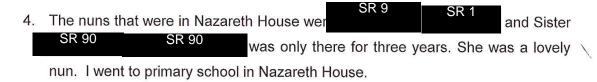


	THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995
	WITNESS STATEMENT C
Pe	HIA 367 will say as follows:- rsonal details
1.	I was born on the Route Hospital in Ballymoney in County Antrim. My mother was called the latest three sisters who is about ten years older than me who is about eight years older than me and older than me. I am the youngest. My mother has now passed away.
2.	and all stayed with my mother's parents. My sister and I were placed in the nursery in Nazareth House in Fahan in County Donegal before being placed in Nazareth House, Bishop Street.
<u>Na</u>	zareth House, Bishop Street, Derry (4/9/1957 – 1969 approximately)
3.	I was placed in the nursery of Nazareth House, Bishop Street when I was two

years old. I remained there until I was about fourteen.



5.	When I was very young I remember a man and a woman coming to visit me for a
	short period. In hindsight I assume they were my parents but I never saw them
	again after that.

6.	We slept in big dormitories and there was no privacy at all. The nuns didn't sleep
	in the dormitory. They had a room off the dormitory. They used to walk up and
	down and check that we were asleep. We had to sleep with our arms crossed.
	SR 9 would wake you up if your arms weren't crossed and tell you to
	cross them. We were never told the reason for doing this. My arms were always
	sore because of this. If you snore SR 9 woke you up and made you get
	up and blow your nose.

- 7. One time in the home an older girl calle saturday nights over a period of time a man came and crept around our dormitory. I was about eight or nine years old at the time. He threatened one of the girls who slept beside with a knife. The girl to the skew of the girl.
- 8. Bath time was every Saturday. We were not given any privacy. There were over one hundred girls for two baths and they never changed the wate supervised bath times. We had to queue up wearing our nightdresses along the corridor and then quickly get washed in the bath a would be shouting at us to get out. We got our hair washed on Saturday afternoons by the nuns or the older girls in two tin baths outside in the yard. Again the water was never changed. We got our hair combed for nits. When I got older I washed the younger girl's hair.
- 9. The nuns never told us anything about puberty or our bodies changing. When I got my first period I thought there was something wrong and I rushed out and washed the sheets. One of the senior girls who was aged about fourteen or fifteen asked me if I had got my period but I hadn't a clue what she meant. She brought me to down to a store room to get a sanitary towel. She also gave me my first bra. However she took the new bra and gave me her old one which was

rememb The nuns cut our hair short. They didn't like us having long hair. I and her sister came in to the home with very long hair and the nuns cut it all short.

- 10. The daily routine in Nazareth House was you got up at about 7.30 am and most mornings we went to Mass. We all had chores to do before school. My chores were scrubbing the floors on my knees, folding the covers for the beds and making the beds. On a Saturday we had to polish the tiled floors on the corridor that leads to the church until they shone. I remember once it was so damp that the floor was never going to shine. I tolean and made me do it again and again on my own. She couldn't be pleased. Another chore I had to do with another girl was to take the bucket of sanitary towels and burn them in the yard. It was disgusting.
- 11. The food was alright. Breakfast was either lumpy porridge or cornflakes. Lunch was usually potatoes and things like that. For our evening meal we just got bread and tea. At mealtimes if we put our elbows on the table the nuns would hit us with a thin red stick. This happened often and the nun that was supervising the mealtime had the red stick. This was eithe
- 12. After school we had more chores to do. There was a television but it wasn't up to us what we watched as the nuns decided that. We had no toys in the home. On one occasion a few of us were late going upstairs because we were tidying up downstairs

 SR 1

 got her keys which she kept on her belt and started hitting us on the head with them and nipping us under the arms. She was shouting at us that we should have been up ages ago.
- 13. In the summer the nuns used to leave us out in the yard all day long. They called it a playground but it was just a big yard with one swing. We used to get sunburned and suffer from sunstroke but the nuns didn't care. We never got sun cream. On one occasion I fell off the edge of the swing and hurt my back but the nuns didn't call a doctor. They just brought me into a room and told me I would be fine. My back was sore for a while and was never checked.

