

HIA REF:

Witness Name: SR 3

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF SR 3

1. I, SR 3, say as follows –
2. This statement is provided by me in response to a request from the Inquiry and in response to the various complaints and allegations set out with that request.

Personal Background

3. I was born SR 3 in [redacted] I was the second eldest of [redacted] siblings although two twin brothers died very young and my eldest sister died in her early twenties.
4. I was professed in [redacted] and took the name SR 3. I went to Termonbacca for two years, between [redacted] I then went to [redacted] where I did my NNEB qualification as a nursery nurse and returned to Termonbacca about [redacted].

Time in Derry Generally

5. I spent two periods in Termonbacca working with the older boys in the first period and then in the nursery unit in the second period.
6. The older boys unit was basically split into two groups. The juniors were aged about 7-11 and the seniors were about 12-16. The ages are approximate as I cannot remember exactly the age of the boys. In the time I spent with the older boys I remember there being two sisters in the older boys group. I was there for two years and remember Sr SR 37 (was only there for a very short time), SR 11 and SR 1. They have all died.

7. My recollection is that there were about 60 boys in total between the senior and junior sections. I do not recall there being any lay staff to help us at that time. There were two sisters for the 60 boys. I remember an elderly sister who did sewing and made and repaired clothes (I think her name was **SR 94** **SR 8** who worked in the kitchen) and **SR 13** the superior).
8. My second period in Termonbacca followed my training as a nursery nurse and I returned around **[REDACTED]** I am not sure exactly when I returned. In the nursery I looked after boys from newborn to about 5/6 years. Again I do not recall lay staff at the early part of my time there.
9. I was almost always with boys as Termonbacca did not take girls until the very latter years. We started taking family groups of boys and then took full families including girls at a later stage.
10. I do not have any memory of a child being abused in any way. Children may have been shouted at or deprived of some treat like tv if they were misbehaving but I do not recall any physical punishment at all. Boys being boys had their fights and rows and did misbehave. We did not resort to physical punishment and the removal of privileges was usually a severe enough punishment.
11. My own memories of Termonbacca are all of a happy time. I truly loved my time there and was heartbroken when I eventually left. I remember an incident when we had two twin girls left with us. I could not figure out how I would remember how to tell them apart the next day and so wrote their names on a piece of sticking plaster and stuck it to their wrists. They were adopted very soon after they came to us as newborns.

HIA 7

12. I have seen the statement from this lady. I do not remember her or her sister **HIA 8** (who has also provided a statement) at all. I have looked at the names of the other siblings and they do not bring back any memories for me of this girl or her family at all.
13. As far as her statement goes I did work in the younger end of the home and I did work with a lady called **SND 59** I am still in touch with her and we exchange Christmas cards every year.
14. I do not recall there being rugs or mats around. I definitely do not recall the children having to collect and beat them..
15. I do not know why **HIA 7** would say that I took money or anything else off her. I do not recall ever removing sweets, toys, clothes or money from a child. It is possible a child may have had sweets refused to them on an occasion as a punishment for misbehaviour as we used removal of privileges as a punishment. However the picture of habitually removing gifts when a child returned from a visit to a local family is not

something I accept. I must repeat that I do not remember this girl personally so this is a general statement about any child.

16. I do not recall there ever being a glass or similar hairbrush in the house. I have never struck a child with a hair brush of any kind and deny this allegation completely. The children would have brushed their own hair mainly as we would not have had the time to brush the hair of all the children in person.
17. I have never been inside any school in Derry. I was not inside the school in Bishop Street where the sisters worked and have never been in any other school. I did not remove any child from a school for a day trip nor would I remove a child from performing in a play. I did not do this. I definitely would not have beaten a child for wanting to be in a play and deny that this happened. It is unlikely that a child would have been at school if they were going on a day trip. the children would not have been on many trips and these would have been organised for periods when they were not in school.
18. I do recall a small room off the main dormitory. I do not recall this being specifically for families nor do I recall sisters being in the room. I do recall one occasion when a traveller family were placed with us for a short time and they were in that room. Other than that I cannot recall any incident such as that described. I was never aware of or informed about any situation such as that described.
19. It is possible that the older sister was in the smaller room and was then moved into the dormitory area as she got older to make room for younger girls. this is only a suggestion on my part as I have no memory of this happening.
20. I did work with a girl called **SND 58** She was a volunteer and her family were very good to the sisters and regularly helped us out. I recall them making gifts of blankets for the beds and cots. Her surname was not **SND 58** though. If this is the same girl I do not recognise the description of her. She was a generous and hard working girl nothing about her or her relationship to the children ever gave me a cause for concern.
21. I do not think the children all had social workers or that there were lots of social workers visiting at this time. I do recall **SND 483** though.
22. The description of an incident in a bath where people seemed to be observing her and some condition with worms is something I cannot comment upon. It does not resemble any incident I was ever aware of in my time at Termonbacca or anywhere else.
23. I do not recognise the description of Christmas at all. The Christmas dinner was not what we think of now but the children all had a good dinner at Christmas and I recall Christmas pudding was served. We would have had visits from Saint Vincent de Paul (who were always very generous to the children at Christmas) and others such as the

Bishop. If the Bishop visited there may have been a dinner for him but the children were not hidden away upstairs. The reason for the visit was for the Bishop to see the children. They may well have performed music or dancing for him. There were never parties of any sort where the children were not included and even then the parties were not lavish affairs as we did not have the money to do such a thing.

24. I did not hit this girl or any girl. Punishments may have involved a child being shouted at or deprived of a treat of some sort but the children were not beaten.

HIA 351

25. I do not remember **HIA 351** at all. I know the name as I was interviewed a few years ago about these allegations. Even having been interviewed before I do not recall him.

26.

27.

28. If any complaint of this nature, or any complaint of any sort of abuse of a child, had been raised with me I would have reported to the Superior. I have never felt that any superior I had was unapproachable and definitely not when the issues of the children were concerned.
29. while I cannot comment on [REDACTED] as I have never met or spoken to him I would say the Superior while I was there in the early stage was **SR 13**. This man could well have spoken to her but she did not mention anything to me. I note the alleged abuse was around [REDACTED] and was before I arrived in [REDACTED]

HIA 8

30. I have already discussed of this material in the earlier section concerning **HIA 7** **HIA 7** I note **HIA 8** is the sister of **HIA 7** but her statement does not assist me in remembering either of them, nor any other member of their family.
31. I deny that I hit either of these girls and definitely would not have hit her for trying to help her sister if she had wet the bed. While the causes of bed wetting were not understood as clearly as they are now I would not have beaten a child for wetting the bed.

32. I did not give any child a black eye. I also do not accept that a child attending school with a black eye would not have created some sort of query. Even a brief mention to someone.
33. I was never involved in any meeting with a child and the Mother Superior concerning an allegation of any sort.
34. I was mainly responsible for the younger children. I would have been up most nights doing night feeds and nappy changes for a baby. Most of my time there included very young children and the whole process of feeding and changing. I did not ever have one of the children come in and do the babies changes in the morning or any other time. I may have had help from the older girls if they were free but this was not a job they were given or expected to do. Older girls did love the babies. The girls were also not responsible for putting the children to bed.
35. HIA 8 says she did all the changes, changing beds and washing nappies before Mass on a daily basis. I do not believe the children went to Mass on a daily basis. The sisters would go but the children did not. The children would have had "chores" to do but these would have been the sort of thing they would do at home. The reference to brushing or mopping floors and dusting does sound like the sort of chores they would have done.
36. I do not accept the description of me. I did not hit the children and I did not beat the girls at night for comforting another child.
37. I cannot comment on the issue of [REDACTED] as it does not sound familiar to me. I find it difficult to accept that this happened. I am sure any child in the city would have had access to medical treatment but I do not recall any incident like that described occurring in the home.
38. I do not recall pocket money being given to the children and that is probably because the babies, who I spent most time with, would not have had pocket money. I believe the description of not being allowed into town on a Saturday as a punishment sounds like the sort of thing that was done. Children lost privileges for misbehaviour. The children may have been given chores to do as part of that but I cannot comment on the incident alleged by HIA 8 as I cannot recall such an incident.
39. There was no room full of toys in the convent. This description is not something I accept or recognise.
40. I am upset that this girl and her sister feel they had a bad time or that I abused them. I do not accept their memories of their time as accurate and I do not recognise the place they describe. I always loved the children especially the babies and tried to shelter and protect them.

General comments

41. the time that I was in Termonbacca was not a great time in Northern Ireland and particularly in Derry. The troubles were starting and we had riots, barricades and shooting on a daily basis. I remember occasions when we got bomb scares about bombs in Termonbacca and we had to get the children (including the babies) out into a field in the middle of the night and then the army searched the whole place. I remember a week when the house was surrounded by the army and it was almost impossible to get in or out.
41. Life was very difficult then and added to the troubles there was a lot of poverty in the Derry area. There was not much money in the area and we were called on a lot to help out locally..
42. I do not recall regular social worker visits. I think this was before the time when every child had a designated social worker. There were a couple who visited and **SND 483** is one I recall. We did have inspections by the state inspectors. I do not really recall these and it may be that the baby area was not inspected as much as the older children.
43. we relied very heavily on charity and I recall the Saint Vincent de Paul were always very good to us and the children. They would have made sure the children had gifts at Christmas. This is one of the reasons I cannot understand the comment about a toy room in the convent. The children did receive gifts especially at Christmas.
44. The local people were also very kind and contributed to collecting sisters and the diocese also had a collection every year for the sisters. Desmonds would have sent pyjamas up for the children and we were very grateful for all the help we could get.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed

SR 3

Dated 12.11.2013

HIA REF:

Witness Name:

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 – 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF SR 3

I, SR 3 will say as follows –

1. This is a further statement provided by me to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry, to assist the Inquiry regarding my time in Termonbacca, Derry.
2. I first went to Termonbacca in [REDACTED] where I was given general duties such as working in the laundry, supervising the children and general household duties. At this time I did not have any training in childcare until I went to [REDACTED] to do NNEB qualification as a Nursery Nurse. In [REDACTED] I returned to Termonbacca where I worked in the nursery.
3. I remember my mother visiting me in Termonbacca and her parting words were, 'SR 3, be good to the children'. These transpired to be my mother's last words to me as she died some months later. I have never forgotten them.

General Comments

4. If a boy wet the bed, he took off the sheets and went for a bath. The sheets were washed in the laundry. I never saw any child being ridiculed for bedwetting.
5. As I was in charge of the younger children, I slept in a cubicle off the junior dormitory. The cubicle was a fixed partition which did not reach the ceiling and therefore one could hear what was going on in the dormitory. If I heard crying or any noise, I always checked on the children.
6. I never witnessed any Sisters hit or smack a child. While SR 11 maintained control over the children, she was never cruel to them. I believe that I also had control over the children but I never hurt a child. Loss of privileges was the means of discipline and it was effective.

HIA 121

7. I never had any knowledge of peer abuse nor did I recognise it amongst the children. Many years ago I was contacted by HIA 121 who spoke of peer abuse and wrote to me about his bad treatment in Termonbacca. I also spoke to him on the phone when he said that he knew I was unaware of the abuse going on.

8. HIA 121 never directly accused me of abusing him but does describe how I would greet him after he ran away. I do not remember HIA 121 running away on any occasion nor do I remember welcoming him home as 'your majesty'. I do remember HIA 121 and HIA 46 as just two ordinary boys.
9. HIA 121 stayed in contact with me, sending letters, badges and holy pictures etc. We spent a day in [REDACTED] together many years ago and he invited me to his home although I did not go.

HIA 46

10. It seems that HIA 46 has spoke of my threatening presence and negativity. However, I was in charge of the younger children and would never have had any authority over HIA 46

HIA 351

11. I completely deny that HIA 351 told me about a sexual assault. This would have been a very serious issue and I would have reported it to the Superior at the time.

HIA 352

12. It has been said by HIA 352 that I used to swear a lot towards her but I do not remember this girl. In any case I would never swear to anyone, let alone to a child. HIA 352 never reported to me that boys had been touching her and had she done so, I would have reported this to the Superior.
13. HIA 352 says she thought the layworker, SND 59, had a drink problem. I do know that SND 59 was a heavy smoker but she did not have a drink problem and I have no recollection of the incident described.

HIA 94

14. HIA 94 could have been said to be a bit of a wild child, however I did not have any issues with him.

HIA 130

15. I have no recollection of HIA 130 who has described how I would hit the children with an object which looked like a spatula in the shower room. Termonbacca did not have a shower room, nor did we have showers in the bathroom. I deny that I ever struck a child with an object or in any other way.

Laystaff

16. A few dedicated people helped with the children in the nursery including SND 59, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. SND 59 was in full time employment who lived on the premises and slept in a cubicle in the dormitory. She worked with me in the nursery and helped me with the babies during the day but I was the one who got up at night to feed and change them. SND 59 worked seven days a week for a number of years. [REDACTED] was a volunteer who helped with the children and she came daily to the house. She was a lovely

girl and her family even adopted a young boy from the nursery. [REDACTED] worked as a nurse in [REDACTED] hospital and, after she finished a shift, she helped with the babies in the nursery. [REDACTED] took a shine to [REDACTED] SND 136 and would take him out at weekends and for holidays.

17. [REDACTED]

Life in Termonbacca

18. Around [REDACTED] there was a change in practice in relation to accepting children into Termonabacca. We wanted to provide care for families to keep them together. Prior to then, the boys of the family came to Termonbacca and the girls went to Bishop Street.
19. I remember the day our first girl came in and we were all so excited. I remember wondering what clothes we could dress her in and from recollection I went shopping for new clothes. I am unsure if I came up with the idea of keeping families together and of admitting girls but in my experience it was better for the children as the house seemed much more relaxed and family like.
20. At the beginning of my time in Termonbacca, I was unaware of the funding difficulties we faced in order to provide for the children. We had a farm and therefore we had a lot of our own produce. However I do recall there was insufficient funding for extra staff. Looking back, it seems we were understaffed for the number of children we had in our care.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed

SR 3

Dated

14 / 4 / 14

J. M. J. +

in
fast
blacca

daughter of [redacted] and [redacted]
Born [redacted]
Entered [redacted] came to Termonbacca

Name in religion [redacted]

SR 8

Left for [redacted]

le.

daughter of [redacted] and [redacted]
Born [redacted]
Entered [redacted] Came to Termonbacca

Name in religion [redacted]

SR 37

Left for Nazareth [redacted]

daughter of [redacted] and [redacted]
Born [redacted]

Entered [redacted]
Came to Termonbacca [redacted]

Name in religion Sister [redacted]

SR 3

Left for Nazareth House [redacted]

Came to Termonbacca [redacted]

Left for [redacted]

2/1957

27, William Street,
Derry City.

21st January, 1957

Ref. F.197/16

Secretary,
Derry Welfare Committee,
Hawkin Street,
Derry.

Sir,

St. Joseph's Home,
Termonbacca,
Derry

I am instructed to make formal application to your Committee for a grant of £250 per annum under Section 118 of the Children's Young Persons Act (N.I.) 1950.

This is a voluntary Home for the maintenance of orphan and abandoned boys up to the age of 14. Most members of your Committee will be aware of the splendid work being carried on for many years by the Community of their complete dependance on local charity but it is worth pointing out that at this moment there are no less than 87 boys of whom 66 were born in the Six Counties. This figure is much lower than average and there will shortly be a further intake to raise the number of boys to the normal figure of around 110.

The grant now sought is but a very small fraction indeed of the annual cost of running this extensive institution and evidence can easily be given that the proposed grant will be expended in purely welfare work.

I shall be glad to supply the Committee with any further information.

