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HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY

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being heard before:

SIR ANTHONY HART (Chairman)

MR DAVID LANE

MS GERALDINE DOHERTY

held at

Banbridge Court House

Banbridge

on Monday, 3rd March 2014

commencing at 10.30 am

(Day 15)

MS CHRISTINE SMITH, QC and MR JOSEPH AIKEN appeared as Counsel to the Inquiry.

Page 2 1 Monday, 3rd March 2014 (10.30 am)3 (Proceedings delayed) (10.45 am)5 WITNESS HIA60 (called) 6 CHAIRMAN: Good morning, everyone. 7 MR AIKEN: Morning, Chairman, Members of the Panel. 8 first witness this morning is already in the witness box, HIA60, who is "HIA60". HIA60 is aware, Chairman, 10 that you're going to address him in relation to the oath 11 or affirmation. 12 CHAIRMAN: Thank you. 13 Now, HIA60, do you wish to make either a religious oath or make an affirmation, which is a promise? 14 15 two have the same legal effect. It is entirely a matter 16 for you to chose. 17 I'll make a religious oath. 18 WITNESS HIA60 (sworn) 19 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please sit down. 20 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY 21 MR AIKEN: Now, HIA60, as you're aware from the discussion 22 we have had -- if we can bring up on the screen, please, 23 the statement at SND-10070. Thank you. Just maximise 24 that for me, please. We had a discussion, HIA60, you 25 will recall about what these black marks meant and the

- issue of anonymity, and how for people coming forward to
- $^2$  the Inquiry they are given a designation. In your case
- it is "HIA60". That's to protect their name and their
- 4 personal information, and each individual has an
- opportunity to decide whether they want to maintain that
- anonymity, so that when the press reports in relation to
- 7 the story that you're going to explain to the Panel,
- 8 then your identity isn't disclosed, or you can choose to
- 9 waive your anonymity, so that your name can be
- 10 associated with your story.
- 11 Can you confirm whether you want to waive your
- 12 anonymity or not?
- 13 A. Yes, I do.
- 14 Q. You want to waive your anonymity?
- 15 A. Sorry. No. I want -- I want to remain anonymous.
- 16 Q. You want to remain anonymous. So any reporting of your
- story shouldn't be associated with your name or any
- personal information from which you could be identified.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. Now the second thing that I want to use this document
- for, HIA60, is you can see on the screen the redactions
- in black and your designation, but you have with you in
- the witness box I trust a hard copy that lets you see
- 24 what's underneath the redactions. What I'd like you to
- do is just look at the first page and just check that it

- 1 mirrors what's on the first page that's on the screen
- except for the black marks. Can you confirm that for
- me?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Then if we could go to SND-10079, please.
- 6 A. Sorry. Where's that? Oh!
- 7 Q. If you could turn to the last page in your hard copy,
- 8 HIA60 --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. -- the one on the screen you'll see there's a signature
- 11 box and it's blacked out --
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. -- but can you confirm that in your copy you have signed
- the witness statement and it matches the one that's on
- the screen except for the black box?
- 16 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 17 Q. Then can I ask you, finally, you want to adopt the
- content of your statement as your evidence to the
- 19 enquiry?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Thank you. Now what I want to do first, if we go back,
- please, to SND-10070, and just to put this in context,
- you were born -- this is again something that won't be
- 24 published -- but you were born in and your
- 25 period in Termonbacca began in

Page 5 1 Uh-huh. A. Q. So you were when you went into Termonbacca 3 4 Yes. 5 -- and you stayed there until effectively 6 7 Yes. Α. 8 So that's the period -- when you were 9 that we're going to address this morning, but prior to 10 that you explain in paragraph 3 of your statement that 11 while you're known by a 12 because before you 13 14 15 Yes. 16 The Inquiry Panel will be able to be aware of the 17 that I'm discussing. 18 You mention the breakdown in the relationship 19 between your mother and father and your mum coming back 20 to Derry to live along with you and 21 22 Α. Yes. 23 -- who was years younger than you. Q. 24 Yes. 25 You mention in paragraph 4 of your statement that she,

Page 6 1 in fact, got a job Yes. Α. 3 She did that -- can you remember how long she held that 4 iob as 5 I think it was quite a while, 6 7 8 9 So you -- you, for instance --10 So over a period of time, yes. 11 -- mention becoming aware of a number of individuals you 12 mention in paragraph 5, one of whom became a friend 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 That's SND-132 on the screen, and you can see who that 16 is, and he'll feature in some of the evidence that 17 you'll give in due course. 18 So you mention in paragraph 5 that you actually 19 lived in Termonbacca for 20 Yes. 21 and that's when -- in Q. 22 , and you have said 23 24 A. Yes. 25 found that out and wasn't for Q. Then your

- 1 having it and you were taken back
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. There is no -- as I made you aware beforehand, there is
- 4
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. That's your memory of what occurred and how it came to
- 7 an end --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- with the intervention of your . Now then
- 10 between that point in and you lived with your
- 11 mother in Derry.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. We'll not go into all of the detail of it, but that was
- a very difficult home life for you.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. You're aware because I've shown you various papers where
- 17 your mother's reaction towards her children was
- described as unhelpful, and that was the main cause of
- 19 the difficulty in the home life, her -- and we can look
- 20 at the reference, if need be -- but her what's described
- 21 by a doctor as
- So you mention in paragraph 7 that in particular
- 23 your admission to Termonbacca in arose
- from a particular altercation between you and your mum.
- Do you want to explain that to the Inquiry in your own

- 1 words?
- 2 A. I had not been at school and my mother had been in the
- 3 habit of ringing up and checking if
- 4 I attended or not. She came back that evening and asked
- me if I had been at school. There was no point in
- 6 lying, and she picked up a full milk bottle and hit me
- 7 round the head. I don't remember being very hurt, but
- 8 I do remember it was like slow motion, and I just
- 9 realised, looking at my mother, that she was insane and
- if I stayed there, she was going kill me. So I just
- 11 packed my school bag and football boots and left and
- never went back.
- 13 Q. That was the last in what was a series of violent
- 14 incidents --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- towards you. In paragraph 7 you describe how on one
- occasion she put your head through a window.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Do you remember was that before Termonbacca or after?
- 20 A. Before.
- 21 Q. Before Termonbacca.
- 22 A. It was a couple of years before.
- 23 Q. You also mention that she would have used on you a belt
- 24 --
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 O. -- or a broom handle.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. I was showing you this morning -- if we can briefly turn
- 4 to SND-3854, and if we just maximise the last entry --
- 5 in fact, if you maximise the page for me and just scroll
- down a little -- just stop there, please -- and if we
- 7 look at the last paragraph, this was an entry I was
- 8 talking to you about earlier, HIA60, where you'll see
- 9 that your mother, in fact, threatened to take the broom
- 10 handle to at that stage, who was
- 11 **SND 465** --
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. -- who -- again her name should not be reported -- but
- there clearly was a difficulty. You describe in your
- witness statement having a very good relationship with
- 16 SND 465 .
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. She is, in fact, the lady who ultimately takes you to
- 19 Termonbacca --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. -- but clearly there was considerable difficulty being
- recorded in this record as to your mother's approach to
- 23 SND 465 , and it seems a similar implement to the one
- you describe in paragraph 7 was being suggested as a --
- as a weapon.

