

TPR. BARD: Ok, my name is Trooper Glenn K. Bard, I've already told you that [Redacted] Um, we're here with [Redacted] [Redacted] at your apartment uh at what [Redacted] if I'm correct.

[Redacted] Yeah.

TPR. BARD: [Redacted] Um and Corporal John LaRoche, my supervisor, is here with me.

[Redacted] Ok.

TPR. BARD: I've already told you, you're not under arrest; you don't have to talk to me. You can tell me to go away and I will. Uh-

[Redacted] No, uh, whatever this is, the recording and my statements or whatever is this any matter of public record or anything?

TPR. BARD: No, no, no, no, this is not going to be given to the college; this is not going to be given to the media, the newspaper, nothing like that. This is for me so, again, so I don't have to take notes honestly. And also, it does help to protect you because I can't go back and say, well [Redacted] told me one thing and then it really didn't. It's going to be for a fact, what was said and what wasn't said. That way if you ever say well I didn't really say that, we can go back and check and make sure. That's exactly what this is for bud-

[Redacted] Sure.

TPR. BARD: Again, you aren't under arrest. We're sitting here in your apartment. You're free to leave or you're free to ask me to leave actually since it's your apartment. We don't have a search warrant for your house, nothing like that. Do you understand that [Redacted]

[Redacted] Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Ok. And what we're here for is to talk about, basically the incident at Saint Vincent College um and you know what I'm talking about.

[Redacted] Yeah.

TPR. BARD: With the images on a computer system in an office at Father Gruber's office. Am I correct?

[Redacted] Yes.

TPR. BARD: Ok. Now, I do know um that you made a statement to some other priests; I believe they were in December of this year that those images were from you.

[Redacted] Right.

TPR. BARD: That you would be the one that actually found them. And I'm here to basically track that down and see if that's true and go from there. See if you were put up to that in any way shape or form, if you did that willingly on your own and if they were downloaded by you because obviously, not only are, I'm not really here for the purpose of indicating if it was Father Gruber or not Father Gruber. We're here for the purpose of finding the truth, to be honest with you. That's why we're here. Ok?

[Redacted] Yeah.

CPL. LAROCHE: If I could have the first question-

TPR. BARD: Absolutely.

CPL. LAROCHE: I'm sorry to interrupt. I at least want to get a very bottom base line answer from you. Did anybody in anyway pressure you to go forth or come forth and say anything that either wasn't true uh in an effort to protect let's say Father Gruber or falsely accusing anyone else. Has anybody intimidated you or have you felt obligated through friendship to say anything that wasn't true to anybody or those investigators in December?

Redacted No, in fact Father Gruber was adamant that I shouldn't have to do this at all because you know, I had I had confessed this to him and he wanted to protect me.

CPL. LAROCHE: And-

Redacted And I had talked to him about it because I, through, well I didn't talk directly to him. I talked to Father Mark Wenzinger. I went to him and I told him I wanted to do this and um, because Father Gruber's not allowed to talk to students or whatever. Um, but, I went to Father Mark Wenzinger and he, through him I was talking to Father Gruber who said you know I didn't have to at all, like he didn't want me to. He pretty, but I you know I had to because I have used his computer, back when I was a student I would use it because I couldn't get anything on my own computer because of the filter and whatnot. I usually you know download stuff and put it on a flash drive and take it back to my, back to my room or whatever so-

CPL. LAROCHE: Ok, I just want to establish that before, I'm sorry to interrupt-

TPR. BARD: No, please do.

CPL. LAROCHE: I just wanted to make sure that was the truth.

TPR. BARD: You said that you had talked to Father Wenzinger about it, when was that? Do you remember when it first started that you started talking to him?

Redacted When I first talked to him? Pretty much when, when the news first broke, like, because I, I had heard all sorts of rumors; I didn't know what was going on. I knew uh people had said that he was sick, that was one of the rumors going around that he was sick.

TPR. BARD: Sick do you mean mentally or physically or?

Redacted Prob, like physically I think.

