



BOYS VILLAGE

"Preserving the Child, Building the Man"

9740 8th Avenue N.W. • Seattle, WA 98117 • (206) 789-4440

September 17, 1986

Jan Ingram
D.S.H.S.
Division of Children & Family Services
2809 - 26th Avenue South, N50-1
Seattle, WA 98144

Dear Jan:

Attached is a copy of the Termination Summary I wrote for J■■ G■■■ approximately a week prior to the date it was typed and the date that appears at the top of the letter. At the time that this was written it was accurate and I believe reflected an optimism that existed at the time J■■ left care at Boys Village to return to his parents, John and Tina G■■■. However, events that have occurred since the time of termination put J■■'s success at home in considerable doubt and may seriously alter Jim's ongoing treatment plan.

We received a call from J■■'s father, John G■■■, on September 8th, at which time he expressed a great deal of anger and hostility towards us for some information that had been intentionally withheld as part of the treatment plan understood and accepted by Bill Glidden of the Yakima D.C.F.S. office and Nora Rothfuss of Seattle D.C.F.S. This information pertained to sexual involvements J■■ had with another boy in our program and had been discussed with the caseworkers involved and had been reported to CPS. The determination was made at that time that were the facts of these sexual activities explained to the G■■■, it would most certainly jeopardize J■■'s developing relationship with them and result in once again their rejection of him.

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The G■■■■s have demonstrated in the past their absolute intolerance of J■■ when confronted with a previous sexual incident which occurred at J■■'s elementary school prior to placement. It was thus agreed that the approach that would be least damaging to J■■ would be to handle these issues as in-house matters and to keep the respective caseworkers informed of any additional confirmed sexual activity. It was also decided to arrange for a psychological evaluation focusing on sexual issues with Dr. Leslie Rollings, which did take place. Additionally, a request was made for ongoing sexual counseling for J■■ but this request was denied through the Seattle office.

In my most recent conference with Bill Glidden of Yakima DCFS we discussed the importance of J■■ continuing to deal with sexual issues through the services of Greg Nebbeker with whom J■■ would be receiving after care treatment along with his family.

The above described manner of handling the sexual issues in J■■'s case seemed to be a fruitful and rewarding results for both J■■ and his family. As time progressed in J■■'s treatment at Boys Village, J■■'s parents began to see him as more healthy and normal and J■■ related with them in more positive healthy ways as well. Behavior which earlier may have been identified as inappropriate or disturbed was now looked at as being well within the range of the normal conduct of a young adolescent boy. J■■'s passes at home grew very frequent during the latter half of the 1986 school year and when summer vacation arrived, J■■ spent his summer in a series of extended visits home as described in the termination summary. J■■'s parents expressed unreservedly positive feelings toward their son and they shared many happy times as a family right up to the day that J■■ left.

Unfortunately, a late medical bill on J■■'s parents insurance report came to their attention on the 5th of September. This involved an emergency room contact that J■■ made during the time he was at Boys Village and experienced some rectal bleeding which was apparently associated with a sexual contact with another boy (as reported to CPS). This resulted in their questioning J■■ about sexual activities at Boys Village that he had been involved in and ultimately the predictable rage and rejection followed which we had anticipated months before finally occurred.

During John and Tina G■■■■n's phone conversation with me they once again expressed an unwillingness to allow J■■ to remain in their home freely quoting bible verses as justification for their feelings. They were angered that we did not punish J■■ more for these incidents believing that severe punishment would have had a beneficial effect on the problem. While acknowledging that we had been very


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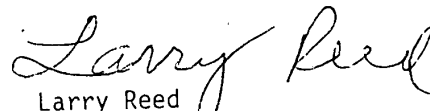
effective in dealing with a variety of other behavior problems J■ had exhibited, they did not seem to believe that they could operate as a family unit with J■ still exhibiting this "sexually deviant" behavior. I encouraged them to not allow this to remove J■ from the home but to work together as a family. It is our belief that J■ particularly needs a lot of love and support from his family in order to effectively and therapeutically deal with his sexual identity confusion that he struggles with.

It is not our opinion, nor was it the opinion of Dr. Rollings that we can accurately identify J■ at this time in his life as a homosexual. J■ certainly was as actively interested in girls as boys in many very socially acceptable ways; i.e; having girl friends at school, skating with girls at the skating rink, giving them flowers, etc. And we felt it critical at this time that J■ receive acceptance and support for his worth as an individual from his immediate family if that is possible.

As Bill Glidden was on vacation at the time these issues surfaced, I contacted the Yakima DCFS office and apprised the worker who was covering his cases of the situation and volunteered any assistance we could give them as needed. At the time of writing this letter I have not been contacted by Yakima and am unaware of the present status of Jim's placement with his family. It is certainly our hope that J■ can remain at home and the family's work with Greg Nebbekker can allow this to continue constructively. I understand that the incidents that I have been relating in this letter are certainly complicated and may require further elaboration, so I welcome you to contact me at Boys Village - 789-4440 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Larry Christensen
Psychiatric Social Worker


Larry Reed
Executive Director

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attach: