

APPENDIX B

INTERVIEWS WITH DAVID1

FIRST INTERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

The researcher introduced herself to the participant. She explained to the participant that she was doing her dissertation as partial fulfilment of the master's degree in clinical psychology. She also stipulated her boundaries as researcher to the participant. She briefly explained the focus and goals of her study to the participant as well as her methodology, and more specifically her method of data collection i.e. the interviews with the participants.

The researcher also explained her interest and motivation for doing research on the topic of the emotional experiences to incestuous fathers and reiterated her unconditional acceptance to whatever the participant would like to share with her. The researcher then discussed the letter of consent and the content thereof with the participant. The participant was allowed time to ask questions, to clarify any uncertainties or to voice any concerns.

After the participant had signed the letter of content, the researcher spent ample time on talking to the participant about less threatening subjects, such as his work, his hobbies etcetera. When the researcher sensed that the participant felt more at ease she carefully guided the participant into the topic of the research and asked if he would be comfortable if she started taping the session. The following conversation was then recorded:

David1: This week has been very tough. I'm trying to organise some things since, I am going to trial next week where I will receive a sentence.

Researcher: I can hear that you feel very anxious about it.

David1: I do. I've been through hell the past couple of months, waiting for this.

Researcher: So, what have you gone through in the mean time? Did you have different Court dates or ...?

David1: Yeah, it started in July when the charges were laid against me. I was arrested seven weeks later. Those seven weeks was hell for me. Not knowing what's going to happen and not knowing when.

You know, when I was arrested, I was handcuffed and I was put in the cells for about two hours. Then I was let out on bail on R1 000.00. Then, I was taken into Court with my Advocate and another court date was set. Sorry, my mouth is a bit dry.

Researcher: Would you like a glass of water?

David1: Please. My mouth gets dry when I talk about these things.

Researcher: This is difficult stuff to talk about and its anxiety provoking.

Break in recording

(Researcher gets David1 a glass of water).

Researcher: I really do appreciate you sharing this with me, I realise that it is not easy for you.

David1: Yeah, it's okay. Anyway, I couldn't plead guilty to the charges, because my lawyer and I didn't know what they were. So it was indecent assault, but we didn't know the details.

Then they set another Court date for the 1st of October and it was postponed because they were still doing an investigation. They set another one for the 1st of December. It was postponed because of the investigation.

Researcher: My word, you just had to wait in anxiety not knowing what's going to happen next. That must have been such a difficult time for you.

David1: I can't even ... there's no words to describe. They set another court date for the 17th of January and I was hoping it would have been over by December. But then on the 17th of January it was postponed again to the 17th of February. Then the 17th of February they set a trial date and they subpoenaed my ex-wife and the mother of this child and the child to come and testify in court against me.

I then spoke to ... I spoke to my lawyer, because he said to me I must plead guilty, because I had already told the welfare what happened and that would come out in Court anyway. I would have pleaded guilty anyway you know, I couldn't sit there and plead not guilty if I was. I'm just not that kind of person. I would rather face the consequences.

So my Lawyer spoke to the Public Prosecutor and said that I am prepared to plead guilty. But I first sat down with my Lawyer after we got the charge sheet and all the statements and there were a lot of things on the statements, which weren't true

Researcher: Okay.

David1: Maybe I should start from the beginning now and tell you.

Researcher: All right, just as you wish. Whatever you feel comfortable with.

David1: Three years ago my wife and ... my wife and I ... or we decided then ... we've got two little girls. One is the age of eleven now and the other one is six.

We always said we want to foster a child because my wife's mother had done the same and she had this foster sister and we would do the same. And my wife was involved in this black orphanage and Sunday school and that and we really got involved in the Church and we are strong Christians.

One day we went to do something for the kids and there was this little white girl, Anna. She was twelve at the time and my heart just went out to her,

because I've heard of the kids being abused by the teenage boys in the orphanage. I just had this feeling that something happened to her.

When we went home that night, I said to my wife, "You know, we've got to see if we can help that child, and my wife said, "No, she's a bit old. I said: "but you know, she's eleven, twelve. She is starting high school. You know, it's probably the age where you can get her on the right track." Anyway my wife eventually said: "okay we will have her over for a weekend", which we did.

My wife had taken a liking to Anna straight away. Anna has been living with her Granny since she was about three, four and her mom never looked after her and her mom was in and out of a lot of relationships, never had jobs. Then her Granny couldn't look after her and her two brothers anymore, she couldn't afford it financially so they stuck the kids in an orphanage. The father was somewhere around, but the mother ... the father had abused her when she was ... when she was about four, he sexually abused her. Which we were told by the children's' home didn't happen. They said the mother was lying.

And so we decided to ... we would foster her. The mother promised them that January ... that's then July, she gave her a date, she said the 12th of July or the 16th of July, I can't remember, she would then take them out of the orphanage to come and live with them. She never pitched and Anna was devastated. And then when I phoned the mother, she said: "I can't take them." So they immediately placed her with us after two weeks, which I think was the first mistake.

Researcher: The first mistake?

David1: Because we hardly knew her and she didn't know us. You know, we had her two weeks. You know, it's like a honeymoon and we decided we were going to give her everything that our children had and she had nothing. I mean her clothes were rags. I mean, her underwear, her dresses, basically it wasn't worth anything.

So we started buying her clothes, I built her a bedroom, her own bedroom so that the kids didn't have to share. The first thing that happened was she ... she latched on to me and I became everything to her.

Researcher: How did it make you feel when she latched on to you like that?

David1: It made me feel good, because there was nothing that she wouldn't do for me. There was ... there was absolutely nothing she wouldn't do.

Researcher: You were this Idol in her eyes?

David1: I was this Idol and if I went to the shops, she went with me. If I was working on my Koi pond, with my fish, she was there with me. If I was in my garden, because I love gardening and I love animals, then she was there with me.

And ... my wife ... my wife was that type of person that didn't "fat" around me. I'm a very affectionate person, and my wife was not. But that wasn't too much of a problem in our marriage. My wife was busy four nights a week, from 5 o'clock to 9 o'clock at night and then she would come from work, and she would be tired and go to bed. Saturdays, a lot of Saturdays, she would go shopping with a friend, or be working. My kids would go to their grannies because they like going to their grannies. Anna always stayed with me, so we were always alone.

Researcher: It sounds as if there was a lot of distance between you and your wife.

David1: Yeah and I was also going through a stage, I just turned 40 and I felt that my youth was slipping away and my wife was still young and it became a bit of a problem for me.

And hanging around with Anna all the time ... we were always together. We would get on the motorbike and we would ride down by the dam and so on. But she would always insist on lying on my lap while watching TV. But she was never shy about her body and she was already half developed and everything and she would wear pyjamas where you could see through the sides and it did sort of turn me on a bit but I got a bit nervous about being turned on. Then she started hugging me and ... but not like a daughter would hug her father.

Researcher: Just that bit more....

David1: Exactly!

Researcher: How long was she staying with you before this started?

David1: She came to us in August and things started around about January, but it was in April when her and I were alone in the bedroom. She pulled her pants down in front of me. She said: "you wanna see" and she lay on the bed. And I told her to put her pants back on and I ... I got all flustered. I felt terrible and ...

Researcher: By terrible, you mean?

David1: Guilty.

Researcher: Guilty?

David1: Yeah because ... I liked it. And I had this picture flashing in my mind. You know it wasn't two days later, we were on our way to the garage, but we were going on a holiday and she went with me to put diesel in at the garage and sat she in front. She had shorts on and she said: "do you wanna see?" and she pulled her pants down again.

And this time I ... I didn't know hey, because it actually made me feel good, but also terribly guilty. And then it started from there. It started with teasing and so.

Eventually we were in the Jacuzzi one day and we were alone and she just ... under the water she took her costume off and she just started doing summersaults with her legs open and ... I saw everything.

Anyway, after a while my wife started picking up something was wrong, because I couldn't deal with what was happening. I couldn't deal with the guilt. I love my wife dearly. I mean, it really was not as if I didn't love my wife. I really ... for thirteen years I was really crazy in love with my wife. But I couldn't stop this thing. It was like I was powerless.

I would sit down with her ... with Anna and I will say: “Anna, this is wrong, it has to stop” and then she would sort of put her head down and she’d feel ashamed and I’d feel ashamed. We would say it has to stop, but it never did. It just never did. I just couldn’t stop it.

And it got to the stage where one day she said to me: “would you do it to me?” And I said: “no” and she said: “why not?” And I said: “because I can’t”. Yes, I was tempted.

Researcher: Tempted?

David1: I was tempted to have sex with her, but I felt terrible about wanting it. Only God knows why it didn’t happen, but I fought it with everything. I said to her: “why ... why ...?”

Researcher: It sounds like it was difficult for you to refuse her?

David1: It was. It was extremely difficult for me to refuse her! And I said to her: “why do you want to?” and she said: “I want to know what it feels like and I love you more than a father”. And that was flattering to me. You know, this 13-year-old girl now who sees me in another way. That’s the way I saw it you know.

All of that was sick and it wasn’t right and I knew it. But it made me feel good about myself and ... and it made me feel like, wow, I’m forty years old. Here is this beautiful little girl and she’s prepared to show me her body.

Researcher: I can hear that the attention she gave you also made you feel good about yourself.

David1: Yeah. Exactly. No one ever treated me like that. You know, when I was building her bedroom, I made a log room upstairs and I got on the ladder. I just finished the bedroom and I was about to start with the staircase and I got on the ladder and the ladder collapsed and I fell from the ceiling, head first into the passage and I ... I shattered this whole joint here.

There was nothing in my hand, my hand was lying on the side here, and I had two operations in the first week. The doctor said I wouldn't get any use of my hand because there was ... this was just too damaged. When I came out of hospital I had ... I had two pins coming out of the here, two pins coming out of here with a metal bar across. Those things had to be cleaned everyday. Where the pins go in to the skin they had to be cleaned. You know, everyday she would ... she would ... she would get all the stuff right. She'd unbandage it, she would clean it all up, she would ... my fingers started curling-up, and because I wasn't ... I couldn't use the muscles yet.

Researcher: Yeah.

David1: The level of damage ... my fingers started curling-up. So she would ... she would massage my fingers and when ... after the cast came off, it was hard and I had terrible scars. She would massage it with oil. She ... my wife never ever did that for me. Anna was like a ... like a little nurse around me.

Researcher: She took care of you.

David1: Yeah.

Researcher: It sounds as if she gave you the attention and nurturance you were longing for and it made you feel better about yourself.

David1: Yes and I gave her the attention that she never had before. And I think that was where the trap was. And that's why ... one of the reasons why it ended up where it did.

It went on for about eight months but I just ... after eight months I couldn't live with myself anymore. I couldn't. I couldn't stand the fighting ... fighting this urge to make love to her and things like that and fortunately I didn't do that. It went as far as looking at her. I did touch her on her breasts. I did touch her at the bottom. I didn't masturbate her. I didn't put my finger in her. I didn't do anything like that what she has accused me of. It never went as far as that.

I just couldn't let it go further than that. For what reason ... maybe the fear, or the consequences. Although, there was fear of the consequences already. My wife asked me why didn't I come to her? I was petrified. I was really petrified to talk to anybody about it.

Researcher: It sounds as if you felt torn inside yourself.

David1: Exactly! I had this urge to do it and on the other hand I felt guilty about doing it. You know, this one night my wife and I were lying in bed and my wife asked me: "are you having an affair?" and I said: "no why?" She said: "something is wrong". "Something is wrong" she said, "You're not the same person anymore".

And I wanted to tell her about it but I couldn't. I just couldn't and eventually, being a Christian, I prayed. One afternoon I prayed and I said: "God, this has got to stop, and I can't stop it. It's just not in me, I've tried everything". I said: "you've got to bring this thing out into the open and whatever consequences..."

And it was three days later. The Friday night my wife had gone to bed and Anna was sitting on my lap. There was a ... one of these movies on TV, late night sex movies on TV, she wanted to watch it. I said: "no", she said her uncle Bob, it's one of her mother's ex-husbands, he use to take them on weekends, he used to let them watch the movies. I said: "no", I was actually flicking through the channels you know, past sex scenes. And I had my hand under her pyjama top, I had it on her side and I didn't realise my wife was standing in the passage and she could see in the glass of the wall unit. She could see my hand on the side; I didn't touch her that night. I just had my hand on the side and I went on to her leg and into her groin, but I didn't touch her on her breasts or at the bottom.

My wife saw that and ... like I saw it was going too far and I said to her: "it's time to go to bed" and she said: "okay fine". I went to put her to bed and I put off the lights and as I come down the passage my wife walked past me and I said: "what's wrong?" She said: "nothing".

I then went and got into bed, she came back, she lay down, she sat up, she was holding herself like this and I said: "what's wrong?" She said: "I've got

a pain on my stomach”, I said: “do you want me to take you to the hospital?” she said: “no, I’ll be alright” and I fell asleep.

I woke up about 4 o’clock in the morning and she wasn’t there. I got out of bed, I will never forget that day for as long as I live, and I walked down the passage and my wife was sitting in the lounge with her legs on the couch, she folded it like this. I said: “what’s going on?” She looked at me and she said: “don’t tell me what’s going on”. She said: “I saw it”.

At first I tried to deny it, she said: “don’t even try to deny it”. She said: “just take your clothes and get out of this house”. Then I went to the bedroom and I packed. I started begging my wife and eventually she said: “okay fine, you can stay”. And we got up and went to have a bath, we still bathed together, because we always use the bath together every morning and she said to me: “I want you to know that I phoned Suzanne”, who is a friend of ours from the Church, she’s a psychologist. She didn’t do her master’s degree in psychology, but she studied something in psychology. She phoned her and Suzanne said: “well if nothing comes up, I have to report you”, according to the Law or whatever. If she doesn’t, she can get in trouble. And she said: “she will check it out”.

And now I was beside myself, the fear now, all I could see was jail and all the rest of it and having to deal with all this. I ... that day was the beginning of hell for me.

Researcher: You must have felt so anxious and uncertain of what was going to happen.

David1: Yeah. I didn’t know what was going to happen with my wife, I didn’t know what was going to happen at all.

Researcher: And you had no control over anything, totally powerless...

David1: Yeah, I had no control, no power. My wife wouldn’t let me touch her. It was Valentine’s Day, we went to dinner that night at Suzanne’s house with some of our friends. I actually couldn’t eat. I was literally sick.

The next morning my wife just ... she basically was having panic attacks. She could hardly talk. We went to Church, at Church I saw her mom and dad, her mom is a Pastor and I said: "I want to speak to you". I went home with them and my wife went to the orphanage. I told them everything that I did and asked them for their forgiveness. I don't know if they were in shock, they seemed ... they seemed to take it okay.

The next two days I couldn't go to work, I phoned my father in law early in the mornings talking to him. Then I went away to go on a conference, on a Wednesday, to Sun City with the Company. And while I was away, my wife, she couldn't go to work, she just cried all day. She wouldn't talk to me on the phone.

After the conference, I met my wife and my family in Rustenburg because we were going to the farm for the weekend with family of ours. We went there for the weekend. It was awful. It was absolutely awful. We came back on the Sunday, Monday morning at work she phoned me and she said: "don't come home while I'm packing" and she packed her clothes and I had to come home for some reason and she was still there. She put her arms around me and she said: "you will always be my best friend" and she left.

And she was in her mom and dad's house for about a week and then she just turned completely against me. Her mom and dad just started lying about me and her mother branded me a pedophile, trying to accuse me of fiddling with my own children. She must have said things to my wife, like you know: "how can you live with a man that's a pedophile?"

The day before I went to the conference, Suzanne tried to get me an appointment with a psychologist, but she couldn't see us for three months and she said Suzanne doesn't need to report it. But the Tuesday I got on the phone and I phoned the welfare and I got hold of the social worker who placed Anna with us. I was in a state and I said to her: "this is what has happened, I don't know what to do". I thought she was going to phone the Police and have me arrested, that's what I was expecting.

Then she said to me, she said: "David, calm down", she said, "this is very common in foster homes", she said: "I will give you the name of a psychologist that you can take your family to and she will help you through this", and that was Dr X. So the minute I got back from the conference, I

actually saw Dr. X for the first time and I took Anna with me and Anna and I went to Dr. X for probably about a month.

My wife and the kids and the foster child were living with my in-laws. Anna kept phoning me, kept SMSing me that I must phone her and then I would phone her and she would say to me: "Dad, I don't want to live here anymore, I want to live with you. I'm not happy here". Then, I said to her: "well, at the moment we've got to wait and see what happens, and don't worry" and this and that.

And after about the sixth time, she SMSed me to phone her, my wife phoned me the next day and said: "why did Anna say this to you, why did Anna..." and I said: "but how do you know, how do you know this?" So I realised the only way she could know is if somebody was listening to the phone calls. I said: "have your mother been listening to Anna's phone calls" because my wife wasn't there when I phoned her. And she said: "no she was just walking past".

Anyway, the next time Anna phoned me, I said: "Anna, where are you?" She said: "I'm in my bedroom", I said: "is your door closed?" she said: "yes". I said: "go and open your door" and her granny was standing there and she gave Anna a filthy look. And after that, Anna turned right against me. My mother in law and my wife got into Anna's bedroom and they started asking her questions, "what about this and that?"

Anna then started lying about what happened. She said that I offered her sweets so that she would show me.... She said that I stuck my tongue down her throat that she couldn't breath, she nearly choked and this and that. Then she was forbidden to see me. I wasn't allowed to take her to Dr. X and my wife didn't like Dr. X and my mother didn't like Dr. X.

You know, Dr. X asked Anna on three occasions, "do you want to lay a charge?" and she said: "no", she said: "I love this family, they've been good to me, I'm happy there and I don't want to break up this home or this family. I can't go back to my mom because my mom has never been there for me and she never will be".

After Anna turned against me, all of a sudden, she didn't want to come and stay with me anymore. It was under supervision, okay, my mom and dad were staying there when I saw my kids.

My wife got a boyfriend, some guy she's been dealing with on the phone, this was like about a month later. There wasn't anything between them before that, but they've dealt seven years on the phone, he was a customer. She went on business, they went for dinner and she took a liking to him and he took a liking to her and so he said to her that for extra money he'll give her some work that she can do. My father in law phoned me the one night, the Friday night. Because what had happened, phone calls were ... I don't know if you need to know this information?

Researcher: It's fine. Whatever you want to tell me is fine.

David1: My wife's cell phone bill was coming to me and she had sent 500 SMS's in one month, to three different numbers and I phoned her 'cause I know it was this guy, you know. And she must have told her father 'cause her father made up a story and said that I went and told my company that my wife had affairs with three different men. He phoned her and got her in a state. He phoned me, threatened to report me and so on. I ... I can't tell you what you did to me.

Researcher: You must have felt so angry and perhaps even rejected.

David1: Yeah. It was awful. Then my mother in law phoned Dr. X and said that she doesn't want me to see my children unless I'm supervised. But Dr. X told her that she has been counselling me for a month and that she is quite happy that my children are safe with me.

So my mother in law said: "how can you let these children sleep with a pedophile" and Dr. X said to her: "well do you actually know what a pedophile is?" She said: "David is not a pedophile". My mother in law said: "Well, according to my knowledge, he is a pedophile". So Dr. X explained to her what a pedophile is and Dr. X said to her: "you are only a Pastor in a Church, you are not a qualified psychologist. So that was the end of that.

My mother in law started cutting my face out of the photos in the home. My wife told me I was sick.

Researcher: So this whole thing was snowballing, it was getting worse for you by the day.

David1: Yeah. My wife said to me on the phone, she said: “you are sick”, she said: “you are a sick man” and I can never come back to you and I couldn’t deal with it anymore. I begged her to come back to me.

I eventually ended up in hospital for a week. I received sleep therapy, tranquillisers, anti-depressants and all of that. When I came out I went to stay with my sister, because I just couldn’t be on my own.

Researcher: Tell me more about your hospitalisation.

David1: I just couldn’t function anymore. You know, all I could see was the road ahead of me. I was losing my wife. My kids were devastated. They couldn’t deal with the fact that my mother in law was cutting out my face from the photos in the home.

I know what I did was sick. I hate myself for it, but it really hurt me when my wife branded me as a sick man. My mother in law branded me as a pedophile, my wife’s grandmother also branded me as a pedophile. I thought how would I ever get my life back together, because if my wife never comes back, I don’t want to live the rest of my life on my own, and whoever I find or get into a relationship with, I’m gonna have to tell this person, and are they gonna accept me after that?

And I just had this feeling in my chest. I can’t explain it. I couldn’t eat. I lost 14 kgs in two weeks. I was skin and bone. I hated myself and I was scared and just... just everything. I cried all day. I couldn’t work. I found myself just driving around aimlessly and eventually I went to my doctor and he said I had to go to hospital.

When I came out of hospital, I moved in with my sister. Fortunately, my sister’s maid, took me under her wing and nursed me, because, I couldn’t get out of bed. For the first week, I just lay there in bed, taking my tablets. She would bring me breakfast and she would pray with me. I lived with my sister like that for about seven months. The fighting between my wife and I was unbelievable.

Researcher: You really went through a lot then. It sounds like you had lost all hope.

David1: Yeah. I had lost all hope. I can't explain it. Fortunately my kids still loved me. They were very hurt, but they lived for the day they would come to see me.

Eventually I plucked up the courage to move home after my wife had moved the furniture out. But I was only home for a week after my wife phoned me and said that she didn't want Anna anymore. So, her and my mother in law was looking for another home for Anna.

Now, Anna's biological mother hated our guts. The minute we fostered her, the mother tried to get her away from us. The mother just gave us endless problems. Now, Anna realised she was never coming home and that she had lost everything that she had with us. She also realised that she didn't have a future with my wife. So she told her mother what had happened and the mother said she wants her back and she would see us in court. That's when I moved back to my sister again. That was July last year and I waited seven weeks to get arrested.

On a Thursday afternoon, I couldn't take the waiting anymore. I came home from work, I was beside myself, I didn't know what was going to happen to me and I started praying, saying: "God, just let them arrest me know, I can't take anymore of this." And it was about 2 minutes later, the phone rang and it was the child protection unit. They gave me the opportunity to bring myself in.

Researcher: It sounds like you experienced some form of relief then ...

David1: I did. I couldn't take the waiting anymore. I was sort of relieved that the process had actually started. I just couldn't take the waiting anymore. But, through all of this, I just gave it all to God.

The only way I coped was with the help of my friends. I've got a lot of Christian friends and I have told most of them what I did. None of them, and this is the main thing. None of them had rejected me.

Sometime last year, my father in law phoned and said he found a diary of Anna. He said that there was a page there that read: "Horny David was at it

again today.” He said he was going to tell the children what I have done. I told him not to threaten me. I phoned our friend, Suzanne and told her that I have decided to tell my oldest daughter, Caroline, the truth. I didn’t want her to find out from somebody else.

She knew I had done something with somebody, but she didn’t know who it was. Suzanne said she didn’t think it was a bad thing. So, I spoke to Caroline and said: “I want to tell you something. I want to be open and honest with you and it is up to you how you handle it. I wanna tell you what I did and with whom I did it.” And then I just said Anna’s name, and Caroline knew. And I told her what I did and she said: “you know what daddy, I forgive you.” She put her arms around me and she has stuck by me.

Dr. X interviewed my children a couple of weeks ago. She said she has never heard children talking the way about their father, the way mine did. In fact, last week, Caroline told my wife she doesn’t want to live with her anymore, she wants to live with me.

My children were taken to the Teddy bear clinic to be evaluated. I only found out recently. My mother in law wanted that. You know, my wife asked me if I had touched our own children and I said: “no!” In fact, when Caroline started developing I said to my wife I feel uncomfortable when Caroline comes into the bathroom when I bath. And I don’t want to go into the bathroom when she bathes.

Researcher: So, you were setting the boundaries.

David1: Yes, because I grew up with boundaries. And my wife said I should talk to Caroline about it. I did and Caroline was devastated, because she is such an innocent girl. Caroline was really upset and my wife said: “Well, just leave it for a little bit longer”. And I did.

Anyway, they took them to the Teddy bear clinic to be assessed and they told my wife that there was no way that I have abused my own daughters.

That will probably benefit me in court, but you know, when I read the statement from Anna, I was literally lame. Because the statement said that I started it with Anna and that I used to sulk if she didn’t want to do anything with me. It said that I masturbated her so many times that she can’t even remember

and that she never got aroused. And I don't know where she got the word "aroused". It said that I stuck my finger in her, that I forced myself into her bedroom one night and lay on top of her. It said that she couldn't remember what happened next.

It really hurt me, because it wasn't true. Yes, I wanted to make love to her, but I stopped myself. I felt too guilty and scared. I never did those things that are in her statement.