TPR. BARD: Ok.

Redacted And that was one of the rumors going around when he wasn't around so.

TPR. BARD: Ok. I know what you mean.

Redacted Because he was on sabbatical, but he was suppose to go to Rome and I had some friends who were suppose to go to Rome too and he didn't go on that trip so.

TPR. BARD: Ok.

Redacted People said he was sick or something. We didn't know exactly what was going on but when the news stories all broke, I pretty much knew you know because I was, I was there, I was there a lot over the summer. I was, you know, having some sort of crisis or whatever with my girlfriend and like, I don't know. I didn't, I just talked to him about it. I had been considering the (inaudible) so I was there a lot.

TPR. BARD: OK and when this all took place, you were using that computer system in the office. Can you identify which computer system it was?

Redacted I, I only know one computer system there.

TPR. BARD: Ok where-

Redacted The desktop computer in the um front room of the office. Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Alright. So that's the one you were using? You said you were downloading these images. If I showed you some images, do you think you could identify the images?

Redacted I don't know because I, I've looked at; I've looked at a lot of porn and all of that kind of stuff.

TPR. BARD: Right.

Redacted I've looked at gay stuff, I've looked at straight stuff, but mostly when I'm in that kind of mindset like when I'm really looking into, looking at um you know because most of the time, I'm, I don't find myself attracted to guys or whatever, I mean I can, like I, I can but when I really get into that mindset and I want to see stuff and I'm, it's just you know, I get deeper into, and that, that's the more. So I don't know, it's kind of like, I don't know if it's depressed or.

CPL. LAROCHE: Well do you mind taking a quick look? Because these are the images that some are trying to say are contributed to Father Mark Gruber's behavior on the computer. And this is the basis for some of the troubles that he has been suffering from.

TPR. BARD: If you don't recognize them that's fine.

CPL. LAROCHE: Yeah, if you don't remember, you don't remember.

TPR. BARD: Yeah, don't say anything that you don't remember. I'm just going to show you some pictures.

Redacted I, yeah, I'll just say it; I've seen a lot of pornography. I don't know if I've seen it, that doesn't mean I've seen it on his computer.

TPR. BARD: Sure, sure, just tell me if you recognize these photos, that's all I'm asking you to do buddy. And if you do-

Redacted I, I, I've looked at young looking stuff. I've never thought that anything was you know, underage people, that kind of thing.

TPR. BARD: Alright, I'm just going to show you some pictures. I have them printed out here. Just so you know so I don't alarm you, I have actually cut out the genitals. Um, so you can see the people but there's no genitals.

Redacted Alright, good.

TPR. BARD: Alright? So, that's the first page.

Redacted Ok, I think I've seen this one.

TPR. BARD: You recognize the first top left one? Alright.

CPL. LAROCHE: And the upper right?

Redacted Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Upper left.

CPL. LAROCHE: Oh, I'm sorry, upper left.

Redacted Yeah.

TPR. BARD: That's called the saving series. Ok, ready for this next page or do you want to-?

Redacted Maybe bottom right.

TPR. BARD: Maybe bottom right? Ok.

CPL. LAROCHE: And that's from, do you have them marked page one?

TPR. BARD: Yeah, that's from page one. Ok.

Redacted No, no.

TPR. BARD: Ok.

Redacted I don't think so.

TPR. BARD: No, ok. Next page.

Redacted Like, some of them that I don't know like-

TPR. BARD: That's ok. If you don't pick it out, don't worry about it bud. That's fine Redacted If you don't pick it out, don't, don't, don't even. Don't tell me what you think. If you don't recognize it, don't worry about it.

Redacted Ok.

TPR. BARD: We're just trying to see if you recognize any of these ones, that's all. Because these were the ones that we found on that computer system. You said that you recognize the two, that's fine. I don't want you to say anything else that you don't recognize bud. Not a problem at all.

Redacted Ok. Maybe bottom right maybe.

TPR. BARD: Bottom right on page five? Ok. And the last page.

