



**CORONERS COURT OF
NEW SOUTH WALES 44-46 Parramatta Road GLEBE**

Jurisdiction: Coronial

Name of Deceased: Rebekah Anne LAWRENCE

File number: 1988/05

Hearing dates: 10-12, 19-20 August 2009

Date of Decision: 8 December 2009

Coroner: M. MacPherson Deputy State Coroner

Representation: Robert Bromwich SC Assisting, instructed by Jessica Murty Solicitor of the Crown Solicitor's Office; Thomas Jones of counsel instructed by Andrew O'Brien of O'Brien Lawyers appears for Geoff Kabealo and Kim Burke of counsel instructed by Kathryn Wilson Solicitor of Kennedys Lawyers appears for Richard Arthur

Introduction

1 Rebekah Lawrence, a shy, modest, gentle, highly regarded work colleague and delightful young woman, two days after attending a self-development course, described as a “journey to the core of the human spirit” and run by a Company called ‘People Knowhow’, stepped off a ledge of the second floor window at her workplace to fall to her death.

Background

2 An ‘Agreed chronology of key events’ in Rebekah’s life is attached to this finding and I do not propose to restate them apart from referring to some important aspects of Rebekah’s life that were the subject of this Inquest.

3 The first was her desire to have a child and that desire being resisted by her husband David Booth. Secondly and associated with this desire was the 8 therapy sessions Rebekah had with Helen Mitrofanis where the issues of children and the choices she felt she was left with were raised.

4 Thirdly her actions after she viewed a movie “*The Exorcism of Audrey Rose*”.

5 Finally, Rebekah’s general pattern of behaviour during, and immediately after she had attended the ‘*The Turning Point*’ course.

Her desire to have a child

6 At the beginning of their relationship Rebekah Lawrence and David Booth did not want children, David already had a son, however that changed when Rebekah’s sister, Kate Lawrence-Haynes had a child.

7 The desire to have children intensified after Kate Lawrence-Haynes had a second child in 2004 to the point where discussions between Rebekah and David Booth, about having children were sometimes intense to the point of possible separation. These discussions continued on a monthly basis throughout 2004-2005.

The therapy sessions with Helen Mitrofanis

- 8 Rebekah Lawrence attended 8 therapy sessions between 9 November 2004 and 18 January 2005 with Helen Mitrofanis, a somatic psychotherapist, exploring issues in relation to loneliness and being alone, clarity as to having children and compulsive worrying.
- 9 Helen Mitrofanis said that her notes were her impressions and interpretations and only reflected one part of Rebekah and that other parts were fine.
- 10 Helen Mitrofanis had also attended the Turning Point Course, including as member of the service team, and was able to comment regarding aspects of the course she had attended in the past.
- 11 The notes speak, among other things, of anxiety about marriage and whether her husband will be with her through her life; of feeling depressed; life being pointless; anxiety after a conversation with her sister about babies and travel, that her life would be meaningless; realisation that she had a choice either to stay with David and not have a child or to leave David and look for someone else and have a child; questioning everything; feeling like her whole life had been hopeless that every decision she had made everything she had done was wrong.

Her actions after watching movie

- 12 After she had viewed the movie "*The Exorcism of Audrey Rose*", some two weeks before attending the Turning Point Course, she was really upset to the extent that, on the evening after having viewed the movie, she could not walk down the corridor of their home without David holding her hand.

'The Turning Point' course

- 13 The course could be described as a personal development course but it had a reasonably high degree of intensity, which Mr. Arthur confirmed was not accidental and the course was intended to be challenging.

- 14 The promotional material describe the course as ‘*a journey to the core of the human spirit, developing emotional maturity, intelligence and soulfulness that deepens the quality of life through recollection and the practice of self mastery.*’
- 15 The Saturday course ran for just under 14 hours with a total of six breaks in that period adding up to just under three hours. The actual course time was in excess of ten hours.
- 16 During the ten-hour period participants were involved in self-searching of their state of mind.
- 17 Participants were encouraged to deal with personal issues relating to ego, emotions, body, anger, sadness, sex, and stages of consciousness from child to adult; high states of consciousness and what was described as ego defences.
- 18 There was then a session on what was described as bioenergetics and debrief which produced responses such as crying, anger and laughter.
- 19 The last sessions of the day started at about 9.30pm, about 12 hours after the participants had arrived for the day and was called ‘*The Inner Child*’.
- 20 With eyes closed, the participants are progressively taken back to the time of their childhood and encouraged to develop a dialogue between themselves as a adult and themselves as a child.
- 21 Franco Vittozzi described the sessions as a ‘*pressure cooker*’ (His statement paragraph 22). Helen Mitrofanis pointed out that when she came to the inner child segment it was hard even as a member of the service team to resist being regressed back to childhood. (Transcript 10/08/09 page 23 point 10)
- 22 The Sunday segment of the course was less intense but was conducted in the context that the lengthy and emotionally draining Saturday segment had only concluded ten hours earlier.
- 23 The Sunday included a segment called ‘*Large Group Share*’ which involved participants being invited to speak out in front of the rest of the group about personal issues of concern. Like most of the course there was a significant component of personal confrontation with past events and difficulties.

24 The last formal segment of the Sunday course was the re-entry instructions which acknowledged that participants would be returning to their ordinary lives and warned about the dangers of making any significant decisions. It was also recommended that participants didn't return to work the following day if they could avoid it.

Rebekah's behaviour during and after the 'Turning Point' course

25 Late afternoon / early evening on Thursday 15 December, after she had attended the course the previous evening Rebekah called her parents and told them how old they both now looked. This rudeness was out of character.

26 On Sunday 18 December 2005 Susan Young noticed Rebekah was sitting on the floor leaning against the wall on her own and she was teary. (Transcript 12/08/09 page 25 points 25 and 30)

27 Mid morning on the Sunday Rebekah sat and spoke to Geoff Kabealo during a break and indicated that she hadn't realised that she was afraid of groups. She said in a conversation later in the afternoon with Joanne Woutersz and Geoff Kabealo that she has a fear of groups of people. (Kabealo Tab 53 Paragraph 21)

28 During the evening Rebekah was sitting outside the foyer area with Susan Young which was noted by Frank Vittozzi. She told him she liked to be alone. Rebekah told Frank that just before the last session on the Sunday that she had enjoyed reading books in the library as a child and that her mother had expressed concerns that she should have friends. (Statement Vitozzi paragraphs 20 and 21)

29 At the end of the course on the Sunday night Kate Beaver noticed that Rebekah's eyes had changed, they looked brighter and had a liveliness about them. (Statement Beaver paragraph 6)

30 On Monday morning the 19 December 2005, after the course, David Booth and Rebekah had taken the day off work (as recommended). When they were walking their dog Rebekah told David that she had applied a mental command as well as calling the dog and this was a technique she had learnt on the course. (Statement David Booth paragraph 28)

31 Then came a series of phone calls in the early hours of the morning of 20 December 2005 from Rebekah to members of the ‘People Knowhow’ team that conducted the course, Jameson Wright and Pamela Berwick.

32 The first was to Jameson Wright at 3.50am and the second at 3.52am to Pam Berwick. (Statement Wright paragraphs 23 to 25 and Statement Barwick Paragraphs 17 to 22)

33 These were unusual and clearly a call for help, which was missed by Wright and Berwick. That statement is not meant as a criticism as those persons were simply ill equipped to know that this was a serious situation and Rebekah needed medical (or at least psychological) intervention.