Anyway, the psychologist at the Teddy bear clinic said that she blanked it out that's why she can't remember. Anna was sent for a physical examination and the report said that she had been penetrated. But her biological father also sexually abused her, you know. The statement said, that I told her that I can go to jail for what I was doing and it was true, because I did say that to her. I think her mother made her lie about the other things. The psychologist said that she believes Anna, because every time she saw her, her stories were consistent.

So, I said to my advocate, I am prepared to plead guilty to what I have done, but I am not prepared to plead guilty to what I didn't do. So, I am only pleading guilty to, touching and kissing her on the mouth. But, I don't know what they are gonna do with the other accusations that was made.

Researcher: So now you feel that it might not be enough that you take responsibility for what you have done.

David1: Yes. I can't tell you ... I wake up in the morning and I ... I have started taking the anti-depressants again, because I have got to try to get through the trial this week. My emotions are so up and down. You know, one day I want my wife back and I long for her. The next day, I don't want her back.

I'm extremely sensitive to the kids. I find myself overdoing it with the children. When they are gone, I wonder if I did anything to upset them and I'm so scared of hurting those children that I can't sleep at night. I just want to protect them. I want to make sure that they are happy and secure. But then I'm the pedophile. Every time my in-laws hurt my children, I fight with my wife about it and then I'm the bad person again.

Researcher: It sounds to me like you are on an emotional roller coaster and that you feel extremely confused.

David1: I do. I'm up and down the whole time.

Researcher: It also sounds to me like you are very cautious of what you say and do, but no matter what you do, you are the bad person. No matter which way you go, you loose.

David1: Exactly. I'm so scared of hurting my children even more. I know what I have put them through. I'm over careful now. And I just can't do anything right in my wife and my parents in law's eyes. I'm just a sick and bad person to them, no matter what I do.

You know, the fact that my wife has a boyfriend, is killing me. It's really killing me. I was always faithful. Being a Christian, I kept myself pure to the day that I got married. My wife and I were both virgins when we got married. I was 28 and she was 19 when we were married. We tried to do it God's way. And just the thought, even though after what I did, just the thought of another man being with her ...it's eats me up inside.

Researcher: I can hear that you have experienced a great loss, losing your wife...

David1: Yes, but it is my own fault. What I did was sick, and I'm trying to deal with that. And while I'm trying to deal with that, I've got this fear of going to jail, and not seeing my girls and how are my children going to deal with it. Because Caroline told me, she won't be able to handle not being with me. So ... I've got to deal with that.

You know, I'm struggling financially and I'm struggling to keep the house. But, I don't want to sell the house, because the children don't want me to sell the house. They were both born in that house.

Researcher: It sounds to me like you are putting your children's needs first and your own needs comes second.

David1: Those children are everything to me. They are everything to me. I ... you know they, they've insisted on sleeping with me in the bed since my wife left and Dr. X said to me, "don't do it because your mother-in-law is going to use that against you".

And I thought, "No, I am not going to let my children loose out just because of my mother in law." So, I, I allow it. And two weeks ago I said to my wife. I said, I want to tell you something now, those kids are now sleeping with me in the bed, I said, because of their security. I said, and I am not going to allow your mother to control me.

And she just said, "Okay fine." And then she phoned me yesterday and she said, "I want to talk to about something, but I don't want you to get cross. I said, "Okay, fine."

She said, "I don't mind Katy sleeping with you because she's still small, but Caroline is developing and I don't want her to sleep with you". So, I thought about it. I spoke to my mother and my sister about it, and they said no, that sounds right, you know. And I thought, yeah, it is time for her now to move out of my bed. So, I said to my wife, all right I will buy her a mattress and she can sleep next to my bed.

And I bought a mattress and I picked them up from school, and I said to Caroline: "that's your mattress". And she said, "Oh, that's nice", but she thought I was buying the mattress for her bed. And then I said, to her, "Do you know why I bought you a mattress?", and she says, "No". So, I said to her, "Because you can't sleep with me in the bed anymore." And she was devastated. But I explained to her and she said to me, "Daddy, do know what?" She said, "When I sleep at night, I feel so secure next to you." She says, "I can sleep with peace-of-mind because I know you're right there and no harm can come to me."

She told Dr. X, she said, "Dr. X there's not another person that I trust more than my Daddy." And she says, "My Dad's the most honest person I've ever met." And Folly said, "How do you know that?" And she said, "My Dad's never said anything to me that's a lie." But she has dealt with that now.

But I have to get through next week. I think maybe, if I can get through next week and keep myself out of prison, maybe I can patch my life back together.

Researcher: It sounds like you feel that your life is on hold now. You can't plan anything. You don't know where you are going. And it's been long. It's from last year, July ... when it all started.

David1: Yeah, it has been too long. You know, my wife, my wife caught me with Anna, February. She left a week later and the charge was laid against me in July. And I've been in and out of court since July. I must, I must just get my emotions sorted out. Because at the moment I can't ... I don't know ... one minute I'm happy, one minute I'm ...It's terrible.

Yesterday, I had to go to Correctional Services or whatever. I had an interview with them. It's part of the process. I didn't know that. They wanted to know, they need to know if I am a candidate for house arrest and community service. So, that's if they choose to give me house arrest or community service, I've got a permanent home, where they can check up on me. And what are my commitments, work commitments – so, do I still go to work, what are my commitments to my children, you know, all that, that type of thing.

Researcher: Is that the sentence that you are hoping for?

David1: That's what I'm hoping for. But nobody can give me guarantees of what my sentence will be.

My advocate says, I've got a 10% chance to go to jail. Dr. X says she doesn't know how he can say that, the guy in Correction Services says if you Plea Bargain the sentence you agree with him, but there is no guarantees. You know, the Magistrate said to the Mum, because the mother is trying to get me in jail ...she went to the Public Prosecutor that morning, because she had Anna there, because she thought the trial was going to be that day. She didn't know that we had already arranged to plead guilty. The Public Prosecutor said to her, "There was not going to be a trial today, because David is going to plead guilty." And she said to him, "I'm not happy with David pleading guilty because now he's going to get away with this. He is going to plea bargain and get away suspended sentence. And I want to see that man in jail."

So, he said something to her. My wife was standing outside and she couldn't hear what he said to her, and the mother said, "Pity, it's a damn pity.",

and then she stormed down and she sat down in the court right behind where I had to sit. And when I ... after I pleaded guilty, the magistrate said to her, "I understand that you must be angry." And she said, "Yes, I'm very angry".