Redacted Left one maybe.

TPR. BARD: On page six? Ok. Alright bud. I'm just going to mark these real quick so I know exactly which ones. Um, that's this one, correct? And then you said on page five, you said this one? Bottom right?

Redacted Yeah.

TPR. BARD: And then you said on page one, the two corners? Right?

Redacted Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Ok, that's all for the pictures bud. I'm going to put these away. Like I said we cropped them so I didn't want to alarm you with the actual genitalia so I just wanted to show them to you. Alright bud, um, just real quick, tell me what happened. How did this start and how did you find the pictures and and when did you do this? So I mean the issue

that we're having obviously is that um you know looking at the internet history it takes place on all hours of the day so it unlike that-

**Redacted** I just thought this was always opened. Like, it was, it was just very often not unlocked. And I would go in there like if I was suppose to meet him and discuss things, like I would go in there first before he would show up or he might go into the other room sometime. He would go in and out, and you know I would just be hanging out with him you know. Discussing various things about my vacation and blah blah blah. While I was there, I don't know, like it's, I don't know, like I don't understand the mindset that I get into with this kind of thing because I don't want to look at this kind of stuff. I want to, I mean I consider the homosexuality part of it, something that's sinful to act on. Or anything and so I go in between these periods of tension and stuff and wanting to look at that kind of stuff and wanting to you know it's it's like there's a switch in my head that just kind of clicks. I don't know.

TPR. BARD: Right. I know from talking with other people, I understand what you're saying. I've had other people tell me pretty much the same thing. When you were talking to Father Gruber, were you talking to him as your priest, your friend, your professor, all three?

**Redacted** Priest and friend. I might say, you know, discussing various things because I've always trusted him a lot in terms of relationship advice and that kind of stuff.

TPR. BARD: Sure. And he's supposed to be an expert in that field right?

**Redacted** Yeah, he does a lot of marriage counseling and that stuff so.

TPR. BARD: I thought so. Now did he know about you looking at this before this incident occurred? In other words, have you told him ahead of time before the July incident that what you were looking at on his computer?

**Redacted** I had gone to the confession with him over it. I hadn't necessarily specified that it had been on his computer but I think he kind of knew that part too. Like I, I indicated that do him so.

TPR. BARD: Ok, do you have something-

CPL. LAROCHE: Yeah, when you said that you had confessed to him, was that in the Roman Catholic Church of a type of confessional between the two of you were doing under the guides of-

**Redacted** Sentimental confessional. And that's why he wouldn't betray me on that I mean he didn't even want to have me go forward and talk to anybody about it because it's under the sacrament you know, you don't have to but he didn't want me to, you know. He'd rather take the fall because if the priest, he says, you know if a priest can be pressured into this by having his life taken away then what does the seal of relief mean? You know.

TPR. BARD: Um, I completely forgot what I was going to ask. Um, where did you find these pictures at? I mean how would you find them?

**Redacted** I had searched like uh I searched you know, boys, teen boys, you know. Young looking that kind of stuff. Because obviously I'm fairly young myself, **Redacted** It's like, like that's, you know when I get in that mindset, I'm looking for young looking guys now there's lots of sites out there that are based around like you know, young looking guys that are 18, but you know look really young and I don't know.

CPL. LAROCHE: So it was on internet explorer or some type of web browser, it wasn't somewhere else on the internet?

**Redacted** Yeah.

CPL. LAROCHE: You went to the World Wide Web itself and just did general searches?

Redacted

Yeah and you know you click through links, you click through various things to get to like, I, I would search like um, sometimes find like young looking guys, you might say like young, Russian boys, that kind of thing like because that's always the tag if they're you know, that kind, looking like that. Again, I wasn't trying to find anything illegal like.

TPR. BARD: But you did see the pictures, like the younger children pictures that I just showed you pop up occasionally.

Redacted  
d

Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Ok. And you said you put them on a thumb drive. Do you still have that thumb drive?

Redacted

I don't.

TPR. BARD: Do you know where it's at?