- 1 So if we go back to SND-10071, you say that her
- $^2$  temper towards you went in two or three day cycles --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 O. -- and that this milk bottle incident then is what led
- 5 you -- you mention -- if we just scroll on down to the
- 6 next page and paragraph 7, you describe how you left and
- 7 went to the Samaritans.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Then a particular social worker who you name became
- involved and ultimately SND 465 then found you
- 11 a place at Termonbacca.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. The records show that efforts were made with Fort James
- and it didn't have any places at that point in time, but
- that Termonbacca did and, in fact, , if we
- go to SND-3858, please, and just if you highlight the
- top entry for me on the page, this is the entry
- I mentioned to you, HIA60 --
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. -- where your mother was saying you should be looked at
- 21 by doctors. She was suggesting perhaps you were similar
- to the words you used towards her earlier in your
- evidence, and yet the registrar, when you are seen,
- indicates that there's nothing pathologically wrong with
- you and in the doctor's view the problem was the

- negative relationship with your mother due to her
- towards you.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. So -- and whenever you made a statement to the police in
- July 2003 about a particular matter that we'll come to,
- $^6$  you say in that statement -- and I'll not pull it up but
- 7 I'll give it to the Panel for their reference -- at
- 8 SND-15537 that the reason was to get away from your
- 9 mother. That's why you were leaving for the Samaritans,
- insisting you weren't going to go back --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. -- and ultimately taken into care and placed in
- 13 Termonbacca.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. At -- if we can go briefly -- just bring the page out
- 16 a little, please -- and the next entry down we see on
- SND 465 collecting you and
- taking you to Termonbacca, where you were introduced to
- 19 -- again he shouldn't be identified in
- any reporting -- but SND 332 , who was
- who worked in Termonbacca for the congregation,
- and also SR1 and it was her group. This is for the
- Panel. SR1 -- SR1 we are talking about; again she
- should not be identified -- but you have positive words
- 25 for SR1.

- 1 A. Yes. She was very good to me.
- $^2$  Q. We will come to it for another reason in due course, but
- you have said publicly in newspaper articles, that SR1
- was someone you had a particular fond memory of caring
- for you well.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Now if we go back, please, to SND-10072 and to
- 8 paragraph 8, if we just maximise out the page again and
- paragraph 8, there we see you were in SR1's group and
- that was called the group. Then you
- describe a series of civilian members of staff who would
- 12 have assisted her --
- 13 A. Yes.
- 0. -- and worked on a rota basis.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. You give the names of those civilian members of staff.
- Did you have any difficulty with those members of staff?
- 18 A. No, none.
- 19 Q. In fact, if we then move to SND-15537, please, this is
- 20 part of your police statement that -- if we just scroll
- down -- you made in July 2003. Now I appreciate you'll
- 22 be seeing a whole series of redactions. The Inquiry
- 23 Panel will be able to know who those individuals are
- from the designation list, but you're listing out the
- various individuals that you're sharing with at that

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1 time.
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- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. I think one of -- you shared a room, for instance, with
- 4 another individual
- along with two other boys. So was the arrangement
- 6 that -- if you can describe for us the layout --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- of your group and the accommodation. What did it
- 9 look like?
- 10 A. It was a two-storey building. Downstairs there was
- a large dining room, living area. Then there was
- a kitchen. Opposite that there was a sewing room. Then
- there was a series of toilets. There was a shower room.
- 14 There was a store for the clothes. That was in the
- sewing room as well, and at the end of that corridor
- there would be SR1's office. Then you go upstairs and
- there was a series of bedrooms.
- 18 Q. Those bedrooms were shared by a number of?
- 19 A. There was one room for girls. There were three girls in
- the room, and then the rest were all boys, and the only
- 21 single room was

22

- 23 Q. So initially you shared with other boys, and you name
- those other boys,

25

Page 14 That's right. 1 Α. Looking back on it, whether it worked or not, the 3 purpose 4 5 A. Yes. 6 I think you've a view about it maybe didn't work Q. 7 terribly well. 8 Well, I got three. 9 Q. You got three. Then the other group, if I can -- you 10 mention in your statement there is the 11 group, which you were in. 12 Α. Yes. 13 Then there was another group, the Q. group. 14 I'm sorry. You say you were in the group 15 initially --16 A. Yes. 17 -- and then eventually you were moved to the 18 group. 19 A. Yes. 20 group had accommodation basically 0. Now the 21 similar --22 Α. It was exactly the same, yes. 23 -- to the version you had in the Ιf Q. 24 we go back then, please, to SND-10072 and paragraph 9, 25 you say at that time when you went in, you were

Page 15 1 attending You were studying for Then you mention SND132, who was still 3 there. He is someone you had met 4 5 Α. Yes. 6 -- and you and he became good friends. Q. 7 Then I want to ask you in particular about paragraph 10. This is about the ex-residents who were 8 coming back to visit Termonbacca. You say here: 10 "There were ex-residents who were between and 11 years older than me." 12 So you are 13 Yes. Α. 14 -- at the time. So you're talking about people who are 0. 15 that sort of age range. 16 Α. Yes. 17 "When everyone reached the age of , they left Q. 18 Termonbacca, but some would return, I imagine either 19 because it was the only home they knew or they knew that 20 the boys were easy targets for abuse. I understand that 21 when SR5 ... " -- now the Inquiry Panel will know you 22 are talking about SR5 -- "was working in Termonbacca in 23 " -- again her name should not be 24 reported -- " 25

- Now just for the Panel's record SR5 worked in
- $^2$  Termonbacca between and . We're not going to
- 3 pull up the register, but the references are SND-5781 to
- 4 5785. Those are documents that show the list of nuns
- 5 who were in the home at the time, HIA60.
- 6 A. Yes. Okay.
- 7 Q. What I'd like to -- obviously it is clear that you
- 8 weren't there between and . So how did you come
- 9 to know that SR5 had
- 10 ?
- 11 A. I had been told by boys who had been there.
- 12 Q. This is something you found out long after you had left
- 13 Termonbacca?
- 14 A. While I was in Termonbacca and afterwards. You know,
- I was having these conversations with boys I was in
- 16 Termonbacca with and then afterwards.
- 17 Q. She left then in and you say she was replaced in
- 18 by SR2.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. You are aware -- I mentioned to you earlier -- SR2, who
- again shouldn't be identified, that's SR2, she was there
- 22 from right the way through, but you are saying your
- 23 understanding is
- 24
- 25 A. That's what I've been told, yes.