Rebekah Lawrence’s last day at work

34 On Tuesday 20 December 2005 in the morning when David Booth dropped her off to work she was glowing with her face alight and she told people at work that she had a wonderful life-changing weekend. (Statement David Booth paragraph 35)

35 Christine Ernst estimated that Rebekah attempted to call ‘People Knowhow’ at least a dozen times before she finally spoke to Sandra Victoria-Prohn and made an appointment to see Mr. Kabealo on 21 December 2005. Mr. Kabealo failed to detect anything being wrong in the message from Rebekah. He took what she said to be a positive endorsement for the course. (Statement Kabealo paragraph 25, Statement Prohn paragraph 7).

36 From approximately 5.30pm onwards Rebekah Lawrence began to act in a more child like manner. She took her clothes off; she was petulant in a child-like way and she asked for help in getting dressed. She became physically aggressive much like a child having a tantrum. She screamed and she misbehaved. (Statement Sanders paragraph 23 Transcript 10/08/09 page 43 points 35 to 50)

37 Finally, Rebekah was naked repeatedly ranting “I love you David, I love you David. Then she was heard singing as she climbed onto the windowsill and jumped out the window. (States of Price, Sanders paragraph 26, Clifton paragraph 14, Phillips paragraph 8 and Pamplin paragraph 18)

38 This behaviour closely parallels what had been taught in the course particularly the “Inner Child’ segment.

Role of Coroner

39 My role as Coroner is to establish, if possible, the identity, the date of death, the place of death and the manner and cause of death. The formal finding will be recorded at the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

40 A Coronial Inquest is essentially an enquiry. It is not a criminal or civil trial in which two opposing parties engage in legal combat. It is not the role of the Coroner to attribute fault or make findings in relation to negligence or breach of duty of care

41 Another important function of an inquest is the making of recommendations, which are necessary or desirable in relation to any matter connected with a death. In this way the coronial proceedings can be forward looking, aiming to prevent future deaths, rather than allocating blame.

42 I say this not so much for the benefit of leaned counsel, but more for the benefit of the family and friends of Rebekah and the wider community with an interest or concern in the issues raised in this Inquest, who may not always appreciate and understand the role of a Coroner or the Coronial Inquest.

Issue for determination

43 Essentially the issue for this Inquest is did Rebekah Lawrence intend to take her own life? In determining that issue two questions arose both linked to this issue. Firstly did Rebekah Lawrence have a sufficient state of mind to form the intention to take her own life and if the answer to that was no then the question that naturally followed was, did the course Rebekah Lawrence attend shortly before her death contribute to that state of mind or did she have a pre-existing mental illness and it was simply a coincidence that it manifested itself shortly after she attended the self development course?

Reasons for Decision

44 Resolution of those questions centred on the expert evidence of Dr Michael Diamond a consultant Psychiatrist.

45 No one has argued that she was not displaying symptoms of a psychosis at the time of her death. At the time she launched herself outwards from the window at her place of employment she was naked, anathema to someone who is described as shy and modest. She was singing and expressing sentiments of love for her husband. Her behaviour overall was extreme and at odds with the actions of someone thinking or acting rationally.

46 Dr Diamond said that Rebekah Lawrence was suffering from a psychosis at the time of her death. He was asked to give an opinion regarding the kind of psychosis that Rebekah Lawrence was suffering from, which is important in answering the second question, and he said this,

“The evidence that I have is that she had what one would term, “an affective psychosis”, meaning, a psychosis associated with a shift in her mood state. In her case it started off with an elevated mood state with excitement and it then progressed to, rather than euphoric or a, a heightened state of well being, to one of distress, which is a dysphoric state, which is not unusual. So that’s the descriptor of the nature of the psychosis and that it was a mood related psychosis.”(Transcript 19/08/09 page 7 points 40 and 45)

47 Importantly he went onto say that,

“..it would have been seen as a brief reactive psychosis and what one is looking at there is, *in the absence of any genetic family history of psychotic illness, the absence of any previous evidence of, of psychotic illness, in the absence of any drug induced state that might precipitate a psychotic episode, in the absence of any brain injury that might give rise to deranged brain function producing abnormal perceptions, abnormal thinking, abnormal behaviours* excluding those causes *for which there’s no evidence in this case*, one would see the psychosis as being a reaction to an environmental stress.”(My emphasis added) (Transcript 19/08/09 Pages 7 point 50 and page 8 point 5)

48 The ‘environmental stress’ that he referred to in his evidence was clearly the ‘People Knowhow’ course that Rebekah Lawrence had attended on the 14, 16, 17 and 18 of December and in particular the ‘Inner Child’ segment of that course.

49 Dr Diamond explained the dynamics and how dangerous the ‘Inner Child’ component of the course can be for participants. He said,

“By the end of two days of this (the course), towards the evening of the second day [the Saturday] that’s when the regressive component is done...and it’s done in a very systematised way. ..It’s done with paraphernalia, where you’re encouraged to express extreme emotion, punch cushions, kick out, be restrained by people – at a time when this group of people are probably at their most vulnerable. And I don’t think one can ignore that sort of sequence of events and see it as simply a personal development course or a benign exploration of extra skills in one’s life. This is really quite a programmed behaviour and it’s desired to create powerful emotional release, which in itself can be useful but not with a group of strangers being dealt with by a group of people with questionable skill levels in an environment that isn’t fully understood, and certainly is not followed up.” (Transcript 19/08/09 page 28 points 20 to 35)

- 50 Thomas Jones counsel for Geoff Kabealo said that the notes of the sessions between Helen Mitrofanis and Rebekah Lawrence indicated Rebekah Lawrence had prodromal features of psychosis. Dr Diamond said this,

“That’s absolutely incorrect. These are very ordinary notes that are taken by a person talking in the setting of a counselling session. The language that’s used is the language of therapy. This has got nothing to do with psychosis at all, none whatsoever and I would say bluntly I think you’re putting far too much emphasis on the use of words like “anxiety” or “conflicted” or “feeling”. (Transcript 19/08/09 page 18 points 30 to 25)

- 51 As he said in answer to a question put as a proposition that severe anxiety and depression can be prodromal features of psychosis;

“I agree that severe anxiety can be, but you, you need to add in the other piece of Ms. Mitrofanis’ opinion, where at the very end of all of this in her notes, she says that she does not need specific treatment or medication.” (Transcript 19/08/09 page 19 point 15)

- 52 In relation to Rebekah’s reaction to seeing the horror movie “*The Exorcism of Audrey Rose*” as being evidence of a ‘magical ideation, magical thinking’ Dr Diamond said this;

“It would have very little relevance or weight in, in making a diagnosis of a psychosis in my view. You’d have to give me a lot more information that, that really supported the idea that it was part of something more, more pervasive.” (Transcript 19/08/09 page 23 points 10 to 15)

53 In relation to the issue of having a child and her feeling trapped and running out of time it was put to Dr Diamond that Rebekah was faced with only two choices however Dr Diamond suggested there was a third choice, he said,

“Well she had a third option open to her which was the option she was actually exercising all through this, this conflict and that was to stay where she was.”
(Transcript 19/0-8/09 page 29 point 15)

54 In an email that Rebekah sent to her sister on the 7 October 2005 that follows a debate about the child issue Rebekah states:

"Hi Kate. Thanks. I'm feeling better. We had another long talk last night over a bottle of wine. And we did talk about compromising, possibly taking three to six months off the year after next and going travelling, and then if we did have a child David still being able to do things like having a budget for a nice wine et cetera et cetera. Unfortunately when he woke up this morning, it was stressing him out so I think it's best we have our trip to Italy and then maybe a bigger trip the year after and see how we both feel at the end of that. I'll only be 36 and a half and that will still give David another two years too enjoy a good lifestyle. The good thing is that our mortgage is fairly low so it gives us some option."

