

18th October, 1985.

A.G. -v- L.J. Standen, formerly Bushell

**BAILIFF:** The Court proposes to sentence you to imprisonment, Standen. It was, as I am quite sure you now appreciate, very grave sexual abuse of this child continuing for some five years and one of the aggravating factors undoubtedly is that it is that it continued after you had been challenged, when you had the opportunity to realise what a grave thing you were doing, and as the probation reports states, that whatever other factors may have been at work, the child was, undoubtedly, very greatly affected by your abuse of her. Only the future will tell how great that was, and therefore the Court must take, on behalf of society, a most serious view of these offences. We fully understand the mitigating factors - the fact that you co-operated with the police and made a statement and we have also fully taken into account the report which we have had about your ill health.

We have no doubt at all that the sentence of 1 years' imprisonment moved by the Solicitor-General took into account all those mitigating factors because otherwise you could have expected to receive a much longer sentence, and the only question really which has exercised our mind is whether, which your counsel said and said very well, whether we should, in fact, exercise mercy on the ground of your health and we have come to the conclusion that the offence is so grave that we should not do so. No doubt, being admitted to prison will be stressful but we would think that your life from now on will be stressful in any event because you have now appreciated the awful things that you have done in the past and you will be properly segregated if that is your wish as I am sure it will be. There will be a prison routine and although the first admission to prison may well be stressful, we think that in due course you will settle down into the prison routine.

We will order that the papers be sent to the prison authorities who will be well aware of the medical factors and recommendations and precautions that ought to be taken in your case and in all the circumstances I say, we do not think that this is a case where the circumstances are such that we should exercise our mercy to the point of not sentencing you to what you do deserve, which is a prison sentence to mark what you did. Therefore, you are sentenced, on count 1 to 12 months' imprisonment and on count 2 to 12 months' imprisonment concurrent making a total of 12 months' imprisonment and the papers which we have received will be sent to the

prison authorities so that they be well aware of the points which have been put to us as regards your health. Very well, thank you.