



Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ hate crimes


Statement of [REDACTED] 1450

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 ("the Inquiry") as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. My name is [REDACTED] 1450. My address is known to the Special Commission of Inquiry.
2. My mother is [REDACTED] 1451 and my father is [REDACTED] 1452. Both my parents have now passed away.
3. My parents emigrated to Australia from Europe in 1970. They lived in Australia until 1992, when they returned to Europe.
4. One of our first addresses was on Grosvenor Crescent, Summer Hill, close to the Summer Hill train station and shops. I cannot remember the exact address.
5. We left Summer Hill and moved to different addresses in the inner West, including in the suburbs of Lewisham and Ashfield. We later returned to Summer Hill, living at a unit at [REDACTED] Grosvenor Crescent, which was further from the shops than our previous address.
6. I cannot recall the dates when we moved between addresses, and I cannot be certain where we were living in 1976.
7. Engin Simsek was my mother's [REDACTED]. Engin was also living in Australia throughout my childhood and teenage years. I do not recall him residing with us, although I can remember him visiting occasionally, and sometimes staying for a few weeks.
8. My mother and Engin had a special bond, but they did have their differences. Their differences largely arose from Engin being an alcoholic. I recall him drinking quite a bit in my childhood, but I was too young then to realise that he was an alcoholic.
9. I do not know anything about Engin being in trouble with the police in Australia or going to gaol. I do not know about him having any mental health issues other than his alcoholism.

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10. I do not know anything about Engin being gay or bisexual. I know that he did have relationships with women, and was married at one time.
11. I know that Engin relocated to Türkiye, but I do not know when. Engin became estranged from the family because of his alcoholism.
12. Engin passed away in 1999. I was told about his death by my mother.
13. I provided to the Inquiry a photograph of a Turkish language newspaper article regarding the death of Engin in May 1999 at Kurtuluş Train Station in Türkiye.
14. I saw the original of this newspaper article shortly after Engin's death, whilst I was in Türkiye. The original is not in my possession. The photograph that I provided to the Inquiry was sent to me by a family member.
15. I confirm that I recognise the man pictured in the newspaper article to be Engin Simsek.
16. I had not heard the name Ernest Head until staff of the Inquiry told me that Engin may be connected to his death.
17. I am assisting the Inquiry voluntarily, and hope that I can help provide closure to Mr Head's family.

Signature: Name: I450

Date: 03.10.2023