55 That is powerful evidence that Rebekah was taking the third option and that she felt she still had a number of years left to resolve the issue.

56 In fact there was no mention of her wanting children included in her enrolment form for the course

57 Rebekah listed as her goals for the course, to be happy with her achievements and life; not to constantly compare herself with other people or feel envious or depressed; to stop worrying that she'll be lonely at some point in the future; not be intimidated by people she perceived to be cleverer or more attractive than her and wanting to understand why she had a strong need to be part of a group and feeling depressed when excluded.

58 Dr. Diamond referred to both the quantity and quality of the material that he had access to in determining whether Rebekah Lawrence had a pre-existing psychiatric disturbance or illness;

“The amount of material available to me was considerable. Not only was it considerable in its quantum, but it was from a number of different sources. It

also deals with a long time period so there was information from the immediate family of Ms. Lawrence. There was information from her husband, there was information from her work colleagues, there was information from a group of friends, socially, there was information from people she consulted as a formal counsellor and there were statements from people in her workplace immediately before these events.”(Transcript 19/08/09 page 5 points 5 to 25)

59 Dr Diamond concluded that;

“..there was no evidence in any of that material that supported any suggestion of her having any pre-existing psychiatric illness in the first instance or any severe psychological disturbance or in effect, any severe early life experience or, pre-existing vulnerability of any abnormality or of any significant extent...I think she was what one would describe as a reasonably healthy person or a psychologically healthy person. ...she was blemished like all of us are, but to no greater extent than anyone else in the community.” (Transcript 19/08/09 page 5 points 30 to 40)

60 Finally, Rebekah’s Lawrence’s behaviour in the last hour of her life summarised as taking off her clothes; speaking in a sing song or child like voice; being petulant; running around waving her arms and screaming and yelling at different times was characterised by Dr. Diamond as;

“..a very clear description from a lay person who observed her at that time of regressed, child like behaviour.” (Transcript 19/08/09 page 12 point 10)

61 Regression was a component of the course Rebekah attended particularly the ‘Inner Child’ segment. Dr. Diamond was asked what happened to Rebekah Lawrence and he said,

“I think she had an acute exposure to a regression and it evoked in her an affective psychosis in the form of a brief reactive psychosis, that’s what happened to her.” (Transcript 19/08/09 page 13 point 35)

62 There seemed to be a suggestion that he may have been critical of the ‘People Knowhow’ course because it encroaches into areas usually the domain of psychiatrists or psychologists (See question Transcript 19/08/09 page 27 point 15) he had this to say;

“Look I might sound like I’m being incredibly opposition and pedantic. I’m really not. What I’m saying is you’re putting to me, that that is the criticism of my report. That’s not the criticism of my report. It’s not because they operate in any area that psychiatrists or other trade people operate in. That’s not what I’m doing at all. It’s the use of, of dangerous techniques in the hands of people who don’t necessarily have the skills to work with them. That is my criticism.”(Transcript 19/08/09 page 27 points 20 and 25)

63 It was also suggested that there was no demonstrated connection, in the form of scientific literature, between experiential therapies (like the “Turning Point’ course) and psychosis, which Thomas Jones of counsel for Geoff Kabealo said, would have expected given that the therapies had been around for some 30 years.

64 Dr. Diamond in his report at page four stated that,

“In addition to the brief of evidence I have a body of knowledge and experience gathered over the years in relation to individuals that I have treated who have attended this course and similar courses. My experience extends to individuals who have been directly affected by their experience when attending such courses. I have in the past been asked by management of such courses to provide psychiatric treatment at times when people have been disturbed at these courses and I have discussed the benefits or otherwise of attendance at such courses with a number of patients of mine over the years.”

65 Dr Diamond gave his qualifications as having degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. He commenced training as a psychiatrist in 1979 and graduated as a specialist in 1984 and has been practicing as a consultant psychiatrist since then.

66 Rather than have recourse to abstract scientific literature this is evidence of a respected experienced, consultant Psychiatrist directly involved in the treatment of individuals affected after attending courses like the “Turning Point”.

67 Dr Diamond was not challenged as an expert in his field and the weight of his ultimate evidence is therefore very persuasive.

Conclusion

68 The submission by counsel for Geoff Kabealo, Thomas Jones and supported by counsel for Richard Arthur, Kim Burke, that Rebekah Lawrence’s reaction to a horror movie was

evidence of a prodromal symptom of psychosis that had its origins in her anxiety over having a child, must be rejected as there is scant evidence to support it.

69 The evidence is overwhelming that the act of stepping out of a window to her death was the tragic culmination of a developing psychosis that had its origins in a self-development course known as ‘The Turning Point’ conducted by Zoeros Pty. Ltd, trading under the name of ‘People Know-How’ on the 14, 16, 17 and 18 December 2005.

Finding

I FIND THAT REBEKAH ANNE LAWRENCE DIED ON THE 20 DECEMBER 2005 AT ST. VINCENTS HOSPITAL FROM MULTIPLE INJURIES SUSTAINED WHEN SHE STEPPED OFF THE LEDGE OF A SECOND FLOOR WINDOW OF HER PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT AT THE ROAYL AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND FELL TO THE PAVEMENT BELOW WHILST IN A PSYCHOTIC STATE.

Recommendations

70 Clearly recommendation should be directed to regulating practitioners offering services for self-development in order to protect vulnerable members of the public.

71 The Executive Director of the Australian Psychological Society, Professor Lynne Littlefield pointed out that there are no legal restrictions in Australia for practising under the title ‘*psychotherapist*’ or under the title ‘*counsellor*’ and therefore no public safeguards against untrained or incompetent practitioners in this field.

72 Professor Littlefield pointed out that although there were many skilled counsellors and psychotherapists, there were also many whose competence is questionable and without any regulating mechanisms to stipulate the required training and levels of competence, there was no way of protecting the public from these poorly trained practitioners.

73 However, there is, by contrast, legislation in all Australian States and Territories that restrict the use of the title ‘*psychologist*’ to those professionals who are registered with the relevant State or Territory Psychological Registration Board.

74 The minimum that each of those Boards requires for registration is the equivalent of six full time years of training and psychology, comprising four years of accredited university training in psychology and the completion of two additional years of either an accredited professional psychology post graduate degree or supervised workplace training.

75 The registration process and restriction of the professional title ensures that members of the public who consult a psychologist can be assured that the practitioner has undertaken the required standard of training and has the knowledge and skills to competently provide psychological services.

76 As Professor Littlefield observed, vulnerable clients were likely to be drawn to services offering to enhance emotional wellbeing and were more susceptible to emotional instability as a result of the process in the hands of inexperienced or untrained practitioners.