- 1 Q. You've said in paragraph 10 that some of those
- ex-residents were really nice, decent people, and they
- 3 played football with you and helped you with the chores.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. You name a series of them that you've positive memories
- of, some of whom the Inquiry will hear from or has heard
- from, and you mention played football with you. How did
- 8 that arise? You were obviously at school during the
- 9 day.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. How did the football come about?
- 12 A. Well, one of the problems for me was if
- I heard a football bouncing, I was gone and was playing
- football, and Termonbacca had its own football pitch,
- and we had a group of boys who would play football all
- day long. So for me it was happy days. Play football
- 17 all day long. So ...
- 18 Q. Back then you were a Liverpool fan whenever they were --
- 19 A. I am afraid so. I don't want that to go on the public
- record, please. Sorry,
- 21 Q. The -- so the football was a distraction --
- 22 A. Absolutely, yes.
- 23 Q. -- but something that you fondly remember playing --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. -- with the --

- 1 A. The older boys would come. When we finished school, we
- would normally be there, and we would just congregate --
- 3 congregate at the football pitch and, you know, football
- 4 would ensue.
- 5 Q. Did that carry on until teatime then?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. That's a positive memory you have --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- of the football that was occurring, but not all --
- and you identify this in paragraph 10 -- not all of the
- 11 ex-residents who were returning did you have a positive
- 12 experience with.
- 13 A. Correct.
- 0. You name a series of those ex-residents who weren't nice
- 15 --
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. -- and you were very wary of them. You remember
- 18 an assault from one of them
- 19 --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. -- entered Termonbacca.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. What I'd like to ask you about is the role that those
- ex-residents performed. What were they there to do?
- 25 A. I think they were there basically because it had been

- their home, and some of them were maybe years
- of age. They were living in the  $oldsymbol{.}$  There was
- many of us lived in the estate, and they had no
- families. They had no parents. So often they would
- come to Termonbacca and visit the nuns, or some of the
- boys would come and play football with us and help us
- 7 with our chores. In the absence of a family life this
- 8 probably provided some sort of company for them.
- 9 Q. Were there times that you were left in the company of
- those ex-residents? Are there times when the nuns were
- 11 not around --
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. -- or were they always around when the ex-residents were
- 14 around?
- 15 A. Both. The nuns would go and say their vespers or
- whatever and we would be left with some of the boys, the
- older boys who had left, and normally there would be
- a lay member of staff there as well, but if you think,
- 19 Termonbacca was quite a big area to cover. The younger
- 20 children would need to be looked after. They would
- start getting ready for bed and bath from 6.30,
- 7 o'clock onwards. So we weren't always supervised.
- 23 Q. In fact, there's a particular individual, SND76, that
- you've an issue with, and we're going to look at that,
- but he describes his role if we go to SND-15556, and

- this is contained -- if we just maximise that, please --
- in -- this is in a summary of a police interview with
- him in February 2004 in response to your police
- 4 statement from July 2003 that we looked at.
- 5 He describes his purpose in coming back.
- "He stated he helped out by supervising some of the
- 7 children, washing cars, doing the stores, general
- 8 housekeeping and other administrative tasks. When asked
- 9 to clarify 'supervision', he stated he assisted with the
- 10 supervision. There was always another staff member
- there. He was just there to help out."
- 12 Is that your recollection, that there was always
- another staff member there?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. "It was not his specific responsibility to look after
- 16 people. He stated it was an informal arrangement. He
- 17 clarified supervision as being there to help the staff
- by virtue of the fact he was an adult. He described how
- 19 each group of children would often have slept in the
- 20 same dormitories, ate their meals and watched television
- on a communal basis. He helped out with the group", and
- he identifies it being the group that ran, but he
- wasn't sure which one that was.
- 24 Then various comments are made about -- by the
- 25 person who created this record about the description

- 1 that he gives to it.
- "He described it not as a formal arrangement. When
- asked if he ever disciplined the children, he stated he
- 4 would have sometimes tried" -- scroll down, please --
- 5 "when asked if he disciplined the children, he stated he
- would have sometimes tried to break children up if they
- 7 were fighting by using his powers of persuasion. He was
- 8 asked if he ever had occasion to physically admonish
- 9 children under his supervision".
- and the author of this record suggests:
- "He avoided directly answering these questions and
- spoke in very general terms in the third person."
- Now this individual, SND76, later clarifies that and
- doesn't accept this analysis that was done by the author
- of the note, but do you recollect is that a role that
- the ex-residents performed to try to keep order, if
- 17 I~can summarise it in that way?
- 18 A. I wasn't aware of them ever having to keep order.
- 19 I didn't know that that was their role. As far as I was
- 20 concerned he was a visitor and we were never told that
- this person was here to actually supervise us or help us
- in any way.
- 23 Q. Well, whether you were told that or not, is that what
- 24 actually happened?
- 25 A. No. He was there, but he didn't take on any role of

- supervising us and he didn't help us do any of the
- chores. He didn't organise people -- we had to share
- a shower room. He didn't take any role in that. He
- 4 did -- I just remember him being there, basically
- 5 hanging about.
- 6 Q. If we go back to SND-10072, you do describe in
- 7 paragraph 10 that other of the ex-residents did help you
- 8 with the chores --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. -- and, as you say, played football --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. -- but your specific recollection of this individual is
- he wasn't one of those --
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. -- who was -- who was helping you.
- Then if we move, please, to paragraph 11. So I've
- given you -- this gentleman is known to the Inquiry as
- 18 SND76.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. You describe a particular incident involving him that
- I'm going to take you through, because that's involved
- 22 a lengthy interaction between you and him from then
- until now, and I'm going to go through the salient
- points of that with you briefly, if I can, but say here
- 25 that:

- 1 "I was also assaulted by an ex-resident called SND76
- 2
- 3 So that's
- 4 "When I arrived in Termonbacca, I had no clothes
- 5 with me. There was a clothes store which residents were
- 6 given clothes from. I had outgrown the clothes, so SR1
- 7 bought me new clothes."
- 8 So you are saying SR1 went out and got you new
- 9 clothes.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Do you remember what she got you?
- 12 A. We went to Spears on Butcher Street and she bought me
- two pairs of jeans, two shirts and a lambswool jumper.
- 14 O. And --
- 15 A. I would remember that, because I'd never had new clothes
- before. So ...
- 17 Q. One of the new items was the lambswool jumper and
- indicate you loved it.
- 19 A. Yes. I'm wearing lambswool now.
- 20 Q. One evening you say:
- "I was in the television room and I was wearing that
- jumper."
- 23 SND76 seemed to resent your new clothes and was
- 24 trying to get -- and these are the other individuals
- 25 that you shared a room with I believe except for one,

