

19 JUL 2013

HIA REF: 40

Witness Name: HIA 40

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA 40

I, HIA 40 will say as follows:-

Personal details

1. I was born on [REDACTED] and I grew up in Strabane, County Tyrone in a dysfunctional family. There were eight children in the family. My father was an alcoholic and very aggressive. I knew little about domestic violence in those days but understand now that we were subjected to domestic violence.

Coneywarren Children's Home (In/around 1972)

2. My father was estranged from my mother since I was a young child. However, when family allowance day came, he knew when to come and get the money off her. We were placed in Coneywarren. We were in and out of there and I recall my younger brother was in the toddlers unit at that stage when he was still in nappies.
3. My oldest brother (SND 265) was in Millisle borstal. I had another brother (SND 266) who was in Greystone Hall in Limavady and then went to the army. Two of my sisters were fostered out to different foster parents.

Nazareth House, Bishop Street, Derry

4. From about the age of five onwards I was in and out of care and after Coneywarren my younger brother (SND 138) and my sisters (SND 262 and SND 263) and I were placed in care at Nazareth House for periods of up to three months or more. My sisters were like strangers. We were split up all over the place even from a young age. From around 1974 a parental rights order was placed on us and we were placed permanently in Nazareth House.

5. We had been taken to a court house on Bishop Street and I don't even think the hearing lasted five minutes but a parental rights order was granted, we didn't have a say. The state just left you there and that was it, then they couldn't understand why you were a troubled child. I remember seeing the big doors at the front of the house on my first day and SR 9 greeted you like she was a member of the Gestapo. It was horrendous. It put the fear of God in you.

6. As our home life was in turmoil and we were in and out of care we did not have the skills you acquire growing up to learn to fend for yourself. I was born Roman Catholic but we weren't a particularly religious family so you had the shock of the nuns and their regime. You got up in the morning and the nuns checked your bed. If you had wet the bed SR 59 or SR 6 beat you, so you got a beating before you went to school and a cold shower and then when you went to school you got beat up for being a home boy. When you got back to the home SR 59 or SR 6 would beat you up again because you'd been beaten at school. I used to not go to school then and I would run away. I often had problems with SR 59 she got me into the shower one day and the taps were sort of parallel to my head and she bounced the side of my head off the taps and nearly knocked me out on the floor. I was badly bruised and in pain as a result of this incident but received no medical treatment.

7. The nuns would lock children in cupboards for hours on end as a punishment and if they were naughty usually SR 59 would give them a scalding shower which could take the skin off their back or a freezing shower which made you come out with a cold. I was often locked up in a cupboard and disorientated

upon release. **SR 59** would also take you to the toilet and leave the door open and watch you while you used the toilet. Most of the time she would be accompanied by a young female resident called **SND 25**. That treatment was really degrading. I got so freaked out about it a couple of times that rather than go to the toilet I would have wet my pants in front of her as I did not want her watching me go to the toilet.

8. Once when I ran away I got caught shop lifting at the old Woolworth store off Ferry Quay Street. The police brought me back to the home and I was in more trouble because I had embarrassed the nuns and brought the reputation of the home into disrepute. **SR 59** gave me another beating following this incident.
9. They took us on holidays to a holiday home they had at Shrove in County Donegal. They got us up at 6.30am and brought us straight down to the cold beach for a wash before breakfast so that wasn't much of a holiday for me. Once when we were going on holidays again I ran away and I tried to get home to my mum's house. They caught me and I had to stay in the nun's quarters at Nazareth House that night and they took me back down the next day. We were running around the sand dunes and there were big stones that came up amongst the grass. I was wearing a pair of pumps and I tripped on a rock and fell and a stone went into my eye. I received stitches and had an injection at Altnagelvin Hospital. On the way back from the hospital **SR 6** was driving a big blue transit bus over Craigavon Bridge and she crashed into the railings. The police came to the scene and thought I had been injured in the accident but I had in fact been injured from the fall in the sand dunes. When **SR 6** got me back to the home then she gave me another beating. My eye was swollen, I had a headache and I was in a terrible state. Every day I was beaten with something by a nun, with their fist or whatever they had in their hand. Sometimes they used things called clangers, they were two hard balls with a cord around them and they would swing them and hit you with them. It was very dangerous if you got hit with them, you could have killed somebody with them.
10. They made me become an altar boy at Nazareth House even though I did not want to and had no interest in it.