77 Suggested recommendations were drawn up and distributed during the Inquest. Thomas Jones counsel for George Kabealo said in submissions,

“Mr. Kabealo and the Turning Point and People Know How I should say are determined to see that something positive comes from this tragedy and that such a tragedy never happens again and to that end Mr. Kabealo wholeheartedly endorses or supports the recommendations put forward by counsel assisting.” (Transcript 20/08/09 page 4 point 45 to 50)

78 Kim Burke counsel for Richard Arthur in relation to the proposed recommendations said,

“Firstly Mr. Arthur expresses his profound condolences to Mr. Booth, Rebekah’s family and friends with respect to her untimely and tragic death. Mr. Arthur has also asked me to acknowledge that he supports any changes that would improve the safety of delivering the personal development life skill course and support improvements being made in the industry...my client supports the recommendations put forward by counsel assisting.” (Transcript 20/08/09 page 5 points 10 to 15)

Section 22A Recommendations

To the Minister for Health New South Wales

That having regard to the following definitions of psychotherapy and counselling contained in a report by Professor Margot Schofield prepared for the Psychotherapy & Counselling Federation of Australia (**PACFA**) funded by the Victorian Department of Human Services (**DHS Victoria**), entitled *Best Practice Self-Regulation Model for Psychotherapy and Counselling in Australia: Final Report*, dated February 2008 (**The Schofield Report**) at pages 15-16:-

- (a) DHS Victoria has defined “*generalist counselling*” as “*the application of knowledge and a range of skill, such as reflection, constructive confrontation and problem solving, with the goal of reducing distress or harmful behaviour and improving quality of life, social functioning and health, within the context of an interpersonal relationship that is designed to facilitate these changes*”;
- (b) DHS Victoria has also suggested that “*counselling*” seeks to:
 - (i) provide relief from emotional distress and its social consequences;
 - (ii) promote longer term coping with adverse circumstances, and
 - (iii) reduce vulnerability to mental health and social problems in the future;
- (c) the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (**UKCP**) defines “*psychotherapy*” as “*the provision by qualified practitioners of a formal and professional relationship within which patients/clients can profitably explore difficult, and often painful, emotions and experiences. These may include feelings of anxiety, depression, trauma, or perhaps the loss of meaning of one’s life. It is a process, which seeks to help the person gain an increased capacity for choice, through which the individual becomes more autonomous and self determined. Psychotherapy may be provided for individuals or children, couples families and groups*”;
- (d) the Schofield Report suggests a composite definition of psychotherapy and counselling as “*talking and relationship-based therapies in which trained professionals use theory, research and practice-based knowledge and skills with the goal of reducing distress or harmful behaviour and improving relationships, quality of life social functioning and health, within the context of an interpersonal relationship that is designed to facilitate these changes*”.

That consideration be given to the restriction by regulation of the provision of services such as those provided by Zoeros Pty.Ltd, trading under the name of PEOPLE Knowhow, and in particular the course known as *The Turning Point* and similar courses provided by other organisations by:-

(a) the introduction of a legal requirement:-

(i) to have recognised tertiary qualifications in medicine (psychiatry), psychology, psychotherapy, social work, nursing, welfare, counselling or other appropriate qualifications from an institution accredited by either Commonwealth or NSW Education Authorities (or by an overseas course recognised at the same level in Australia) before providing psychotherapy or counselling services, irrespective of whether those services are described as comprising psychotherapy or counselling, but excluding ad hoc counselling or psychotherapy as an incident to providing other professionally recognised services; **or alternatively**

(ii) to have such qualifications as a pre-condition for legally providing such services for payment or other reward;

(b) the creation of a system of registration and accreditation of psychotherapy or counselling services by one of the following means:-

(i) seeking the inclusion of psychotherapists and counsellors in the scheme for national registration and accreditation of the health professions which is the subject of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) **Intergovernmental Agreement** between the Commonwealth, States and Territories, dated 26 March 2008; **or alternatively**

(ii) the creation of a statute-based scheme of registration and accreditation of psychotherapists and counsellors in New South Wales; **or alternatively**

(iii) the creation of a statute-based mandatory regime of self-regulation of psychotherapists and counsellors in New South Wales, having regard to the terms of the Schofield Report.

That for the purposes of considering introducing the legal requirements set out above and for the purposes of considering a system of registration and accreditation, as set out above, consultation take place with the **Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists**, the New

South Wales Psychologists Registration Board, the Sydney Branch of the Australian College of Clinical Psychologists, the Australian Psychological Society, the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council and the Psychotherapy & Counselling Federation of Australia.

79 I commend the Officer in Charge Detective Senior Constable Kellie Le Vien on the preparation of a comprehensive brief of evidence a fact I will convey to her superiors.

80 I thank my team Robert Bromwich, now Senior Counsel and instructing solicitor Jessica Murty.

81 To the family of Rebekah Lawrence, I offer my sincere sympathy, and hope that this inquest will have assisted them to understand the circumstances of Rebekah's death.

M.MacPherson

Deputy State Coroner

8 December 2009

ATTACHMENT

AGREED CHRONOLGY OF KEY EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF

REBEKAH ANNE LAWRENCE

Agreed chronology of key events

Date	Event	Source
23.03.1971	Rebekah Anne Lawrence was born	Booth Tab 26 [3]
Growing up	Rebekah was the youngest daughter of Ron and Joan Lawrence. She had one sister, Kate Lawrence-Haynes, who was five years older. She had an excellent childhood with her parents growing up in Cromer on Sydney's Northern Beaches. She swam for fitness and loved the water. There was nothing in her past that affected her to such an extent to cause depression or any other related illness	Booth Tab 26 [3]
25.04.1996	Rebekah met David Booth. They immediately hit it off. After about six months of dating they moved in together and lived at Rose Bay. At that time Rebekah was working for the Early Childcare Accreditation Council in the Sydney DBD in administration. Sometime after they met, Rebekah started work as a personal assistant to a senior manager at the Institute of Chartered Accountants.	Booth Tab 26 [4]
March 1998	Rebekah and David Booth purchased a two-bedroom unit in Leichhardt, but did not move in for 6 months.	Booth Tab 26 [7]
November 1998	Rebekah and David Booth moved into their Leichhardt unit. David Booth describes them as having a strong relationship and that this was a big sign of commitment	Booth 26 [7]
March 1999	David Booth's 11-year-old son from a previous relationship, Jarrod, came to live with Rebekah and David Booth at Leichhardt. This did not end up working out and Jarrod ended up moving back to his mother in the country.	Booth Tab 26 [8-9]
December 1999	Rebekah and David Booth married. Jarrod attended the wedding.	Booth Tab 26 [10]
April 2000	Rebekah and David Booth bought a house at St. Peters together. At that time neither of them wanted children and David Booth already had his son Jarrod. Rebekah was still working for the Institute of Chartered Accountants.	Booth Tab 26 [11]
2003	Kate Lawrence-Haynes, Rebekah's sister, had a child along with a number of couples who were friends. Rebekah started to think about having children. Rebekah commenced work at the Royal Australasian College of Physicians as a Executive Assistant to the CEO. She was described as organised, astute and sensitive to her workmates;	Booth Tab 26 [15] Booth Tab 26 [19] Patterson Tab 11 [4-5]