Then she said to her, "Well, you can be very glad that this man has pleaded guilty, because he saved your daughter from a lot of trauma, if she were to be put on the stand. And she said, "But make sure that you will be here for the trial." And she said, "I will definitely be here." And then she said to me, "Right, you can leave. You can go. I would like to see the child."

And they brought Anna in. My wife was there with me. And the magistrate said to ... my advocate, "I know she is tall, you can see she is tall, but she's still a child. You can see she is still a child." And that was that.

Researcher: Again, it sounds like you feel that no matter what you do, you are the bad person. Even the fact that you are pleading guilty is not good enough for Anna's biological mother.

David1: Exactly.

Researcher: How are you coping at work? How do you still manage to go work and be effective in your work?

David1: I'm a wreck. I am actually not coping. I just, I, I just do the bare minimum.

Researcher: I'm just thinking know of all the losses you have suffered. You have lost your wife, your family or the way it used to be. You have lost being with your children every day. You have lost your life as you knew it.

David1: Yeah. I've also lost our holiday home, because my wife insisted on me selling it, so I did. I can't even go to my church anymore, because my in-laws are there. I had to join a new church.

Fortunately the pastor there, I confided in him and told him what happened and he said to me, "David, I will walk this road with you". It's amazing but I've got a lot of support.

Researcher: Yes, a strong support system is very important for you right now.

David1: I've got a lot of friends that is supportive. A lot of people want to go with me to court, but I, I prefer to go just on my own. I don't know, I don't know. I might feel ashamed, you know, because the things that I have done will be discussed. It also hurts me to hear what I have done. I hate myself for it.

You know, I've got a good lawyer, or an advocate. He said to me that if I hadn't confessed to the welfare and to Dr. X he could have won this case for me. I don't know how, because my wife would have testified about when she caught me with Anna. But I wouldn't want it that way. I would never have pleaded not guilty if I had done it. I have to take responsibility for what I have done. Otherwise I would just hate myself even more.

Researcher: How do you feel now about the fact that you phoned the welfare?

David1: Well, I do not regret it. And you know, Anna was pushed into telling ... My mother-in-law and my wife pushed her into a corner where she ended up ... because she always said to me, "I won't tell anybody."

She was ... she was pushed into telling them about it. And I blame my mother-in-law for that. But in the same breath, she did me a favour. Because I don't want to live the rest of my life wondering when that phone will ring one day, and they're coming to arrest me, because Anna's let it out, or she's now married and told her husband and, and he's laid a charge against me, or that her mother gets to hear about it.

I said to Dr. X, I said to her, I'm going to report this myself. She said: "David, don't do it, don't do it". You know I actually went to my lawyer and I said to him the same thing. And he said to me, "David, don't invite trouble where there is no trouble." But it was something I had to do. I just believe that by facing the music, telling the truth, you come off lighter.

Researcher: It must have been frightening to tell people what you have done...

David1: It was, but I felt relieved when I told my daughter. But there were just so much trauma in my life... I can't, I can't. There's no way to describe ...

There's just no, there's just no words ... You know, I hate myself. There was a sense of relief when it came out, but the fear and the pain was still there. I felt a bit better after I've been arrested and I got out on bail. But it was short lived. It's short lived, because you're over one obstacle and the next one is ahead of you. And you don't know how the system works.

I had times when I thought that this thing is taking so long, that they're going to throw this thing out of court. And every time I would, I would get to the court and I would think: "today it's over for me". And I walked out there, shattered. I was arrested and it was, it was October, December, January, February, it was five times that I've been to court.

And then, and then, and then when my wife phoned me ... one day I was going out for lunch with the rest of the workers, and my wife phoned and said that she just got a phone call from the child protection unit, and that she has to go to court. I just, it was like a shock all over me. That lame feeling. That panic.

But I've been relying on Dr. X a lot to help me in this court case. But I have to prepare myself for the possibility that I might go to jail. You know, the other day, trying to find a customer's office, I accidentally drove into the prison's entrance. And you know, I couldn't work after that. The fear just engulfed me. But I think my saving grace will be that I went to Dr. X. I think the fact, the fact that I obviously committed to seeing her and to see her for the next two years, which she will tell the court and the fact that I'm committed to paying for Anna's therapy, will benefit me.

Dr. X said that if Anna doesn't get help, she will probably end up even more promiscuous and she will probably become a prostitute or whatever. And that is her concern, and it is my concern too, because I do love Anna. She's a wonderful person and I feel guilty for what I have done to her.

I know what happened was from her previous abuse. It came out at Dr. X that I was sexually abused when I was about nine. I didn't see it – I didn't see it as such a bad thing though in those days. But I was just a little boy. A friend of mine followed me home from school and when I was changing he started grabbing me and this and that. And then my older cousin, he was also a guy, and he also tried to kiss me and this and that, you know.

And Dr. X said that is probably the reason why I related to Anna, as a

13-year-old girl. Because of my abuse and her abuse, you know... We were both scarred by our past. And Anna also never received therapy after her father sexually abused her.

I do feel that the Welfare is also at fault. The welfare said that the mother was lying about Anna being sexually abused by her biological father. I feel that my wife and I should have been prepared. They should have said to us "this child has possibly been sexually abused by her biological father" and it should have been checked out. If they found that it was true, they should have said to us, "this is what this child will typically do. Either she will turn against men, or she will go for the man in the home". Apparently that is often what happens. Girls like her latch on to the man in the house, and the only way that they know how to connect with him is on a sexual level. We could have been more prepared, and my wife could have looked out for the signs.

Researcher: Can you tell me a bit more about your relationship with Anna?

David1: It was quite strange, because she had the ability to be like a woman. She had the ability to be totally grown up, and she had the ability to be a little girl. She ... when we were alone, she would become like this grown up person, and in my mind I didn't see her as a child.

When Anna was alone with me, she changed completely. The funny thing is, something would happen between us, and the rest of the family was at home, and then she would go and play with the kids outside and she would play dolls and she would be this little girl, and all of a sudden it would hit me, that she is not a woman.

And it would go backwards and forwards. And then I would feel this tremendous guilt and ... because I'm seeing this little girl and I just looked at her and ... and touched her and there's this little girl playing there, and then I think, gee wiz, this is never going to happen again.

Researcher: Until that shift comes and she changes?

David1: Until the shift comes. I tried to stop it, but I couldn't. I just couldn't. What I really battle with, is that I have tried to save her from further abuse. And

then, I did the very thing that I tried to save her from. And that I battle to deal with. I hate myself for that.

