

THE TEACHING PROFESSION ACT AND AMENDING ACTS

IN THE MATTER OF a charge or complaint against
JOSEPH S GORSLINE

ORDER OF THE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF
THE ALBERTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

The Discipline Committee of The Alberta Teachers' Association, pursuant to authorization in that behalf, did, after duly investigating the charges of unprofessional conduct laid against Joseph S Gorsline by Provincial Executive Council, on Tuesday, June 14, 1994, find him guilty of unprofessional conduct. A report in writing of its findings and recommendations was made to the Provincial Executive Council of The Alberta Teachers' Association. After due consideration of the report and the recommendations made by the Discipline Committee, the Provincial Executive Council of The Alberta Teachers' Association does hereby:

- (a) expel Joseph S Gorsline from the Association, and
- (b) recommend to the Minister of Education that Joseph S Gorsline's teaching certificate be cancelled.

DATED at the City of Edmonton, in the Province of Alberta, Friday, September 23, 1994.

THE ALBERTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Per: _____
President

Per: _____
Executive Secretary

REPORT OF THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

IN THE MATTER OF charges of unprofessional
conduct against Joseph S Gorsline

The Discipline Committee of The Alberta Teachers' Association reports that charges of unprofessional conduct laid against Joseph S Gorsline of [REDACTED] were duly investigated in accordance with the *Teaching Profession Act* (RSA 1980, Chapter T-3) and the Discipline Bylaws of the said Association. The hearing was held in the Southern Alberta Regional Office of The Alberta Teachers' Association, 540 12 Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada on Tuesday, June 14, 1994 at 0900 hours. Discipline Committee members present were: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] presented the case against the accused.

The accused was neither present nor represented by counsel. The secretary informed the Committee that he had been in contact on 1994 06 14 with an official of the [REDACTED] who stated that the accused would not be attending the hearing.

A plea of "Not Guilty" to the following charges was entered by the committee on behalf of the accused.

1. Mr Joseph Samuel Gorsline is charged with unprofessional conduct contrary to the Discipline Bylaw 9(2)(f) of The Alberta Teachers' Association in that he, while a member of The Alberta Teachers' Association, on the 28th day of October, AD, 1993 at or about the [REDACTED] in the Province of Alberta, was convicted of an indictable offence under Part XIX of the Criminal Code of Canada to wit: That between the 1st day of September, 1990, and the 30th day of August, 1991, both dates inclusive, at or near [REDACTED] being in a position of trust or authority or in a relationship of dependency with [REDACTED] a young person, did for a sexual purpose, unlawfully touch, directly or indirectly, with a part of the body or with an object, a part of the body of [REDACTED], contrary to section 153(1)(A) of the Criminal Code of Canada.

2. Mr Joseph Samuel Gorsline is charged with unprofessional conduct contrary to the Discipline Bylaw 9(2)(f) of The Alberta Teachers' Association in that he, while a member of The Alberta Teachers' Association, on the 28th day of October, AD, 1993

at or about the [REDACTED] in the Province of Alberta, was convicted of an indictable offence under part XIX of the Criminal Code of Canada to wit: That between the 1st day of September, 1977 and the 30th day of March, 1979, both dates inclusive, at or near [REDACTED] being in a position of trust or authority towards a young person, did indecently assault [REDACTED], a [REDACTED] person, contrary to section 149 of the Criminal Code of Canada.

3. Mr Joseph Samuel Gorsline is charged with unprofessional conduct contrary to the Discipline Bylaws 9(2)(f) of The Alberta Teachers' Association in that he, while a member of The Alberta Teachers' Association, on the 28th day of October, AD, 1993 at or about the [REDACTED] in the Province of Alberta, was convicted of an indictable offence under part XIX of the Criminal Code of Canada to wit: That between the 1st day of January, 1975 and the 30th day of December, 1976, both dates inclusive, at or near [REDACTED] being in a position of trust or authority towards a young person, did indecently assault [REDACTED], a [REDACTED] person, contrary to section 149 of the Criminal Code of Canada.

