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Call to stand down Yeshivah teacher

Jewel Topsfield
May 25, 2012

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A MELBOURNE Jewish boys' school is under pressure to stand down one of its teachers after a magistrate found it was "unfathomable" he was unaware of sexual abuse at the time it allegedly occurred.

Philanthropist Moishe Gordon, a long-standing member of the Yeshivah community, said he would bankroll advertisements saying Rabbi Abraham Glick must go from Yeshivah College, where he teaches Jewish studies and is head of student wellbeing.

Rabbi Glick, who was the principal of the East St Kilda school at the time of most of the alleged offences, originally said he had only recently become aware of accusations that Yeshivah security guard David Samuel Cyprys had molested children. He changed his evidence under oath in the Melbourne Magistrates Court and admitted he was aware of rumours in the early 2000s.

But Magistrate Luisa Bazzani said it was "unfathomable" he did not know at the time the sex abuse allegedly occurred in the 1980s.

Mr Gordon said any organisation "worth its salt" would have stood Rabbi Glick down a long time ago, pending the outcome of court cases. "He knew something and did nothing. That is not a person who should any longer be looking after children," Mr Gordon said.

Cyprys has been committed to stand trial on 41 charges, including rape, allegedly committed against 12 boys between 1982 and 1991. He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

In a letter to the community, Yeshivah congregant Bruce Cooke said the alleged rape by Cyprys underscored the need for change at the Yeshivah Centre.

"Those who failed the children must be held to account," Mr



Rabbi Abraham Glick Photo: Justin McManus

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Cooke wrote.

"No one has resigned of their own accord. No personal apology or even approach has been made to any of the victims or their families.

"Rabbi Glick remains one of the Yeshivah Centre's highest-paid employees and most powerful individuals."

Yeshivah College principal Rabbi Yehoshua Smukler said it was inappropriate to comment while the matter was before court.

The call for Rabbi Glick to stand down comes as a full-page advertisement in the *Australian Jewish News* said all rabbinic and secular authorities in Western democratic societies stated one must go to the police in the case of suspected child sex abuse. "Period. No ifs or buts. One must also co-operate fully with the police - not evading, covering up and certainly not lying. Victims and their families should have the complete support of their community - under no circumstances should they experience additional victimisation."

The advertisement said it was sponsored by supporters of victims and their families in Melbourne and supported by prominent individuals and organisations including Liberty Victoria president Spencer Zifcak, writer and editor Hilary McPhee and the Sydney Beth Din.

Anti-abuse campaigner Manny Waks said: "The fact it has got to this stage, where supporters of child sex abuse victims and their families feel the need to take out paid ads in the media to combat the ongoing abuse from a fringe sector within our community, is a terrible blight on the entire Jewish community."

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THE AGE



TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2012

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Police to ask US to hand over ex-teacher

By **JEWEL TOPSFIELD**
EDUCATION EDITOR

VICTORIA Police will this month seek to extradite a former teacher at a Melbourne Jewish orthodox school from the United States over a child sex abuse scandal that was allegedly covered up by the school.

Parents allege that Yeshivah College in East St Kilda assisted the former teacher, David Kramer, to flee Australia in 1993 after they complained he had sexually abused their children.

Kramer was the focus of a Victoria Police probe launched last year into alleged sexual abuse at Yeshivah College between 1989 and 1993, which has widened to include other alleged perpetrators.

Magistrate Luisa Bazzani yesterday asked in court if Kramer had been brought to Australia by Victoria Police last month.

"More like mid-April, they will be travelling over to extradite him," Detective Senior Constable Lisa Metcher told the Melbourne Magistrates Court.

The Age understands that charges will be served this month and then Victoria Police will seek to extradite him.

A parent told *The Age* that Yeshivah College did not go to the police in 1993 despite accusations that Kramer, who taught Jewish studies and was a chaperone at camps, had sexually abused children at the school.