Date	Event	Source
	<p>“the most reasonable person in the office”, according to the CEO. She was highly efficient and dedicated. She was plainly a real asset to her employer and fellow employees.</p>	<p>See also Sanders Tab 12 [6-7] Ernst Tab 18 [4] Clifton Tab 4 [16]</p>
<p>Late 2003</p>	<p>Rebekah and David Booth were first told about a self-development course called “<i>The Turning Point</i>” by Barbara ell. Bell told them the course was designed to resolve emotional problems. Both says that the two main emotional problems that Rebekah wanted to sort out were a fear of losing friends and the issue of having a child.</p>	<p>Booth Tab 26 [23]</p>
<p>Early 2004</p>	<p>Jarrold moved back in with Rebekah and David Booth at St. Peters to do his HSC</p>	<p>Booth Tab 26 [21]</p>
<p>2004</p>	<p>Rebekah’s sister Kate had a second child.</p>	<p>Booth Tab 26 [20]</p>
<p>2004-2005</p>	<p>Discussions with Rebekah and David Booth about having children were sometimes intense to the point of possible separation. These discussions continued on a monthly basis throughout that period.</p>	<p>Booth Tab 26 [16,20]</p>
<p>9.11.2004 to 18.01.2005</p>	<p>Rebekah attended 8 therapy sessions with Helen Mitrofanis (09/11/04, 16/11/04, 23/11/04, 30/11/04, 07/12/04, 14/12/04, 21/12/04 and 18/01/05). In evidence, Mitrofanis said that her notes were here impressions and interpretations and only reflected one part of Rebekah and that other parts were fine.</p> <p>Notes from the therapy session dated 9/11/04 disclose Rebekah explored issues regarding loneliness and being alone, clarity as to having children, compulsive worrying.</p> <p>Notes from sessions dated 23/11/04 disclose intense anxiety about whether to have a child or not.</p> <p>Notes from session dated 30/11/04 disclose always worrying with respect to friendships, trying to make sense of where wanting to have a child comes from, anxiety about marriage and whether husband will be with her through her life.</p> <p>Notes from sessions dated 7/12/04 disclose that after last sessions she felt unsettled and depressed, expressed feelings of life being pointless, trying to make sense of how speaking about childhood will help her, disclosed anxiety after a conversation with her sister about babies and travel that her life would be meaningless, with such conversation unsettling her.</p> <p>Conversation with her husband about having children, she accepted that his current mindset he is unable to have child.</p> <p>Realisation from that conversation that she had a choice, stay</p>	<p>Mitrofanis Tab 37 [7] and evidence</p> <p>Notes from 4 sessions at Tab 38</p>

Date	Event	Source
	with David and not have a child or leave David and look for someone else and have a child. Reflected on last session, is now questioning everything, felt like her whole life had been hopeless, every decision she had made. Everything she had done is wrong.	
6.10.2005	<p>Email correspondence with sister, Kate noting that after she left her sister the day before she was pretty upset, David noticed it which started another great discussion about children. Discloses she was very upset, crying, neither of them sleeping well. Discloses they both know the options are putting having children behind her or leave her husband and try to find someone to have a child with</p> <p>Later email correspondence on same day in response to sister's email discloses Rebekah recognising David is inflexible about "this". She says: <i>"I love David, its hard to know what is the right decision"</i>.</p>	Email Correspondence - Tab 34
7.10.2005	<p>Email correspondence with sister Kate. Feeling a bit better. Discloses further conversation with David about compromising re: decision for child.</p> <p>Sister Kate later describes Rebekah as being emotionally very down prior to the Turning Point course, principally due to her desire to have a baby and David's counter view. Kate describes Rebekah as having experienced during 2005, <i>"a year of depression at times and emotional pressure, along with a gentle personality, meant the brute force of Turning Point drove her to a breaking point"</i>.</p>	Email to Sen. Constable Le Vien Tab 35 [5,6,9]
Early to mid October 2005 (approx)	Rebekah booked into the <i>"Turning Point"</i> course commencing on 14 December 2005	Booth Tab 26 [24] Tab 62 booking confirmation letter
2.11.2005	Rebekah completed an enrolment form, including a short questionnaire	Tab 63
Early December 2005 (Approx)	<p>Barbara Bell and her husband returned from overseas and met Rebekah and David Booth at their home. They discussed the impending course. No specific details were provided because the course relied upon not having any preconceptions and the need to have an open mind. Barbara Bell said that Rebekah was in for a powerful emotional experience and quite a rough time.</p> <p>Barbara Bell had concerns re how Rebekah would feel on completing the course. That she would feel upset and out of balance. David Booth was bewildered as to why you would be</p>	Booth Tab 26 [24] Bell Tab 58 [13] Evidence of David Booth

Date	Event	Source
	concerned about a self-help course. He though Rebekah would get a lot of good out of it. Barbara Bell and her husband did the course. She felt unease and a period of adjustment. Her husband didn't experience difficulties. He spoke glowingly about it.	
3.12.2005	Rebekah and Joan Lawrence attended the ballet together. Rebekah said, " <i>I'm so happy at this stage in my life. I am looking forward to Italy next year</i> ".	J. Lawrence Tab 28 [5]
9.12.2005	Rebekah and Joan Lawrence attended a play together Rebekah was her normal self and drove her mother home after the performance.	J. Lawrence Tab 28 [6]
14 to 18 December 2005	Attendance at <i>The Turning Point Course</i>	
14.12.2005 Wednesday	<p>10:47am: Email sent by Rebekah to her sister Kate, planning food for Christmas day.</p> <p>7:00pm – 10:30pm: Attendance at <i>The Turning Point course (sessions 1)</i>. The persons present on the course comprised about 19 participants (also referred to as students), together with teachers and support people from PEOPLE KNOWHOW (Zoeros Integral Learning).</p> <p>Attendees split into subgroups with one or two support persons allocated to each group. The members of Rebekah's group included Kate Beaver, Same Ebeid and someone called Daniel.</p> <p>Richard Arthur told the group that he was a psychologist or a counsellor of some description and all the teachers were experienced. The "<i>inner child</i>" was a big theme throughout the course. The course also dealt with ego, consciousness and techniques for dealing with not being liked. Coulton said in evidence she formed an impression Richard Arthur was a psychologist or a counsellor. In cross-examination, she did not recall he told her was either; she conceded he may have told her he was a therapist.</p> <p>11:30pm: Rebekah arrived home at this time and went to bed. Rebekah and David Booth did not discuss the course. She seemed happy.</p>	<p>Tab 34</p> <p>Arthur ERISP Tab 40 Q.6 A.10 Vitozzi Tab 43 Woutersz Tab 42 [12] Wright Tab 45</p> <p>Coulton Tab 76 [5] Beaver Tab 77 [4] Names on course list</p> <p>Coulton Tab 76 [7], [9-19] and [13]</p> <p>Coulton xxn by K. Burke</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [25]</p>
15.12.2005 Thursday	3:05pm: Rebekah sent an email to her mother to inform her that she had booked tickets to see a play at the Botanic Gardens on 14 January 2006, but not to mention it to David, as it was to be a	Tab 32

