

Some of these anxieties related to a lack of procedures, whether set down or not. One example was sleeping arrangement duties, where no check was made as to whether or not staff remained on the premises, and if such instances were reported there was no confidence that measures would be taken to remedy the situation. The incidents regarding the intruder had added to the scenario and particular tensions had been highlighted.

There was obvious resentment amongst care staff that teachers apparently did not want to be concerned with developments which occurred out of school hours. Staff also felt that things they had reported had been ignored or seen as insignificant.

Interviews of Families X and Y

Following some interviews and investigations in school the author came to the view that it would neither be right nor necessary to interview boys in school because:-

1. It was too long after the event.
2. Too many changes had occurred.
3. It would be dredging up facts from which the boys had moved on.
4. There was no indication that any inappropriate sexual behaviour was continuing in the school, and interviews with the boys might be harmful.

However, it was noted that the allegations made by two boys currently out of school had not been investigated. These two boys had refused to attend school because they had been upset and frightened by sexual approaches made to them by older boys.

These two families were referred as a medical referral to the author on the basis that should anything relevant be revealed the normal child abuse procedures would be followed.

Family X

This child and his family were seen on three occasions, once at home and twice in a hospital setting. The information obtained was substantially the same as that obtained by Mrs. Marsh, Education Welfare Officer, in May 1991. This boy had been abused prior to his admission to the school and so was vulnerable to approaches which may be made to him. This boy had been subjected to threats of physical violence if he had not agreed to participate in oral sex and in buggery in school with other pupils.

He has now been placed satisfactorily in a day school within the Authority with the full agreement of his parent.

Family Y

Whilst this family have expressed agreement for the author's involvement, nevertheless it has proved exceedingly difficult to obtain appointments with them. They have, in fact, been seen only on one occasion, and the appointment at which he had agreed to discuss precisely what sexual behaviour he had been involved in he failed to attend. It is, therefore, not known whether he has further information as yet unknown, or whether he has any special needs with regard to therapy.