

WILLIAM THOMAS ROSS

SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 20th DAY
OF JUNE 1994

(519) 759-4002


J. R. Ross
A Commissioner, etc.

I, John Russell Ross, of Brantford, Ont. am the brother of Bill Ross. I am acquainted with his wife, Catherine Lois Eleanore Ross. This statement was prepared by Bill Ross based on interviews with me. I worked together on this statement with Bill until I felt my views were accurately reflected.

Catherine and Bill visited and stayed with me for weekends twice a year on average during their marriage. In addition, we spent five days with them at a cottage in the summer of 1991 and eight days at their home during Christmas 1992.

Because of Bill, I tolerated but did not like Catherine. This was due to her extremely abusive treatment of Bill and neglect of the emotional and interaction needs of their children. Catherine is not open with people, she pretends to be some kind of artificial person who is perfect and has never farted once in her life. Catherine was always bossing Bill around and refused to help with any of the kid stuff except cooking and cleaning. Bill had no time to relax while the children were around. Catherine appeared to expect the moon from Bill but was unwilling to help or be a partner. Her abuse and lack of partnership must have greatly hindered Bill's efforts to provide for his family. Catherine is very lazy. I don't think Catherine ever loved Bill, he was just a source of money, status and security for her. Catherine is a snob, she puts down my family and especially Bill. She was always accusing Bill of being a lazy, no good, stupid asshole who could not even earn enough to meet her needs. Many times she said that his career was useless and beneath the dignity of people of quality.

Many times, I tried to tell Bill that Catherine was using and abusing him and he deserved better. He said that deep down she loves him and he was trying to patiently and gently get back the girl he married and also had the children to consider. He was blinded by love when it came to Catherine.

In all arguments that I have seen between Bill and Catherine, it was always started by Catherine about something stupid. Catherine was usually very argumentative and became much more abusive towards Bill once she started drinking. Catherine would argue in terms of Bill being a stupid, good for nothing asshole, while Bill tried to stay on topic and deal with the issue. I don't know where he gets his patience from, but I have never even seen him raise his voice to Catherine.

I have the impression that both Bill and Catherine love their children, since both were insistent that the children be kept on a strict schedule in terms of meal, nap, bath and bedtime. They were very particular about what the children

ate, providing fruit, nutritious meals and strictly controlling pop and junk food. They were very careful about harmful influences such as cigarette smoke around the children. Catherine and Bill sometimes argued about whether to rent movies for the children. Bill's position was that the children watched too many movies and needed quality parental time and activities. Catherine always won.

I felt Bill cared more for the children, since, in addition to all of his kid responsibilities except cooking and cleaning, he went out of his way to make time for the children. They were always welcome on his lap and he answered their questions in a meaningful way. He treats the children as people. He would usually interrupt what he was doing to attend to the children's needs.

During all the times we were together, Catherine expected Bill to get up early in the morning with the children while she got to stay in bed late. Sometimes she would get up long enough to get a coffee, then go right back to bed. When Bill and I went out, my wife then later my common law spouse complained that Catherine just sat on her ass drinking and expected them to care for her children. Whenever the children wanted attention from Catherine, she would always distract their interest by providing them with coloring books or a movie in another room. She was very good at meeting their physical needs and immediately provided them with a drink, etc. (unless Bill was nearby, then it was up to him). Whenever the children tried to get up on Catherine's lap, she always shooed them away, distracted them to another room or screamed at them to get lost (depending on her mood or alcohol level). When they ask questions, her answers are always vague and she does not give the children her undivided personal attention. Quite often her reply was "go ask your father". In the last several years, the children have not even bothered to try to get on her lap or ask her questions. They always go to Bill. Catherine definitely has a short fuse with the kids, quite often she screamed for them to get out of her space. It appeared to bother Catherine a lot if the children were in the same room with her. She would either go to another room or force the children to. There appeared to be no rules or expectations for the children on Catherine's part, except those which kept the children away from her or resulted in no messes. Catherine does not treat the kids as people, just as things who annoy her and have physical needs. I have never seen Catherine participate in the following activities with the children (although I have seen Bill do so): playing, one on one, reading, games, bike rides, going to the park, horsing around, lap sitting, hugs, running around after them and having limits and rules. Catherine just did the cooking and cleaning. When we visited them at the cottage and their home, Bill took the kids into town all day for shopping and errands, while Catherine sat around

Statement, Bill + Catherine

J. R. R.

drinking and talking with my spouse. If there was a problem with the kids, Catherine expected Bill to fix it.

One thing which I thought was really cruel and anti-family was Catherine's insistence that the children eat by themselves in front of the TV while we ate later. In the early years, Bill and Catherine fought a lot about this. Bill always lost and eventually gave in.

Catherine drank double rum and cokes, always starting in the early afternoon and continued until she stumbled up to bed before 10 PM. At this time she was always intoxicated. Sometimes, she passed out in the middle of dinner, in her chair. At these times, Bill got embarrassed, apologised and helped her to bed. When she visited, she always brought her own rum, since nobody else drank rum at our house. The above has been Catherine's pattern since she first had children.

Catherine has always given me the impression that she really likes to drink. I like to drink regularly myself and can recognise other people who are the same. Catherine is definitely one.

NY 30 - 94.
John Russell Ross
