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CASE SUMMARY

R v RC-F41

URN [] DPA []

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This report relates to an historic allegation of indecent assault against a young boy that took place in St Benedicts School, a boys' Catholic School, in 1985. The offence occurred whilst the victim was a pupil at the school and the suspect was a teacher.

Victim: RC-A421 (date of birth DPA 72)

Suspect: RC-F41 (date of birth DPA 30).

On 6th April 2005 Peter Turner, the child protection officer for the Archdiocese of Westminster, contacted Northwood CAIT. The previous day RC-A421 had attended Peter Turner's offices and stated that he had attended St Benedicts School in the mid 1980s. During the early part of 1984 he went on a school trip to Italy in which RC-F41 was a teacher/supervisor. He had gone to RC-F41's room for help because he was suffering from constipation and remembers RC-F41 squeezing out blood oranges into a sink. RC-F41 asked him to pull down his trousers, put Vaseline on his fingers and pushed the finger into his anus. Fr Hobbs had said "Don't tell anyone about it. I'm only helping you."

RC-A421 first disclosed to another person about this incident in September 2004. At this time RC-A421 DPA over DPA. He was suffering from stress in his professional life DPA. Due to the stress he was under he saw a counsellor called Eileen Summers (no statement taken) and disclosed the Italy incident. He immediately informed his girlfriend, Name Redacted of the disclosure.

RC-A421 stated that he informed Peter Turner of the incident involving RC-F41 due to concerns for other young children. It is fair to say that RC-A421 had also informed Peter Turner that there were other matters that had come forward during counselling but was not going to relay them until they were clear in his mind.

However, due to the fact that any offences had occurred outside the UK prior to legislation catering for such an occasion, Northwood CAIT took no further action other than to ensure a risk assessment was conducted into RC-F41. Peter Turner visited RC-F41 on 4th May 2005 where RC-F41 recalled the incident, claiming that he had been forced by his father, a medical doctor, to check for any obstruction in the anus if somebody was suffering from constipation. However he admitted that it was "wrong and sinful and had worried about it ever since." At the request of Peter Turner RC-F41 was assessed by David Tregaskis, a clinical criminologist (see report attached) to put in place appropriate measures to minimise the risk to children. During this assessment RC-F41 admitted to an inappropriate attraction to young boys including the inappropriate kissing of a boy and sexual thoughts regarding an altar boy.

In October 2005 RC-A421 contacted Northwood CAIT stating that he had recalled a further incident that had occurred in Ealing involving RC-F41. On 16th November 2001 RC-A421 was ABE interviewed at Northwood. He disclosed that he had visited RC-F41 in his office at St Benedicts School in 1985 when RC-A421 would have been 12/13 years old. He had attended the office because he wanted a medal that RC-F41 possessed. Whilst in the office RC-F41 asked RC-A421 to give confession. He knelt down in front of RC-F41 with RC-F41's hand on his head. RC-F41 lifted up his robe and RC-A421 could see that he had an erect penis under his trousers. RC-F41 then held the back of Mr RC-A421's head and forced him to perform oral sex until he ejaculated into some pink tissue paper on the table. RC-A421 said that he didn't tell anyone because he couldn't acknowledge that it had happened and felt guilt at what he had done to get the medal.

Order on conviction [] Compensation [] Forfeiture/Destruction order [] Asset recovery case []
(Exclusion/ASBO/restraining order)

Date of completion: 21 March 2006

2004/05(1): MG 5

(✓) if required

CASE SUMMARY

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RC-A421 also disclosed the incident in Italy in which **RC-F41** had put his finger inside **RC-A421** anus when he went to **RC-F41** room requesting help regarding his constipation. He stated that he had first disclosed to Eileen Summers, a **DPA** and then his girlfriend, **Name Redacted**. He stated that he was still receiving counselling from Mark Brayne, a psychotherapist. He stated that he had nothing to gain by his disclosure.

On 21st December 2005 **RC-F41** attended Southall Police Station with his solicitor, Edward Sellers. When the allegation was put to him **RC-F41** said "Absolute utter nonsense." He was formally arrested for indecent assault and cautioned at 12.08pm to which he made no reply. Later that afternoon he was interviewed by DS Morgan and DC Potter from Northwood CAIT. **RC-F41** recalled **RC-A421** stating that he had taught him in the middle school, supervised him in the Saturday club and went on the school trip to Italy with him. He described **RC-A421** as a "lovely person....a very nice boy, trust him completely." When confronted with the allegation that he had forced **RC-A421** to perform oral sex on him he denied the offence.

He admitted that it was possible that **RC-A421** had come to his office, gave confession and was given a medal. He stated that he rarely wore trousers under his robes unless it was very cold. He categorically denied forcing **RC-A421** to give him oral sex. **RC-F41** stated that **RC-A421** attitude had changed towards him after he had returned from Afghanistan and that he was aware that he had problems whilst based there.

RC-F41 was also asked about the incident in Italy although he had not been arrested for any offence. He stated that **RC-A421** had come to his room in the middle of the night complaining of stomach pains. He had asked him how long since he'd been to the toilet and when **RC-A421** said he didn't know he had put his finger up **RC-A421**'s anus. He said that he had been told by his father, who was a doctor, that if someone was suffering from constipation you should make sure the anus is clear. He stated that he had no medical qualifications other than a first aid course. He gave examples of other occasions when he had given first aid to boys who had problems around their genital area.

RC-F41 then stated, "What I did was right but whether it was done for the right motive, that I'm not sure." When pressed on this point he said he couldn't recall whether he got any sexual pleasure from his actions. When asked about his sexuality **RC-F41** stated that he was sexually attracted to young boys.

RC-F41 was bailed to return to Acton Police Station on 16th March 2006.

Since **RC-F41**'s arrest a statement has been taken from Mark Brayne, a psychotherapist who is treating **RC-A421** for post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and describes the method used by him in abstracting experiences suffered by a client. He stated that **RC-A421** had first seen him in November 2004. On 2nd March 2005 **RC-A421** had recalled the incident in Italy and on 30th March 2005 had disclosed the incident involving **RC-F41** forcing him to give him oral sex.

On 16th March 2006 **RC-F41** returned on bail when he was further interviewed in relation to Dave Tregaskis' report. He admitted to leaving the chaplaincy of St Benedicts School in 1989 because he was becoming too close to a boy. He stated that he had kissed the boy on the cheek and hugged him but there had been nothing sexual between them. He has named the boy and efforts are in hand to speak to him. **RC-F41** also admitted to having sexual images in relation to an altar boy but stated that he had done nothing wrong because he had not acted on the image.

At 3.55pmt **RC-F41** was charged with one count of indecent assault against a male under 14 contrary to Section 15 Sexual Offences Act 1956 and given conditional bail to appear at Ealing Magistrates on 29th March 2006.

DS Gareth Morgan

Northwood CAIT

2002(1)