Date	Event	Source
	<p>surprise. Email concludes with “<i>Tickets are \$20 you can fix me up at Christmas</i>”.</p> <p>Late afternoon/early evening: Rebekah called her parents and told them, among other things, how old they both now looked. This rudeness was out of character. Prior to telling them how old they both now looked, Rebekah said: “<i>I have to take a photo to this think of me as a baby, you are both so young, I can’t believe it</i>”.</p>	<p>J. Lawrence Tab 28 [7]</p>
<p>16.12.2005 Friday</p>	<p>5.30pm: Rebekah attended her parents’ home and spoke briefly about <i>The Turning Point</i> course saying that she thought it would be “<i>Confronting</i>”.</p> <p>7:00pm – 10:30pm: Attendance at <i>The Turning Point</i> course (sessions 2).</p> <p>At about 11:00pm, immediately after the course, Rebekah met up with David Booth at a pub. She did not want to stay to speak to a friend and wanted to leave immediately. She was agitated on the way home and was really quite stressed. David asked her what was wrong; she replied that she was emotional from the course and did not want to give specifics. They went straight to bed when they got home.</p>	<p>J. Lawrence Tab 28 [9]</p> <p>Arthur ERISP Tab 40 Vitozzi Tab 43 Woutersz Tab 42 Wright Tab 45</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [26-27]</p>
<p>17.12.2005 Saturday</p>	<p>9:00am – 10:30pm: Attendance at <i>The Turning Point</i> course (sessions 3).</p> <p>Last session of the day includes “<i>inner child</i>” sessions.</p> <p>Rebekah had a disturbed night’s sleep.</p>	<p>Arthur ERISP Tab 40 Vitozzi Tab 43 [15] Woutersz Tab 42 [19] Wright Tab 45</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [27]</p>
<p>18.12.2005 Sunday</p>	<p>9:00am – 7:30pm: Attendance at <i>The Turning Point</i> course (session 4).</p> <p>Prior to the final course session of the day, during a break. Frank Vitozzi notices Rebekah sitting on the side of the foyer area with support team member Susan Young.</p> <p>Mid-morning</p> <p>Rebekah sat and spoke to Geoff Kabealo during a break and indicated that she hadn’t realised that she was afraid of groups.</p>	<p>Vitozzi Tab 43 [20] Arthur ERISP Tab 40 Woutersz Tab 42 Wright Tab 445 Young Tab 78 [6]</p> <p>Kabealo Tab 53 [21]</p>

Date	Event	Source
18.12.2005 Sunday (Continued)	<p style="text-align: center;">Afternoon</p> <p>Rebekah, Joanne Woutersz and Geoff Kabealo have a conversation away from the rest of the group where Rebekah indicates that she realised she has a fear of groups of people.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Evening/night</p> <p>Prior to the end of the last session, Rebekah was sitting outside the foyer area with Susan Young and noted by Frank Vitozzi. She disclosed to him that she “<i>liked to be alone</i>”. Rebekah told Frank Vitozzi just before the last session on the Sunday that she had enjoyed reading books in the library as a child and that her mother had expressed concerns that she should have friends. After the music started, Frank asked her to close her eyes, scan her body and to feel if there were any areas that may feel tight or hurting and she immediately placed her hand on her belly. Small tears were observed. Rebekah told Frank she was 34 years old and wanted children, but that her partner did not.</p> <p>At the end of the course, on Sunday night, Kate Beaver noticed that Rebekah’s eyes had changed – they looked brighter and had a liveliness about them.. Rebekah held herself differently and looked happier.</p>	<p>Kabealo Tab 53 [21] Woutersz Tab 42</p> <p>Vitozzi Tab 43 [20-21]</p> <p>Beaver Tab 72 [6]</p>
19.12.2005 Monday	<p>Both Rebekah and David Booth had a rostered day off from work.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Morning</p> <p>In the morning Rebekah was extremely loving and they cuddled in bed for a long time. Her affection was unusually intense and long in duration. They walked their dog together and when the dog ran off, Rebekah called her and she came straight away. This was unusual as the dog is ill disciplined and disobedient. Rebekah told David that she had applied a mental command as well as calling the dog and that this was a technique she had learnt on the course. Later in the walk the dog ran off again and Rebekah called her and this time the dog did not respond. Rebekah again tried to mentally call the dog and said that she had to work on this technique. Later in the morning David asked Rebekah if she wanted to go Christmas shopping for presents for him in the afternoon, but Rebekah couldn’t remember what he had previously asked for. This was unusual as she placed a lot of importance on give-giving. This was when David knew that she wasn’t herself.</p>	<p>Booth Tab 26 [30]</p>

Date	Event	Source
<p>19.12.2005 Monday (Continued)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Brunch</p> <p>David and Rebekah went to a café in Newtown for brunch. Her behaviour was unusual in that despite poor service she didn't express any frustration, which she would normally do. David remarked to her that she seemed very calm and that she agreed saying that she felt calm. During brunch she stared at David with an unusually long, intense, loving look and appeared somewhat vague and not herself. David assumed this was normal behaviour after the course. Instead of reading to herself as well, which she would normally do, she kept looking at him intensely while he was reading.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Afternoon</p> <p>Rebekah was singing for an unusual length of time and was speaking in an extremely loving tone to the point of being unusual. She meditated in the afternoon which she only every used to do in the mornings</p> <p>At 5:00pm Barbara Bell called Rebekah and they discussed <i>The Turning Point</i> course.</p> <p>At approximately 6.30pm David and Rebekah went to Yoga. Rebekah was unusually self-absorbed while doing the Yoga exercises. On the way home they discussed a strategy to address Jarrod's [post-HSC] lack of motivation about sorting out his future and finding a part time job. Usually Rebekah took the soft approach which was to spoil Jarrod, but she was</p> <p>Usually vague and was conciliatory towards the role of being the disciplinarian, which was not her normal role.</p> <p>9:15pm Rebekah called Joan Lawrence. Rebekah said the course was good but she is exhausted. Joan said Rebekah seemed flat.</p>	<p>Booth Tab 26 [30]</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [30]</p> <p>Bell Tab 58 [15]</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [31]</p> <p>J. Lawrence Tab 38 [10]</p>
<p>20.12.2005 Tuesday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rebekah's last day</p> <p>3:00am (Approximately)</p> <p>David Booth woke up to Rebekah "<i>deep breathing</i>" beside him in bed. David asked her what was wrong. Rebekah said she was working through the issue of death [which had never been an issue before, according to Booth]. David said that he just dreamed about death and that it was alright and that there was no heaven or hell. Rebekah listened to this but said little. She then said she was confronting issues of fear. David asked her what she was fearful of. She said that she could not tell him and that she was going to call a support person from the course. After she left to make this call [see below] Rebekah returned to bed</p>	<p>Booth Tab 26 [31]</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [32]</p>

