

13. As our accommodation came with my father's role as Sensitive/irrelevant my mother was terrified that we would be rendered homeless as a result of my father's departure.

Abuse by Victor Whitsey

14. In the spring of 1979, when I was 13 years old, and shortly after my father had left the family home, my brother and I were invited to go and meet with the Bishop of Chester, Victor Whitsey. I had met him on a few occasions before, but did not know him well. I recall both my brother and I being told to put our best clothes on and we were very excited.
15. I did not know exactly why we were going to see the Bishop, but I remember thinking that he was a powerful and important man, and I thought he would help us in the difficult situation we were in. As far as I was concerned, he was the Bishop and could solve all problems.
16. My mother told me that the Bishop wanted to make sure that I was alright.
17. I was taken to the Bishop's House in Chester.
18. I was sent in first to see Whitsey on my own.
19. I was in the room on my own with Whitsey for about half an hour. I recall Whitsey first saying something like "you need comforting" and then gave me a hug, pressing his whole body against mine.
20. Whitsey then started talking about men having urges. I did not understand what he meant and thought at first that he was talking about my father.
21. Whitsey asked me to sit on his knee, which I did not want to do. I thought it was an odd thing to ask a thirteen-year-old. However Whitsey insisted and then I sat on his knee, at which time I could feel that he had an erection.
22. I wanted to get off, but he told me that he wanted to comfort me and make me feel better. He also stroked me with his hands through my clothes. I was sat on his knee for about five minutes.
23. The abuse then suddenly ended. I assume from an adult perspective that Whitsey probably ejaculated at this stage, although all I perceived at the time was that I could no longer feel his erection.
24. Prior to this incident, I had not had any sexual experience. I knew intellectually the physical idea of what an erection was, but had never seen or felt one.
25. I felt confused because it seemed to be in the wrong place, as when I learnt about an erection, I had assumed that the penis would be pointing downwards.

Impact of the abuse of Victor Whitsey

26. After the abuse I felt bewildered, lost, guilty, ashamed and angry. I did not tell anybody what had happened.
27. After I came out of the room, my brother was sent into the room and was there alone with Whitsey for a period of time.