

Sex abuse carer gets six years

A NOTTS social worker who dedicated his life to helping disturbed adolescents has been jailed for six years for homosexual abuse of three teenagers.

The assaults took place in 33-year-old Norman Campbell's home in Conifer Walk, St Ann's.

Passing sentence at Nottingham Crown Court on Saturday, the judge said Campbell had been callous to make the youths re-live their experiences in open court.

One had to tell of being raped with physical force.

"A trained social worker dedicated to dealing with difficult youngsters must have known the likely damage to people forced to give evidence. He decided to make them do that and call them liars."

He also said it had been "immense hypocrisy" for Campbell to sexually misbehave with a runaway while pretending to the parents he was trying to help.

In mitigation it was said Campbell had great difficulty in coming to terms with his sexuality. "His reason for living was his work... perhaps he could not diffuse the two," said Mr Balraj Bhati.

Campbell denied ten charges but, after a week's trial, the jury found him guilty of four serious sexual

offences plus an indecent assault on one youth and guilty of single indecent assaults on the other two.

He was cleared of three more charges of indecent assault against the first boy.

Judge James Orrell said Campbell met this boy at a children's home when he was very young, deprived and disturbed. He had no stable family background and was extremely vulnerable.

"Almost from the beginning you felt sexually attracted towards him and began to make cautious sexual advances," he told Campbell.

"You tried to dominate him emotionally and gradually tried to convert him to homosexual practices.

"As a highly competent social worker you would have known he would be particularly prey to these advances. You knew the risk of corruption and the emotional and sexual confusion and distress which would follow."

He said Campbell desisted as the boy grew up, became stronger and could resist such advances. And witnesses had seen pornographic photographs he had taken of boys which showed he was drawn to the ten-15 age-range.

Vivid

The experiences of the two other boys vividly illustrated how corruption took place, said the judge.

A 14-year-old was given spirits and became intoxicated. The runaway was assaulted and then had nightmares, wouldn't eat, began drinking heavily and joined the National Front for a time.

Blame

"In his confused mind he was blaming black people for what you'd done to him," he told Campbell.

"It illustrates the pain that results."

The judge said he felt sorry for Campbell — "to a degree."

But the sentence was designed to warn anyone in a position of trust who might be tempted, unwilling or unable to resist the pressures of lust."