

SENTENCE

JUDGE THOMAS: The jury has convicted you on overwhelming evidence of the gravest set of

offences of sexual abuse of children over a prolonged period that I professionally have ever

encountered. The offences you committed were unimaginably wicked and as we have heard

and seen in the course of this trial and today caused intense and long lasting, we can only

hope not permanent, damage to the six victims of your lust.

You used, you abused your position of authority and total trust within the communities that

you moved to and from. You used, you abused your considerable personal charisma of which

we in this court saw some flickers at the beginning, though not perhaps by the end, of your

evidence. You enjoyed I have no doubt at all selecting your victims, choosing vulnerable

children and you enjoyed doing your best to habituate them, to groom them into accepting

what you did to them. You were and are sufficiently devious, manipulative and bold to have

got away with a highly risky sequence of sexual contacts over a period of nearly 25 years, and

I very strongly suspect that you were stimulated by the sense of danger. And without question

you have carried out these offences in the most persistent and outrageous way that it is

possible to conceive.

When the matter first began to come to light due to the remarkable courage of one of your

victims who was realistic enough to realise that in those days he would need supporting

evidence and was able, catching you unawares, to establish some extraordinary strong

supporting evidence for what he was saying. You have fled the country and hidden yourself

away hoping and believing that you were beyond the reach of the law. Fortunately the law

does not forget, your victims could not forget and you have been brought to justice. I accept

that if you had continued to offend during that period it would have come to light and

therefore I deal with you on the basis that you stopped offending as a result, not of remorse or

regret but of ill health, not long before you left this country.