

Witness Name: P C Mackey
Statement No: WITN1360001
Exhibits: 0
Dated: March 2019

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

FIRST WRITTEN STATEMENT OF PAUL MACKEY

I, Paul Mackey, will say as follows:-

Section 1. Introduction

1. My name is Paul Christopher Mackey of GRO-C
GRO-C I was born on GRO-C 1969 I am
an unemployed non professional violin maker/restorer , writer and
musician..I am not idle ,I work for krishna .

2 as there are more revelations and clearly incriminating evidence constantly coming to light and I have not got the benefit of access to my full medical records I may have overlooked or forgotten some details so may need to add to this statement at a later date .

3. when I say that *I do not "want" compensation ,this is only because I do not expect any* ,I say this because I have learned over 40 years of this consistent relentless, frustrating situation that it is much healthier to have a realistic attitude and to expect nothing compassionate, positive or caring coming easily and freely from these people. The conservative government displays incompetence negligence corruption and irresponsibility of the worst kind, it is now proven beyond doubt that they are not capable of governance that is not detrimental to the majority of people .this government promotes an uncaring attitude suited primarily to materialism and capitalist exploitation .There are many self important individuals in high privileged positions of responsibility and power that would seem to require compassion and empathy to fulfill the roles properly who are obviously put in these positions because they lack these qualities. in fact going by my and others personal experiences I believe people who openly display these qualities may actually be excluded and disqualified from such positions .This is unsustainable and has directly caused the worsening unsolvable problems we see today .what were only a few years ago considered terrible injustices and rare serious crimes are now common normal everyday life ,proving it true that an uncaring government can only create an uncaring society.. The infected heamopheliac community have suffered and been made aware of this worsening situation for decades now rely on a caring public in this public enquiry .Thanks to the attitude behavior and failure of government a basic lack of care for other people is now normal and widespread in society and medical negligence is now so common in the NHS it is unsurprising accepted and even expected .

4. My views, and attitude may be difficult to understand for anyone unaware of what the infected Haemophiliac community have been put through. This has been severely difficult at times. I have certainly been affected by the years of coverups abuse and mistreatment following the initial infections and the problems I suffered. In childhood, this has naturally caused a deep suspicion of authority.

5. For many reasons I am not hopeful that this situation will ever be properly rectified or addressed. The TV news and reporting of this is controlled by this same Government and the scandalous subject seems largely unreported. I question whether there can ever be a full and thorough Public Inquiry in such circumstances.

6. There is now a further observable crime happening which is the lack of action at this present time to compassionately address and compensate those who are suffering and dying as a result of this catastrophe and those who continue to suffer psychologically directly because of a clearly apparent lack of care and urgency by an irresponsible, incompetent unsympathetic Government and by generally uncaring health professionals.

7. This statement has been prepared without the benefit of access to my full medical records.

Section 2. How Infected

8. I have mild Haemophilia A and I received Factor VIII on only 2 occasions at the Southport Royal Infirmary during 1977 and 1983.

9. I have been infected with HIV and Hepatitis C as a result of receiving contaminated Factor VIII.

10. I became aware of the possibility of HIV infection of haemophiliacs as a young child by reading newspapers, this was very frightening and worrying at the time, it was not possible to address this with my parents and they did not mention it, I thought that if I was infected of course I would be informed as soon as possible though naturally I hoped I was not affected. After a few years there were reports in the media that a test for HIV had been developed. I believed my doctors would test and inform people if they knew they had possibly infected them with HIV. Up to this point it had been impossible for me to discuss this with my family or anyone. I later learned that some of those infected were informed of results by doctors at Treloars for example so it seems very inconsistent and negligent that some who were known to be or were possibly infected were expected to ask for these results and tests or remain ignorant. I cannot understand how this was allowed to happen? The possible implications of doctors purposely not informing people made the thought of this being a reality actually impossible to consider at the time.. I was admittedly very unwilling to have a test at the height of the AIDS scare, I have no explanation for this reluctance. It was the worst thing that could happen to a person in those days many people were very fearful and badly informed about the new nightmarish death plague that could affect anyone, HIV.. I expected to be contacted and informed or become sick and die at any time, I did not consider that having developed a test they would not test me and others known to have been put at risk, surely we would be informed of this as a matter of urgency. It seems wrong and unrealistic to expect that all those possibly infected would happily rush to take a test and it would surely be insanely reckless and unthinkable to leave those who were known to be possibly infectious, untested and uninformed.. this was the position I found myself in. There was for some