Yours faithfully,

E. McAteer

E. McAteer

TABLE B

Home	Capacity	Children accommodated on 31.3.65			Weekly charge to Welfare Authorities
		Welfare Authority	Voluntary	Total	
Dr. Barnardo's, Macedon	52	22	16	38	5 yrs. and over £4 0. 0.
Dr. Barnardo's, Ballycastle	22	5	12	17	Under 5 years £4 16. 0.
Blackburn House, Belfast	12	8	1	9	£5 0. 0.
Glendu Hostel, Belfast	35	28	-	28	£7 10. 0.
Victoria Homes, Belfast	33	22	4	26	£4 15. 0.
Nazareth Lodge, Belfast	2-5: 50 5-11: 102	29	81	110	£5 0. 0.
St. Joseph's Babies' Home, Belfast	120	11	56	67	£3. 0. 0.
Nazareth House, Belfast	128	31	88	119	£3.15. 0.
Nazareth Home, Portadown	13	1	12	13	£4. 4. 0.
Nazareth House, Londonderry	140	7	102	109	£3. 0. 0.
St. Joseph's Home, Termonbacca	90	9	79	88	£4. 4. 0.
St. Joseph's Home, Bessbrook	36	-	9	9	£1.15. 0.
Our Mother of Mercy Home, Newry	25	-	24	24	£1. 0. 0.
† Sacred Heart and Good Shepherd Home, Belfast	135	11	15	26	£3.15. 0.
† Good Shepherd Home, Newry	50	2	2	4	£1.10. 0.
† Good Shepherd Home, Londonderry	100	4	4	8	£2.10. 0.
De La Salle Boys' Home, Kilroubbin	80	32	43	75	£5. 0. 0.
Childhaven, Millisle	27	5	11	16	-
Johnston Memorial School, Belfast	24	-	15	15	£100 p.a.
Manor House Home, Lisburn	20	11	10	21	£5. 0. 0.
		238	584	822	

† Accommodation mainly for women and girls over 14 years of age

THIRD GENERAL ~~REPORT~~ VALUATION

FILE NO.

For: THIRD GENERAL REVAL. CASE SUBMITTED FOR DECISION

State Whether — (Revision/Appeal/Commissioner's Review/other purposes, including case submitted for decision etc)

District LONDONDERRY ~~XXX~~ CREVAGE
Ward

Townland TERNONBACCA Map No. 1Aa Local No. S. BREAHERD ROAD Valuation Office No. 13

~~SIXXX~~ TRUSTEES OF THE SISTERS

Occupier OF NAZARETH Imm. Lessor IN FEE

Description of Hereditament	NET ANNUAL VALUE OF HEREDITAMENT OR PARTS THEREOF											
	1 Agric Land	2 Agric Blds.	3 Livestock & Poultry	Industrial Freight-Transport		Other than Industrial etc.	Total Non-Exempt N.A.V.	Observations	EXEMPT			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	Foyle Fisheries	Other than Foyle Fisheries		
Orphanage											288 -	

REPORT

Inspected 17 12 74 Interviewed **SR 7**

A fairly large extension has recently been added to this orphanage, old dormitories having been demolished to make way for new building. The cost of construction of the extension was raised entirely from voluntary contributions and the fund raising activities of a committee set up to

help the orphanage (again entirely voluntary). A lot of site preparation work was done voluntarily and improvements to existing buildings done by local tradesmen. Full oil fired central heating installed. No estimate of costs are available, work is still continuing. The building is of modern design with large windows to front of blocks 8 & 9 giving a view over the River Foyle. Covered play areas are provided in blocks 6 & 7. Good standard of finish throughout the building. Accommodation:- Basement:- K, Sc, Sto. etc. Ground Floor:- Hall, R, Chapel, Visitor's Room, 2 small kitchens, 2 childrens dining/sitting rooms (St Joseph's & St Gerard's), Nuns Dining room. 1st Floor:- Infirmary, Nuns Accommodation, Childrens sleeping accommodation.

The orphanage has a total of 6 nuns working full time caring for children. A total of 72 children can be accommodated at any one time, but generally the number is around 60. The childrens' ages range from weeks - even in some cases days - old to sixteen/seventeen. They come mainly from "broken" homes so that a number of full families are resident. On occasions the children return to their parents but there are always others waiting to take their place. The orphanage is divided into "Houses" each house has a nun supervising and a "family" of children. The nun in each house has a bedroom and bathroom adjoining. Children going to school are transported to various parts of the City. No teaching is conducted in the orphanage

GOVERNMENT OF NORTHERN IRELAND

Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont,
Belfast.

File No. T.8
Circular No. TC.25/1952

26th September, 1952

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the Children and Young Persons (Voluntary Homes) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1952, (S.R. & O. 1952, No. 131), of which a copy was sent to you on 1st September, I am directed by the Minister of Home Affairs to forward, for your information, a copy of a Memorandum issued by the Home Office in September, 1951, on the Conduct of Children's Homes.

Although this Memorandum has been prepared mainly with reference to Children's Homes in England, it contains various suggestions and advice which should prove of considerable assistance to members of staff of Children's Homes in Northern Ireland, and also to those who have responsibilities for the general management and maintenance of such Homes. The Ministry would, therefore, be glad if you would arrange to supply a copy of the Memorandum to everyone concerned.

Copies of the Home Office Memorandum (S.O. Code No. 34 - 349), may be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 80 Chichester Street, Belfast, price 6d.

I am, Sir/Madam,
Your obedient Servant,



for SECRETARY.

The Secretary of each
Voluntary Home in Northern Ireland

21/-/35/9/52.



Memorandum by the Home Office on the Conduct of Children's Homes

INTRODUCTION

1. This memorandum on the conduct of children's homes has been prepared for the guidance of local authorities and voluntary organisations, and is intended to be read with the Administration of Children's Homes Regulations, 1951. The contents are based on experience gained by Home Office inspectors in visiting children's homes and on advice tendered to the Secretary of State by the Advisory Council on Child Care. It deals with the needs of children who, for one reason or another, cannot be boarded out and are brought up in children's homes; and it is written in the main with direct reference to children living as members of small groups of mixed ages and both sexes who are in care for an indefinite period and who look to the local authority or voluntary organisation for their upbringing. But most of what is said is applicable to all children's homes; and recommendations relating specifically to large homes are contained in Appendix I.

2. In paragraph 427 of their Report the Curtis Committee stated the main requirements for the substitute home in the following words:—"If the substitute home is to give the child what he gets from a good normal home it must supply:—

- (i) Affection and personal interest; understanding of his defects; care for his future; respect for his personality and regard for his self-esteem.
- (ii) Stability; the feeling that he can expect to remain with those who will continue to care for him till he goes out into the world on his own feet.
- (iii) Opportunity of making the best of his ability and aptitudes, whatever they may be, as such opportunity is made available to the child in the normal home.
- (iv) A share in the common life of a small group of people in a homely environment."

TYPE AND SIZE OF CHILDREN'S HOMES

3. The aim when providing new homes for children in long-term care is to enable each child to live as a member of a small group. The number of children in a home of this kind (referred to in this memorandum as a family group home) may vary from eight to twelve. If the home is a house in a street (perhaps a villa type house or two semi-detached houses, suitably adapted) the children gain by living as members of the local community and by taking a full part in its social activities as do children living with their own parents. Many local authorities are setting up small homes of this kind. Rather larger homes, taking up to about twenty children, are also being established. It is important that homes should be so situated that the children will be able, out of school hours, to mix with their school friends. While every children's home should have a garden, the children should be encouraged to join with others in outside play.

4. In the family group home, the age range should be wide, say from three to fifteen years, with boys and girls growing up together. It will be desirable sometimes to include children under the age of three in the group (for example, where they have older brothers or sisters in the home), or on occasion to keep

children beyond the age of fifteen. The conditions of normal family life can most nearly be reproduced in this way, and the children will not require to be moved at a specified age to some other children's home and so lose contact with those whom they are fond of and trust. In homes accommodating children of a wide age range and both sexes, the special problems arising in adolescence call for sympathetic guidance and wise, unobtrusive supervision. It will not generally be right to place in a mixed family group home older children coming into care, but this may not apply where several children from the same family are received into care and should be kept together.

STAFF

5. The standard of care provided in a home will be determined by the success with which the staff are able to take the place of parents and to meet the children's individual need for interest and affection. It is essential that the conditions offered to staff should be such as to attract and keep men and women of the high quality needed for this work.

6. It is on the understanding and devotion of the staff, more than on anything else, that the happiness of the children depends. The housemother and members of staff, besides being familiar with the stages of development throughout childhood, should be temperamentally fitted for the difficult task of maintaining the balance between giving the children the affection that they need and being too possessive in their attitude towards them. The housemother in charge of a family group home should be given the fullest possible responsibility, and should not be subordinate to the person in charge of some other children's home.

7. The staffing should be sufficient to allow the housemothers time to join in the children's activities and to talk with them, and thus to provide the children with the adult companionship which is necessary to their normal development. It is undesirable for one housemother to live alone with the children; she needs adult companionship, and a housemother living alone may sometimes be subject to undue strain. In family group homes taking from eight to ten children, a resident housemother and assistant, or two housemothers, should be sufficient, with adequate domestic help. In homes taking eleven or twelve children, it will be an advantage to have in addition one full-time domestic assistant, preferably resident; and in these the employment of a married woman as housemother, with the husband going to outside work, is a good way of securing a man's influence and interest in the household.

8. It is considered that the staff required for a home taking about twenty children of a wide age range and both sexes might be a married couple (the husband usually going to outside work), one resident housemother, one resident housemother/cook, daily domestic assistance, and part-time help with the garden where required.

9. If a home is to be well run it is essential that the conditions should be such as to enable the staff to retain pleasure and freshness in their work. Adequate time off and holidays, giving opportunity for outside interests, and provision for seeing their own friends in the home (see also paragraph 34), contribute to the well-being of the staff and consequently of the children; at the same time, there should be sufficient flexibility in the arrangements to ensure continuity of care. Where relief staff are employed, it should be arranged, whenever possible, for the same people to go to the same homes.

10. It is hoped that local authorities and voluntary organisations will release suitable members of their staffs to take a full course in child care provided through the Central Training Council in Child Care, and will encourage others to attend refresher courses. A valuable feature of the refresher courses is the opportunity they afford to the staff of different homes to meet and discuss their work.

FURNISHING AND EQUIPMENT

11. The aim should be to create an environment, not luxurious but of a reasonable standard of comfort, in which both staff and children will feel at home and which will help the children to develop a proper pride in their surroundings.

Copy for T. 252.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT (N.I.), 1950
VOLUNTARY CHILDREN'S HOMES

File Number	Name and Address	Managers	Age Range (Approx)	Accommodation for Children	No. in residence at			
T.162	Glendhu Children's Hostel, Hollywood Road, Belfast.	Voluntary Committee	Years 0 - 15	40				
T.164	Nazareth Lodge, 516, Ravenhill Road, Belfast.	The Poor Sisters of Nazareth	2 - 15	145				
T.163	Nazareth House, 352, Ormeau Road, Belfast.	do.	2 - 18	145				
T.166	Dr. Barnardo's Home, Macedon, Whitehouse, Co. Antrim.	Regional Officer for Northern Ireland	2 - 18	52				
T.167	Dr. Barnardo's Home, Manor House Home, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim.	do.	0 - 7	23				
T.169	Sacred Heart Children's Home, 511, Ormeau Road, Belfast. (This also includes The Good Shepherd Girls' Home and Marianville Home for Mothers and Babies).	The Sisters of the Good Shepherd	0 - 18	33				
T.170	Nazareth House, Bishop Street, Londonderry.	The Poor Sisters of Nazareth	2 - 18	154				
T.171	Victoria Homes, Schomberg, 306, Belmont Road, Belfast.	Voluntary Committee	3 - 18	20				
T.172	St. Joseph's Home, Termonbhacca, Co. Londonderry.	The Poor Sisters of Nazareth	2 - 18	92				
T.177	Our Mother of Mercy Home, Kilmorey Street, Newry, Co. Down.	The Sisters of Mercy	0 - 18	25				
T.178	Good Shepherd Home, Dungiven Road, Londonderry.	The Sisters of the Good Shepherd	14 - 17	20 (Home mostly for girls over 18 yrs.)				
T.179	Childhaven, Millisle Road, Donaghadee, Co. Down.	Belfast Central Mission	2 - 18	30				
T.165	De La Salle Boys' Home, Rubane House, Kircubbin, Co. Down.	The De La Salle Christian Brothers	9 - 18	66				
T.180	Good Shepherd Children's Home, Armagh Road, Newry, Co. Down. (This also includes the Marian Vale Home for Mothers and Babies).	The Sisters of the Good Shepherd	0 - 18+	(Inmates are mostly 18 years of age and over)				
T.233	Johnston Memorial T.S., 5 Green Road, Knock, Belfast.	Presbyterian Orphan Society	3 - 18	20				
T.226	St. Joseph's Convent of Mercy, Bessbrook, Co. Armagh.	The Sisters of Mercy	3 - 18	40				
T.296	Nazareth Home, Altavilla, Corrain, Portadown, Co. Armagh.	The Poor Sisters of Nazareth	0 - 5	30				

22. Care should be taken to see that children are warm in bed at all seasons of the year; underblankets should always be provided. A feeling of warmth and comfort will play a part in preventing such happenings as night terrors and bed wetting.

23. Bed wetting cannot be attributed to any one cause; if effective help is to be given, the child must be studied as an individual. The trouble may be due to an organic cause, to delay in learning bladder control, or to emotional disturbance due to loneliness, a sense of being left in strange surroundings, or of not being wanted. A feeling of hopelessness about the habit may cause it to persist. A child who persistently wets the bed should be seen by the medical officer so that he can advise on treatment or, if necessary, refer the case to a hospital or child guidance clinic.

24. Understanding and consideration on the part of the staff are of the first importance. Bed wetters should not be separated from other children, and members of the staff dealing with the child or with the wet bed should proceed in a matter of fact way, and should never exhibit impatience, disgust or anxiety. Mackintosh sheets should be used only when necessary; when they have to be used, a thin blanket should be placed between the mackintosh and the bed sheet. Sheets should always be changed after being wet. Bed wetters should not be required to wash their sheets. There is nothing to be gained by restricting drinks unreasonably, but it is undesirable that any child should drink large quantities late in the evening. There should be easy and lighted access at night to a lavatory, and where necessary the children should have their own chamber pots.

RECREATION

25. Play is as necessary to children as food and sleep; through it they develop in mind, body and personality. Play should not be thought of only in terms of organised activities. The children should be given ample opportunity to play and amuse themselves in their own way, and should be encouraged in initiative, resource and self-reliance. They should be taught to use the facilities of the neighbourhood, for instance, the public library, and allowed a reasonable choice of their own books.

26. Indoors, the children should have a varied supply of play material, including materials for dressing up; hobbies should be encouraged, and opportunity given to look at picture books, to read newspapers and periodicals suited to their age, and to listen to the gramophone and wireless. Children should be encouraged to choose their programmes, and not have the wireless on continuously. There should be small tables at which the children may play games or pursue hobbies, and arrangements should be made, if possible, for a child to have some place where a half-finished model or other cherished piece of work can be left with safety.

27. Fresh air, sunshine and activity are essential to the health and the full physical and mental development of children. Much of their time should be spent out-of-doors. Where the garden is large enough, part of it should be set aside for the free use of the children. Sand-pits in suitable conditions and if properly looked after, provide happy occupation for small children. The keeping of pets gives children the experience of caring for living things and develops a sense of responsibility. Bicycles, besides being popular, provide training for the older children in independence and road sense. The children should be taught to look after the bicycles as well as to enjoy their use. Outings and treats should be arranged. As opportunity offers, the children should be helped in the observation of growing and living things and in the life of the countryside.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

28. Children need training in how to use and look after their toilet articles, which they should regard as their own property and be able to identify easily. Individual towels, face cloths, tooth brushes (with individual tooth paste or powder) and brushes and combs should be provided and clearly marked by name or initials, or, in the case of children too young to read, by symbols which they can

particular day, we lined up as usual in formation to march back to Termonbacca after school. To our horror [SND48] appeared instead of [SND15]. [SND15] was on holiday. When we were halfway back to Termonbacca [SND48] brought us through a short cut half up a hill with bushes and high trees on either side near the Braehead Road. It was invisible from the main road. Suddenly he ordered us all to strip naked, which we did. We all stood in a line, naked, in terror, with our clothes at our feet. I was crying in terror and fear. Suddenly I heard a cry of terror from another boy to my right, maybe 15 boys down from me, who was no more than 10 years old. He was being buggered by [SND48]. [SND48] and screaming in pain. [SND48] screamed at us to look away and after several minutes he told us all to dress. We were all frightened and crying and when we were dressed, we all ran off up the hill with [SND48] screaming for us to stop, but we kept running. As we arrived back at the door of Termonbacca [SR11] (who is deceased) was waiting anxiously, wanting to know why we were late. We all ran past her in distress. I didn't have the words to describe to her what had happened. I went into the day room and it was the first time I had ever seen a television (black and white) which was showing the funeral of Pope Pius XII. Despite this incident [SND48] continued to supervise us at night.

