unusual for me to be there later than 12:30am as I usually left before this time so I could take the last train home.
4. On that evening at Bodyline, I met a man called "Cris". We chatted for a bit. He told me he lived outside of Cairns in a beautiful place in the rainforest and that he was visiting Sydney for Christmas. He asked me for my phone number and because I was due to stay with my parents over Christmas I wrote "Alex (parents)" on a piece of paper followed by my parents' phone number.
5. On Christmas Eve, I was visiting my parents' house and my father said that the police had called, saying that a friend of mine had been assaulted and was in hospital and they had left a number for me to call them back.
6. I called the number that the police had left and when the police officer spoke to me, he said that he was trying to locate the family of a man they believed to be Crispin Dye. I said that I did not know a man called Crispin Dye. The police officer explained that he had been found with a note that said "Alex (parents)" on it and my parents' phone number. I realised that Crispin Dye must have been the man that I met at Bodyline. I had to backtrack and tell the officer that I met Crispin when out drinking in Darlinghurst one night.

Statement of Alexander Paige— 11 August 2023

7. Once the police officer realised that it was a casual "pick-up" he did not seem to want to talk to me anymore. I do not think he was being homophobic, I had the sense that he was impatient to find Mr Dye's relatives. I recall asking how Crispin was and the officer said to me "he'll be lucky if he makes it through the night." I was not subsequently contacted by police after that phone call.
8. I would estimate that I met Crispin about three days before the police called me. However, it is also possible that I saw him the night that he was Darlington and then subsequently attacked. I had always believed that this may have been the case. Going to a sauna would be something you might do during a night out, especially if you were visiting from out of town, as Bodyline would charge you one entry fee and provide you with a 'pass out' ticket so you could go in and out all night as you pleased, with the convenience of being able to leave some of your belongings in their lockers.
9. However, I also recall reading in the newspapers at the time that Crispin was highly intoxicated when he was attacked. This has made me question whether I met him the night immediately before he was attacked, as when I talked with him at Bodyline he seemed quite lucid.
10. When I heard that Crispin had been attacked, I believed that it could have been a gay hate crime. There was a lot of violence against gay men in that area at the time.

Signature:



Name:

ALEXANDER PAIGE

Date:

11/8/2023