time no test available though great effort was being made to develop one .In or around 1989 I was on my way out of the entrance of Southport infirmary after some treatment for a bleed , I was then treated with a synthetic factor 8 substitute I remember being told at the time that this was used because it was much safer for me . I saw Dr Woodcock on my way out of the hospital and he came over to speak to me , he surprised me by asking directly whether I wanted an HIV test. I declined at that time .I did attend an appointment with him in Liverpool around this time with my mother in attendance I cannot remember exactly what was said but I remember discussing future treatments that were safer than factor 8 .I recall he assured me only safe treatments would be used in future .It could be a fact that Dr woodcock did not know my results when asking me to take a test and when I attended this appointment .I believe he had written to the Macfarlane Trust as soon as he had the results to pass responsibility for this difficult situation to what he saw as the correct place . If Dr woodcock was aware of my test results this appointment would have been the appropriate time and perfect opportunity to inform me of them ,no matter how reluctant to hear them I may have been.With hindsight the correct and least damaging course of action would be to firstly openly and honestly provide information care and compassionate helpful counseling for all those who were possibly affected and then clearly inform them that as soon as a test was developed they would be tested and informed of the results immediately ,this would have been a sensible reasonable and acceptable response which would have prevented any need to withhold results and would have been best for those reluctant to be tested ,this would have made a cover up impossible and would likely have led to very costly compensation ,so this was not done ..There was apparently an attempt to reinforce my belief that I was unaffected in order to increase the chances of me accepting having a test. I do not understand why this important decision was left up to immature ignorant traumatized victims . I feel I am now being forced to

justify why I did not agree to have a test at that time,.I cannot answer this question other than to say I was in shock and not equipped or able to properly deal with such traumatic revelations and was not given any help to properly comprehend all the implications of this .I was given assurance that future treatment would be safe ,no further appointments were seen as necessary to be made over the next several years,and I had no contact with Dr Woodcock until 1994 . I later learned that other people known to be infected were also not informed ,I continued to believe this was not possible up until that time after which I realised I must accept it had actually happened to me and who knows how many others ? I assume decisions related to this were made at much higher levels of authority than Dr woodcock.I expect the government and NHS to justify why they did not tell me when they knew I had HIV.

For what it's worth in the public enquiry I have personally carried out over many years few people are certain they can say they definitely would have been tested if in the same situation as me .i guess most affected people had parents who helped and advised with this,my family chose to ignore this completely it was never mentioned by my father who I lived with,,my mother had a very difficult time in the years following the divorce ,when she got had her life back on track she did her best to try to help me. Every person I ask thinks it is unbelievably irresponsible and negligent for those who knew they had certainly infected people including many young children to then refuse to admit it and then purposely fail to properly address and control the situation,in fact incredibly choosing the opposite course of action and making the situation much worse by negligent irresponsible careless treatment and consistent futile obvious attempts at covering it all up . How those who hold power and control are seen to behave and conduct themselves naturally directly influences the general public and indicates how they should think behave and live,and they decide what is acceptable in

society and what is not . they are actually a self serving elite group that attracts like minded individuals and actively excludes and resents anyone who thinks differently .This is very difficult and problematic for the majority of people who have no choice but to accept this .. it is very difficult to properly inform the public as most people have difficulty believing or accepting such despicable things can possibly be allowed to happen and continue to be happening ,they think it must be exaggeration by resentful victims or they prefer to ignore the disappointing undesirable actual reality .it is a sad reflection that very few people care enough about this to actively protest about the situation outside of the infected community .

11. My medical records record the fact that Dr Woodcock says he discussed having an HIV test in 1987 with me but I have absolutely no recollection of this.

12. It was not until a car accident resulting in my hospitalisation at the Southport Royal Infirmary in 1994 that I found out about my infection. Dr Woodcock came to my ward saying a number of strange things to include the fact that I would live longer because I was a vegetarian. ,he was much more insistent that I should have an HIV test. This was very shocking as I had a relationship and young child at this time. I took his changed attitude and concerned insistence on a test after five years of no contact from him to mean that I actually had been infected with HIV .

.13. I consented to the test and about a week after the test I was told that I was HIV positive. The news was conveyed to me by Dr Woodcock. I was not offered any further information counseling or advice .i believe I was in shock for at least a year. I spent most of the money I was given recklessly and wastefully believing I was under a death sentence ,The diagnosis led directly to the break up of my relationship causing great

difficulty and suffering for me my partner at the time and my daughter ,this led to much bitterness and years of difficulty with access to my child .

14. There is clear evidence that the medical professionals did not inform me of my HIV status until 1994, a letter from Dr Woodcock to the Macfarlane Trust proves that they have been aware of my test results since 1989 ,

Section 3. Other Infections

15. I recall that I was advised that I had been put at risk of vCJD.

Section 4. Consent

16. I strongly suspect that I was tested for HIV and Hepatitis C without my knowledge and therefore without my consent.

17. Furthermore, I strongly suspect that I was used for the purposes of research.

Section 5. Impact

18. I became extremely ill in 1999 when I contracted volar Tuberculosis. I suffered nausea extreme weight loss, night sweats and was very close to death . This went on for around 18 months

19. I then experienced a number of side effects to the retroviral drugs

which included a severe auto immune reaction. This was in or around the years 2000/2001

20. Historically I have had to deal with matters on my own. My father left my mother when I was aged around 9. there were many Problems previous to this in my family relationships due to issues related to Haemophilia .