- 1 SND136. Again he shouldn't be identified, but you can
- $^2$  see that's SND136 that you're referring to --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- and I'll come back to him later in your evidence, but
- 5 he and two other individuals that you can see on your
- 6 hard copy --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- that you shared with. That was HIA69 and SND 132
- 9 SND 132. Is that right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Did you share with both of those or were they just other
- boys who were there at the time?
- 13 A. I didn't share a room with SND 132.
- 14 Q. But you shared a room with HIA69?
- 15 A. HIA69, yes.
- 16 Q. Right. You say that he tried to get them to gang up on
- 17 you.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. You left the television room rather than allow yourself
- to be provoked, but he followed you out.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. If I just stop there, and perhaps do you want to in your
- own words explain to the Panel what -- what happened as
- 24 he followed you out?
- 25 A. I walked -- I walked out of the room and I wasn't aware

- of anybody following me, but as I got outside the room
- right on the left was the sewing room, and as I got to
- 3 the sewing room, he ran at me from behind, pushed me up
- 4 against the bench and there he tore the lambswool jumper
- off my back. At that point I turned around and managed
- to get out of the way, pushed him out of the way, and
- 7 I~ran up to the room. I was
- 8 which had a lock on it. So I went there and just locked
- 9 the door until I knew SR1 would be there.
- 10 Q. Now that -- you indicate that this happened when she was
- 11 probably at prayers.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. If we just -- you see the sentence:
- "I remained there until I knew SR1 had returned from
- prayers. The nuns always went to prayers about 6.30 and
- they were away for about 45 minutes."
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Now you then say:
- 19 "This attack always puzzled me, as it was of
- a totally different nature to the other physical
- violence that I'd experienced."
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. But is it right that up until we get to you
- just regarded it as an unpleasant thing that had
- 25 happened, ripping your jumper?

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It stood out.
1
        No.
        It stood out. What was it about it that stood out about
3
        it?
4
        It was the only violence I had been involved in -- it
5
        usually involved being punched or kicked or just abused
6
        or whatever. No-one had ever tried to tear my clothes
7
        off.
8
        Then you indicated in
                                     you were watching
9
                                            and you saw
        а
10
11
                          Again that is a matter that shouldn't
12
        be reported.
                       You then indicate you phoned
13
        the particular friend of yours that you have named, and
        he said,
14
15
16
        Correct.
17
        Now how did you react to him saying that to you?
        that something you'd ever heard before?
18
19
        I was stunned.
20
        You then say that as a result of
21
                   and what your friend said to you that the
22
        motivation for SND76's attack on you made sense.
23
        Yes.
    Α.
24
        Now obviously the incident you were talking about was
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This is

years later --

25

Well, for a start this person had never been friendly

Page 27

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1 A. Yes.
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25

stayed with me.

Q. -- in . What was it that caused things to make sense to you at that point?

5 towards me. He had never laughed and joked with me. He'd never played football. He never was interested in interacting with me. I never saw him interacting with any of the other young people. I found him a very cold, intimidating, unpleasant presence, and then for no reason he grabbed me and threw me into the sewing room. 10 I hadn't -- I didn't -- I didn't engage with those three 11 12 boys and him when we were watching TV that evening 13 whenever I left. I didn't want to get involved in any 14 fight, arguments with him. I could -- normally I could 15 have dealt with those three on my own, but when he was 16 there, then he -- he took it to a different level. I just decided I was leaving the room, and that always 17

Then over the years a friend of mine who I spoke to that evening, when he was on , he had told me of different incidents of abuse that he had been a victim of over the years. I didn't want to push him on it. I didn't really want -- I didn't really want to upset him any more than that. If he wanted to tell me, then that was fine, but I wasn't going to, you know,

question him about it, but that evening he did tell me and then it sort of -- it made sense. 3 What I'm going to do now, HIA60, is take you through a series of -- so that's , and then whenever you spoke to the police about the incident in July 2003, if we just look at the description of it at SND-15540 -just bear with me for a moment. I've got a wrong -- a 8 wrong reference. If we just go back a page, please, to SND-15539, if you just maximise the page, here you say: "On another occasion it was one evening time and the 10 11 nuns were not there. I was in the TV room with others. 12 I can't recall exactly who, but I was watching TV. 13 of the former boys" -- it is the same individual, SND76 -- "walked into the room and just stood there 15 looking at [you]. I had on some new clothing given to 16 [you] by SR1 and SND76 saw that. He said to me 17 'Sister's pet' and words like that." 18 Do you recall that? 19 That would have been about right. There was --20 I created a bit of resentment, 21 , and apparently according to the other residents in 22 Termonbacca it was supposed 23 24 I had 25 been there probably , but it was SR1's

Day 15 **HIAI Inquiry** Page 29 1 decision, so ... 3 You mention you recall the lamb's wool blue --A. Yes. 5 -- crew neck jumper and you'd never had anything that 6 nice. 7 Yes. 8 You say he was picking on you and: "All the other kids then started on me, calling me 9 . . . " , 10 11 a particular phrase --12 Yes. 13 -- because of your dad, and then you thought: 14 "... 'That's it' and I walked out of the room." 15 As you walked past, he followed you, grabbed you 16 from behind and forced you into the sewing room. 17 "He ripped the jumper off my back and began to try to rip the rest of my clothes off me." 18 19 A. Yes. 20 What else do you remember him trying to rip off other 21 than that? 22 Well, he was pulling at my shirt and at that time 23 I turned around and pushed him away. I mean,

- 24 I wasn't -- wasn't that big, but I wasn't small either.
- 25 You mention there you managed to struggle free with your

