

**INQUIRY INTO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HATE CRIMES  
BETWEEN 1970 AND 2010 - 57TH PARLIAMENT**

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Partially  
Confidential

An exercise in irony. Fifty years ago now, 1970. A fiend and I, holidaying in Sydney from Adelaide, had decided to check out Marks Park. I waited in the car while he 'went it alone.' Before too long, he returned to the car, his face bloody. He'd been attacked, and was extremely lucky. But for the fact he was a fit, champion sportsman and was able to give as well as he got he could well have been killed. He chose flight to slugging it out and wisely so as there could well have been more than one. He lived to fight another day.

That 'another day' came two years later. Back in our home town of Adelaide. same cast of two. Gluttons for punishment. Location: Adelaide's famed Number One Beat, The River Torrens, This time it was my turn to check it out while my friend stayed in the car. Amazingly, this time it was my turn to get the 'treatment'. I soon returned to the car wet and be-draggled, covered with weeds from an impromptu swimming lesson.

Just two weeks later, Adelaide University Law lecturer Ian George Duncan wasn't so lucky and drowned at the same spot after being thrown in the river by what are widely understood to be rogue police who were subsequently charged but never convicted of his murder.

Of course, at the time one never reported incidents such as these for fear of one's self being charged in return with some offence or other.

My auto biography, entitled 'Life In 'The Queer Lane' is still a work in progress and in need of a publisher....excerpt from same included, inspired by previously described Marks Park incident.