Redacted  
d

No. I don't. I, I, I've probably thrown it away because I absolutely like, I go through these periods of you know, doing all of that stuff. Actually, I probably don't even have any porn saved on my hard drive now. Like, I'll go through these periods where I need to like, you know I erase everything that, because I don't want to look at this stuff, I don't want to keep looking at it, so I just erase it all.

TPR. BARD: Right.

Redacted

So that thumb drive is long gone because probably way back in, in July I think is when I really just threw that thing away. I erased it and I threw it away.

CPL. LAROCHE: Well you understand that we just don't want it to be kind of out there, you know what I mean? That's why we're asking. Would there be possibly anything on your system here? I mean we got to make sure it's not out there resting. Even if it's deleted it could still sort of be there. We just want to make sure this stuff isn't around. Do you think it could be on your computer here?

Redacted  
d

Um, there might be some porn on my computer um.

CPL. LAROCHE: I'm not really concerned about porn. I mean I understand. This has been described as every man's battle, I have heard sometimes. Um, you don't need, I'm not here to judge you, believe me, we've all struggled with something. I just want to make sure that this stuff is sort of gone. Do you mind if I took a look at your computer and make sure you don't have anything on there?

Redacted

Um, sure, I have. I'm trying to think. You, well, you'll probably find something in my history. Probably not, like I said-

CPL. LAROCHE: I'm not concerned with adult porn. That's not what I'm here, I'm not the porn police. I just want to make sure there isn't something that might be considered too young or uh something too young or- I mean you can just keep talking to him to get this thing over with. We want to get out of your way her, but I can do this if that's ok.

Redacted  
d

Yeah, let me uh, let me type in my password.

TPR. BARD: You want to log in.

CPL. LAROCHE: Alright.

TPR. BARD: There you go.

Redacted

Uh, let's turn off and back on.

TPR. BARD: Ok. Just give him a second, hang on. John's pretty fast about going through these things so. He'll be in and out real quick. Alright, um I'm just going to review real quick then. The one thing that really stood out when I read the actual report-

Redacted  
d Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Was the fact that you knew the dates still very well five or six months later.

Redacted  
Yeah.

TPR. BARD: How did you remember those dates so well?

Redacted Well really, I remembered because I was going through my head and like it was pretty much the Redacted  
Redacted I was, I was really, I think it was that week that my girlfriend was in South Carolina or North Carolina with her family on the trip she always goes on every year so she wasn't around and I was, wasn't sure about our relationship. We're broken up right now so.

TPR. BARD: Ok.

Redacted Alright so that that's you know, and that that's when stuff like that always like I get way more into it when I'm kind of like lonely and like you know, not not sure about, like, you know, relationship stuff with her, so.

TPR. BARD: Alright and again, you said no one confronted you to come or to talk. How did you eventually get in contact with the two priests that interviewed you for that deposition in December? How did you get in contact with them?

Redacted Through Father Mark Wenzinger. I told him I wanted to.

TPR. BARD: Ok and Father Mark arranged for it to happen?

Redacted  
Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Ok.

Redacted Father Mark Wenzinger did, yeah.

TPR. BARD: Ok. You still talk to Father Wenzinger at all?

Redacted Right. Yeah, I do.

TPR. BARD: Ok. He works at uh Saint Vincent as well doesn't he? He's a professor there?

Redacted  
d Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Ok.

Redacted He's a good friend of Father Mark Gruber.

TPR. BARD: Is he? Ok.

Redacted  
d So I pretty much, I went to confessional with him and that's um.

TPR. BARD: Ok. And like I said, no one ever asked you to do this, no one brought this up to you, nothing like that.

Redacted No.

TPR. BARD: Um, you're not doing this to be the scapegoat and protect Father Gruber in any way shape or form.

Redacted No.

TPR. BARD: Uh, I'm going to let my partner look at this for a few moments here.

CPL. LAROCHE: A little slow, you've got some issues. A virus maybe uh-

Redacted Yeah.