20. From that day onwards I ran away from Termonbacca at every opportunity. However I was always brought back by the RUC, who were very kind to me. I didn't have the words to describe the sexual abuse to them. I always slept at the rear of the shirt factory on Foyle Road/Street and the RUC always knew where to find me. When I was brought back [SR3] who was only about [redacted] years old would smirk and say "welcome back, your Majesty". Then she would leave and the monitors would come and beat me for running away.
21. I don't recall seeing any inspections during my time in Termonbacca. I do recall that there wouldn't be any beatings around Christmas because that is when the St Vincent de Paul and the BSR workers (a local bicycle factory) would be liable to call in at any time with gifts for the boys.

sixteen years of age were kept on working on the Lange from which the nuns had. The normal employment given to the orphans at sixteen years old was to be sent to farmers across Northern Ireland, several got jobs with the B.S.R. factory and lived at night at the orphanage. The educational standards of all the orphans was most basic and very limited. Discipline as I have outlined was rigid and regimented every minute of the day with just two nuns looking after seventy plus boys. Subsequently discipline and control was left to the Monitors 95% of the time. In my case the undermentioned are the facts. Each morning at calltime one of the nuns would come into the Dormitory, clap her hands for everyone to rise. At this the Monitors would rise in their pyjamas, and start banging the iron beds with sticks, they always kept screaming "up,up" if you didn't rise fast enough, the blankets were pulled off your bed, and the "Monitors" would lash into you on the head, arms, backside, front, arms, legs, anywhere. At this which was routine, I constantly wet the bed, owing to the physical, mental and verbal abuse and sexual abuse I saw and experienced. Those of us who wet the bed, mandatory had to fall into one straight line at the door of the Dormitory, we were rounded up by the Monitors who beat us with their sticks, and shouted "dirty pigs" at us, to the encouragement and sneers of SR 3 and the other boys. When we formed the one long line the Monitor would report to the Nun and informed her of the total numbers who had wet the bed. SR 3 with a sneer on her face would order us to run down to the bathroom which was two hundred yards and long, as we ran in terror we were beaten by the Monitors and screamed at as "dirty pigs" with our School clothes in our hands. When we got to the bathroom we changed into our day clothes, we never ever had a bath, so we all day smelled of urine, which the other orphans jeered us all day as "Dirty pigs". As a punishment for

wetting the bed we were never ever allowed to have breakfast, but were made to stand outside the Dining Hall until Breakfast was over even in the darkest and coldest of Winters. We then went to School smelling all day of urine, and no meals until 18:00

hrs that night. SR 3 This particular nun was to me the most

vindictive woman I have ever met in my life, she flagged and beat me so many times for everything and anything, she didn't need an excuse. Her favourite weapon was a long thin whit rubber strap, which she removed from the diningtable, which used to attach the table tops, she didn't mind or care where she hit you, indeed thirty five years later I can still recall the black and blue and blooded legs and injuries she inflicted on

me and many of the orphans. On hindsight she was SR 3 only, SR 3 or SR 3

years old herself at the time. For a nun she was quite unique in her brutality and hatred she showed, and contempt for orphans. I wish her and now to record that one particular Monitor SND 49 was his name, I have never ever forgotten this monster inflicted on me, a murderous assault, one day I was sitting at the dining table,

I was only about SR 3 years old, this monitor was in charge of the dining hall and he struck me on the side of the head with a large aluminium ladle, I recall subconsciously my head on the table unconscious and the sensation of hot blood gushing from the side of my head. To this day I still have a scar visible on the left

handside of my head and I invite the RUC to appoint any medical specialist of their choice to examine the scan and there is absolutely no room of doubt in my mind, they

will confirm the scan is compatible with the ^{FRENZIED FIEROCIOUS} ~~frenied ferocious~~ attack as outlined, and its

duration compatible with the years I have it. Sadly I have to record that from that moment, this frenzied, brutal assault, damaged any educational projects I believed on hindsight I was capable of achieving. To this date I still suffer headaches and

me identifying this person. Also, you didn't ask questions in Termonbacca, you were told things but you never asked. The atmosphere was not conducive to the democratic sharing of information. In an already tense environment you avoided creating any further tension by asking questions. It was simply the culture within the home. It was a very insular Catholic environment but for us it was our world at the time. The nuns were like demi-Gods and abuse is facilitated in a totalitarian environment.

8. I got thumped and kicked by the nuns on occasion but not to the same extent as the other children. In my view I got off quite lightly but I did witness the nuns being violent towards other children and that was commonplace within the home. The nuns would lose control with anger and rage and often there was no cause for such behaviour which bordered on psychotic at times. The only nun I can recall with any clarity now **SR 3** She was in charge of the senior dormitory and she was always derogatory and negative with her comments. Her very presence felt like a threat to me. You were always on edge and I felt I had to constantly protect myself to avoid triggering these adults into a fit of rage.
9. The nuns themselves, however good or bad they were I pitied them. They seemed to be unhappy because happy people don't do things like that, the beatings and the violations and stuff like that. The beatings were horrific. They were systematic, it was unpredictable. It could come from anywhere at any time, the nuns seemed to lose control of themselves so often. So these were people who were very unhappy and very dysfunctional. They were nuns and they were cross and had a mission in life. When I look back I view them as really pitiful as they had to present themselves as one thing and be another at the same time and I wonder how you can manage that a whole lifetime.
10. My brother **HIA 121** was earmarked at one stage to be sent to Australia and I was really worried that he would leave me. The threat of being trafficked to Australia was held over our heads but the nuns talked about the country having oranges growing on the trees as a type of enticement to persuade the

Day 4

HIA

28 January 2014

<p>1 A. Uh-huh.</p> <p>2 Q. You say that she tried you make you penetrate her, but</p> <p>3 that is all you can recall.</p> <p>4 Now is there anything you wish to add to that or is</p> <p>5 that -- can you confirm that that is what you recall</p> <p>6 happening that night?</p> <p>7 A. I can confirm that's what happened that night, yes.</p> <p>8 Q. All right. You go on to talk about the effect that that</p> <p>9 had on you.</p> <p>10 A. Uh-huh.</p> <p>11 Q. Can I ask just about that effect? In that statement may</p> <p>12 I suggest, HIA46, what you are doing is looking back --</p> <p>13 A. Uh-huh.</p> <p>14 Q. -- and describing the subsequent effect, but at that</p> <p>15 time had you any idea what you were experiencing?</p> <p>16 A. No. It was unusual. It was nothing I could, so to</p> <p>17 speak, handle. It was something that was happening</p> <p>18 outside my body. When it happened, it happened, so to</p> <p>19 speak, where I'm not there, although I'm there. The</p> <p>20 realisation of what happened did come eventually slowly,</p> <p>21 above all when you get a little older and realising that</p> <p>22 this did happen and it was not imagination or invention.</p> <p>23 It did happen. It's as clear today sadly, because</p> <p>24 I would like it not to be so clear, but the effects of</p> <p>25 it I later on learned were monumental.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 21</p>	<p>1 Q. Can I just move on then to paragraph 8 where you make</p> <p>2 specific allegations in this paragraph? If I can just</p> <p>3 read that out, you say that:</p> <p>4 "I got thumped and kicked by the nuns on occasion</p> <p>5 but not to the same extent as the other children."</p> <p>6 A. Uh-huh.</p> <p>7 Q. "In my view I got off quite lightly, but I did witness</p> <p>8 the nuns being violent towards other children and that</p> <p>9 was commonplace within the home. The nuns would lose</p> <p>10 control with anger and rage and often there was no cause</p> <p>11 for such behaviour",</p> <p>12 which you describe as bordering on psychotic at</p> <p>13 times.</p> <p>14 You say the only nun that you can recall with any</p> <p>15 clarity now is SR3, whose name you give in your</p> <p>16 statement.</p> <p>17 "She was in charge of the senior dormitory. She was</p> <p>18 always derogatory and negative with her comments."</p> <p>19 Can I pause there to ask you what you mean by that?</p> <p>20 Can you give any details of what you mean by how she was</p> <p>21 negative or derogatory?</p> <p>22 A. Well, the language used there was derogatory and</p> <p>23 negative and also diminishing, so to speak. It was</p> <p>24 a form of psychological abuse, but in a concrete manner</p> <p>25 it expressed itself by -- you were described as various</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 23</p>
<p>1 Q. You say in paragraph 6 of your statement that it was</p> <p>2 only when you were an adolescent or a teenager --</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. -- that you came to realisation of what had occurred</p> <p>5 that night.</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. You also in paragraph 7 say that this was the only time</p> <p>8 that you were sexually abused in Termonbacca?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. And you can't identify who this woman was --</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. -- whether she was a lay person or --</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. Can I just confirm that there were lay people in</p> <p>15 Termonbacca?</p> <p>16 A. Yes. There were lay people working there, females. So</p> <p>17 that's why I say I can't say if it was a nun or</p> <p>18 a civilian staff member. I don't know, but it was</p> <p>19 an adult woman.</p> <p>20 Q. An adult woman. Can we -- can I just confirm that as</p> <p>21 regards children there were only boys in Termonbacca at</p> <p>22 the time that you were there --</p> <p>23 A. Uh-huh.</p> <p>24 Q. -- and of different age groups?</p> <p>25 A. Correct.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 things, like a Jew, a tinker, a tramp born beside the</p> <p>2 road. You were worth nothing. Your mother didn't want</p> <p>3 you. Your father didn't want you. You are a misfoster.</p> <p>4 You are this and you're that. If you are fed with that</p> <p>5 type of diet from a adult who is a nun, over time with</p> <p>6 a vulnerable child it kicks in, makes effect, and it's</p> <p>7 over time, and I mean years, and a group of children</p> <p>8 being subjected to that type of verbal abuse makes</p> <p>9 an impact, and it did with me.</p> <p>10 Q. You go on to say that her very presence felt like</p> <p>11 a threat to you.</p> <p>12 A. Yes, and that's one thing I'd like to -- stop there.</p> <p>13 The very presence of these nuns was at time ominous.</p> <p>14 There was always a hovering threat of something about to</p> <p>15 happen, even if it didn't happen. Not happening was in</p> <p>16 itself a threat. That it happened, at least the threat</p> <p>17 was gone. You had a concrete expression for the threat.</p> <p>18 So either they exploded in a rage or were ironic,</p> <p>19 cynical, derogatory or anything that could be said that</p> <p>20 was -- that could purposefully put you into</p> <p>21 a psychologically negative landscape, that was their</p> <p>22 major modus operandi.</p> <p>23 I have looked back at these things and this</p> <p>24 behaviour and I realised that people who do this and are</p> <p>25 like that are not feeling too well and they shouldn't be</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 24</p>

