

night. Whilst I always enjoyed Stephen’s company, I felt he was withdrawn a lot of the time and a quiet person. Conversations would be quite difficult with Stephen as he would often just give one word answers.

I remember once around five (5) years ago, I went to Stephen’s flat for a coffee and his mum was there. I can’t remember her name but remember she was a lovely lady. Stephen had to pop out for something and that is when I had a brief conversation with his mother. She told me that Stephen was a lovely, friendly, chatty child and then he changed as a teenager. I did not probe her about this and nor did she elaborate on it. The conversation then changed onto something else. This then made me think that something had happened to Stephen in his teenage years and that was why he was withdrawn a lot of the time. I also realized quite early on after meeting Stephen that he had what I would describe as an obsession with Transformer toys. I never questioned or asked Stephen about the toys and why he would still play with them at his age. He would have been in his mid thirties at the time.

Around 2012 Stephen met a young lad called [X1]. Stephen met [X1] online and it was not too long after that I met [X1]. I would describe this relationship between [X1] and Stephen as a bit crazy. [X1] was always in and out of hospital for something or other, and I also remember [X1] calling Police a couple of times. I don’t know why police were called but either [X1] or Stephen would tell me that they were called. Neither went into any detail about the police and I did not want to get involved. I would still visit Stephen every couple of weeks around his flat and quickly realized that [X1] had moved in.

[X1] was in his early twenties and very slim. I remember once going to McDonalds with Stephen and [X1] in Beckton. This was a couple of years ago. We ordered our food and then what was strange was that I sat down at a table, Stephen sat next to me and [X1] sat at a table at the back of the restaurant alone. I asked Stephen why [X1] was sat alone at a different table and Stephen said to me that he had arranged for him to meet a guy. I jokingly said to Stephen, “you’re not pimping him out are you” and then Stephen then said with a straight face that he was. I then nervously laughed. I can’t remember when I left the McDonalds if I left alone or with Stephen. What I do remember was that we did not all leave together.

Throughout Stephen’s relationship with [X1] they would often break up and get back together. I’m not sure when or how this relationship ended, but I remember another early twenties white male came on to the scene and begin a relationship with Stephen. This was in August 2014 and the lad’s name

Signature:
2020

Signature witnessed by: