

Remarks submitted to EDUCATION25 marking the 25th anniversary of Robert Lenkiewicz's 17th Project – *Observations on Local Education*.

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Painting exhibited as number: 105

This was an education in itself; I used to love the conversations about Robert's books and his life experiences. A fond memory. I also remember having to bring a cheese and tomato sandwich that had been crushed under a mattress for 3 days prior to the sittings.

What book or object are you holding in your Project 17 portrait and what was its personal significance?

I'm holding The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole aged 13 3/4. My sister (Kelly Arkins) is holding a book of Fairy Tales.

To what extent did Lenkiewicz make his own views on education known to you prior to or during the sittings?

Robert talked a lot about everything but I don't specifically remember, although his opinion of my headmaster, Mr Caddy, also painted, was similar to mine.

What did you think of his views at the time? And now?

I'm sorry but I don't remember.

Re-reading your original essay, have any of your views on education changed and if so, why?

I can't actually see my original essay, but I remember it was honest about the injustice of punishments that had been inflicted on me for poor behaviour.