I battle to forgive myself. For a long time I haven't been able to ... now I'm starting to forgive myself, but it has taken me a long time. But I can't focus on that now. I only have this court case in my mind. I am anxious about what they are they going to say. Are they going to say this, are they going to say that? You know, it's painful for me. I don't know how I'm going to get through these next few days.

I can't tell you how I'm going to get through these next few days.

Researcher: It must have been hard for you to get through the past year?

David1: Well, I've hung on. I didn't tell you, but I also took an overdose of tablets. After I, after I've been in hospital, I moved back to my sister, I don't know if you want know that part of the story.

Researcher: I'm interested in whatever you wish to tell me.

David1: I said to my wife, "Please don't leave me". But she just shouted at me and said, "Get it into your thick head! I'm not your wife anymore and I'm not going back to you." And I couldn't deal with that and it was a Saturday morning, and my little girl was playing soccer.

And I've been battling this Saturday morning with this, because there's always a match, and my mother and father-in-law insisted on coming. I had to sit on the one side of the field because they were sitting on the other side of the field, and it was traumatic for me. And that morning, my wife did phone me and she asked me to take a can of oil to a friend's house who was servicing her car. So, I said to her, don't worry I will, I will, get the oil from you at the soccer game and take the oil to our friend.

Anyway, some personal friends of mine, who was also at the game, came to me and said, "Get on with your life." – you know – "Your wife's never going to come back to you". Anyway, after the game I was walking back to the car and my wife came walking towards me with the oil. I said something to her and at the top of her voice, in front of everybody in the car park, she said to me,

“Get it into your thick bloody head, I’m never coming back to you!” And before that, you know, I was in so much pain and everything and I thought of ending it all. But I told myself, “You are going to go to hell if you take your own life and what about those two little girls who need your more than ever, and I would sort of get my head right.

That morning, when she said that, something in my head just went. And I took that can of oil and I smashed it on the floor and it burst open. I got into my car and my wife said to me, “You will replace that oil!” I bought some more oil and dropped it of. But then my mind was ... it was gone. For the first time I can honestly say I ... I didn’t want to live any more.

And I wrote a letter to my wife, and in the letter ... there was a lot of anger and I said, “when I’m not here tomorrow, tell my little girls to blame their grandparents”. I was bitter. I gave the letter to my friend who fixed my wife’s car and told him to give it to her, when she fetches her car. I went home. I parked my car at the end of the neighborhood. I went into the house, I locked the house up, I locked my bedroom door. I had a bottle of tranquilizers that the doctor had given me, and I took about ten. I climbed under the bed.

Then my phone rang and it was the friend who serviced my wife’s car. He said, “David, I’m sorry, I didn’t mean to pry into your business, but something just told me to open the letter and I did. He asked me where I was, but I told him that it’s over and that I can’t walk another step and I put the phone down. He panicked and got hold of my wife and asked her to open the house for him. My wife just told him to phone the pastor. And that hurt me. It hurt me.

After I took the tablets, I smsed “goodbye” to another friend of mine. He rushed over, broke the doors down and took me to hospital. But do you know how terrible I felt the next morning? I felt so ashamed that I had actually tried to take my own life. That shame was almost as bad as the shame I felt about Anna. It was terrible. But I think there’s a part of you that can only take so much. The pain, shame, the condemnation, the loss, the fear.... It’s not only one thing that you are dealing with.

Researcher: It sounds as if, at that point, it all just got too much for you, that you felt helpless and that you lost all hope.

David1: Yes. I didn't have any hope of anything getting better. It's just this dark deep depression. You go to bed with it. You wake up with it. You can't do anything about it. But somehow I carried on and now I have the trial next week.

Researcher: I can hear that you went through a difficult time with many heavy emotions. However, it seems that currently, the fear and anxiety of the upcoming trial, overshadow the feelings of pain, condemnation, loss etc.

David1: Yes, it does. It is totally overwhelming. I have to prepare myself emotionally for the trial somehow.

Researcher: Are you going to see Dr. X before the court case?

David1: Yes, in fact I have to see her just after this. I should probably get going, otherwise I am going to be late.

Researcher: Oh okay. Well, I really do appreciate the time you took to tell me everything you did and I could see and hear that it wasn't easy for you. How do you feel after telling me all of this?

David1: I feel okay. It helps talking about this stuff. It's actually so nice to talk to somebody who doesn't judge me. You know, it is so easy for people to judge. But I also use to judge people who did things like this. I never thought I would be capable of doing such a thing. Now I know not to judge people. You never know what mistakes you are going to make in life.

I don't know if you will be able to see me before the trial next week. I might not be able so see you after the trial, depending on the sentence I will receive.

Researcher: I understand. Well, I will keep in contact with you and phone you over the weekend to see if we can arrange another meeting. I'm really glad that you feel better in a way. Thank you again for your time and willingness to share your story with me.

END OF RECORDING

SECOND INTERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

David1 and the Researcher greet each other and talk about general topics such as traffic, work etcetera. David1 starts talking about his anxiety regarding the upcoming trial.

Researcher: Last week you said that you didn't know how you were going to get through the week.

David1: Yes. It was not easy. I kept myself busy, and I tried to keep my mind off of the trial, which was not easy. But, I have my moments where I feel that my chest is going to close up and I get all fearful. And then I think about all the positive things. Dr. X's report and so on. I just keep focussing on the positive. And I tell myself, God is not going to put me in prison where I'm going to get sodomised and things like that. And that's how I got through this week.

I heard about this other father who molested his daughter. He didn't get bail and he spent one year in prison awaiting his trial. He got sodomised like you can't believe.

It's just so unfair. Yes, he did a bad thing, but... You know, if somebody goes out to hurt a child, without any remorse and without any excuses, then it's a different thing. But when somebody comes from a background where they have been abused and it has affected their lives, and they have now affected somebody else's life through their own abuse, I think you have to look at it in a slightly different way.

Researcher: Like in your case?

David1: Yes. You know, people have different circumstances. I think this happened, because I have never been as close to anybody as I have been to Anna.

Researcher: It sounds as if you experienced a sense of connectedness with her.

David1: Yes. Like I said to you last week, nobody has ever treated me the way Anna treated me. Nobody has ever loved me, the way she loved me. Nobody has ever taken care of me, the way she took care of me. Not even my mother. I have got a good mother, but my mother is not affectionate.