- 14. If you were sick the nuns just put you to bed for a day or two but they wouldn't call the doctor unless you were really bad. I remember one girl was really ill and the nuns kept saying she would be fine but it got to the stage where her appendix burst and she had to be rushed to hospital. We went to the dentist every six months and my name was always called out and I had all my teeth filled. I don't know why because the dentist always told me I had beautiful teeth. I don't remember the name of the dentist.
- 15. The day I made my Confirmation I was very afraid. There were only a few girls there and I heard the doors being bolted behind us. We were locked in the chapel. The Bishop asked me my Confirmation name and I had to kneel down and tell him. He had a ring on his finger and he hit me a strike across the cheek. I don't know why he did this. It was very sore.
- 16. When we made our First Holy Communion we had to pass through the part of the building where the old people stayed. The old men used to drop money so we would have to bend down in front of them so they could look at us. I quickly learned not to pick up the money.
- 18. After Nazareth House primary school I moved to St Cecilia's Secondary School. I never knew when my birthday was until I received my birth certificate years later.

19	SR 9	was	а	cruel	nun.	She	often	beat	me	and	other	girls	such	as
	HIA 49			and a					One			HIA		
						~.				_				

and I were late coming back from St Cecilia's and she grabbed us and started hitting us. She would punch you or hit you with the black belt she wore around

her waist, or stick, or whatever she could get her hands on. She would just lose her temper. On one occasion she told me to stand in a dark corridor and she took something from behind her back. She started whacking me across the legs with a stick and it left me black and blue. I was trying to grab the stick but she said there were nails in it. I don't know what I had done to deserve this beating. The next day at school my teacher who I think was called the marks on my leg and asked if I wanted to talk about it but I said 'no, I'll be killed if I do'.

20.	One time an older girl in school gave me and other girls some cigarettes. Sister
	SR 9 found out I smoked and she lined all us girls up in the corridor. She asked
	us who the cigarettes belonged to. I got the blame as the other girls said that
	they were mine grabbed me and pushed me into the music room.
	She banged me off the piano stool and kept thumping me on the back. By this
	stage I realised that she enjoyed it when you cried so I didn't cry. Then she said
	'there's no point hitting you' and stopped SR 9 refused to call me by my
	first name. She always called me on Only a few girls were
	called by their surname in the home.

- 21. One evening to large stand in the corridor in the dark in just our nightdresses. We were barefoot and it was freezing cold to large to large to large stand there. We had to go to the bathroom in the dark. This was a punishment for having answered her back or for having done something which the stand in the corridor in the dark in just our nightdresses. We were barefoot and it was freezing cold to large to large to large stand there. We had to go to the bathroom in the dark. This was a punishment for having answered her back or for having done something which the large stand in the corridor in the dark in just our nightdresses.
- 22. On another occasion the washing machine broke in the wash room so Sister SR 9 forced me and another girl to wash most of the clothes by hand. I was always picked to do this. We had to do this for a couple of days and our hands and fingers were raw. Whe SR 9 got the machine fixed she didn't even say thank you.
- 23. Religion was a big part of life in the home. We had to go to confession every week which I didn't understand because we were only children so what sins did we have to confess. It's not like we had murdered anyone. The priest was called

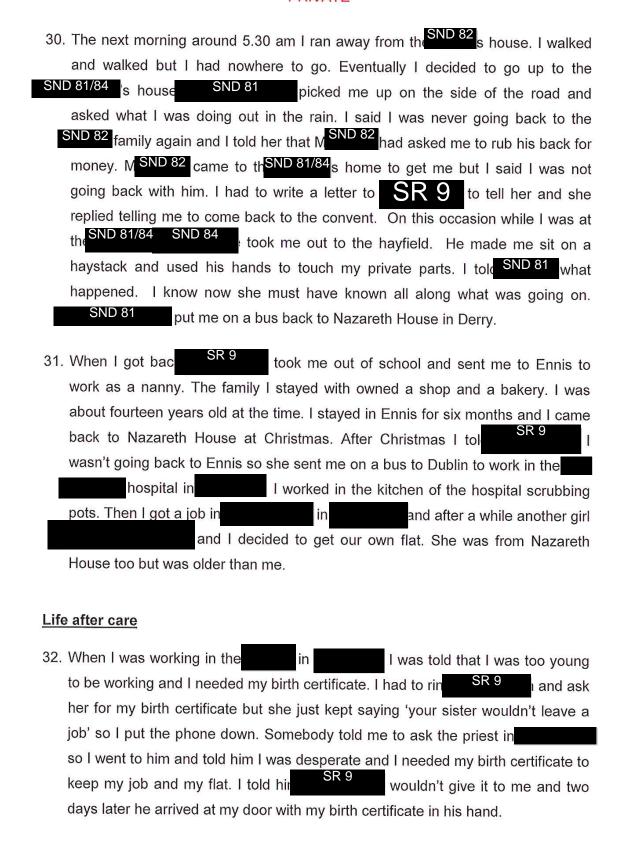
SND 237 SR 9 and he tolo everything we said in confession. I remember one evening all us girls were in the church for Benediction and we SR 9 heard screaming coming from outside was hitting a girl and the SR 1 screaming was unbearable. I moved to get up bu told me sit down. SR 9 Then the Reverend Mother went out and asked what was going or said the girl was answering her back and the Reverend Mother said 'not outside the church'. I heard this clearly as she spoke loudly and it was very quiet for Benediction. I do not recall the Reverend Mother's name.