"We couldn't even get them to fire the guy," the parent said. A meeting was called at which parents intended to give Yeshivah College an ultimatum: sack Kramer or they would go to the police.

"Everybody was so scared of Yeshivah's power, no individual felt strong enough to go to police," the parent said.

Fifteen minutes before the meeting was due to start, the parents received a phone call telling them that there was no need to proceed. A week and a half later Kramer was "spirited out of the country".

"The way it was handled was wrong," the parent said if alleged sexual abuse occurred now, parents would be on the phone to police "in a second".

"Times were different 20 years ago. It's a very closed community and there was a reticence to talk about any of those things and to try to keep them under cover."

The Age has been told some members of the Jewish community have been reluctant to speak to police due to concerns they would be violating the Jewish law of mesirah, which prohibits reporting a fellow Jew to civil authorities.

However the Rabbinical Council of Victoria has stressed the

▶ Continued **PAGE 2**



From *The Age*, June 22, last year.

JIMMY LITTLE 1937-2012



'The sweetest man I ever met'



Jimmy Little outside his home in 2009 and (inset) with singer Marge Peters in Redfern, Sydney, in 1957. PICTURES: JANIE BARRETT, NOEL STUBBS

By **KARL QUINN**
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

THE first time Steve Kilbey heard Jimmy Little sing *Under the Milky Way*, it was as if he were hearing his most famous song for the first time. "As we were playing, he walked over, looked very intensely at me and said, 'And it's something quite peculiar', like he was explaining it to me, reinterpreting my lyrics back to me," the frontman of The Church recalled yesterday. "It was unexpected, it was very profound, and it was f---ing funny."

That was in 1999, when the song was among the 11 Australian indie rock classics on Little's album *Messenger*, a comeback of sorts for the Aboriginal musician who released his first single in 1956 and had a chart-topping hit with *Royal Telephone* in 1963.

The last time Kilbey played the song with Little a couple of years ago was an entirely different matter, though. "I was playing the intro on guitar, which I don't normally do," recalled Kilbey, whose instrument of choice is bass. "And Jimmy just kept saying hello to all his friends and relatives. It went on for about three minutes, by which time my fingers were ready to pour blood, and then he turned to me and said, 'I can't remember the words. You could see then he wasn't going to be around for much longer.'"

Yesterday, after a prolonged battle with ill health, Little died at his home in Dubbo. He was 75.

"Jimmy was the sweetest man I ever met," said Brendan Gallagher, who produced *Messenger* and Little's 2004 album *Life's What You Make It*. "He was a natural prince, generous, humble, funny, outrageously talented

and ferociously determined." Graham "Buzz" Bidstrup — former drummer with The Angels, Little's manager for 12 years and, since 2006, chief executive of the Jimmy Little Foundation — said Little's mind and spirit remained vital to the end.

"The night before he died he was sitting up in bed writing. Yesterday morning he had a piano lesson booked. He kept saying there were so much more to do with the foundation," Bidstrup said. "That he went quietly while he still had that much in him was kind of cool, really."

Mission near Barmah on the Murray River. His mother's people were from Victoria, his father's from NSW.

He was a Yorta Yorta man, and proudly so, but through music he found a connection with all Australians. "Everywhere I go, I feel like a part of me is there," he said. "I feel the whole nation is part of my home."

His mother was a singer and a yodeler, his father a tap dancer, comedian and musician. If there was an option to do something other than showbiz with his life, it seems no one remembered to tell Jimmy Little.

▶ Continued **PAGE 4**

Carr urges drug reform

High-profile Australians demand a new approach

By **MARK METHERELL** and **GESSCHE JACOBSEN**

FOREIGN Minister Bob Carr has joined a group of prominent Australians, including former federal police chief Mick Palmer, in a campaign to overturn the "war on drugs" policies promoted by former prime minister John Howard.

The campaign will be launched today with a report declaring: "The war on drugs has failed... The prohibition of illicit drugs is killing and criminalising our children and we are letting it happen."