11. On a really hot day in 1976 when I was about nine, **SR 59** called me and it put the fear of God in me so I wet myself. I thought she was going to beat me again. She called "**HIA 40**" as she never used my Christian name. She came over and told me she had just got a phone call to say my mother had died and then she walked away. I thought that it could not be true as my mother was only thirty six years old at the time. My brother and I did not to see our mother before she died nor were we allowed to attend the funeral. I did not receive any counselling and the nuns did not speak to me about it so I tried to run away all the time to get back home to see if my mum was at home. When I returned home I was lifted by the army again and taken to the barracks in Strabane and then the police and social services brought me back and the nuns gave me another beating for running away and stressing the life out of them.

12. St Columb's College was opposite Nazareth House at that stage. During another attempt to run away I climbed out the bathroom window and went across the road through St Columb's and made my way around to Craigavon bridge. I was trying to hitch a lift on the Strabane Road. I was only nine years old at this time, it was the 1970's.

13. After a long period of mental and physical abuse, my younger brother and I got fostered out for about a year to a man who worked as a postman and his wife worked in Superfayre. They lived in the [REDACTED] area and they had a boy who was the same age as me called [REDACTED]. They changed my name and they didn't even ask me, they just did it. They gave us a terrible time as we were a burden on them and we had obviously brought a lot of baggage given our history in the home. They said they were moving to [REDACTED] and that social services told them if they wanted me and my brother they would have to adopt us because there were different rules over the border but they wouldn't do it so we were sent to Termonbacca. I was about ten or eleven at the time as I recall attending Steelstown Primary School.

Termonbacca, Derry (In/around 1978/1979)

14. As soon as we arrived in Termonbacca we saw SR 59 and SR 6 from Nazareth House. There was also another nun, SR 2. We were the problem family. At least I knew who my brother was. Some of the other residents did not even know they had siblings in the home or who their brothers and sisters were or where they were.
15. We were older then and problems were becoming worse. We had to grow up really fast in Termonbacca because you got bullied by the older members who lived in the home and it became a very lonely and isolated situation. It was constantly groundhog day, every day was just like every other day. If I didn't have bruises going to school I had bruises coming back from school. You can hide mental issues to a certain extent but we were not shown any love, we were just a number basically. I felt like we were young prisoners and everyone was for themselves.
16. There was only one boy in Termonbacca when I lived there that stood up for the others. He was one of the most respected boys. He was a well educated young boy and came from quite a good background. I think he was Jewish. He went to St Columb's College. I think his name was HIA 60 later changed to HIA 60 but he couldn't look out for everybody. He always tried to help the younger boys in their dealings with the older boys. He was the only boy in Termonbacca that went to St Columb's College.
17. I stayed at Termonbacca for approximately eighteen months. I had an older sister (SND 261) who was living with a foster couple in [REDACTED] so they fostered SND 138 and I and we went to live with these elderly folks in [REDACTED] who yet again were very religious. They reminded me of the nuns. I suppose they meant well but again we had brought a lot of baggage. I had started experimenting with solvent abuse in the city before I had been fostered out and this was my escape. I got in with the wrong type of people and it became quite a problem and got

much worse. Then I went to live in a place called [REDACTED] outside [REDACTED]. It was a small country village where everyone knew your business so I became quite an embarrassment to these foster parents. They wanted me to call them mother and father but they weren't my parents so I wouldn't call them mother and father and so the foster care broke down yet again.

18. After the first foster placement broke down I was in contact with Social Services from Scroggy Road Health Centre in Limavady. I then went to Harberton House, 109 Irish Street in the Waterside for a period of time. I went from Harberton House to Fort James but that was total chaos because it was in a Protestant neighbourhood and I was bullied for going to a Catholic school. After Fort James and until I was sixteen social services got fed up with me and put me in different institutions all over the place. I was placed in Dr Barnardo's Adolescent Unit, Tara Lodge, Wellington Park on the Lisburn Road. My drug abuse got out of control and when I left Dr Barnardo's, social services said I could look after myself. I became homeless so I went into the Salvation Army in Corporation Street Belfast when I was seventeen.