- 1 clothing torn and you ran off upstairs. Now we've had
- $^2$  the conversation you had with your friend in after
- 3
- Then if we can go to SND-15561, because
- 5 the precursor to you making this police statement was
- an e-mail that you sent to the place where this
- 7 particular individual worked. If we just scroll down,
- 8 please, do you remember doing this --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. -- now, HIA60?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. So you make a reference to him and and
- then you point out that you knew him. Was this the same
- 14 person from Termonbacca who bullied and harassed you as
- a -year-old and then you say "and sexually abused at
- least one other resident of Termonbacca" that you knew
- of".
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. The point that's being raised with the Inquiry about the
- 20 e-mail is it draws a distinction. Your experience you
- 21 describe as being bullied and harassed --
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. -- and then the other individual as having been sexually
- abused.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. What do you say about that?
- 2 A. That's what happened.
- 3 Q. That's what happened.
- 4 A. God knows what would have happened if I had stayed in
- 5 the sewing room. God knows what would have happened if
- I hadn't been able to push him out of the way.
- 7 Q. You have indicated you accept that the police spoke to
- 8 you about this e-mail whenever they then began
- 9 investigating.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. were involved, including the Police
- 12 Service here --
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. -- You had a meeting with
- the police -- SND-15528 -- in June 2002 in response to
- them looking into the e-mail. If we just increase the
- size of that, please. Scroll down a little. You will
- see towards the bottom of the page, HIA60:
- 19 "Officer spoke to ..." and that's your designation,
- "on 27th June and discussed the allegation."
- You admitted sending the e-mail. Now they expressed
- some views about you in terms of being and
- 23 the distrust which you may have been --
- 24 A. Total distrust.
- 25 Q. A total distrust. You describe to them allegations of

- 1 routine bullying by senior children whilst you were
- $^2$  resident there in Termonbacca, and you allege
- 3 specifically that SND76, this particular individual,
- 4 assaulted you on one occasion and you now believe he was
- 5 trying remove your trousers. You indicated that he made
- 6 an -- he also abused the friend of yours who we have
- 5 been talking about --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- who was also a resident in Termonbacca. At that
- stage this suggests that you didn't identify who that
- 11 was, but subsequently his identity was --
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. -- made known.
- But then we move to , when you gave
- an interview to
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. That's at SND-15564 and if we can also bring up
- alongside that SND-15565. Now that's the newspaper
- 19 article. We have a web version that makes it easier to
- read that I'm going to pull up, but just so you
- recognise the photograph and the article.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. You remember giving that interview, and the easier to
- read version is at SND-15826. If you just maximise that
- page, please. This is just a printed-out web version of

- the content of the newspaper picture that we were
- looking at.
- What I wanted to ask you, first of all, HIA60, is
- 4 what happened in that you can recollect that caused
- 5 you then to want to speak out about what had occurred?
- 6 A. I ended up taking maybe weeks off work and I went to
- 7 my GP and he described me as being very anxious, and
- 8 I think at that time I think I was just
- g coming to terms with everything else that had happened,
- and along with the death of DL48 and SND24 and some
- others and other things that other young people had told
- me about what had happened when I had been in
- 13 Termonbacca and afterwards. I had also contacted Social
- 14 Services in Derry. I had contacted I~don't know if it
- was the PSNI or RUC at the time. They weren't really
- interested.
- 17 Q. The two individuals that you mention, you talk in the
- interview about DL48. Again he shouldn't be identified,
- because the Inquiry --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. -- has given him a designation.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. The Inquiry has received papers relating to him, but he
- took his own life , and he'd been someone
- 25 campaigning, and there are newspaper articles --

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. -- that show that, but in this record you say that both
- 3 physical and sexual abuse was rife in Termonbacca
- according to this record, and you are now living in
- 5 another location and you're speaking out about what you
- 6 call the conspiracy of silence shrouding years of abuse.
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 O. You say:
- 9 "I think honestly the nuns didn't know the half of
- 10 what went on."
- 11 Why do you say you think they didn't know the half
- of what went on?
- 13 A. Well, if I can go back to that incident when I was
- dragged into the sewing room, they didn't know about
- 15 that. I don't remember ever telling anyone else about
- it. I just accepted it. By the time I was years of
- age I thought anybody could do anything to me.
- 18 Q. You then go on to say you felt they should have known.
- 19 A. They should have known.
- 20 Q. They were in the business of protecting children. Why
- do you say they should have known?
- 22 A. Because they ran the children's home. They had the
- lives and welfare of -- I don't know -- 48 children in
- their care. They should have known. They were placed
- 25 there by Social Services for a variety of reasons from

- their own families. Either they were neglected or
- abused by their own families, and then they were placed
- in Termonbacca where it just continued.
- 4 Q. You then go on to describe:
- 5 "On being admitted to Termonbacca I was soon aware
- of the culture that ruled there."
- 7 You describe how older boys who had left the home
- 8 returned under the auspices of supervising younger
- 9 residents. You describe the particular incident where
- 10 you were beaten up by an older boy.
- "During the next year I learned of another reason
- why some of the ex-residents would return. Several of
- them were involved in sexually abusing the younger
- 14 residents."
- Now when you say:
- "During the next year I learned ...",
- is this something you learned afterwards, that this
- had been going on?
- 19 A. No. I found out while I was there. There were also
- 20 residents who were there while I was there who were
- involved in this.
- 22 Q. We will come on to one in your statement that you
- describe that related to you.
- Now you then say:
- "I myself was attacked twice, but proved to be too

- much of a handful for my would-be assailants."
- 2 You say that a lot of the sexual abuse happened in
- 3 the shower rooms of the house and over the years you
- 4 have become increasingly aware of the extent of the
- abuse from the accounts of other ex-Termonbacca boys.
- 6 You then describe two individuals who did come
- forward before you and how they didn't live to see their
- 8 matters being investigated. You were now going to --
- 9 speaking out for your late friends who can't speak for
- themselves.
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. If we just scroll further down, please, to the second
- 13 half of the -- to the next page, you make various points
- about inviting people to come forward. You also
- 15 indicate:
- 16 "Unfortunately for the Catholic Church and Social
- 17 Services this is one home boy who refuses to go away."
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. But you say then further down that you want to make it
- clear that you didn't wish to blight the good name of
- the Sisters of Nazareth and you admit that the love
- 22 shown to you by some of the sisters was very welcome,
- 23 and you -- one nun in particular shines in your memory.
- You'd like to state that SR1, SR1, showed you only
- kindness and you'll always be grateful to her for her

- care and encouragement.
- 2 A. I will always be grateful to SR1, but having said that,
- 3 there are other home boys who will tell you different.
- 4 They will tell you that she actually made their lives
- a misery. I was unaware of that, but, you know ...
- 6 Q. So your experience of her --
- 7 A. Was different.
- 8 O. -- was not the same as others'?
- 9 A. No. I was years of age. I wasn't or or
- 10 I was -- I was older and, you know, I was treated
- differently.
- 12 O. You indicate then there was one boy who had scars on his
- back from being beaten by the flex of a kettle --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. -- by one nun in particular. That was -- you don't
- identify the nun in the , but you're aware
- from -- it's the SR2 is the -- I'd better ask you just
- to confirm who do you understand -- who are you
- referring to here?
- 20 A. Well, SR2, SR2.
- 21 Q. So that's SR2 and again she should not be identified in
- 22 any reporting.
- Now you then say towards -- just in the last
- sentence of that paragraph:
- "He also recounted the ordeal of ...", and there's