6 (Pages 21 to 24)

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an SR 5 working in the home at this time. The lay workers were SND 59 who worked in the nursery and the kitchen SND 39 who worked in the nursery SND 194 SND 214 SND 145 an who all worked with the children and had cleaning duties SND 12 SND 13 an SND 1 worked on the farm SND 1 was an ex-resident himself HIA 144 also a former resident, worked in the kitchen an SND 15 was employed as a caretaker/gardener.

5. My memory stretches back even to the nursery. I would say I was between the ages of three and five and I recall waking up in the morning and any of the children who had wet themselves were beaten on the feet with a stick of some kind. It may have been a ruler or a cane. The person who did this was not a nun but one of the lay workers. I believe her name was either SND 8 or SND 8. She was a small woman with build and she wore . She would roar and shout at the children as she beat them. I have a memory of crying myself as she stood over me. Anyone who wet their bed was abused even as an infant.
6. SR 3 would chastise the children with something that looked like a spatula and she would whack them on the backside with this thing. I recall her doing this in the shower room. This all happened in the nursery.
7. I recall even the nursery children were taken to church. I remember when I was between three and five I tore up a prayer book belonging to SR 12 in church. I thought I was sharing it with another child SR 12 didn't beat me but she talked to me in front of the others. She didn't know who did it. She said the prayer book was something that had been given to her by her parents upon entering the convent so I was lucky I didn't get beaten. I remember that the other children stood around and pointed the finger of blame at me.
8. When I was about five I was taken to the junior dormitory SR 2 was in charge of the junior dormitory SR 1 was in charge of the

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sat, and then next to that would have been the playroom. I remember there were some toys in the playroom. Someone had made an ice cream van from wood and you could open it, and go into it. On the right hand side of the corridor there were the toilets and I remember pictures of animals on the walls with zebra's and other animals.

4. There was a large dormitory. On the right hand side there was a bedroom and it had a glass window and a door and that's where I slept with my eldest sister **HIA 8** My other sister [REDACTED] who is a year older than me slept out in a dorm on her own. Next door to that was a bath and next door to that were the toilets. In the first dorm there were a lot of cots, in the second dorm it was only my sister and she slept in the very end bed near the window. There were a lot of empty beds in the dorm and sometimes families would come and go from the home.
5. In a normal morning we were woken up, then we had to make our bed, get dressed and then we went to Mass between 6 and 7am. The chapel was in the convent building. When we came back my sisters and I had to go up to the dormitory and get all the children washed, dressed, put on potties and then bring them down to the dining area and get them seated. We then had to give them their breakfast and when they had eaten theirs we were allowed to go and eat. I was only a 6 year old girl. It was always lumpy porridge and I was actually forced to eat it. I would gag because you weren't allowed to be sick. If you were you would have got hit. The children were taken into the play area and we had to go to school. There were about twenty babies and toddlers living in the baby end.
6. I still went to [REDACTED] School. In school there was a nun called Sister **SR 17** and she was very violent and I used to get hit every day with a bamboo stick across the back of my legs. We were picked on in school because we were in care.
7. After school we would come in and nobody ever asked had we homework to do or did we need help. They didn't help us to read or write. I couldn't read or spell

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summer holidays but all of a sudden the fostering stopped. I was not given any explanation as to why I was not returned to foster care. [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] would have bought or made me clothes. I remember being brought back to the home by [REDACTED] and he gave me 50p. Every time I came back to the home [REDACTED] SR 3 took me into a room and took all the clothes and money off me.

12. [REDACTED] SR 3 wasn't very nice. When I went in my hair was short and they let my hair grow long. When I couldn't remember what I had done with the elastics for my hair I got hit over the head with the glass hair brush almost everyday. I did not receive any injuries or receive medical treatment as a result of this.
13. I remember one time I was doing a play in school and [REDACTED] SR 3 came to the school and said I had to leave because Termonbacca had organised a day out. I wouldn't go because I wanted to be in the play on the stage. Sister [REDACTED] SR 3 gave me the biggest beating of my life. She hit me with the back of her hand and she always went for my hair. She hit me on my arms, shoulders and back.
14. I remember wetting the bed. When this happened I got beaten. I had to strip the bed. Unfortunately one of my sisters had a kidney problem. If we wet the bed sometimes our older sister used to change our bed and get rid of the sheets so we wouldn't get hit. She was caught doing this and she took a beating for us. I remember [REDACTED] SR 3 giving my sister [REDACTED] HIA 8 a black eye.
15. Two sisters from Omagh came to the home. I do not remember their names. The nuns took my sister [REDACTED] HIA 8 out of the room we shared and put one of the girls in the room with me. My sister was put in the dorm with my other sister [REDACTED]. The girl came over to my bed and touched my private parts. She also made me touch her. I didn't want to do it but I was too scared to refuse. This continued every night for a couple of months. My big sister wasn't there to protect me or to stop it.

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22. I was afraid to mix with people or to do games. I was always afraid because if I knew if I did something the wrong way I was going to get hit with the back end of **SR 3** hand or I was going to get roared at.
23. I don't remember seeing the doctor or the dentist. I was never shown how to brush my teeth and I never received a tube of toothpaste to clean my teeth.
24. My older sister got hit more than me and my other sister because she was taking beatings for us. But when **SR 3** could get her hands on us we got it. Every morning I got hit going out the door. I was always getting hit on the back of my head.
25. The only thing we didn't do in Termonbacca was cook, but we cleaned up and looked after the other children even though we were only children. We were getting beaten for nothing. You knew you couldn't tell anybody because nobody was going to believe you.

Good Shepherd Convent and Magdalene Laundry, Derry

26. In **SR 3** I was sent to Good Shepherd when I was **SR 3** years old. It was a Magdalene Laundry. My mother wanted me put in there because I was talking to a British soldier. She was worried I was going to turn out like her. I was put in by a welfare officer. I was taken to the doctor and I was stripped to see if I had lost my virginity. Every time you went in and out you were checked by the doctor. The doctor was called **GSC 14** This was requested by my mother.
27. Good Shepherd was just like being in jail. You needed a key to open each door. **SR 49** was very nice and still resides at Good Shepherd. She got me working in the kitchen as I didn't like the laundry because all the girls were older than me and some of them were bullies. Some of the girls told me that **SR 49** made positive changes to Good Shepherd.