Life after care

19. Whilst in the hostel I met someone who knew where my father lived. I hadn't spoken to him since I was about eight years old so I visited him in West Belfast in [REDACTED] in the [REDACTED] area. I recall it was snowing and I was wearing a suit and had £200 and my passport in my pocket. A small woman came to the door, she looked really old and thin and she was holding a baby. I asked to speak with my father [REDACTED] **SND 259** and she obviously knew nothing about me as she was visibly shocked. Kids were running wild in the house, it was just like going back in time to where I lived at home with lots of drink about and the place looking horrendous with kids not washed and no food in the cupboards. I asked him to go for a drink and took him to a local bar. After he had had a few pints I asked him about my mother and he said "the day I killed your mother I killed everyone of you with her". I was in shock and I didn't know what to do. I didn't know if he was telling me the truth so I approached him the

next morning and he told me he went on family allowance day to see her and she ran up the stairs so he grabbed her and she fell down the stairs, got caught on a nail coming out of the skirting board that went into her side causing peritonitis, where the intestines wrap around the appendix. He burned the house down with our dog in it and I think he booked into Gransha Mental Institution. The matter went to court and he was given nine months in prison.

20. I left him that day and got the boat from Larne to Stranraer. I went to London in/around 1984 and I became homeless and was begging on the street. My drug abuse increased to deal with the chaos but eventually the drugs had taken over me completely. I was very lonely and I had lost all my confidence. I didn't know how to date people. I couldn't deal with people in authority, I just couldn't deal with people. Anyone who worked in a homeless hostel, was a care worker or anyone who had anything to do with the housing executive, I really detested them because I felt so let down by the whole situation. I lived in hostels, homeless shelters and I slept rough in the bull ring under Waterloo station. The drug abuse caused my heart to stop three times, I had two heart attacks and it took me nine months to learn to walk. I had a stroke on my right side and I wanted to die and thought this would be a good way to end it all.
21. During all this time as the years progressed I got little bits of work here and there on building sites but I was dangerous as I was going in to work high on drugs and I could have killed myself or someone else. I was totally irresponsible.
22. I had left my family so they didn't know I'd gone to England and I never communicated with them over the years. I had a nervous breakdown but first I attempted suicide but was caught in the act by a friend which annoyed me. I was trying to hang myself from a beam in his kitchen when he came in by chance so I was admitted to Mossley Hospital, Denmark Hill in London, to the acute assessment unit.
23. I tried rehab a few times to detox my system but I wasn't going to rehab for the right reasons. I was going for somewhere to live and to keep away from

gangsters. After Mossley I got into rehab in Broadreach House, Tavestock Road, Plymouth on an eight week programme. They then sent me to their other house Closereach House, St Maurice, outside Plymouth. Even when I was in treatment, these people just reminded me of people that worked at the home and I had no respect for them at all but I didn't have any respect for myself.

24. One day I was stopped at the dole office in Kilburn by photographers who said they were doing a story for the papers on people who had lost their jobs due to the recession. The paper was distributed in Northern Ireland and my sister saw my photograph in the paper. She wrote to the jobcentre to make contact with me.
25. I moved to Dublin and was homeless again and then moved to a half way house in Belfast and moved again to Ballymena.
26. Martina Anderson MLA helped to get me in to the housing association flat I am living in now in Derry. I have been to visit my mother's grave now on several occasions which has lifted a big burden off me. I am trying to reconnect with my family now but it is difficult as some of them are still so troubled. They are all married and I have missed their weddings, birthdays and holy communions and I missed all that due to selfishness on my behalf. I had no role model and I had to grow up very quickly.
27. I have had to take a lot of counselling to deal with my past. I take responsibility for my part in that but social services were supposed to look after me until I was eighteen and to resettle me back into the community but they were glad to get rid of me. I would very much like an apology that when I did speak out people should have listened. I frequently told both Strabane and Limavady Social Services about the bullying I suffered at school and the abuse and beatings I received in the home. Those people who were supposed to be my voice never stood up for me. The staff that worked for Termonbacca knew what was going on and they didn't do anything. I do not remember their names. I recall the gardener at Termonbacca and he must have been aware of the treatment the children received. I do not recall his name.

28. I have not taken drugs or for many years now. I had to grow up really fast like a lot of young people who lived in Nazareth House but a lot of them are not alive today. A friend of mine, **SND 137** who was fostered and his name changed to **SND 137** lived in Termonbacca with me and was flown home and buried before Christmas. I know others that have drowned themselves in the bath, one guy hung himself and others just get involved in the mayhem of drink and drugs.
29. I hated all the punishments, the beatings and the mental torture at Nazareth House. I cried a lot at night then I found it difficult to cry and felt as if I had a heart of stone for years.
30. I recall that Limavady Social Services came to Harberton House for my assessment when my foster care broke down. I also recall the involvement of social services when we were in Termonbacca and our foster care broke down but I do not recall any involvement of Strabane Social Services or any visits from social services when I was in Nazareth House.
31. I attended a lot of schools and left school with no qualifications whatsoever. I didn't even take an exam.
32. I remember once I was in London and I had to go to Shepherds Bush to the nuns to get a free sandwich and a cup of tea. I only went because I was so weak and needed food. I thought here are the people who have really messed my life up and I'm going now asking them for a sandwich and a cup of tea. That was very difficult.
33. When I left the care system here I felt mentally, financially, emotionally and morally bankrupt.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed **HIA 40**
Dated 13/7/13

SND 258 / SND 259 were legally separated on 8th February, 1973 and SND 258 was granted the custody of the children of the marriage. After separating from his wife, SND 259 visited his family occasionally but due to lack of initiative these visits were such that no relationships developed between himself and his children, especially the younger ones. On 6th June, 1973, SND 258 was admitted to hospital for a hysterectomy and HIA 40 along with three of his sisters and one brother were admitted to Conoywarron Children's Home, Omagh. They were discharged home on 21st August, 1973. During 1974 and 1975, HIA 40 was in care four times for periods of approximately two months when his mother was admitted to Granah Hospital.

On 1st June, 1976, SND 258 was admitted to hospital for surgery as she was suffering from an ulcerated hernia. She died on [redacted] Parental Rights Orders were granted on 26th August, 1976 to the Western Health & Social Services Board in respect of all children except the eldest boy.

HIA 40 was placed in Nazareth House, Londonderry and remained there until he was boarded out with his younger brother with foster parents in Londonderry on 16th September, 1977. Initially the boys seemed to settle quite well. However, before Christmas, 1978, the foster parents became concerned about HIA 40 as he started to truant from school and he had stolen £5.00 from the foster father. At the end of February, 1979, the foster parents said they could no longer cope with the boys. They were then admitted to Tormonbacca Children's Home on 5th March, 1979.

While in the home, HIA 40 created many problems for the staff. He was persistently truanting from school and stealing from other children at school. However, while in Tormonbacca, SND 267 / SND 268 foster parents of HIA 40's elder sister, SND 261 began visiting HIA 40 and his younger brother and the boys spent several weekends at the [redacted] home. On 21st December, 1979, HIA 40 and his brother were boarded out with SND 267 / SND 268

5. HIA 40's behaviour while living with SND 267 / SND 268

HIA 40 was boarded out with the SND 267 / SND 268 for two years. As in the previous fostering situation he initially appeared to settle quite well, trying hard to please everyone. However, he soon began to test out their love for him, for example, by taking items from the home, breaking them and denying knowing anything regarding them. He also began truanting from school and getting into trouble on the occasions he was there, for example, by selling articles belonging to school friends to people outside school. HIA 40 was continuously "testing out" the SND 267 / SND 268 almost wanting them to reject him as had happened on previous occasions in his life. In the end, it was HIA 40 who requested being removed from the SND 267 / SND 268. In January, 1981 he was in fact removed and placed in Harberton Assessment Unit, Londonderry for a period of assessment. He remained there until 26th March, 1982 when he moved to Fort James Children's Home, Londonderry.

6. Developments since admission to Fort James:

Initially, HIA 40 was very defensive, refusing to discuss or look at his past behaviour. He had tried to attribute the blame for the breakdown of his foster placement to the SND 267 / SND 268. However, through them continuing to visit him, he began to realise the extent of their feelings for him. This helped HIA 40 to look at himself in relation to his past behaviour and for him to begin to accept some responsibility for his actions. Meetings were held once a month in Fort James.

Move to [redacted] Report (D1)

CONFIDENTIAL

WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

W.C.10/11

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT (N.I.) 1968

NOTIFICATION OF CHILD'S ~~DISCHARGE FROM CARE~~ ^{TRANSFER}

(For information about Notifications in relation to Child Boarded-Out in a Foster Home, see Foster Care Section).

TO: SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, RIVERVIEW PARK, ABERCORN ROAD, LONDONDERRY.

FROM: SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, HEALTH CENTRE, SCROGGY ROAD, LIMAVADY.

1. Surname: HIA 40 2. Forename(s) HIA 40
3. D.o.B. [REDACTED] 4. Place of Birth Strabane
5. In Care Address Tara Lodge, 62 Wellington Park, BELFAST.
6. Child Benefit Number —
7. Transferred to: [REDACTED] BELFAST.
~~Discharged to: [REDACTED] BELFAST.~~
8. (a) Section of Children and Young Persons Act (N.I.) 1968 under which discharged from care P.R.O.
Transfer
 (b) Reason for ~~discharge from care~~ Found independent accommodation
Transfer
9. Date of ~~discharge from care~~ 15th April, 1985
10. Name and address of G.P. with whom Child is to register (if changed on discharge from care) No change
Dr. Glasgow, Dunluce Health Centre, Lisburn Road, BELFAST.
11. School attended while in care —
12. School which Child will attend on discharge from care (if different from (11) above) —
 Date 15th May 1985 Signed Shayne G. Griffith
 Senior Social Worker/Social Worker

DISTRIBUTION LIST (Notification as per above should always be sent to those listed from 1 - 6 below and where appropriate, to those listed from 7 - 9 below)

- District Records Officer
- Accounts Department.
- District Administrative Nursing Officer.
- Principal Social Worker/Assistant Principal Social Worker/Senior Social Worker responsible for Residential and Day Care Services.
- Identified member of Clerical Staff responsible for the maintenance of the District Register of Children in Care.
- Child Benefit Office.
- Department of Health and Social Services, if person (parent, guardian etc.) to whom Child is discharged is in receipt of Supplementary Benefit, Unemployment Benefit, Sickness Benefit, Invalidity Benefit, or any other Statutory Benefit.
- School transfer certificate and short birth certificate should be obtained from "In Care" school, and forwarded to Principal of school which Child will attend, following discharge from care, if different from school attended while in care.
- If appropriate, the Education Welfare Officer should also be notified.

WESTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES BOARDLONDONDERRY LIMAVADY AND STRAFANE DISTRICT

NAME:

HIA 40

CATEGORY:

ADDRESS:

DATE

CASE DETAILS: Visitors, Reports, Etc.

May &
June '85.

Since HIA 40 moved to Londonderry from Belfast, I have had no direct contact with him. For the first couple of weeks after moving to Derry, he kept in telephone contact with Tara Lodge and it was through TL 1 the After Care Worker, that she provided us with an address that HIA 40 had given her saying that he was staying with Shantallow. He provided no further information other than this and when TL 1 asked him to come down to Tara Lodge to discuss long-term future plans for himself with her, he agreed to do so and an appointment was arranged, however, he did not keep this appointment and following this there was no further contact between himself and the staff in Tara Lodge.

On being informed of this address in Shantallow, I contacted Robert Niven, APSW in Shantallow who confirmed that [redacted] was known to Social Services and in fact three of her children are at present in Nazareth House Children's Home, Londonderry. Social Services are very involved with [redacted] and they would not be happy about HIA 40 staying with her. Informed Mr Niven of HIA 40's previous court appearances and he said he would inform the social worker involved with [redacted] of this.

Contacted TL 4 Senior Social Worker in Londonderry informing him that if HIA 40 appeared in Riverview looking for assistance, I asked if I could be contacted.

Throughout this period HIA 40 presented himself at Riverview on at least three occasions looking for accommodation. When he was offered accommodation at Crawford Square Hostel, he refused this. He was also advised to make contact with myself but again he refused to see me. He provided the duty social worker with a telephone number which it later transpired to be that of the Voluntary Work Bureau in Derry, informing this social worker that that was now where he was staying. I telephoned the number and spoke to Catherine O'Boyle, Project Leader, asking that if HIA 40 could contact me when he was next in their office. Approximately one week after I had left this message, HIA 40 telephoned me from the Voluntary Work Bureau. When I suggested that an appointment could be made for him to see me either in Limavady or Londonderry he refused this and said that he was now out of the Western Board's care and we had now nothing to do with him.

19.6.85

Telephoned Tara Lodge and spoke to TL 3 re recent Incident Report received from them in respect of HIA 40. I was informed that SND 35 had approached a member of staff and informed them that since his admission to the Unit in July, 1984, he had had an on-going physical relationship with both HIA 40 and SND 33. When questioned further on the extent of the relationship he had told staff that they had masturbated each other for approximately 10 - 15 minutes two to three times each week.

/...

① I think my two foster homes fell through because I did not obey the rules and

Daisy Hill
Foster parents

I done very stupid things and because they treated there family different from me and my brother. They had very strict rules. They never trusted me. After I stole money I never liked going to Saint Marys high School.