CPL. LAROCHE: Actually, it looks like uh-

Redacted Well I, I usually use Firefox actually. The internet explorer doesn't really work.

CPL. LAROCHE: Oh, I haven't even used that.

Redacted Oh, you're just trying to get into a folder? After, after a bunch of times that it says the internet explorer has made an error then it eventually opens. Um, yeah. I shouldn't have any, I, I usually try to be pretty thorough when I just erase everything because I know that when I'm in that mindset, I'm going to be able to find it anywhere. I can just do a search for all images on the computer and go through them.

TPR. BARD: Have you ever looked up anything on this computer system as far as like the pictures I showed you earlier as far as children, nothing like that?

Redacted Something that might be similar looking maybe.

TPR. BARD: Ok. Ok. I'm going to let my partner finish up here. Anything else you want to say or anything else you can think of John before we go any further um.

CPL. LAROCHE: I suppose I can think of one. Have you ever heard of anybody else using that, do you know of anybody else that uses that computer that might have uh you know done similar stuff on Father Gruber's computer?

Redacted Well I know, know quite a few people that have used his computer in his office alone. I don't know who may or may not have been there over the summer. But I know quite a few people that are friends of his like students, that go to him for advice and everything who don't even have (inaudible) so who knows.

TPR. BARD: And you're, you're prepared, like I said, to take responsibility for your actions obviously. This is my phone, I'll move my phone away from you.

Redacted Yeah, like I said, I never, I know some of them are young looking but you could go to like and the site called them like 18 and they're all of age but they look like, and that kind of thing so that's like. I never suspected anything. Like I never, I didn't really think that that they were underage.

TPR. BARD: And you would be there at all hours of the day sometimes-

Redacted Yeah, I would be there in the middle of the night, I'd be there during the day, I have a crazy sleep schedule and everything so sometimes it's like I'm never sleeping so.

TPR. BARD: Were you staying there or were you living here when this all occurred?

Redacted I was living here.

TPR. BARD: Ok. Why would you go up to the college in the middle of the night?

Redacted Well I usually, I just got internet here and I usually haven't had internet here so. There's this network called go connect right now that uh I actually bought like a uh month of internet or so. But I usually, I never had internet here so I'd go up there so.

TPR. BARD: Ok and you never saw Father Gruber doing anything like this up there at all hours?

Redacted No.

TPR. BARD: Was he there at night?

Redacted He would, people would always go on his computer and what not. He never like, he never seemed worried when I would type something into the browser and something came up like that.

TPR. BARD: Did you have to log onto the computer system?

Redacted No, it was always logged on already.

TPR. BARD: It was? Do you know whose profile it was logged on logged on under?

Redacted I would assume it was his. I mean I don't know who else it would be.

TPR. BARD: You never checked or anything? Looked at it though?

Redacted No. Because like the window screen was always opened so.

TPR. BARD: Right. Ok. Alright, um and you, you're confident that it was Gruber, Father Gruber doing this?

Redacted I don't believe it was. I know I was. That's all I know. All I know is I was.

TPR. BARD: Ok. Corporal.

CPL. LAROCHE: That's a, your computer is somewhat unusable. It seems to me there's a genuine validation error.

Redacted Well yeah, that's, it should still be able to work. Oh you already ended Internet Explorer. Um, well here it comes Internet Explorer you were trying to open. I need you to get the damn thing to work.

TPR. BARD: You must have a lot of viruses on there.

Redacted Yeah. I don't know.

TPR. BARD: Alright bud. We'll go back over. Do you have anything else you'd like to ask Corporal?

CPL. LAROCHE: Uh, no. Uh, other than, do you have anything more than just a general friendship with Father Gruber. I guess what I'm asking for is do you have any kind of uh sexual relationship with him?

Redacted No, no.

CPL. LAROCHE: Have you known him to have had any kind of sexual relationship with anybody else?

Redacted Never, no.

CPL. LAROCHE: All I'm saying, we're human beings here you know what I mean.