The campaign, to be launched by former NSW director of public prosecutions Nicholas Cowdery, QC, has

attracted high-profile backers including former WA premier Geoff Gallop, former Defence Department chief Paul Barratt, former federal Liberal health ministers Michael Wooldridge and Peter Baume, and drug addiction expert Alex Wodak.

Senator Carr, who agreed to join the campaign before being drafted into federal cabinet earlier this year, questioned in his contribution to the report whether the pursuit of marijuana users was the best use of police time.

"An issue that worried me while I was in NSW politics was the police hitting railway stations with sniffer dogs," Senator Carr wrote. "It was marijuana that was the focus."

He said this was a victimless crime and he would have preferred police "to do things like make public transport safe and clean up Cabramatta".

A spokesman for Senator Carr last night reaffirmed his support for drug law reform, but said that as a federal minister now he would be supporting government policy in this area.

The report was written by population health expert Bob Douglas and social research consultant David McDonald for think tank Australia21.

Its call for a fundamental rethink of drug policies and "an end to the tough-on-drugs approach" follows a declaration last year by the Global Commission on Drug Policy that the war on drugs had failed, "with devastating consequences for individuals and societies around the world".

Dr Wooldridge, who as health minister supported a heroin trial in the ACT, which was blocked by Mr Howard, says in the new report: "The key message is that we have 40 years

The key message is that we have 40 years of experience of a law-and-order approach to drugs and it has failed.

Former federal Liberal health minister **MICHAEL WOOLDRIDGE**

of experience of a law-and-order approach to drugs and it has failed."

Mr Cowdery, a long-time advocate of drug law reform, said the prohibition of drug use created social and health problems, as well as a "proliferation of crime... and an increase in the corruption of law enforcement".

He said he strongly favoured legalising and regulating all drugs. "A first step towards such a regime could be decriminalisation, similar to the approach adopted 10 years ago in

Portugal, or an adaptation of that approach," Mr Cowdery said. "The key as I see it, is to try to reduce substantially the profit potentially able to be made by criminal activity in the drug trade and the only way to do that, as I see it, ultimately is to legalise, regulate, control and tax all drugs."

Mr Cowdery said MPs were reluctant to reopen the debate for fear of political consequences. "That's why I think we need to have the discussion in the community and why we need as a consequence of the discussion to demonstrate to the politicians that there is a significant proportion of people that want something better."

About 15 per cent of Australians used illicit drugs in 2009, according to the latest statistics published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. But the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy reported last year that fewer people were using illegal drugs compared with the 22 per cent in 1998.

Dumped minister's carbon tax warning

By **MICHELLE GRATTAN**
POLITICAL EDITOR

FORMER cabinet minister Robert McClelland has warned that Julia Gillard's broken promise on the carbon tax is a "burning issue" that needs to be resolved by a dialogue with the community.

With the ALP vote in the latest *Age*/Nielsen poll plunging 7 points to 27 per cent, Mr McClelland, who was dumped by Ms Gillard in this year's cabinet shuffle, said that "people go to the election on the basis of undertakings... and it does affect a sense of legitimacy [when they are broken]."

"There is no doubt that it is an issue, a burning issue, that does need to be resolved. There needs to be a dialogue with the Australian community about that."

"It again goes to the whole issue of political mandate and what the Australian people see as the legitimacy of government decision-making."

Mr McClelland said Australians were "repulsed" and "fed up" by political spin. They were crying out to see their representatives "being decent people, talking to them sincerely".

"I think all players, from caucus members right through to the top of the leadership, need to look at firstly how we are perceived in the community and how we are communicating and engaging with the community."

Trade Minister Craig Emerson admitted "there's a fair bit of carbon pricing" in Labor's poll plunge. The *Age* poll shows 60 per cent oppose the carbon price and 52 per cent think they will be worse off under it.

But Dr Emerson said 90 per cent would get some compensation and after the July 1 start the ones would shift to opposition leader Tony Abbott to explain how he would cut pensions and increase taxes as he would back carbon compensation.

Dr Emerson conceded that for Ms Gillard to be — as she has described herself — single, childless and an atheist was a negative in the eyes of some voters.

She told a private function last week she had joked to President Barack Obama: "You think it's tough being an African-American? Try being me. Try being an atheist, childless single woman as prime minister."

Dr Emerson said that in the eyes of "voters who are very strong in their Christian beliefs, that would not be a positive". But, he said, what people in the end wanted was "strong

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Man in court over Jewish school sex assaults

Jewel Topsfield
September 6, 2011 - 8:54PM

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Yeshivah College. Photo: John Woudstra

A Balaclava man has appeared in court charged with sexually assaulting children at a Melbourne Jewish school.

Locksmith and security guard David Cyprys, 43, was arrested this morning.

The alleged offences involved students of Yeshivah College, an orthodox Jewish boys' school in East St Kilda, during the 1980s and early 1990s.

The court heard there were five alleged victims in Victoria, five in NSW and two in the US.

The alleged victims, who were all associated with Yeshivah college, were aged between seven and 17 at the time.

Cyprys has been charged with 16 counts of indecent assault and 13 counts of gross indecency.

Cyprys, who also taught karate, recently stood down from the board of management of an Elwood synagogue while police investigated the claims made against him by former students of the school.

He had been employed as a security guard by the Yeshivah Centre, which is part of the school.

Cyprys did not enter a plea and was granted bail on conditions including that he surrender his passport, does not go within 100 metres of a school and is not in contact with any child under 16 unless supervised by child protection authorities.

This includes his own children and step-children.

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The case was adjourned to December 2.

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Rabbi ignored warnings on sexual abuse, say parents

Jewel Topsfield May 8, 2012

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“He was a lot bigger and stronger than me at the time. He had me pinned and cornered. I felt sick to my bones and wanted to die, I was so afraid.”

ONE of Australia's leading rabbis told a man whose son had been allegedly sexually abused by a youth group leader at a Melbourne Jewish school that the child would not need counselling because he was under eight years old, court documents say.

David Samuel Cyprys, a former security guard at the Yeshivah Centre in St Kilda East, has been charged with 53 offences, including six counts of rape, allegedly committed against 12 boys between 1982 and 1991.

He is contesting the allegations at a committal hearing in the Melbourne Magistrates Court.

In court documents, the parents of two separate boys said they went to Yeshivah Centre director Rabbi Yitzchok Dovid Groner in the 1980s to complain about alleged molestation.

The parents of both boys said no action was taken, with one woman saying her son was abused for another three years after her complaint.

One father said he told Rabbi Groner in 1984 that Cyprys had "interfered" with his son. " He told me that [the boy] wouldn't need counselling because [he] was under eight years old," the man said in a statement.

"Rabbi Groner told me he had spoken to psychologists before and they had told him because the children are so young counselling would not be necessary. Since that day I never



David Cyprys leaves Melbourne Magistrates Court yesterday. Photo: Jason South



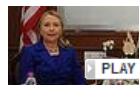
Rabbi Groner.

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heard another word."

The mother of another boy said she called Rabbi Groner in 1987 after being "shocked out of my brain" to learn of alleged abuse of her son.

"I recall when I mentioned David Cyprys' name to Rabbi Groner he replied, 'Oh, no, I thought we cured him'. By this I was sure that Rabbi Groner meant this sort of thing had happened before with David Cyprys," the woman said in a witness statement.

Rabbi Groner, who was

Melbourne's most senior Chabad rabbi, died in 2008.

The court documents say Cyprys, who owns a locksmith business, has been affiliated with the yeshivah for many years. He was employed as a security guard, was a co-leader of a Jewish youth group there and was a martial arts instructor who recruited students from the school.

Cyprys, 44, of Balaclava, also supervised young males at the mikvah baths attached to the Yeshivah Centre, which are used for the spiritual cleansing of Jewish males.

"The accused was seen as a role model by members of the Jewish community who trusted him in the company of their children," the summary of charges says.

The alleged victims, who were aged between seven and 17, say they were abused by Cyprys at locations including the mikvah bath house, Elwood houses, his van, Gan Israel youth camps and Yeshivah College.

"He was known as the 'key master'. People knew this, and still do, and we were afraid of his reputation as being able to access everybody's houses and also because of his martial arts prowess," one alleged victim said in his statement.

"Cyprys was never shy about touching up kids. He was never violent, but you were scared, because he had the keys to everything, and he was a black belt at karate."

Another alleged victim said Cyprys was "a lot bigger and stronger than me at the time". "He had me pinned and cornered. I felt sick to my bones and wanted to die, I was so afraid."

The man said that in the US, paedophiles in the Jewish community were reported to the police and dealt with accordingly. "For some reason, the Jewish community in Melbourne covers things up," he said in his statement.

Rabbi Abraham Glick, who was the principal of Yeshivah College between 1986 and 2007, said he had no recollection of any child or parent making a complaint to him about Cyprys molesting children.

"More recently it became known that the students did talk about David allegedly molesting children, but amongst the children there was a code of keeping this in 'their world'," Rabbi Glick said in his statement.

"The children did not discuss these issues with adults."

Rabbi Glick, who still teaches at Yeshivah College and is the head of student wellbeing, said "attitudes at the time were very different to current attitudes".

"In those times it was a general practice that parents would

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not discuss these type of issues with anyone other than Rabbi Groner in his capacity as rabbi of the community and director of the colleges."

The committal hearing is continuing before Magistrate Luisa Bazzani.

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THE ex-principal of a Melbourne Jewish school has changed his evidence about his knowledge of alleged paedophilia and conceded he was aware in the early 2000s of rumours that a former security guard had molested children.



Rabbi Abraham Glick. Photo: Joe Armao

The former security guard at Yeshivah College, David Samuel Cyprys, is contesting 53 charges - including six counts of rape - allegedly committed against 12 boys between 1982 and 1991.

In a witness statement, former principal Rabbi Abraham Glick said he had only recently become aware of accusations against Cyprys. He also said Yeshivah Centre director Rabbi Yitzchok Dovid Groner had never divulged to him the names of alleged sex abuse victims.

But under oath in the Melbourne Magistrates Court yesterday, Rabbi Glick said he wanted to change this statement. "I'm making that amendment because I said Rabbi Groner never divulged the names of individuals and I am now saying that is not 100 per cent accurate," Rabbi Glick said.

"There were two times when he named individuals."

He said Rabbi Groner told him in the early 2000s that either an alleged victim or his father had complained that he had been sexually abused.

Rabbi Glick, who still teaches at Yeshivah College, said he had suspected at the

time that Cyprys was the alleged molester. "It's a small community - you can hardly sneeze without everybody knowing about it," he said.

"There were all sorts of rumours flying around, and I suspected at the time it was David Cyprys. Rabbi Groner may even have told me it was David Cyprys, I don't recall."

Magistrate Luisa Bazzani asked whether the rumours had

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resulted in a requirement that Cyprys be supervised around children at activities such as camps and martial arts lessons, where the abuse is alleged to have occurred.

But Rabbi Glick said Cyprys had no longer been involved in these activities when the rumours were circulating. "He was already married. I don't think he was involved in camps or anything of that sort."

However, he said Cyprys had been a security guard at the Yeshivah Centre in St Kilda East, which includes the school, for a few years from 2000.

"I did not believe that Rabbi Groner would have allowed him to act as a security guard unless he felt that he was currently not a threat to anyone," Rabbi Glick said in his statement. He said that since making his statement he remembered receiving a call from Rabbi Groner shortly before his death in 2008.

"He said to me that he had been approached by a mother who advised him her child had been molested by David Cyprys. She was agitated, she was threatening to take police action. He called me to ask me if I had knowledge of that. I said I had no knowledge of that."

Rabbi Glick said he also wanted to clarify his statement that he had no recollection of any child or parent making a complaint to him about Cyprys molesting children. In fact, he said, he had no recollection of complaints made while he was principal from 1986 to 2007, but last year a man had advised him he had been molested at a camp when he was a child.

"What I'm clarifying is that report to me was made to me last year when I was no longer principal. It wouldn't be true to say the report was never made to me," he said.

Meanwhile, David Kramer, a former friend of Cyprys, said in a witness statement that Cyprys had told him he was having a relationship with an alleged victim, who was aged between 11 and 14 when the alleged abuse occurred. (Mr Kramer is not the same man as the convicted paedophile and former Yeshivah College teacher of the same name, whom police are seeking to extradite from the US.)

"What he said was sickening to me but appeared normal to him. The way David approached the subject was as if he was speaking about an adult female," he said.

Mr Kramer said in the statement that Cyprys had told him Rabbi Groner was aware of the situation.

The case before Ms Bazzani continues.

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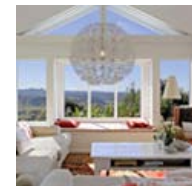
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Yeshiva College in East St Kilda. Photo: John Woudstra

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A FORMER security guard at a Melbourne orthodox Jewish school accused of sexual assault has been committed to stand trial.

David Samuel Cyprys, 44, faced about 50 charges including rape and sexual assault of 12 students from Yeshiva College in St Kilda between 1982 and 1991. Twelve charges yesterday were struck out in Melbourne Magistrates Court before Cyprys pleaded not guilty to the remaining charges.

Last week, Abraham Glick, the former principal of Yeshiva College, changed his evidence and admitted he knew in the early 2000s of rumours that a former security guard had molested children.

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Yesterday magistrate Luisa Bazzani said it was "unfathomable" that Rabbi Glick did not know about the allegations at the time. Rabbi Glick still teaches at the school.

In a witness statement, Rabbi Glick said he had only recently become aware of accusations against Cyprys.

He also said Yeshivah Centre director Rabbi Yitzchok Dovid Groner had never divulged to him the names of the alleged victims of sexual abuse. But in evidence last week at the contested committal hearing, Rabbi Glick said he wanted to change this statement. He had first said Rabbi Groner had never divulged victims' names.

"There were two times when he named individuals," he told the court last week.

The court heard that Cyprys had penetrated a teenager at a family home and allegedly raped the same boy earlier at a bathhouse used for religious ceremonies.

Cyprys was released on bail and ordered to appear in the County Court next month.

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Locksmith and security guard David Samuel Cyprys, 43, was yesterday charged with 16 counts of indecent assault and 13 counts of gross indecency claimed to have been committed between 1984 and 1991.

PROMINENT members of the Melbourne Jewish community lied to the police, covered up an alleged sex scandal and protected a man accused of repeatedly molesting children from a school in St Kilda East, a court has been told.

Locksmith and security guard David Samuel Cyprys, 43, was yesterday charged with 16 counts of indecent assault and 13 counts of gross indecency claimed to have been committed between 1984 and 1991.

Twelve alleged victims - who were aged between seven and 17 at the time the crimes are said to have occurred - knew Cyprys through Yeshivah College, where he worked as a security guard. Some also took karate lessons taught by Cyprys after school.

Detective Senior Constable Lisa Metcher said Cyprys was supported by "high-standing members of the Jewish community" who did not say anything when the alleged offending was canvassed. "They failed to act in any way to protect children and the matter has been swept under the carpet," Senior Constable Metcher told Melbourne Magistrates Court.

Asked on what she based this, Senior Constable Metcher said: "Based on the lies told to police and information that has been twisted and covered up."

She said there was a high risk these supporters would help Cyprys flee the country if he was released on bail. Cyprys had told her he was "unable to locate his passport".