② The reason why I don't feel very good about myself sometimes is because I am in care and you do not do a lot of things when you are in a home you have much freedom when you are in care you have to be in a special time you have to other things to which you do not do outside.

③ The worst thing that ever happened me was . . . having to be in care and I never really liked it but when my mother died I nearly went crackers because I was not allowed to go to her funeral and all the rest of my family got going. why I was not allowed to go to her funeral was because they thought that I would runaway. (I was in Nazareth House) The SND 267 / SND 268 told me about four months ago that my daddy was dead they even put a net into the chapel to pray for him. I do not believe that my father is dead and when I get older I am going to see if he is alive

PSYCHOLOGICAL REPORT ON: HIA 40

D. of B. [REDACTED]
 Termonbacca Children's Home,
 Letterkenny Road,
 LONDONDERRY.

School Attended: St. Joseph's Secondary School

HIA 40 was referred urgently by his Social Worker (Mrs. Eileen Webster, Shantallow), because he seemed depressed. He was seen briefly in Termonbacca Children's Home on 15th June, 1979 and again on 18th June, 1979.

TEST RESULTS

1. Intelligence and Attainments W.I.S.C. (R)

Verbal I.Q. = 91

i.e. of low average intelligence.

Vernon Word Reading Test

Reading Age = 9 years 7 months

i.e. significantly retarded in reading.

Arithmetical Reasoning W.I.S.C. (R) = slightly above average.

COMMENT: No evidence of perceptual difficulties on Bender Test. Retardation in reading probably to be explained by his disturbed history and six changes of school.

Also he needs glasses but this is being attended to.

2. Personality

Junior Eysenck Personality Inventory. Extraversion and Neuroticism scores within the normal range.

Children's Personality Questionnaire - Normal profile.

COMMENT: It seems likely that the normal scores on the Personality Tests are due to an aberrant self-image. There seemed to be a lot of denial in HIA 40's response to interview questions also.

3. Background.

See accompanying Social Report.

The salient facts seem to be that HIA 40's mother is dead, he has no contact with his father, and that his siblings are in various places.

HIA 40 and his brother ^{SND 138} [REDACTED] were fostered for a year with a family that already had younger children. This broke down in March, 1979, and HIA 40 went to Termonbacca. Unfortunately he also changed from Carnhill High School to St. Joseph's Secondary School. Since then HIA 40 has been increasingly difficult and has alienated adults and children alike. He has been destructive and stealing and very devious. Recently he has been refusing to go to school.

4. Interview with **HIA 40**

HIA 40 was interviewed twice. In the first interview he seemed to alternate between being agitated and miserable. In the second interview he did not seem so bad and co-operated well in the testing situation. Although he was near to tears when there was any discussion of his real problems, I did not feel that he was seriously depressed. He is eating and sleeping normally. Since, however, the staff were so concerned about his condition, I have sought advice from Dr. Nugent with the agreement of the G.P. (Dr. McDermott).

HIA 40 told me that he wanted to return to Carnhill High School. He was there for 18 months and has some roots there. He would also like to be fostered eventually in the Limavady area near some of his family.

SUMMARY

HIA 40 is of low average intelligence but retarded in reading. In view of his history of rejections his "testing-out" behaviour is not surprising. It was felt that anxiety and emotional deprivation were the most prominent features of his present condition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Psychiatric advice (already requested).
2. Return to Carnhill High School (already arranged). ✓ Sept 1/79.
3. Ask whether Medical Officer would agree to providing transport to Carnhill High School in September on the grounds of maladjustment. ✓ Sept 79 ✓
4. Suggest a Case Conference to discuss the possibility of fostering **HIA 40** and **SND 138** in the Limavady area with foster parents who have no younger children and who would be prepared to accept a period of testing out behaviour until a relationship is established. ✓ Sept 26/79
5. Weekly support at Wednesday sessions from September, 1979.

DATE OF REVIEW - Place on therapy waiting list.

W. Donachy
 W. Donachy,
Educational Psychologist.

27th JUNE, 1979

WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD

Our Ref: PIN/mc

Your Ref:

DATE: 11th November, 1982

16 NOV 1982

15 GRANSHA PARK
CLOONEY ROAD
LONDONDERRY BT47 1TG
NORTHERN IRELAND
PHONE: CAMPSIE 860086 (11 lines)

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Chief Inspector R. McCune,
R.U.C. Station,
Spencer Road,
Waterside,
Londonderry.

Dear Chief Inspector,

Re: **HIA 40** l.o.b. **[REDACTED]**
C/o Fort James Children's Home, Ardmore, Londonderry.

I refer to our recent telephone conversation regarding the above-named who has admitted indecently assaulting a girl within Fort James earlier this year. Whilst acknowledging the serious nature of the offence, I would be grateful if consideration could be given to the effects on **HIA 40**'s future if this matter were to be brought to court.

The staff working with **HIA 40** have provided detailed information on his situation. **HIA 40** was one of seven children who were made the subject of Parental Rights Orders to the Western Health and Social Services Board in 1976 when their mother died. **SND 258 / SND 259** had previously separated in 1973, and **SND 259** is now thought to be in the Belfast area. After spending a year at Nazareth House, Londonderry, **HIA 40** and his younger brother were fostered by a couple in Londonderry. Unfortunately this did not prove to be successful and **HIA 40** and his brother were placed at St. Joseph's, Termonbacca in 1979.

During this period, **HIA 40** began to truant persistently and caused some problems for the staff at the Home. However, contact had been established with another couple (**SND 267 / SND 268**) who were fostering one of the boy's sisters in Limavady, and **HIA 40** and his brother were eventually placed there at the end of 1979. Over the next two years, his behaviour continued to be a problem and he returned to truanting. Eventually, he was admitted to Harberton House for assessment in January 1982, and transferred to Fort James in March 1982.

At this point, the prospects for **HIA 40**'s future appeared somewhat bleak. After experiencing a disturbed family background, he had been in various children's homes and two foster homes. However, following early difficulties, there has been a considerable improvement in his attitude and behaviour over the eight months he has been at Fort James. He has been helped to accept responsibility for his actions and has been able to discuss his difficulties at meetings with his last foster parents who have visited him at Fort James.

/As far as school is

[REDACTED]

2.

11th November, 1982

As far as school is concerned, his attitude has changed from antagonistic to interested and now ambitious. He is presently studying for C.S.E.'s and is attending evening classes in preparation for a career as a chef.

HIA 40 now has a better understanding of his own behaviour, he is more mature and is willing to appreciate the consequences of his actions. This sustained improvement has reduced many of the doubts about his future, and preparations are being made for HIA 40 to return to his foster parents, SND 267 / SND 268

The seriousness of the matter under consideration was brought home to him by the subsequent investigations by Police Officers and his experience of being inside a Police Station. He knows now that his actions were wrong, and it does seem that he was very unaware of the facts of life at the time of the incidents. Indeed, he seems to have been somewhat naive for a boy of his age, and did not appreciate the implications of his actions.

The staff who are working with HIA 40 both at Fort James and in the community, are extremely concerned at the effect a court appearance could have on HIA 40 and on his future. The possibility of returning to SND 267 / SND 268 the one family where he has experienced stability and acceptance, could be jeopardised at the time when he needs help and support to move into the adult world. Additionally, the prospect of a court experience (and the experience itself) is so totally frightening to him that the great progress of the last few months could be lost.

In view of our staff's assessment of the position, I would be grateful if the above factors could be borne in mind when the question of a possible prosecution is being considered.

Yours faithfully,

TL 17

TL 17

Assistant Director of Social Services



5. Details of HIA 40's admissions to care:

On 6th June, 1973, **SND 258** was admitted to hospital for a hysterectomy and **HIA 40** along with three of his sisters and one brother were admitted to Coney-warren Children's Home, Omagh. They were discharged home on 21st August, 1973. During 1974 and 1975 **HIA 40** was in care four times for periods of approximately two months when his mother was admitted to Gransha Psychiatric Hospital, Londonderry. On 1st June, 1976 **SND 258** was admitted to hospital for surgery as she was suffering from an ulcerated hernia. She died on [redacted]. Parental Rights Orders were granted on 26th August, 1976 to the Western Health & Social Services Board in respect of all children except the eldest boy.