Date	Event	Source
	and they cuddled intensely. She then left the room and walked down the corridor to the toilet in the dark.	
20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)	<p>3:50am</p> <p>Telephone call from Rebekah to Jameson Wright (message left, approximately 60 seconds duration).</p> <p>3:52am</p> <p>Telephone call from Rebekah to Pam Berwick. (Approximately 13 minutes duration)</p> <p>4:26am</p> <p>Pam Berwick sent an email to Frank Vitozzi about the telephone call from Rebekah</p> <p>Pre 8:30am</p> <p>In the morning David and Rebekah discussed what had happened during the night and Rebekah told him that her fears relating to demons similar to the ones they had recently seen in a movie <i>“The Exorcism of Audrey Rose”</i>. The movie that really upset her to the extent that she could not walk down the corridor the night they saw the movie without David holding her hand. Rebekah said that she had walked down the corridor in the early hours of Tuesday morning in order to face her fears. Rebekah seemed very vague and distant and was unable to perform parts of her normal morning routine. Rebekah started deep breathing, saying she was working through emotional issues.</p>	<p>Wright Tab 45 [23-25] Telstra CCRs Tab 66</p> <p>Berwick Tabs 47 [17-22] and 48 Telstra CCRs Tab 66</p> <p>Berwick Tab 49</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [32-33]</p>
20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)	<p>8:30am (Approximately)</p> <p>Jameson Wright called Rebekah’s home and spoke with a male who informed him that Rebekah had left for work</p> <p>David drove Rebekah to work. In the car on the way to work, Rebekah was unusually quiet at first. She then began speaking about a person issue that was uncovered during the course, in that as a child she had enjoyed reading books in the library. Rebekah’s mother had expressed concern that she should have friends. Rebekah said that a couple of local girls that she had befriended were not good enough in her mother’s eyes. Rebekah said that she believed this was the underlying reason for her fear of losing friends and that her desire to have a child was based on the fact that everyone was having children and she did not want to be the odd one out. Later in the car journey she began breathing deeply, working through emotional issues. David</p>	<p>Wright Tabs 44 and 45</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [33-34]</p>

Date	Event	Source
	<p>asked her how long she thought all the unusual behaviour would last. Rebekah replied that it would last forever and that she was practising a technique taught on the course. David was concerned about this but was confident that she would grow out of it.</p> <p>8:40am</p> <p>David Booth dropped Rebekah at her place of work. In an usually intense manner Rebekah told David that she loved him. He asked if she would be alright and was concerned that she would not be able to cope with her job. She said not to worry about her. When she got out of the car she was nearly struck by a passing vehicle. Rebekah was “glowing”, her face was “alight”. She told people she had a “wonderful, life changing weekend”. Rebekah wanted to talk to Christine Ernst about the course the next day</p> <p>8:42am</p> <p>Rebekah left a telephone message at the offices of <i>PEOPLE Knowhow</i> (retrieved at 9:30am by Alexia Miall) requesting Geoff Kabealo call her.</p> <p>10:57am</p> <p>Rebekah called <i>PEOPLE Knowhow</i>, and spoke with Alexia Miall. (Approximately 46 seconds duration).</p> <p>11:00am</p> <p>Rebekah was observed to be inattentive and pre-occupied, which was out of character.</p>	<p>Booth Tab 26 [35]</p> <p>Sanders Tab 12 [9]</p> <p>Ernst Tab 18 [14]</p> <p>Miall Tab 50, Tab 69 (telephone records from Rebekah’s work)</p> <p>Miall Tab 50 Tab 69 (telephone records from Rebekah’s work)</p> <p>Sanders Tab 12 [14] Ernst Tab 18 [11]</p>
<p>20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)</p>	<p>11:15am</p> <p>Rebekah attended a management meeting with Peggy Sanders. The meeting was due to start at 11:00am, so they were late arriving. One of the doctors waiting said, “<i>speak of the devil</i>” in a manner of a figure of speech. Rebekah reacted by proclaiming loudly and firmly, “<i>Peggy is not the devil. Peggy is not the devil.</i>”</p>	<p>Sanders Tab 12 [14-15] Ernst Tab 18</p>

Date	Event	Source
<p>20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)</p>	<p>12:00pm (02:00am Berlin time approximately)</p> <p>Rebekah called Craig Patterson (CEO of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, since deceased), who was on holiday in Germany. Mr. Patterson described the conversation as being completely out of character.</p> <p>12:30pm</p> <p>Rebekah attended the office Christmas lunch. She was seen to be staring out the window rather than participating in the conversation, which was out of character.</p> <p>2:45pm</p> <p>Geoff Kabealo returned Rebekah’s call (message left).</p> <p>3:33pm</p> <p>Rebekah sent an email to her mother, replying to a question about the ages of her sister’s children, concluding with, “<i>Speak soon Love Becky</i>”.</p> <p>4:21pm</p> <p>Rebekah called <i>PEOPLE Knowhow</i> returning a call from Geoff Kabealo. She spoke to Sandra Victoria-Prohn and made an appointment to see Kabealo on 21 December 2005 at 5:30pm (call approximately 1 minute and 46 seconds duration).</p> <p>During the course of the day Rebekah attempted many more calls to <i>PEOPLE Knowhow</i> totalling about several dozen times.</p>	<p>Patterson Tab 11 [9-12]</p> <p>Sanders Tab 12 [17] Ernst Tab 18 [11]</p> <p>Kabealo Tab 53 [25]</p> <p>Tab 32</p> <p>Kabealo Tab 53 [25] Victoria Tab 51 [7] Tab 69 (telephone records from Rebekah’s work) Ernst Tab 18 [12] Evidence of Ernst as to the approximate number of attempts</p>
<p>20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)</p>	<p>4:23pm</p> <p>Rebekah telephoned David Booth (14 seconds)</p> <p>4:50pm</p> <p>David Booth called Rebekah and told her he may be a little late from work, but that he would collect her.</p> <p>Sometime shortly before 4:56pm</p> <p>Geoff called Rebekah (message left)</p>	<p>Tab 69 (telephone records from Rebekah’s work)</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [36]</p> <p>Kabealo Tab 53 [27]</p>

Date	Event	Source
	<p>4:56pm</p> <p>Rebekah returned Geoff’s call. She sounded profoundly happy to him.</p> <p>David Booth called Rebekah to tell her that he was on his way (message left).</p> <p>5:30pm (Approximately)</p> <p>David Booth arrived at their usual meeting place. He waited 25 minutes for Rebekah and assumed that she caught the train home in her confused state. He left the meeting place around 6:03pm and arrived home around 6:30pm</p> <p>Peggy Sanders was in her office at Level 1 at 145 Macquarie Street. She heard what she thought was “<i>Peggy I love you</i>” from outside her office and looked up to see Rebekah naked and saying “<i>I’m alright Peggy I’m alright don’t worry</i>”, in a gentle, quiet, singsong voice.</p> <p>Rebekah skipped out of the office. Sanders followed her but she seemed to have disappeared. (The RACP occupies adjacent buildings at 145 and 147 Macquarie Street, with floors of non-matching heights and internal access with landings and stairs (see floor plans, Exhibit 3)</p> <p>Soon after 5:30pm</p> <p>Lynette Groshinski was about to leave the college when Sanders came to her office and asked if she had seen Rebekah. Groshinski’s office is next door to Rebekah’s office at level 2, 147 Macquarie Street. Groshinski and Sanders went to look for Rebekah, starting on the second floor where Rebekah’s clothes were found by Sanders in the bathroom. Sanders was looking in every room.</p>	<p>Kabealo Tab 53 [27] Tab 69 (telephone records from Rebekah’s work) Booth Tab 26 [36]</p> <p>Booth Tab 26 [37]</p> <p>Sanders Tab 12 [20-25] and evidence of Sanders</p> <p>Clifton Tab 16 [8]</p> <p>Groshinski Tab 14 [5] Sanders Tab 12 [21]</p>
20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)	<p>5:40pm (Approximately)</p> <p>Groshinski found Rebekah standing behind the glass door of the library, which was on the ground floor of 147 Macquarie Street, two levels below the CEO’s office and Rebekah’s work desk (see floor plan, Exhibit 3). Rebekah was naked, calling out and waving. Her behaviour and demeanour were bizarre, alarming and totally uncharacteristic of her normal behaviour. Groshinski states that Rebekah was usually a calm, friendly, very professional person. However she did not seem distressed. Groshinski went to find Sanders</p>	<p>Groshinski Tab 14 [5] Clifton Tab 16 [6-7]</p>