- a redaction here, but an individual, "who was persecuted
- 2 terribly."
- Now underneath that is a reference
- 4 . Who -- can you confirm who you're
- 5 talking about there?
- 6 A. SND136.
- 7 Q. SND136. So he is again not to be identified and his
- 8 designation is SND136. Now he has given a statement to
- 9 the Inquiry which the Panel has had and been referred to
- 10 before. It is at SND-15578. If we just can bring that
- up, please. Just maximise the size of it. There's one
- particular thing I'd like to ask you. If we just scroll
- down further, please, he makes reference -- just down to
- 14 the next page -- just stop there. You're saying again
- the designations. One of the names under here is
- 16 a HIA136. Do you remember a HIA136 at Termonbacca? I'm
- just wondering has he got -- is he meaning you but has
- got your first name wrong?
- 19 A. Nobody would have known me as "HIA60" then.
- 20 O. You would have been known as?
- 21 A. HIA60.
- 22 O. So it's not --
- 23 A. It's a different HIA136.
- Q. Right, and that's not to be confused with you. So the
- 25 Panel has had an opportunity to see this statement and

reflect on it, and he describes the atmosphere in the home as mixed, some positive things and some negative things.

Now we've looked briefly at your police statement in July 2003, and there you're describing again this particular incident with SND-76. Now you had identified to police -- and if we can go to SND-15529 -- and I'm aware that you perhaps find this difficult, but you can explain to the Panel why that is. If we just maximise the "Further Enquiries" paragraph, please. Just maximise that paragraph. Thank you.

Now this is a record within police papers of a conversation that these police officers had with the friend of yours that you'd referred to earlier that has been given the designation SND132. He alleges that the home was a violent place and he was often physically abused by other boys, and he described one instance of alleged indecent assault, and the Inquiry Panel can see what that related to. He couldn't recall who the perpetrator was, but no other incidents of sexual assault were disclosed.

Then he says this of you, which I know you found difficult when I made you aware of it this morning. He said that you were a bully who had bullied him all his life right up until his . He described you as the

- 1 top dog in the home who was feared by many and had a
- 2 ..., and he describes a particular qualification, and
- 3 that you were obsessed by your past and was always
- 4 trying to get him to say things about the home regarding
- 5 any bad experiences whilst there. You sent him
- newspaper cuttings regarding the home, and he would
- describe you as a man who bears a grudge. No
- 8 allegations of any kind were made against SND76, who he
- 9 acknowledged knowing, and he wouldn't make any further
- statement regarding his time in the home.
- Now the individual that we're talking about, up to
- this point you and he had been very close.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 O.
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 O. You'd been at
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. You had identified him as the person who made that
- 19 remark to you in on the phone about what had
- 20 happened to him at the hands of this individual.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Eventually you'd given his name to the police and the
- 23 police spoke to him and this is said to be a record of
- what he said.
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. Is there anything you'd want to say to the Panel about
- that and about him saying what he said here?
- 3 A. I -- sorry. I -- at that time the police had contacted
- 4 me and asked me to give a statement, which I did.
- I told them about what this person described to me, and
- they said they would then send two nice police officers
- 7 to speak to him first. Apparently that is usual
- 8 procedure, and then they would send someone to take
- a formal statement from him. However, when they went to
- take the formal statement from him, he refused, and the
- police -- the two detectives then said -- told me that
- he had described me to them as a paedophile. So
- I actually asked the police -- I think I was with them.
- 14 It was on the phone. They used to ring me every two
- weeks. I think officially I was supposed to have been
- 16 , and I asked them what they
- thought of that remark and they laughed. They knew it
- wasn't true.
- 19 Q. What -- what view have you formed about why he might
- 20 have said something like that --
- 21 A. He --
- 22 Q. -- and not given a statement?
- 23 A. He had told me around the time of
- 24 that he -- he had actually completed a
- 25 and that involved three interviews of almost

- eight hours, and he hadn't told them anything at all
- about being in Termonbacca, and he told me that he
- 3 hadn't told them about that because he thought it would
- 4 have prevented him from becoming . So my
- view was that he had simply done that because he was
- 6 getting on with his life and effectively he had not told
- 7 the truth to Social Services and continued to be
- 8
- 9 Q. And that --
- 10 A. He was protecting himself, in other words.
- 11 Q. You feel that's why he wouldn't stand by the remark he'd
- made to you on the phone?
- 13 A. Well, this is the first time I've ever seen this. So we
- spoke about it on the phone on that occasion, , and
- I had seen him after that. We actually went to
- on a trip together. We -- I was the
- 17 , and then in conversations after that he
- actually -- he never denied it.
- 19 Q. Do you and he still have a relationship?
- 20 A. I haven't seen or spoken to him for years.
- 21 Q. Can you remember was the cause of that cessation of
- 22 being friends over this?
- 23 A. No. He rang me up and -- he rang me up one Friday
- 24 afternoon and he started ranting and raving at me down
- 25 the phone, telling me I was -- I had bullied him all his

- life, etc, etc, and that was it. I asked him not to
- contact me again. I didn't want to speak to him again
- 3 after that. I'm not going to deny I didn't feel very
- betrayed. I did. I felt very hurt. He was -- at the
- 5 time when I -- after I had left Termonbacca and for
- 6 almost years after I left Termonbacca the only
- 7 friends I had were from the home and he was one of them.
- 8 I'd say it would be fair to say I had -- I had supported
- 9 him but he'd also supported me as well. So ...
- 10 Q. The Panel is aware then, HIA60, that there was a lot of
- 11 communication in 2002 and 2003 between you and SND76 by
- way of you sending him text messages.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. You remember doing that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. I am not going to bring it up, but the Inquiry Panel
- 17 will be able to see the content at SND-15552 to
- 18 SND-15554.
- 19 Eventually the police then recorded an interview
- 20 after caution with SND76 --
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. -- on 27th February 2004, and if we just look at what he
- had to say about the particular incident at SND-15558,
- please. We'll see he stated -- this is in the second
- 25 paragraph down -- he did not recall this incident

- 1 happening. He stated the allegation of you did not make
- sense to him. He stated he could not know whether you
- had possessed a new jumper. What do you say about
- 4 whether he would have known that you had a new jumper on
- 5 or not?
- 6 A. Everybody else knew. He knew.
- 7 Q. He stated he would not have come in and picked on you.
- 8 It was not the sort of thing he would do. He stated he
- 9 did not know of any sister -- I think there may have
- 10 been a mistake in the recording of the particular nun
- that's being referred to. Just bear with me and I'll
- get the ... Yes. I think the Inquiry staff have worked
- out it was SR1, SR1 --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. -- but if may have been misrecorded as a
- Do you remember a ?
- 17 A. I have never heard of a ever.
- 18 Q. So the reference you're meaning is SR1?
- 19 A. It was only SR1, yes.
- 20 Q. He gives another old nun by a slightly different name,
- SR65, but you're talking about SR1?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. He claimed that the allegations you were making were
- illogical. He denied he would have called you "Sister's
- 25 pet". He stated categorically the incident alleged did

1 not happen. He admitted knowledge of a sewing room close to the television room in the home and described 3 He again denied the allegation, stating its location. it didn't make sense. He denied ever attempting to sexually assault you in any way and went on to say he didn't attempt to sexually assault any person in Termonbacca, and he denied any sexual attraction to you. He described you as a difficult person. He admitted being in the sewing room on occasions with SR2, Sister 10 SR2, but unsure whether it was kept open or locked. 11 he's essentially saying, "I don't recollect any of this 12 and I certainly wasn't assaulting sexually you as part 13 of the incident".

