

He has not come to terms with his past and has resisted any form of therapeutic help when suggested.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Mr C's offence

Bernadette Khan stated that when she questioned Mr C in respect of his conviction for sexual assault, for which he got a two year *probation* *order* later reduced to one year, he described the event as just larking about in the showers after a game of rugby where he pulled somebody's testicles. When challenged with the police report stating that the incident took place in a bedroom, he replied that police records were not always complete. He was dismissive about the event and described it as part of adolescence.

Both Mrs C and the referees were unaware of the true facts about his conviction. Mr C expressed the opinion that this offence was not uncommon in Residential Home today.

Mrs C

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Mr and Mrs C

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

The only close friend of the couple is Mrs O'B who was previously an officer in charge at a Lambeth children's home where Mr C was the deputy but now she runs a private children's home. She seems to play a powerful and important role in the lives of this couples personal and professional lives, whom she counsels/supports on a regular basis.

LONDON BOROUGH OF WANDSWORTH
SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
ADOPTION AND FOSTERING UNIT

CLOSING SUMMARY OF FOSTERING APPLICATION - MR AND MRS CARROLL

DATE OF PANEL HEARING

24th August, 1988.

APPLICANTS

NAME : Michael John Carroll & June Margaret Carroll

DOB : DPA 1948 DPA 1955

RACE : Caucasian (both)

LOCALITY : ^{R.C.} Croydon, Surrey

DATE OF APPLICATION : Received by the Department on 24th August, 1987.

DATE WHEN ASSESSMENT BEGAN : 9th December, 1987

EMPLOYMENT

The couple are residential child care officers employed by Lambeth Social Services Department. It is policy for the Borough, when applicants are employed by them, to seek the neighbouring Borough to do the assessment.

COUPLE

Mr and Mrs Carroll applied to Lambeth to become Sensitive/Irrelevant foster parents to B18 and B19 aged 14 and 12 at the time, who are known to Mrs Carroll through her workplace setting. The couple had previously applied, unsuccessfully, to become foster parents to a sibling group known to Mr Carroll through his own workplace setting.

After they were unsuccessful in seeking to foster the B18 and B19 in the home that Mr Carroll is officer in charge of, they then went on to make an application to Croydon Social Services Department. It was while their application was being processed with Croydon that a conviction for indecent assault became known. The couple had not revealed this on their application form.

Croydon Adoption and Fostering social worker addressed the issue with the couple, and then went on to seek the views of their Adoption and Fostering Panel as to whether the application should further proceed.

Croydon Panel decided that children in care had a right to the same degree of protection as that expected within our statutory responsibilities to children, therefore, the application could not proceed. A further matter to be addressed was that Mr Carroll had not informed his employers, Lambeth, of his conviction. Croydon informed him that they, themselves, would be passing on the information to Lambeth Social Services Department. (For further information, refer to Form F on file).

In the process of this assessment I did ten interviews, three of which were with the couple individually, and four sessions together with the couple.

Three referees were seen as part of the assessment. The first was a senior social worker in Lambeth, who could only discuss her observations related to her professional relationship with Mr Carroll, and knew very little about the couple as a couple, their relationship or home life. Another referee was a lay preacher who, having known the couple for some years, also knew Mr Carroll as a colleague on a committee, but really had little in-depth knowledge of the couple. The third referee was a residential social worker and colleague of the couple from the past, who was aware of Mr Carroll's conviction; however, felt strongly that she could support the couple's application to foster these particular two boys.

The couple were presented to Wandsworth Adoption and Fostering Panel on 24th August, 1988. The Panel felt unable to approve Mr and Mrs Carroll as foster parents for the following reasons :

1. Mr Carroll needs to come to terms with the circumstances of his conviction and the emotional implications for himself, given his strong use of denial, which is evident in the manner he has chosen to deal with the matter to date.
2. Mr Carroll needs to explore more deeply some of the more painful issues related to his identity and origins.
3. The dynamics of the couple's relationship gave cause for concern since it did not appear to be as fulfilling, open and honest as it presented on the surface.

4.

Sensitive/Irrelevant

DESCRIPTION OF COUPLE

Mr Carroll is a tall, large man, with greying hair, and has quite distinct blue/grey eyes. He presents as articulate, with an outgoing personality. He spent the major part of his childhood and upbringing in a Roman Catholic institution, apart from 2 years with foster parents in his early adolescence. This fostering placement broke down, and he then returned to live in the same institution until leaving school.

	Form No	D A T E	
		Sent	Received Back
13. Clearance from AHA (if outside area). Include copy of	10.016 10.012	31.3.88	25.5.88
14. Clearance from Housing Dept. if appropriate - fostering applications only.	10.011		
15. Reference from G.P. Include copy of	10.017 10.012	30.3.88	4.4.88
16. Personal visits to Referees i) 1st Ref. ii) 2nd Ref.	10.019 10.019	21.1.88 21.1.88	
Letters sent and visits arranged.			
17. Acknowledgement letter to personal referees.	10.020		
18. <u>Medicals</u> Letter 10.021 +	Adult 1		12.8.88
19. Chest X-ray report received (if required by Dr.Cadogan).			
20. Pass medical and x-ray reports to Community Health Physican.	10.023		
21. Book Panel date.			
22. Xerox copies of all references sent in with Panel Reports.			
23. Date Panel Hearing.		24.8.88	
24. Result - Accepted/Rejected/Deferred.		Rejected	
25. Letter to applicants from Panel Chairman informing them of Agency decision.		14.9.88	
26. After Panel Hearing amend front sheet. Adoption: Fostering:	10.028 10.029		
27. Relevant extract from Panel Minutes put on applicants file.	10.027 10.027a 10.027b	✓	

10.005

AF2ABE