21. I met my wife in 1999 and she has been fantastically supportive to me.

22. I have always adopted the attitude of being fully open with people in relation to my infection. However, this was exactly the opposite of what was advocated by the MacFarlane Trust. Their advice was basically to not tell a soul. In my experience having HIV makes no difference to how we are treated by the average normal person and we have found that informing friends acquaintances and neighbors does not adversely affect relationships ,some treat you well in life and some badly no matter who or what you are .on the subject of some apparent widespread disease stigma I must say from personal experience in contrast to the general public some health care professionals have difficulty showing real compassion and empathy and concealing personal resentment and distaste when dealing with patients .

any stigma should be correctly placed with the individuals who ,knowing what really happened and is still happening to heamopheliacs and the poor and the needy ,still happily continue as conservative voters and politicians.

23. I believe that I have survived this only due to my positive outlook strength of mind and spiritual beliefs

24. I have used my time over the last 25 years to improve my life in many ways without the help of professionals or authority.. I have hobbies which

I am fortunate to enjoy . GRO-C followers of Prabhupada and as such GRO-C practice Krishna consciousness .

Section 6. Treatment/Care/Support

I was in need of an operation from age 8 to 13 ,that was not carried out because of surgeons reluctance to operate ? this caused great pain daily and much distress

Care from heamophilia center at the royal liverpool hospital between 2000 2016 was disorganized inconsistent and careless and the insistence I travel from wales led to many problems sometimes life threatening directly because of this ,I learned there was a financial incentive to keep my care in Liverpool with no concern to my detriment ,I have now moved my care myself to my local hospital 1 mile away from my home .i learned the heamophilia doctors and nurses from the royal liverpool actually had run a clinic in my local hospital , that I was unaware of ,though they discharged me from their care in Liverpool for not attending the extra appointments they made as they could not manage to make my appointments at the same time as my clinic appointments for HIV ,They saw no problem with this extra unnecessary day of travel and it was implied that I was being difficult ? Over the years Any reluctance to attend appointments for whatever reason has been relished by doctors as obvious signs of the patients bad attitude this and other purposeful unfair smears are known to have been used to belittle and degrade the infected community.i feel I have personally suffered resentment and poor care from health professionals many times directly due to my status as infected heamopheliac ,though because of the degradation of the last 20 years everyone who attends hospital is now affected by neglectful ,inconsiderate ,irresponsible ,uncaring treatment so I guess this

is no longer worth complaining about as it seems now everyone is treated the same or as bad as us hemophiliacs were and are .

25. I had a fall in 2010 and once my wife had advised paramedics that I was HIV positive, they refused to touch me and left her to clean me up.

26. I have never been offered any useful counselling or needed any psychiatric support.

Section 7. Financial Assistance

27. The Macfarlane Trust provided me with an income. I used to receive a monthly payment from them of about £365 per month but this has now increased to about £1,800 per month.

the payments we are provided with were raised a few years ago to a sufficient level to live a humble normal day to day life without money worries , previously things were very difficult for us there was no help given despite begging and pleading to the charity set up to assist us .

28. My wife and I asked the Macfarlane Trust to assist us with meeting our credit card debts. However, Martin Harvey told us that we should re mortgage our house instead. I am still paying off the £16,000 sum in respect of our re mortgage.

29. I am of the view that the Macfarlane Trust is corrupt. I got so fed up with begging and not getting anywhere that in the end, I just stopped

begging.

30. I cleared hepatitis C as a child I remember I was extremely unwell at that time for several weeks I did receive the Stage 1 payment from the Skipton Fund and I now receive about £200 per month from them.

Section 8. Other Issues

31. I want the truth to come out. It has been difficult to associate with others in the same situation and the campaign groups as they do not agree with my attitude or understand my spiritual beliefs and my seemingly contrary perspective, this is not a fault only of the haemophiliac infected community, though they could certainly benefit greatly from Krishna consciousness. Many people do not realize the benefits and value of belief in the possibility of relationship with and gratitude to a higher power or god, not to mention believe they are not these physical bodies but actually eternal spirit souls, and that when this body dies they will be reborn in a new body. I fully realise these views can possibly cause argument upset and anger to those who view existence very differently. If people were to ask us for help advice or friendly conversation I am more than happy to give it. It seems to us that all other infected haemophiliacs and campaign groups ignore us. People have been affected in vastly different ways, I have a relatively healthy outlook and try to live a positive life despite the intense periods of sickness trauma and extreme danger and the infections I was given, I am aware that others have much worse physical and psychological damage and some are naturally extremely unhappy some very angry and some who are nonetheless victims of the same crimes are very much worse affected or more severely damaged than others.

Anonymity, disclosure and redaction

32. I do not wish to be anonymous and I don't want to give oral evidence to the Inquiry.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed GRO-C

Date..... 2/4/2019