Now the police then formed a conclusion about the matter and I am not going to bring it up, but the Panel will have the reference at SND-15526, and that in April '04 then resulted in the file moving to the Director of Public Prosecutions in Northern Ireland. On 28th June 2004 we can see at SND-15576 the DPP directed that there should be no prosecution of SND76 in relation to the matter that you'd reported.

Now that was 2004. In 2005 then you sent some e-mails and renewed communication --

24 A. Yes.

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

25 Q. -- began between you and SND76. That began with

- 1 an e-mail you sent to the . Again
- 2 that should not be reported, because that might help
- identify the individual concerned, but we can see that
- at SND-15788. I am just -- can you remember now, HIA60,
- 5 what the catalyst was for you to send -- the criminal
- 6 inquiry had ended in June 2004. This is about
- 7 fourteen/fifteen months later. Can you remember what
- 8 the catalyst was to sending this communication?
- 9 A. Well, the police who had originally spoke to me -- they
- came to me other than I sent them that e-mail.
- 11 years later they came to me and approached me. They
- 12 told me very -- in no uncertain terms exactly what they
- thought this person was about.
- 14 Q. And that's what led you to then send this e-mail to the
- 15 --
- 16 A. Well, after then -- I then found out that they decided
- they weren't going to take any further action. That's
- what they told me. Then out of the blue I found out
- 19 that they'd sent the file to the police in Northern
- 20 Ireland and he was then interviewed. That was not my
- understanding of what was going to happen.
- 22 O. But this e-mail --
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 O. -- is in November 2005.
- 25 A. Yes.

```
1
        So you send this e-mail to the
    Α.
        Yes.
3
        -- of the particular
        Uh-huh.
5
        -- and you ask why someone accused in a particular way
6
        is being given a particular . Again that
7
        shouldn't be reported. You refer to a particular
8
            That then prompted a response which this -- SND76
        has set out the e-mails in his statement, and I just
10
11
        want to look at one with you at SND-15790, where -- if
12
        we just scroll down, please. Further down, please, to
13
        the next e-mail. He's sending this e-mail to his
14
        colleague and saying it's a document showing -- and he
15
        suggested you should put up or shut up, as he sets out
16
        -- when you had met in the orphanage. You were there
17
        due to family problems. He describes you as a hard
18
        case.
             "As I was one of the
19
                                       guys in the house, I was
20
        sometimes asked to help supervise ..."
21
            If we just scroll on down to the next page, please:
22
             "... supervise other residents when the nuns had to
23
        go off and pray/eat, etc. He was always getting into
24
        fights with other guys, requiring me to have to
25
        intervene and separate them. He made an allegation to
```

1 the police that on one of those occasions when I physically intervened and pushed him into another room 3 that I had intended to sexually assault him. However, when he was quizzed by the police, he admitted that he had not been sexually assaulted but that he 'believed that the intention was in my mind to do it'. I did make 7 the PSNI aware of the ... " -- he described it as harassment -- "and was able to show them a number of 8 text messages ..." 10 Now you point to that as him appearing now to 11 remember --12 I believe so, yes. 13 -- that incident, and he said something -- if we go to Q. 14 SND-15792 -- that it arose from -- this is his e-mail to 15 you a number of days later on 21st November 2005 at 2.00 16 in the morning. If we just scroll down further, please, 17 he says: "When you arrived", in the last paragraph, "you were 18 19 regularly getting into fisticuffs with other boys and 20 constantly challenging the authority of the nuns. 21 occasions, as one of the boys, I was asked to 22 supervise the group when the nuns were absent, and you 23 constantly challenged my authority when I had to 24 intervene to prevent you fighting with other children. 25 On some occasions this necessitated my having to

- physically separate you from your victims using only
- 2 reasonable force and no more."
- 3 You then -- if we just scroll a little further down,
- 4 please.
- 5 A. Can I just say that's nonsense, because it never
- 6 happened.
- 7 . He had no supervisory role. He
- 8 wasn't any kind of member of staff.
- 9 I could see it. He wasn't --
- 10 he wasn't employed by nuns to do anything.
- 11 Q. No. He appears to be suggesting --
- 12 A. That's what he's suggesting.
- 13 Q. -- that as an ex-boy who has come back during the period
- when the nuns are not present he is asked to supervise.
- Now he will be able to explain to the Inquiry what he
- has to say about that, but you -- then on 25th May 2006,
- so a number of months later, and at SND-15796, you draw
- attention -- if you just scroll down, please, to 6:
- 19 "You refer to the incident when you dragged me
- violently into the sewing room ... you are correct it
- was not a bedroom. However, I fail to see the point
- 22 that you attempt to make. If it had been a resident's
- bedroom, then I would doubly concerned and so on.
- You are drawing attention to the fact he remembers
- 25 dragging you to the sewing room.

- On the next page, please, paragraph 8:
- 2 "The other reason why this incident has always stuck
- in my mind is because I can remember",
- 4 and you describe here his breath and saliva. What
- was it about that that you remember?
- 6 A. Because he was right in my face. Have you ever been
- 7 physically attacked or assaulted?
- 8 Q. You make the point that he attempted to rip off your
- 9 jeans --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. -- but --
- 12 A. He was pulling at my clothes. He tore off my jumper and
- it wasn't going to stop there. If I hadn't pushed him
- away, it wouldn't have stopped. I believe that.
- 15 Q. Then he responds in May 2006 at SND-15799. He responds
- the following day, and in that e-mail again appears to
- 17 accept the incident where he -- if you just see in the
- 18 first paragraph:
- 19 "There was no mention in your statement to the
- 20 police of any attempt, as you claim, to rip your jeans
- off. There was only reference to your jumper being
- 22 slightly ripped. The police were satisfied with my
- 23 explanation that I had to separate you from a fight
- involving you and another one of the boys, something
- which you regularly involved yourself in."

```
That's his -- that's his statement. That didn't happen.
1
    Ο.
        Well, the Panel has also seen his interview at the time,
3
        which was that he didn't recollect the incident, and
        that's something we will address with him, but that's
        your drawing attention to it.
            One final e-mail is at SND-15801 on 4th June 2006.
7
        You point out just at that point:
8
             "You now remember the incident when you attacked me
        previously. You denied this, proving you are a liar."
            You say the only reason why no sexual attack
10
11
        occurred was because you fought him off.
12
            Now the Inquiry Panel, as I made you aware, HIA60,
13
        has a statement from SND76, where he again refutes any
14
        suggestion that he had any sexual motive in any
15
        interaction that there was between you and him, and he,
16
        as I discussed with you, has also
17
                       at SND-15828 in
                                                        I should
18
        say in fairness to him before we go there, if I may, if
19
        we could go briefly to SND-15803. This is on page 25 of
20
        his witness statement and his narrative is just the
21
        second paragraph:
22
             "In his e-mail to me on 4th June ... 'You now
23
        remember the incident when you attacked me previously.
24
        You denied this, proving you are a liar'. I should
```