4. Mr Joseph Samuel Gorsline is charged with unprofessional conduct contrary to the Discipline Bylaw 9(2)(f) of The Alberta Teachers' Association in that he, while a member of The Alberta Teachers' Association, on the 28th day of October, AD, 1993 at or about the [REDACTED] in the Province of Alberta, was convicted of an indictable offence under part XIX of the Criminal Code of Canada to wit: That between the 1st day of September, AD, 1974 and the 30th day of December, AD, 1975, both dates inclusive, at or near [REDACTED] being in the position of trust or authority towards a young person, did, being a male person, have intercourse, sexual, with [REDACTED], a [REDACTED] person [REDACTED] and of previous chaste character who was under [REDACTED] and over the age of [REDACTED], contrary to section 146(2) of the Criminal Code of Canada.

Constitution/Jurisdiction

There being no objection to the composition of the Committee and no question of its jurisdiction to hear the case, the hearing proceeded.

Witnesses

No witnesses were called by either the prosecution or the defence.

Evidence Adduced and Exhibits Filed Indicated That

1. J Gorsline was employed as a teacher by the [School Division Redacted] from 1974 09 to 1993 09. (Exhibit 3)
2. J Gorsline was a member of The Alberta Teachers' Association from 1974 09 to 1993 08. (Exhibit 2)
3. In his Reasons for Judgement, His Honor [REDACTED] identified the victims named in the charges as students of J Gorsline. (Exhibit 10)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Decision of the Discipline Committee

Charge 1 - Guilty
Charge 2 - Guilty
Charge 3 - Guilty
Charge 4 - Guilty

Reasons for Decision

1. The defendant was convicted of four indictable offences under the Criminal Code of Canada and is guilty of unprofessional conduct under section 9(2)(f) of the Discipline Bylaws.

Recommended Penalty

The Discipline Committee recommends to Provincial Executive Council the following penalty:

Charge 1 - That J Gorsline's eligibility for membership in The Alberta Teachers' Association be cancelled and that a recommendation be made to the Minister of Education that J Gorsline's teaching certificate be cancelled.

Charge 2 - That J Gorsline's eligibility for membership in The Alberta Teachers' Association be cancelled and that a recommendation be made to the Minister of Education that J Gorsline's teaching certificate be cancelled.

Charge 3 - That S Gorsline's eligibility for membership in The Alberta Teachers' Association be cancelled and that a recommendation be made to the Minister of Education that J Gorsline's teaching certificate be cancelled.

Charge 4 - That J Gorsline's eligibility for membership in The Alberta Teachers' Association be cancelled and that a recommendation be made to the Minister of Education that J Gorsline's teaching certificate be cancelled.

Reasons for Recommended Penalty

1. A teacher should not be involved in sexual relationships with students. Society views such actions as repugnant and reprehensible. J Gorsline's actions showed disregard for societal expectations of teachers.
2. Society has a right to expect that teachers will act in a manner which maintains the trust relationship between teachers and their students. J Gorsline betrayed this trust.
3. J Gorsline showed a lack of sound judgement regarding four extremely serious breaches of trust involving four of his students over a seventeen year period. He used his teaching position for purposes of sexual exploitation.
4. J Gorsline's activities were predatory with no voluntary cessation on his part at any time, and were completely inappropriate.
5. J Gorsline's activities with the four victims had a significant detrimental psychological effect on them.
6. The court proceedings resulted in negative publicity for the teaching profession in the Calgary media.
7. Teachers who engage in such deplorable activities create negative impacts on families, communities and the teaching profession.
8. J Gorsline extended apologies to the victims and has voluntarily sought psychological assistance.

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DATED at the City of Calgary in the Province of Alberta, Tuesday, 1994 06 14

THE DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE
THE ALBERTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