PRIVATE

1 paragraph, and I'll come back to that, but you talk at
2 paragraph 9 that on a Saturday morning you collected
3 little mats, about 20 or more, went down to the yard
4 where the boiler house used to be, and you had to beat
5 the mats and bring them back upstairs and put them
6 beside each cot or bed.

7 **A. Every Saturday I picked all the little mats up -- and**
8 **they were actually remnants of carpets -- took them**
9 **round -- down round the side, the back of the boiler,**
10 **and beat them, cleaned them, and then carried them all**
11 **upstairs and put them all back beside the cots and**
12 **beside the beds, and that was one of the things that**
13 **I had to do.**

14 **Q.** Now one of the nuns that you name in your statement --
15 in your witness statement has given a statement to the
16 Inquiry herself. I am going to come back to that in
17 more detail in due course, but she would say that you
18 were never required -- that no child was required to do
19 this, the kind of work that you describe in your witness
20 statement. What comment do you wish to make about that,
21 HIA7?

22 **A. Well, she's a liar. I'm telling you what I had -- what**
23 **I had to do, and it's like yesterday. So I'm telling**
24 **you what happened and what I had to do.**

25 **Q.** Well, can I ask you about do you recall special

12 AUG 2013

HIA REF: 8

Witness Name: HIA 8

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA 8

I, HIA 8 will say as follows:-

Personal details

1. I was born on [REDACTED] There are [REDACTED] children in my family. Only the five youngest were put in care - two boys and three girls - [REDACTED] HIA35 [REDACTED] HIA7 and myself. I was the third youngest. I was always a very sick child as I have [REDACTED] disease and my father was always looking after me. The reason we were put in care was because my mother had a boyfriend and my father found out about it and she walked out and left us. The welfare record states that my father abused us. He never laid a finger on us or abused us in any way. My mother arranged for us to be taken into care. We were put into care by [REDACTED] SND 483 a welfare officer from Derry County Borough.

St Joseph's Home, Termonbacca

2. I was placed in Termonbacca on [REDACTED] when I was [REDACTED] years old. I remained there until [REDACTED] When we arrived the boys and girls were split up. My sisters and I were placed in the nursery end. We should have been sent to Nazareth House but because of my mother's insistence we all went to Termonbacca. My brothers and sisters and I were at the meeting with the welfare when my mother insisted we be put into Termonbacca. In the nursery there was one dormitory that had twenty four cots and the next dormitory had

1 **and again, the one with the bad memory.**

2 Q. Then if we go back, please, to your -- if we just scroll
3 down -- sorry -- to 32, this is her response to the
4 toilet cubicle incident --

5 **A. Uh-huh.**

6 Q. -- after the meeting. She says there was no meeting
7 with your sister. You have described then what happened
8 in the toilet cubicle resulting in a black eye. You
9 will see she says:

10 "I did not give any child a black eye."

11 She says:

12 "I don't accept that a child attending school with
13 a black eye would not have created some sort of query,
14 even a brief mention to someone."

15 **A. So is she saying I didn't go to school with a black eye,**
16 **because if she is, how come me and my sisters all seen**
17 **it? My other sister seen it. My school friend seen it**
18 **and one of my friend's mothers seen the same black eye.**
19 **So did I dream it up or did I just go round and tell all**
20 **them people to tell lies?**

21 Q. Well, at paragraph 30 of your statement, if we scroll
22 up, she says that she -- you have alluded to this,
23 because your sister addressed it -- just scroll up
24 further, please.

25 **A. Sure she even said it there in her statement. "I don't**

eleven single beds in it for the girls. There was a separate single room which I got because I was the oldest child in the nursery. The next in age were my sisters and then the other children who ranged from six months up to five or six.

3. My sister [REDACTED] who was next to me in age wet the bed. The first time it happened I washed and changed her and put a new nightdress on her. I had left the washing for the morning. She got beaten in the morning by [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] for wetting the bed. I also got beaten by her for cleaning it up. I was punched on the face and body, hit with a cherry brown leather strap that she kept at her waist, kicked, my hair pulled and anything she could get her hands on to beat us. [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] was in charge of the nursery. From this incident I learned to get down on my hands and knees, get the bed changed and wash the sheets so the nuns would never know. From then on [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] didn't find out that she wet the bed and so they stopped hitting her. Then she eventually stopped wetting the bed because she was no longer afraid of being hit for it.
4. I went to [REDACTED] Primary School when I first went into the home. Then I moved to [REDACTED] Secondary School when I was eleven. I used to walk my two sisters and brother to primary school first as they were younger than me. Afterwards I walked back through the town to my own school. One of the nuns from school told [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] that I was coming into school late because I was taking my siblings to school. [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] beat me for being late for school. I don't know the name of the nun from [REDACTED]
5. [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] was very fond of beating me and my sisters and the younger children with a stick like a pointer. Some of the children were so small that they flew across the floor when she hit them with force. She loved to hit children. On one occasion I complained to my older sister [REDACTED] who was married that I had been getting hit in the home and [REDACTED] said she would go down and see about it. I asked her not to but she did. She went and spoke to the Mother Superior and then she brought me and [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] to the room. [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] denied it and made me say that I was lying which I did as I was frightened of the consequences if I didn't. After this [REDACTED] SR3 [REDACTED] gave me a wailing for telling my sister. She trapped me in the toilet cubicle which was small because they

were for young children. She beat with her strap, punched me and kicked me. I couldn't escape.

6. The next day I remember going to school with a black eye as a result of the beating in the cubicle. I was about [REDACTED] years old at the time. Everyone in the school knew I lived in Termonbacca and not one teacher asked any questions or phoned up the welfare to report it. No one cared about my education or my well being. The only thing that the teachers were interested in was that you turned up every day and you did exactly what you were told. Whether you learnt anything or not was irrelevant. My education was poor. The nuns would have preferred it if we didn't go to school because then we could work in the home. I didn't learn to read until I was married. I was taught by my ex husband. To this day I can only spell my christian name.
7. I had to get up just after 6am to change the nappies of the twenty four babies before I went to school. My two younger sisters helped me. I changed each baby's pyjamas and then one of my sisters held the bucket to put the dirty nappy in and the other one held the basket for the wet sheets from the cot. Then I had to go into the bathroom and rinse out all the dirty nappies, steep them in a bucket and put all the sheets in a pile ready for the laundry. I washed the mattresses in the cots and turned them over and placed the baby back in. I then got myself washed and dressed and ready for mass. That was my routine every day without fail, even at weekends. I wasn't getting a bite to eat until after my work. It was no wonder I came out of the home weighing about five stone. When we went to the home the welfare said 'oh they'll look after you and feed you'. That did not happen. I did not have any visits from any welfare officers in all my time in Termonbacca.
8. We went to mass every morning and then we had our breakfast about 7.30am. After breakfast we went to school. If we were off school on holidays it was our job to clean up after the young children. We had to brush the floors and wash down all the tables and put the chairs back up because they weren't allowed to be sitting on the floor when they weren't getting used. I had to brush down the stairs and then wash them with a cloth with disinfectant on my hands and knees.

My younger sisters had to do the dusting and stuff like that in the nun's sitting room in the convent because it saved the nuns from doing it. After all that was done we had to go in and watch the young children in the play room while the nuns got on with saying their prayers. If you refused to do what you were told you got a slap either from the civilian staff or [REDACTED] SR3

9. There were civilian workers who helped out as domestics in the nursery. I think one may have stayed over at night but I am not sure. There was a woman called [REDACTED] SND57 and she was [REDACTED]. She slapped me now and again. I think she has passed away. There was a woman called [REDACTED] SND58 who hit my sisters [REDACTED] HIA7 and [REDACTED]. She didn't hit me but she was a bully. She bossed us around and made us do her work. She shouted things like 'you [REDACTED] do that work now'. She called us by our surname. She still lives in Derry. There was a lovely woman called [REDACTED] SND59 and she was very kind to us. She used to bring us gifts. I think she witnessed the abuse by [REDACTED] SR3 but didn't say anything. She is still living in Derry and I would see her in the street from time to time. There were also a couple of young girls that were brought in to look after the babies.
10. The food wasn't great in the home. My sister [REDACTED] HIA7 was a good eater and in the home I used to give her part of my dinner because I knew she was still hungry. If [REDACTED] SR3 saw me doing this I would have got battered for it because you weren't allowed to do that, you got your portion and that was all you were entitled to. My sisters and I all lost a lot of weight whilst in the home.
11. Most nights we were in bed before 7pm sometimes earlier in the winter. In the summer nights they closed the curtains in the babies half of the dormitory for them to go to sleep because they went to bed at 6pm. We weren't allowed to make a sound in that dormitory after the babies went to bed and if we did we got blamed for waking them by [REDACTED] SR3 and beaten. Also if we heard a baby whimpering and didn't get to it in time to comfort it and it started crying Sister [REDACTED] SR3 would have slapped us for being out of bed and the child got slapped for crying. There was no one else to comfort the children.

