

Submission
No 13

**INQUIRY INTO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HATE CRIMES
BETWEEN 1970 AND 2010**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 7 November 2018

Partially
Confidential

LGBTI Inquiry

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Miller suspicious death

In 1988 Miller a indigenous women from Western Australia. Miller had just returned from studying in USA and studying at Tranby College and sharing a house with myself and other on old Canterbury Summer hill.

Miller had gone to watch a football match with some of her lesbian friends. Indigenous and non-Indigenous lesbian women.

As Miller and friends were crossing the road she was hit by a car. The car did not stop. To my knowledge no one was ever charged for her death.

At that time going out and coming across football team often wasn't safe.

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Department of Housing –

In [redacted] I give birth to my donor conceived son living in department of housing in the [redacted] Some of the tenants were very homophobic during the early 90's with some the tenants living there for many generation.

As arranged with the donor he was to be known father, and often visited my son, or he would go to his place in [redacted].

When my son was three his father [redacted] was brutally bashed while talking on his phone to his boyfriend on his way home.

They left [redacted] to die, unconscious, slicing him with a knife and bruited [redacted] was so ashamed of what happened to him it was months before we saw him again, by this time he had had a heart attack and serious problems with his lungs and in very poor health.

[redacted] lost his job and flat and had to move to a boarding house. He would leave music he had compose on our answering machine for my son, he would always get so excite hoping to see him soon.

When his father did visit my son, he would want to jump all over him and play, this was very hard his health was still poorly. [redacted] often told me he was not good enough to be his father being such a failure .often leaving exhausted and feeling even more depressed.

The visits got fewer, then when my son was in year six his [redacted] asked me if he could have my son every second weekend and that he had applied department of housing house in the area.

I was asked if I could write a support letter for him, which I did but outlining how ill he had been and what effect it had on my son. I outline the benefits of Richard living locally during his adolescents, I think it actually made it worse as his application was denied telling [redacted] he wasn't sick enough even tho he was on disability pension.

After being rejected for a tenancy he left the area. We bumped into up the road about a year later. Outside the Chiropractors my son had an appointment with. While he was inside I tried to talk to him about visiting my son. He said I was doing a fine job and he wasn't good enough to know.

It was heart breaking, he was very kind person very intelligent and very gifted musician. My son had being playing the trumpet at School he give it up the year he left our lives.

My son is 26 years old now, he has struggled with his identity and blamed himself as children do for leaving.

My son would hope he would turn up for a special birthday, he has never seen him again.

My son being of small slim build and gentle nature he suffered through school with bullying and anxiety. In the housing estate local kids often weren't allow to play here because of my being lesbian.

A tenant across the road was partially bad, telling all his friends parents and children in primary school that he was an artificial child.

We would often come home to kids and parent across the road calling me fat ugly lesbian many many horrible things said. I would try and protect my son as much as we I could from this type of behaviour.

If I called the police they would often side with them, and say they had a right to be there even if they did not live in any of the houses across the street. Also to call the police in this housing estate was a no no, so only made things worse.

My son moved out when he was 19 away from this area. In his late teens two attempts to take his life. But I am very lucky and has recently qualified as and goes to the gym regular and see a psychosis. He is not in a relationship.

I never planned to be single parent my relation broke up during my pregnancy. The effects the homophobia, intimation and bullying and contact attacks on my house and car in this housing estate, was for me to lose all confident to socialize, feelings of constantly being attacked, not being able to sleep in fear, angry for many years.

I have search out many types of treatment for the last twenty years. Learning many ways to live with the trauma as peaceful as I can. I am 62 now and will continues to try and improve myself and my son.

But feel great amount of grief and loss from years missed lover's friends and lesbian community. I have worked all my sons' life and continue to work, but have not a bad loving lesbian relation during his lift time.

The lesbian women community had many problems during the 80s and 90's with many women coming from serve family abuse situations, causing a lot of drug and alcohol violent and problems in the community.

A lot of my peers have died, from many reasons, suicide, HIV, drugs, cancer.

I am lucky to be a survivor.

Our social housing community has many more GLBTI tenants now and we can support each other to feel stronger.

Recommendation:

Housing department have better policies on homophobia.