Date	Event	Source
	<p>Groshinski gives an approximate time of 5:50pm, but Clifton, who worked on the ground floor where the library was looked at a clock and heard animated, slightly raised voices at about 5:40pm. This is likely to have been when Rebekah was calling out.</p>	
<p>20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)</p>	<p>5:45pm (Approximately)</p> <p>Rebekah must have gone upstairs again because Sanders saw her outside Sanders’ office on the first floor. Sanders suggested Rebekah find her clothes. Rebekah agreed and went in the direction of the level 2 bathroom. Sanders tried to call David Booth</p> <p>In the period between about 5:50pm and 6:00pm</p> <p>Sanders went to the second floor bathroom and saw that Rebekah was still naked and said to her something to the effect that she, “<i>hadn’t got dressed yet</i>”. Rebekah looked at her clothes, looked at Sanders and said, “<i>I think I need you to dress me</i>”. Sanders then assisted Rebekah to get dressed. During this time, Rebekah said, “<i>hear that noise</i>”. Sanders said, “<i>They are drilling in the building next door</i>”. Rebekah said, “<i>No, it is hell. I will tell you about it</i>”. Rebekah then stopped and said, “<i>I will see if I will tell you</i>”. Rebekah then closed her eyes, put her arms firmly down by her side, swayed a bit and after she opened her eyes she said very aggressively, “<i>no I won’t and you can’t get it out of me</i>” over and over again. Sanders and Rebekah left the bathroom.</p> <p>6:00pm (Approximately)</p> <p>As Sanders and Rebekah reached the corridor Rebecca turned to Sanders and started to scream, keeping eye contact with Sanders all the time. The screaming got louder and louder. Rebekah moved towards Sanders right out into Sanders’ face until their faces were almost touching. Rebekah screamed at Sanders to “<i>get away</i>”. Sanders held her ground and kept eye contact, whereupon Rebekah pushed Sanders into her chest and arms very forcefully, propelling Sanders backwards into the wall. Rebekah then marched up the stairs of 147 Macquarie Street. Sanders called out to Fairlie Clifton and Lynnette Gronshinski to call an ambulance.</p>	<p>Sanders Tab 12 [22]</p> <p>Sanders Tab 12 [23]</p> <p>Sanders Tab 12 [23]</p>

Date	Event	Source
<p>20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)</p>	<p>6:03pm</p> <p>Ambulance Operations Centre received a 000 call to respond to the address of 145 Macquarie Street for “<i>PT is running around screaming</i>”. Call to 000 made by Lynette Groshinski. Sanders and Clifton went to look for Rebekah</p> <p>Soon after 6:03pm</p> <p>Sanders found Rebekah in the CEO’s office, sitting fully clothes on a chair facing the open window into Macquarie Street. She was lulling, singing in a repetitive manner. Sanders did not go into the CEO’s office but stayed in a corner of Rebekah’s adjacent office where she could see Rebekah through the glass doors. She observed that Rebekah seemed to be swaying back and forth a lot mostly sitting, but sometimes standing up, arms by her side. Other times she would have her arms out wide.</p> <p>Just before 6:20pm</p> <p>Sanders was joined by Fairlie Clifton. By the time Clifton got there, the ambulance had been called, and Rebekah was naked again. Clifton observed that Rebekah was standing close to one of the windows with her hands by her side, staring out the window. Rebekah was calm, as though in a trance, swaying slightly backwards and forwards,. Clifton observed Sanders opened one of the glass doors and call out Rebekah’s name. This was met with a furious agitated reaction, with Rebekah turning around and angrily shouting, “<i>get out</i>”, so Sanders backed out. As Rebekah had become calm again, Sanders and Clifton decided to remain where they were waiting for the ambulance officers.</p>	<p>Pamplin Tab 23 Price Tab 21 Groshinski Tab 14 [8] Ambulance Service of NSW Patient Health Care Record Tab 22 Clifton Tab 16 [9]</p> <p>Sanders Tab 12 [24]</p> <p>Clifton Tab 16 [10]</p>
<p>20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)</p>	<p>6:20pm to about 6:30pm continued</p> <p>Paramedic Ambulance Officers Gregory Price and Jill Pamplin arrived at the RACP offices. Price entered CEO’s office at level 2, 147 Macquarie Street, where Rebekah was naked and standing close to the window. Rebekah screamed at him to leave, first without swearing and then with swearing. Price left the room. Pamplin returned to the ambulance to get drug bag. Pamplin requested urgent police attendance and requested a siren’s off approach. (Sanders does not appear to have seen Rebekah at the time she was screaming at Price and was therefore not aware that she had already removed her clothes again.)</p>	<p>Pamplin Tab 23 [5-9] Price Tab 21 [7-9] Sanders Tab 12 [26] Clifton Tab 16 [10]</p>

Date	Event	Source
<p>20.12.2005 Tuesday (Continued)</p>	<p>Close to about 6:30pm</p> <p>Jill Pamplin knocked on door of office. Rebekah said, “<i>fuck off fuck off. I don’t want your help</i>”. Pamplin shut the door but remained in visual contact. Price and Pamplin discussed the use of midazolam (a sedative).</p> <p>6:30pm Approximately</p> <p>Peggy Sanders called David Booth. Booth said he would come immediately. Rebekah patiently ranted, “<i>I love you David, I love you David</i>” repeatedly. Then suddenly she said, “<i>I know I am going to jump</i>”. Pamplin describes this as being said in a very casual manner. Price describes this as being said calmly, as though it was an everyday thought. Rebekah was singing as she climbed onto the windowsill and jumped out of the window. Sanders returned to Rebekah’s office and hear a loud “<i>shit</i>”. Fairlie Clifton said, “<i>she just jumped Peggy</i>”.</p> <p>Gregory Price and Jill Pamplin returned to street level and commenced treatment.</p> <p>6:33pm</p> <p>Snr. Constable Bassett, Constable Young and Probationary Constable Young responded to a call to provide urgent assistance to the NSW Ambulance Service at 145 Macquarie Street. Constable Barwick and Torrisi attended to assist with establishing a crime scene and obtaining details of the incident.</p> <p>6:45pm</p> <p>Ambulance arrived at St. Vincent’s Hospital. Care of Rebekah was handed over to medical staff at the emergency department.</p>	<p>Pamplin Tab 23 [15] Clifton Tab 16 [12] Price Tab 21 [12]</p> <p>Price Tab 21 Sanders Tab 12 [26] Clifton Tab 16 [14] Phillips Tab 24 [8] Pamplin Tab 23 [18]</p> <p>Price Tab 21 Sanders Tab 12 Pamplin Tab 23</p> <p>Bassett Tab 2 [4, 7]</p> <p>Pamplin Tab 23 Ambulance Service of NSW Patient Health Care Record Tab 22</p>
	<p>7:00pm</p> <p>Life pronounced extinct.</p>	<p>Bassett Tab 2 [6]</p>