1 Q. Can you explain what involvement you had in the babies'
2 crying or getting up during the night?

3 A. Well, if we didn't get -- if we didn't make it to the
4 wain before she did, the wain got a slap for crying and
5 making a noise. So one of us in our bare feet would
6 have run to the wain and comforted it or bedded it or
7 whatever it needed. Sometimes it would have needed
8 a nappy changed. Well, I would have sneaked in and
9 changed its nappy, but if she came in the room and the
10 wain was awake, the wain got a slap for crying. "What
11 are you crying for at this time of night?" and then
12 that's the way of it. Obviously the wain is going to
13 cry more, because it's hurt. So on a couple of nights
14 I lay underneath the cots in the dark part of the
15 dormitory where she couldn't see me so that she wouldn't
16 know I was in the room with the wain trying to comfort
17 it.

18 Q. She, you are talking about SR3?

19 A. SR3, yes. They were only wee wains. They didn't know
20 -- I didn't know that wee wains had bad dreams.
21 I thought it was only us bigger ones. I didn't know
22 that the wee wains had a bad dream. Nobody explained to
23 them when they had a bad dream, they get a slap on the
24 earhole. Do you know what I mean? They didn't deserve
25 that. Them wee wains didn't know any better. Know what

1 paragraphs. So I am going to try to draw that together
2 and take you through a typical day that you've described
3 in your statement.

4 **A. Aye.**

5 Q. The first thing I'd like you to look at is at
6 paragraph 7, which is on SND-2071, and this is where you
7 describe first thing in the morning.

8 **A. That's right. Well, first thing in the morning you were**
9 **wakened by Hitler we called her, we referred to her as,**
10 **just in bad form. She wakened you up. You had to get**
11 **out of bed right and sharp. There was no hanging about.**
12 **"Hold on. Hold on now." Do you know what I mean? You**
13 **didn't get away with that. You got out of bed. You got**
14 **washed. You got dressed.**

15 Then our job, me and my two sisters, was to change
16 all the other wee wains' nappies and change their
17 pyjamas, if they were wet, and their sheets.

18 Q. Can I ask you from your recollection how many -- of the
19 24 cots you have described how many of them had a child
20 in them?

21 **A. I would say the majority of them. There was never any**
22 **less than 20 wee wains in it.**

23 Q. You describe then in paragraph 7 how the three of you,
24 the older girls --

25 **A. Aye.**

1 rest of them ones that were running that home. They
2 were definitely all trained by Hitler.

3 Q. You express a view that she shouldn't have been a nun.

4 A. She should never have been a nun. She should never have
5 been allowed anywhere near any wain at all. She should
6 have been put in a boxing ring with a couple of big men
7 and let her take her anger out on them to see how she
8 liked it when they hit her back. She shouldn't have
9 been nowhere near young wains. She wouldn't know to
10 look after a wain, telling you that she looked after
11 wains and kept them. She wouldn't know how to look
12 after her own two feet never mind a wee wain. She had
13 no love in her.

14 Q. Is there anything else you want to say about this
15 particular sister --

16 A. No.

17 Q. -- or have I covered most of the ...

18 A. Well, HIA7 was shown it too and you were saying to me
19 about she showed you a thing where I was weighed. I'd
20 love to know where them scales were, because I never
21 seen the scales -- not unless she used them to us with
22 them, like.

23 Q. I am going to come to the weighing issue, but in
24 relation to this particular sister have I covered all of
25 the issues?

PRIVATE

HIA REF: 352

Witness Name: HIA 352

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA 352

I, HIA 352 will say as follows:-

Personal details

1. I was born on [REDACTED]
2. My mother was a single parent, having previously split up with my father. I lived with her and my two older brothers, [REDACTED] and HIA 69. My mother met another man and had two more children, SND 309 and [REDACTED]. I was five years old when [REDACTED] was born and not long after that we were all taken into care. I think we were taken into care because my mother was an alcoholic. I never met my father as a child. I only met him in 1991 when he came home from England to die.

St. Joseph's Home, Termonbacca [REDACTED]

3. I was taken into Termonbacca with [REDACTED] HIA 69 [REDACTED] and SND 309 when I was [REDACTED] years old. I don't remember seeing my brothers [REDACTED] and HIA 69 there. I remember being taken to the nursery, put into a bath and scrubbed with a deck brush by Sister SR 3 who was laughing at another member of staff but was then cross with me saying 'you dirty wee bitch, you dirty wee bitch, look at the state of you'.

1 it. I remember staring at it and seeing things
2 wiggling. I think she came over and slapped me and
3 said, "Eat that" and I said, "But there's worms in it"
4 and it was actually maggots, and they were removed right
5 away.

6 Q. But generally you thought that the food was of good
7 standard and it was --

8 A. Certainly we got three meals and we got treats if we
9 were good, uh-huh.

10 Q. Now one -- you talk at paragraph 14 of your witness
11 statement, if we can go back to that, about bedwetting.
12 You say that you have spoken to your younger brother
13 about that and he remembers beatings because he wet the
14 bed. What do you remember yourself?

15 A. I remember being very sad when I was in -- I would have
16 been age 6 or 7, and I remember -- can I say her name or
17 is she a number? Do I have to refer to her as ...?

18 Q. Well --

19 A. Sorry.

20 CHAIRMAN: If you can, refer to her number.

21 A. Her number.

22 CHAIRMAN: If you can't, that's okay.

23 A. SR-- sister SR3 -- I was up at the end of the corridor
24 and I could hear the resounding smacks on naked skin and
25 my brother screaming as she was hitting him for wetting

1 Q. Excuse me. Now can I just tell you, HIA352, that we
2 have -- the Inquiry has received a statement from one of
3 the nuns that you name in there. This is the nun who
4 was in charge of the nursery. She has said various
5 things in her statement, but she says that she remembers
6 her time in Termonbacca fondly at paragraph -- if we
7 could just go to SND-4145, please. If we go to
8 paragraph -- highlight paragraphs 10 and 11. If we can
9 just go to paragraph 11 first. Sorry. Just highlight
10 10 and 11 for me. Thank you. Just paragraph 11
11 this particular nun says that her own memories of
12 Termonbacca are all of a happy time.

13 "I truly loved my time there and was heartbroken
14 when I eventually left."

15 She talks about an incident involving twin girls
16 being left with her in Termonbacca.

17 At paragraph 10 she says she does not have any
18 memory of a child being abused in any way.

19 "Children may have been shouted at or deprived of
20 some treat like TV if they were misbehaving, but I do
21 not recall any physical punishment at all. Boys being
22 boys had their fights and rows and did misbehave. We
23 did not resort to physical punishment and the removal of
24 privileges was usually a severe enough punishment."

25 Is there anything you'd like to say about that,

1 HIA352?

2 A. Yes. That may be her memories all right, but I have
3 different memories of what she was like, and she was
4 quite strict and she did slap us, and she definitely
5 slapped my brother really hard every morning that he wet
6 the bed, and she scrubbed my hand. I had a cut in it.
7 Somebody -- we were -- somebody bit me and it got
8 infected and I wouldn't let anybody near it. It was
9 really sore, and she -- she dragged me into the bathroom
10 and got a nailbrush and just started scrubbing it and
11 I remember screaming with pain.

12 Q. Now if we could just move to the next page of this
13 particular nun's statement, which is SND-4146, please.
14 If we look at paragraph -- what paragraph is it? In
15 this statement at paragraph 20, if you could just
16 highlight paragraph 20, this nun says that she did work
17 with the girl who you have named and described. She
18 said:

19 "She was a volunteer and her family were very good
20 to the sisters and regularly helped us out. I recall
21 them making gifts of blankets for the beds and cots."

22 She says her surname was not what other people have
23 said her surname was, but you didn't actually -- you
24 have given a different surname yourself.

25 "If this is the same girl, I do not recognise the