- 24 SR 1 had a habit of pinching you and hitting you across the head with keys. If the nuns weren't there, the older girls would take over. If you answered back the older girls would give you a slap. The older girls would tell you to sit on the bed and then whack you across the back of your feet with a plastic sandal to punish you.
- **SND 237** visited the home often to hear confessions. He asked us if we SR 9 wanted to play football and we said we would have to as Sister SR 9 said no problem so we played for a while but then she stopped us. I heard SND 237 tha interfered with other girls but I never saw anything myself. SND 237 This is just what I heard had a video camera and he would use it to record us when we went on a day trip to Butlins or when we were playing on the swing in the yard. You had to save all your pocket money for the day trips away.
- 26. My siste was also in Nazareth House but she was older and we stayed in different dormitories. I was about twelve when my sister left the home. I think she was seventeen or eighteen. My sister wanted to take me with her but Sister SR 9 wouldn't let her. She said I was too young to leave the home. I think my sister came back to visit me about three times in the home but on each visit the three nuns stood around us and would not give us privacy to talk. I think snD 85 nay have tried to take me out with her on each visit but was not allowed.

27.	Another summer I went to stay wi	SND 81/84	again this time with
	another girl calle SND 86	She was younger that	in me. We used to
	help on the farm and one da	told me to drive the	e tractor. There was
	another man who worked on the farm	n but I can't recall his	name. I was driving
	the tractor and changing gears and t	he tractor shook an	SND 86 nearly fell
	off the back of i SND 84 started s	shouting at me. The oth	er man who worked
	on the farm sexually abused me. He	grabbed me and put h	is hand up between
	my legs and touched my private parts		he was holding me
	down. I saw a bottle and I tried to hit	him with i	saw what he was
	doing and told him to let me go.		

started interfering with me. He sexually abused me a few times. He would call me over to the outhouse, store or hay barn and put his hands between my legs and touched my private parts. He told me not to say anything. Another time I was in bed which I shared wit should be shou

29. I was sent out to a different family calle SND 82 when I was about twelve years old. I was there on two occasions for two months each summer. I did all the cooking and cleaning and I worked on the farm. The second summer I was there Mr. SND 82 was away visiting a sick friend and I was on my own with Mr. SND 82 and his sor SND 82 One night I was watching television and M SND 82 came in and told me it was time for bed. I turned off the television and he grabbed me and pushed me against the wall. He told me that he would give me sweets and cigarettes and he tried to touch me. I got away from him and ran upstairs and got into bed fully clothed. I was shaking. He followed me and got into the bed. He said again he would give me money and I pleaded with him to leave me alone. He heard the front door opening and someone coming into the house and he left my room.