"The accused is still connected with people who would

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probably make it possible for him to leave the country if that was what was required for him to do," she said.

The court heard that five of the alleged victims were from Victoria and another five were from New South Wales. Police were travelling to the United States to obtain statements from another two.

Most of the alleged offences occurred in Melbourne, but some allegedly took place at Yeshivah school camps in NSW.

In 1992, Cyprys pleaded guilty to one count of indecent assault. He was fined \$1500 but no conviction was recorded.

Senior Constable Metcher said the Moorabbin sexual offences taskforce was receiving between five and 10 phone calls a day in connection with the case and it was possible that publicity after the court case would generate more. "We believe there are other victims and complainants that will come forward," she said. "A lot of anonymous complainants are still deciding whether to come forward and make a statement."

The court was also told of concerns that Cyprys lived with his 14-year-old son and spent time living with his new partner, who had three children aged four, eight and 13. "These children have been subject to child protection notification," Senior Constable Metcher said.

The prosecution asked that any bail conditions ban Cyprys from unsupervised contact with any child under 16, including his own two children and three step-children.

However, defence lawyer Alex Lewenberg said a parent should not lose the right to have contact with their children unless the children were in danger.

"There is the entitlement of the child to see their parent. Whatever condition might be imposed we ask permission to facilitate continued contact with the son and daughter," Mr Lewenberg said.

He also opposed a surety being imposed as a bail condition, saying Cyprys had been ostracised in the community as a result of media coverage.

"His ability to secure surety is limited if non-existent," Mr Lewenberg said.

However, magistrate Luisa Bazzani said she would only grant Cyprys bail on the condition he pay a \$50,000 surety to ensure his return to court.

She ordered him to report to police in St Kilda every day, not to contact any prosecution witnesses other than police and not to leave Victoria.

A further bail condition was that he have no contact with any child under 16 without exception unless supervised by child protection authorities.

This included contact with his children and the children of his partner. "It is up to the Department of Human Services to nominate an appropriate supervisor," Ms Bazzani said.

Ms Bazzani said Cyprys would not be released on bail until he surrendered his passport and any other travel documents to police.

Cyprys was remanded to reappear on December 2.

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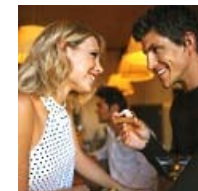
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Paul Millar
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A MELBOURNE magistrate will decide on Monday whether a former "mentor" to students at a Jewish school will be committed for trial for molesting and raping students.

David Samuel Cyprys, 44, a former security guard and caretaker at the Yeshivah College, faces about 50 charges, including six of rape and 19 of indecent assault - allegedly committed against 12 boys between 1982 and 1991.

The Melbourne Magistrates Court heard yesterday that on one occasion Cyprys had penetrated a teenager at a family home. Detective Senior Constable Tamara Cornelissen told the court the victim said "he had covered my mouth to stop me screaming".

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He was allegedly raped before and on his 16th birthday. The court has been told that Cyprys, who was a locksmith and could open all the doors at the college, had earlier raped the same boy at a bath house used for religious purification ceremonies. Magistrate Luisa Bazzani will decide on Monday whether the case goes to trial.

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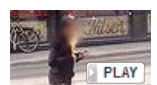
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VICTORIA Police will this month seek to extradite a former teacher at a Melbourne Jewish orthodox school from the United States over a child sex abuse scandal that was allegedly covered up by the school.

Parents allege that Yeshivah College in East St Kilda assisted the former teacher, David Kramer, to flee Australia in 1993 after they complained he had sexually abused their children.

Kramer was the focus of a Victoria Police probe launched last year into alleged sexual abuse at Yeshivah College between 1989 and 1993, which has widened to include other alleged perpetrators.



Yeshivah College in East St Kilda.
Photo: John Woudstra

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Magistrate Luisa Bazzani yesterday asked in court if Kramer had been brought to Australia by Victoria Police last month.