Researcher: And that's what you felt you really needed? Affection?

David1: Yes. It was like, that was just the gap that Anna filled. You know, my wife would never get up in the morning and make me a cup of coffee. It was always me doing that.

Now, there was somebody else taking care of me. Somebody else, who showed me that I was special. Somebody that idolised me. Somebody that I really meant the world to.

Researcher: It sounds as if that gave you a sense of self worth.

David1: Yes, it definitely did.

Researcher: I wonder what the link between the sexual behaviour and you feeling special, appreciated, nurtured and so on could be, if any?

David1: Well, I couldn't understand how it ended up there. All I could speak about is what I have learned from Dr. X. And she said that when you have been sexually abused before, and when you are close with somebody, you associate sex with that.

Researcher: Does that understanding fit with you?

David1: It does fit with me in a way. When I read Dr. X's report, there just dropped a whole lot of things in place in my head. There was, I mean, there was a sexual desire, but it wasn't only a sexual thing. Anna was always

hugging me. She was always excited to see me. When I came home from work, she would always come running out the door, screaming, being happy to see me.

The sexual part of it was ... I see it more as a lustful thing, than anything else. I just think if I had a wife that was like her, it would have been heaven. Unfortunately, it couldn't be that way, because she was still a child.

Researcher: I understand that her caring and nurturing behaviour made you feel appreciated, special and so on. Can you tell me a bit more of how your incestuous involvement with her made you feel?

David1: It gave me some form of acknowledgement. Being with Anna just made me feel better about myself and that was the cherry on top. Because, I wasn't just with any ugly old woman of my age or older than me. I was with a beautiful, young girl, almost in the prime of her life. She used to tell me that she loves me more than a father. But now I'm not allowed to have any contact with her...

Researcher: It must be hard for you...

David1: Yes. It is hard for me, but at the same time she tells me she hates my guts and she never wants to speak to me again. But in my heart, I know that's not really what she means. I know she is poisoned by her biological mother. I know she's angry, because she's lost the new life that she's had with us. She had a huge loss. I also lost a lot...

Researcher: Hmm... You not only lost the life that you were used to, but you also lost Anna's friendship, her companionship, her love.

David1: Yes. I also lost seeing my kid's everyday and I lost my wife. I have to deal with her being with another man.

Researcher: And that's really difficult for you.

David1: It is. I just hope that I will be sentenced tomorrow, so that it is over and done with. I just exist now. I can't get excited about anything. I've asked some of my friends to go to court with me tomorrow to support me. Let me tell you, through this I know who my real friends are. And I tell you what, some of them are the ones I least expected it to be.

You know, my friends still trust me with their children around. And that means a lot to me. That was one of my biggest fears, that my friends would keep their children away from me or watch me when I'm around their children. I would never be able to live like that. I know inside of myself that I will never do that. I know why this happened. My friends are the ones that keep me going. I have lost faith in myself in the past. Hated myself. Even though I stopped with everything, I still saw myself as this very bad person and that I will be like that till the day I die and that people would see me that way till the day I die.

Researcher: And now?

David1: I've learned that it is not so cut and dry as that. I'm now beginning to be able to forgive myself. It has taken me a long time. My friends told me that I had to forgive myself. That I had made a mistake, that I can't change it and that I have to forgive myself and move on. And people have told me that a lot of people do bad things. Lots of people have done what I did, and they got away with it. And they don't take responsibility. I never tried to hide from it. I reported myself to the welfare and so on.

Researcher: I can hear that your friend's advice, opinions and unconditional support have really helped you.

David1: Yes. And I find that the more people I tell, the better I feel. Because the more people I tell and they don't reject me, it just helps. And that's why, there are a lot of people that knows what I have done. But I'm an open person. I'm not one for keeping dark secrets.

Researcher: Thank you again for sharing it with me.

David1: It's a pleasure. You know, sometimes I felt like a Dr. Jekyll and a Mr. Hyde. Because, everybody saw me as the perfect husband and the perfect father. I never used to forget my wives birthday and so on and people used to envy her.

And I used to think that I am a nice person. But when this started happening, I saw that I was not a good person. Even with Anna, you know. Sometimes, I was a father to her and sometimes I was not a father to her. I played this double role. I liked the one role, but I hated the other one. But it was as if I had no control over the other one.

Researcher: It sounds as if you felt powerless in those situations. Having no control over what you were doing.

David1: If I had control, I would never have done it. I wouldn't have allowed it to happen. There were times when I was in control, like when she wanted me to have sex with her and I refused. It happened quite a few times. Like it said in Dr. X's report, my boundaries and Anna's boundaries were obscured. But I think my boundaries stopped by touching her.

I couldn't cross that boundary ... I couldn't go further with it. Don't get me wrong when I say this, but Anna knew exactly what to do to get me. Exactly! But I don't blame her in any way and I don't hate her in any way.

Researcher: Are you sometimes a bit angry at her?

David1: No, I'm not angry at her. I'm angry with myself for not being more careful. But, you know, the things that I saw, it wasn't just looking at a naked girl. You know, I mean, she would open her legs just as wide as she can to show me everything.

She was not shy at all. And she did things to show me more, like the naked summersaults in the water. It really turned me on, but on the other hand, I felt so guilty about being turned on. You know, I still have those pictures in my head.

Researcher: It sounds like you are still shocked about the things that you saw and the things that actually happened.

David1: Yes, sometimes I can't believe that it happened to me. But you know, people don't understand that, they don't want to hear it. Like the Magistrate said, Anna is still a child. And apparently this Magistrate is very strict and she told my advocate that she doesn't take kind to child molesters. So, I basically have to prepare myself for the worst. But I know that my friends will be with me in court tomorrow. Two of the ladies will be praying for me during the trial.

Researcher: I can hear that their support and the fact that they do not judge or blame you, really means a lot to you.

David1: Yes, it does.

Researcher: Unfortunately our time is up for today. I was wondering if you would mind if I attend the trial tomorrow.

David1: No, not at all. You have never judged me either and it will help me to have people there that understand me. Dr. X will also be there, because she has to testify.

Researcher: Okay, then I will also attend the trial. I have learnt so much from your story and your experiences and I have to thank you again for sharing it with me. I will send you a copy of my dissertation as soon as I have finished it. I hope that you will also be able to gain something by reading it.

END OF RECORDING