Redacted I understand that you have to ask that question. To my mind that question is so ridiculous, but well I guess nobody knows the private lives of people but.

CPL. LAROCHE: So he's never tried to touch you in any way that you would consider inappropriate?

Redacted No. Not at all.

CPL. LAROCHE: Ok. And like I said, I'm not saying that I suspect that either way, these are questions that we have to throw out there.

Redacted I know. I understand. Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Ok. Um, we appreciate you being honest. Everything that you told me so far today was completely honest and truthful? No lies, no deceptive today?

Redacted No.

CPL. LAROCHE: Have you, I guess I should ask a question. We do have some images that you know uh you've obviously downloaded. Uh they appear to be younger, pre-advested children in some of the images. Uh, have you ever touched in anyway uh someone under the age of 18?

Redacted No.

CPL. LAROCHE: Homosexual way?

Redacted No.

CPL. LAROCHE: What about when you were under 18. Do you think there's a reason why you decided to take a look at some of those images?

Redacted No one's ever touched me if that's what you're asking I mean. When I was under 18, I may have, with somebody else that was under 18, the two of us. But like, nothing, actually, I never really went far with that even. Just in high school, maybe one little encounter.

CPL. LAROCHE: Well you said you um, I don't mean to interrupt. You said you have a girlfriend or had a girlfriend for awhile and you fight with homosexuality. Would you have a particular interest in one way or the other in which you would go? Would you consider yourself straight, homosexual, or bi?

Redacted I guess if I went by our cultures definitions, I would be bi. But I mean, like I said, the switch turns on in my head and I'm just. When it's already into that taboo or pornography and anything, I sometimes go deeper into things that are more taboo for me so.

CPL. LAROCHE: Ok, so let's go from that. If you were in that mode so to speak, is there a particular age group that you would prefer one way or the other?

Redacted Like I like younger looking guys but not like, like, but I, I, I never would break that taboo because you know I'm not, I'm not like, people that do that, that's wrong, like the kids themselves that ruins them, like I hate that but.

TPR. BARD: I'm going to ask you a question bud, in your room you have everything covered up with purple-

Redacted Passion tide. The last two weeks of lent.

TPR. BARD: Is that what that means?

Redacted: Cover up the images. These are all religious images.

TPR. BARD: So you cover up all of the religious stuff?

Redacted: Until Easter. The last two weeks of lent so.

TPR. BARD: Ok. You're very religious I would assume then.

Redacted: Yeah.

TPR. BARD: Because I've never seen that before. You have every picture covered up with-

CPL. LAROCHE: With purple sacloth.

Redacted: Yeah, it's purple linen. I went to Walmart and got four yards of purple linen for four bucks so.

CPL. LAROCHE: You know I heard that purple is actually talked about a lot in the bible but actually they look back now and they translated it improperly, it's actually the color red that was highly guarded.

Redacted: Oh really?

CPL. LAROCHE: That's what I heard, I don't know if it's true. I don't have any further questions on this.

TPR. BARD: He would probably know better, I don't know. Ok bud, I'm going to end this conversation. We've been talking about 27 minutes right now. It's actually 12:19 pm on Friday, April 1. Again, I'm Trooper Glenn K. Bard. Um, that's Corporal John LaRoche. You're Redacted If I'm correct, your date of birth is Redacted

Redacted

TPR. BARD: I'm sorry, Redacted. My numbers, I'm sorry, Redacted

Redacted

TPR. BARD: Redacted Ok, so Redacted You live here at Redacted

Redacted: Yep.

TPR. BARD: Do you have a number for you, bud, that I can reach you at?

Redacted: Redacted

TPR. BARD: Is that a cell phone?

Redacted: Yeah.

TPR. BARD: You'll answer it if I call?

Redacted: Uh, are you calling from a Redacted number?

TPR. BARD: Yeah, it'll be a Redacted number.

Redacted

I should

TPR. BARD: Ok. We're going to stop the tape right now. You know the whole thing was being recorded, so I'm going to go ahead and stop it.