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"More like mid-April, they will be travelling over to extradite him," Detective Senior Constable Lisa Metcher told the Melbourne Magistrates Court.

The Age understands that charges will be served this month and then Victoria Police will seek to extradite him.

A parent told *The Age* that Yeshivah College did not go to the police in 1993 despite accusations that Kramer, who taught Jewish studies and was a chaperone at camps, had sexually abused children at the school.

"We couldn't even get them to fire the guy," the parent said. A meeting was called at which parents intended to give Yeshivah College an ultimatum: sack Kramer or they would go to the police.

"Everybody was so scared of Yeshivah's power, no individual felt strong enough to go to police," the parent said.

Fifteen minutes before the meeting was due to start, the parents received a phone call telling them that there was no need to proceed. A week and a half later Kramer was "spirited out of the country".

"The way it was handled was wrong." The parent said if alleged sexual abuse occurred now, parents would be on the phone to police "in a second".

"Times were different 20 years ago. It's a very closed community and there was a reticence to talk about any of those things and to try to keep them under cover."

The Age has been told some members of the Jewish community have been reluctant to speak to police due to concerns they would be violating the Jewish law of mesirah, which prohibits reporting a fellow Jew to civil authorities.

However the Rabbinical Council of Victoria has stressed the prohibitions of mesirah did not apply in cases of abuse.

Sergeant Jo Stafford from the police media unit told *The Age* the matters involving David Kramer were still under investigation and it was inappropriate to comment further.

"No charges have been served at this time," Sergeant Stafford said.

Yeshivah College did not respond to an emailed inquiry from *The Age*.

Meanwhile, former Yeshivah College security guard David Samuel Cyprys, who has been charged with sexually molesting students from the school, yesterday had the conditions of his bail varied in the Melbourne Magistrates Court.

Cyprys has been charged with 51 counts of gross indecency, indecent assault, false imprisonment, common law assault, attempted indecent assault and rape involving 11 alleged victims.

He was yesterday ordered to report to police in St Kilda every Monday, Wednesday and Friday (excepting a religious holiday) instead of every day, as previously stipulated in his bail conditions.



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Cyprys' committal hearing will begin on May 7.

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CERTIFIED EXTRACT

The Magistrates' Court of Victoria at **PRAHRAN** made the following entries
in the register on the **8 th** day of **September** **1992**

Case Number	E00705361	
Charge Number	3	
Informant, Plaintiff, Complainant or Applicant	DONOGHUE , GREGORY MICHAEL FAIRFIELD C.I.B.	
Accused/Respondent	CYPRYS , SAMUEL DAVID	D.O.B: [REDACTED] 1968
How before the Court	CHARGE AND SUMMONS	Fees: 0.00
Nature of Charge or Civil Proceeding	Accused at ST KILDA on or about 24 / 8 / 1991 did commit a breach of Act 6231.42 INDECENT ASSAULT	

COURT ORDER

*Without conviction, Adjourned to PRAHRAN MAGISTRATES' COURT on 07/09/1995 at 10:00 AM.
Accused released upon giving an Undertaking starting on 08/09/1992.
To appear before adjourned date if called upon during the period of adjournment.
Accused to be of good behaviour during the period of adjournment.
The Accused is to pay \$1500.00 to the Court Fund.*

06/07/11 9:24 000000#2075 0006
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PG 1

**J POPOVIC
MAGISTRATE**

Remarks **Plea Guilty
Consents to Summary Jurisdiction
MR SEIFMAN**

I am a registrar of the Magistrates' Court of Victoria and I certify that in my opinion this information is a true extract from the register of the court at the abovementioned location.

Dated at MELBOURNE 6 th July 2011
on


 CARLY LUCA
 REGISTRAR OF THE
 MAGISTRATES' COURT OF VICTORIA
 235 WILKINSON ST MELBOURNE
REGISTRAR OF THE MAGISTRATES' COURT