

GGH

1/11/84
C.S. ✓

IN THE HIGH COURT OF NEW ZEALAND
CHRISTCHURCH REGISTRY

T.11/84

T H E Q U E E N

v

TREENA MARGARET HAMPSON

Sentence: 15 June 1984
Counsel: B.M. Stanaway for Crown
H.D.P. Van Schreven for Defendant

SENTENCE OF HARDIE BOYS J.

Mrs Hampson.

At first impression this apparent attack with an axe on two people lying in bed was a very serious case that seemed almost to amount to attempted murder. But during the course of the trial it became apparent that you were in an extraordinarily disturbed emotional state and that much of the injury that was done, and probably the most serious of it, was due to your husband's attempts to take the axe away from you, rather than any direct blow by you. Those ameliorating factors clearly commended themselves to the jury and are reflected in their verdict. As a result I am required to deal with you only on the one charge of reckless wounding, a charge of course that is serious enough because of the great danger that was inherent even in what you were proved to have done.

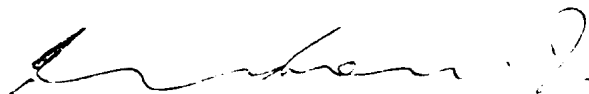
I have had the benefit of a very full probation report for which I am particularly grateful. It confirms that this

offence was the consequence - an extraordinary consequence - of a severe emotional handicap that you have. You are obviously greatly upset at the failure of your marriage, and the failure of your attempts to achieve a reconciliation, and you were devastated to find that whilst you were hoping for that your husband had taken up with another woman. It is obvious this incident was a wild and uncontrolled outburst of bottled up emotion.

You have not previously offended and I am sure that provided you can resolve the psychological problems that you have you will not offend again. You have sought and are obtaining counselling and you profess to be keen to continue with it. In all the circumstances I think a proper and appropriate course is to impose a community based sentence. I do not think this is a case where imprisonment is called for in the public interest or as a deterrent to you or to anybody else. You have been assessed as suitable for community work in an organisation that will help you obtain a wider perspective of things. Community service has proved a successful alternative to prison in Christchurch and I think a period of service to the community through this particular organisation will afford the best means for you to make amends for what you have done.

You are sentenced to 150 hours of community service and because counselling as I see it is essential to your rehabilitation, I think it appropriate to admit you to probation; and I do so for a term of twelve months on the usual statutory conditions and on the additional special

condition that you undertake such counselling as the probation officer may direct.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert J.", is written in black ink.

Solicitors

Crown Solicitor, CHRISTCHURCH.
Clark, Boyce & Co, CHRISTCHURCH, for Defendant.