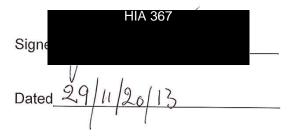
33.	I moved around different places in Dublin doing different jobs. It took me a while to get on my feet. I didn't know anybody in Dublin. The nuns just left me there. I went to visi SR 1 and SR 9 in Nazareth House in Dublin before SR 9 died. My hands were sweating with fear before I me SR 9 I asked SR 9 where my siste SND 85 was but she said she didn't know because she had married.
34.	I started searching fo SND 85 as soon as I started working in the in Dublin. I have tried to get information from the nuns but I have not been able to trace her. A nun calle got me a photograph of her. I went to the Salvation Army and my local TD to try to trace SND 85 but I have found nothing.
35.	I contacted the Family Care Society in Belfast in an attempt to fin a social worker called Michelle Peters helped me. I found out I have a brother and two sisters that I never knew I had. I was looking for one sibling and I found three more. We all met up in a hotel in 2010 and we get on great. I am delighted I found my new family and we all keep in touch lives in Limavady, lives in Derry and lives in England. The social worker also told me my mother was dead but I never knew my mother anyway put SND 85 picture in the paper in an effort to find her but nothing came of it.
	I am married and I have five children and six grandchildren, with another one due in November 2013. Four of my children are grown up and I have one son living at home who is nearly seventeen. I saw my family more when I was in Dublin but when I moved to Wexford in 2001 it hit me that I was lost. My daughted moved with me and another daughted came to live there for a year. I have found it very difficult to cope. I get very depressed sometimes and I have suffered from panic attacks in the past. I went to the doctor about it but he just gave me pills which didn't do me any good. I am not currently taking medication but I would consider going to my GP again because I think I need help. My husband is not very supportive and I feel like I have nobody

to talk to. If it wasn't for my cleaning job in a school, I think I might crack up.

37. I made a statement in relation to these matters on 26th October 2012 with Sergeant Arnold Henderson from the PSNI.

Statement of Truth

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



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J. M. J.

NAZARETH HOUSE CHILDREN'S HOME Bishop Street, Derry Tel: Derry 261976

NAME

BORN

Route Hospital, Co Derry

D.O.B.

BAPTISED

St Josephs, Fincairn, Feeney.

MOTHER

RECEIVED FROM

Fahan Nursery

DATE RECEIVED

4 September 1957



516 Ravenhill Road, Belfast, BT6 0BW

Tel: 028 9069 0600 Fax: 028 9069 0601

Personal Request for Records regarding **House Derry**

HIA 367

Nazareth

Taken from Girls Register 1933–1988 (Book 2 on file)

Registration No:

2418

Name:

HIA 367

Where Born:

Route Hospital Co. Derry

Date of Birth:

Where Baptised:

St Joseph's Fincairn, [Feeney]

Parents Name:

SND 296

Occupation;

Not recorded Fahan Nursery

Recommended By:

4 September 1957

Admitted: Left:

No Recorded

Observations:

Not-recorded

[] = writing unclear

Girls Register (Book 5 on file)

HIA 367

Admitted:

4 September 1957

Born:

Mother's Name:

SND 296

Received From: Infant's Nursery

No date of discharge found

W HIA 367

Thank you or your .

Malahide Road, Dublin 3. g.m.g.+

Dullin 3.

HIA 367 don't know if my thristmas each reached you - some of my stress with met. Thank you for your good wishes I hope 1944 will be a happy and peaceful year for you. God bloss

QD

Me have of SND 85 per - shill beying



Derry 62180

Nazareth House,

Bishop Street,

Londonderry.

7.3.86

HIA 367 Dea

SND 85 believe you are trying to trace your sister as I shave aheady told your a long time ago SND 85 left here on 16/6/67 and went to work in the

Co. Donegal. From that day to this there has been no communication from her so I have no idea of her whereabouts.

Maybe if you wrote to that Hotel thay might know where she has moved to. I'm sony I cannot help you any further.

SR 59

Mazareth bonwent Schurch Hill, Sligo 14th May 2013

HIA 367

leo. Wexford.

Thank-you for your letter which I received this morning. Fifty years on, it was good to hear from you! I spent three years in Derry 1961 - 1964 and yes, I do remember both yourself and your sister SND 85 lovely girls! yourself and your sister as you will understand, I did not take any photographs of the children and I did not SR 9 looked after keep any records. that area of the childrens' life.

I contacted

SR 58 this afternoon he. your difficulties and I understand that she has passed on any information which was kept at Mazareth House, Dury will forward your letter to her and she will send it on to our archivest in Belfast. I am sorry that I cannot be of more help, but you will understand I have no

occess to records here and I have no photographs of the children other than Devry Journal photo-graphs which I happened to see over the years. I do hope you have kept well and, as own funity now. as SND 85 was risc year older than you it is strange that she did not make some effort to keep in touch or to link up with you in later years! of the girls as you referred to SND 86 in you letter. It is good to have kept Contact with the girls who were in Mazare at that time.

A hope that you will be able to make contact with SND 85 and I am sure you have got help in this area from the different sources now available.

Wishing you and your family every success and blessing,

Your sincerely.

SR 20