HIA 40 was placed in Nazareth House, Londonderry and remained there until 16th September, 1977 when he was boarded out with his younger brother with foster parents in Londonderry. The two boys remained with these foster parents until 5th March, 1979 when they were re-admitted to Termonbacca Children's Home. They stayed in Termonbacca until 21st December, 1979 and then they were boarded out with foster parents in Limavady. On 8th January, 1982 **HIA 40** was removed from the foster home in Limavady and placed in Harberton House Assessment Unit. He remained there until 26th March, 1982 when he transferred to Fort James Children's Home, Londonderry. He stayed in this children's home until 11th July, 1983 when he was moved to St Patrick's Training School, Belfast. On 24th September, 1983 **HIA 40** was admitted to Dr Barnardo's Adolescent Unit, Tara Lodge, Belfast and he stayed there until 15th April, 1985 when he left to move into private accommodation at [redacted] Belfast. On 18th May, 1985 he left Belfast and went to stay with friends in Londonderry. However, since 31st July, 1985 he has been staying with his married sister, **SND 260** at [redacted] Limavady.

6. Details of present circumstances with regards to employment:

HIA 40 is currently unemployed although while living in Belfast he had been employed in a variety of jobs. He does appear keen to find work and maintains he intends discussing the possibility of getting employment in the Limavady area with the Youth Employment Officer.

7. Reasons for wishing to live in Limavady:

Despite the problems and difficulties **HIA 40** has experienced over the years, and the many moves he has had in his life he has always maintained in contact with his siblings, five of whom live in the Limavady area. Although at present he is staying with his married sister, he recognises that he cannot stay indefinitely with her. I believe, however, she will offer **HIA 40** support and advice if he was living independently in the Limavady area.

8. Conclusions:

As can be seen from the above report, **HIA 40** has had a very upset and unsettled life. He has applied to the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and has stated that he would wish to live in the Limavady area where he would be offered some support and practical help from his siblings. I would be grateful, therefore, if **HIA 40**'s housing application could be considered as priority grouping and consequently he be provided with accommodation as soon as possible.

R. Mc Gowan
 TL 9 (Mrs) *pp*

Social Worker
 20th August, 1985.

CASE REPORT

NAME: _____

HIA 40

CATEGORY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

DATE	CASE DETAILS: Visitors, Reports, Etc.
9.8.85	<p>HIA 40's case was heard in Belfast and has been adjourned until 18.10.85.</p> <p>TL 1 telephoned following the hearing and has arranged to come down to Limavady on Tuesday 13th August in order to discuss her future involvement with HIA 40 with me. HIA 40 also has been invited to attend.</p>
13.8.85	<p>HIA 40 arrived an hour before TL 1 came and it was obvious that he was quite anxious. He has been staying with SND 264 since 31st July. He wishes, however, to be considered for Housing Executive accommodation in Limavady and with the help of TL 1 has completed a Housing form. I explained to him that I would do an A2 housing application but that generally it takes a number of weeks before we would hear if he has been given priority consideration.</p> <p>When TL 1 arrived we discussed with HIA 40 in detail her involvement and role with me over the next number of months. TL 1 will continue to be involved in anything in connection with the court case. As condition of his bail HIA 40 still has to maintain in contact with her. TL 1 quite categorically stated to me that she does not intend getting involved in his housing application or in any difficulties he may experience while living with SND 264. This she feels is something to be discussed between HIA 40 and myself. I have agreed to complete the A2 housing application and also on him being re-housed to apply to Supplementary Benefits for a grant for furnishings. HIA 40 has agreed to maintain in contact with me by coming into the Health Centre on a regular basis and an appointment was arranged for 3rd September, 1985.</p>

TL 9
TL 9 Social Worker.

1978

Termonbacca

SR 2

SR 27

SR 14

Superior

Ch. Pauline L.C.

Children, Bussan

laterer

1979

Termonbacca

1	[REDACTED]	Superior
2	[REDACTED]	Parlor L. C.
3	SR 1	Bursar & Children
4	SR 6	Children
5	SR 27	"
6	SR 64	baterer

171

1976

DERRY (35)

	1	SR 126	Superior
Cross	2	SR 9	Councillor, School Principal
	3	"	Busar, linen room, church
	4	"	Collector, books
	5	"	Ladies
	6	SR 59	Teacher, children
	7	"	Teacher, wages?
	8	"	New wing, men & ladies
	9	"	Catwre
	10	"	Collector, Parlours, laundry
	11	"	Teacher
	12	"	Collector, ^{with ladies} housework, helps
hen	13	SR 46	Collector, refectory

236

1944

DERRY

SR 125

Superior

SR 59

Ladies 1st L. L.

SR 127

Teacher 2nd

Linen Rm., Ck., Bursar

Fortress

Collecting, Books

Children

School

Caterer

Collecting, Laundry

SR 46

Collecting, Consent

Residents

W. H. H.