again make it quite clear that I have no recollection of

25

1 the specific incident that forms the basis of his false allegation against me, where I apparently was jealous 3 because he had been given a new jumper and had forced him into the sewing room, etc. In my e-mail of 26th May 2006 I was informing him that there had been a number of occasions when I had to 7 physically separate him from fighting with other people. 8 These would have been the only occasions where I would ever have had any physical interaction with him." 10 So he is saying he doesn't remember the incident 11 with the jumper. So if we go to SND-15828, which is an 12 that 13 he published in -- or it is an 14 , and he's indicating that he 15 was 16 where abuse was being talked about and a meeting was 17 going to take place with the bishop of the diocese. 18 says: 19 "If vilified the good reputation of the many nuns 20 from the Sisters of Nazareth, many no longer with us, 21 who worked tirelessly at Termonbacca during the many 22 years of its existence." 23 He identifies a particular individual, not you, who

will be able to see who that is. He then says:

he says is the main protagonist of this and the Inquiry

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1 "I myself was" --
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He says:

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"I am very concerned about the distorted impression these allegations convoy about the Sisters of Nazareth.

I myself was a resident in Termonbacca from the until . Foolish of me to claim that in all

the years I resided at Termonbacca none of the many hundreds of mainly boys who also resided there were ever subjected to any form of abuse. I can, however, say that I was not personally witness to any such acts of alleged abuse and certainly was not made aware of any such allegations during my tenure at Termonbacca.

What I can categorically say is that my memories of my time at Termonbacca are very positive memories of being part of a very large family of people who, despite our difficult backgrounds, were fortunate to have been reared by the Sisters, who devoted their lives to looking after children like us and who gave us a fantastic quality of life.

I would also like to stress that although a very number of ex-Termonbacca -- a very small number of ex-Termonbacca residents have voiced concerns about their mistreatment -- their alleged mistreatment, they are very much the vocal minority. The silent majority of ex-Termonbacca residents I am convinced would, if

- approached, have nothing but praise for the sterling
- efforts of the Sisters of Nazareth, who provided us with
- a loving home during our childhood."
- 4 He then wants to put on record his personal thanks
- for the excellent work that they did as he sees it.
- Do you have anything you want to say about that?
- 7 A. Well, let's all go home now then. A wonderful life in
- 8 Termonbacca? I did not have that bad a life in
- 9 Termonbacca compared to some of the other boys I know,
- 10 but I'd like to know where he was when all this was
- going on, because I don't know how anybody could have
- been in Termonbacca all that time and not witnessed
- something going on.
- 14 Q. Then you respond to that from him on
- in at SND-15825, where you make the point
- 16 that there are two sides of Termonbacca. You describe
- 17 your experience. You say, first of all, again about the
- level of care and kindness that you experienced
- 19 particularly from SR1:
- "... but that doesn't mean I am not willing to
- discuss the abuse, both sexual and physical, that
- I experienced and witnessed."
- 23 You say:
- "This abuse wasn't perpetrated by the Sisters of
- Nazareth but by the former residents of Termonbacca, who

had left and who would then return under the pretext of visiting the nuns or the place that they claim to have regarded as home."

You talk about discussing that with other residents.

You then urge any survivors to come forward to speak to the authorities.

"You know you are not alone."

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You say -- you then draw attention to the fact there have been international scandals involving the Catholic Church and that the evidence is overwhelming about what occurred.

Just to complete the picture, at SND-15830 then in

another in which SND76 again sets out his defence of the congregation. He says in a frank statement apparently that there's a sad re-writing of history taking place in the life of the local homes. He decided to air these comments after thinking long and hard about the launch of this Inquiry.

If we just scroll down further, please, to the next page, he says:

"The impression being given by some of the ex-Termonbacca boys is that all of the children living in Termonbacca many years ago were the victims of a regime of gratuitous and excessive violence from the nuns.

1 That is simply a re-writing of history. My memories of having lived in Termonbacca have always been very 3 positive." He loved living there. Very sad when he had to leave. Like many other ex-Termonbacca boys, he regularly 7 returned to visit his home and he is very grateful to the Sisters of Nazareth for the wonderful start in life they gave him and many other ex-Termonbacca residents. He then makes reference to the coordination of 10 11 people to make allegations. Then he says: 12 "Given the ratio of boys to nuns, it would have been 13 impossible for the nuns to have effectively supervised the children to prevent such abuse." 15 In the paragraph above he says: 16 "I am sure the allegations being made by some of 17 them are genuine", 18 but he is clearly suggesting that the matters are 19 being overstated as to what occurred. 20 This man, SND76, as you refer to, this man tried to have 21 me criminalised to silence me, to keep me quiet. 22 a bully and a thug and he hid behind 23 for years. He was the one who told me he would send the 24 to sort me out. When they came to visit me in 25 2003, that's exactly what I thought they were doing.

- You know, on one hand he says none of this happening.
- On the other hand he is admitting it did happen. What's
- 3 he trying to hide?
- 4 Q. Now what I want to do then, HIA60, is to move to -- you
- describe, if we go back to your witness statement at
- SND-10073, another incident involving a different
- 7 individual. Again if we just scroll down, please, this
- s is someone the Panel will know at SND94. This was
- another ex-resident of Termonbacca. You had gone into
- 10 the shower room. Now there were two cubicles, as
- I understand it. You were in one and the friend that we
- discussed earlier, SND132, was in the other shower. You
- say you had to wear pants --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. -- in case the nuns or a female member of staff would
- enter to see if you were showering. Is that --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. -- a check that occurred from time to time?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Then this individual appeared and he pointed to your
- groin and exclaimed, "Have you got an erection, boy?
- Let me see" and you refused. He lashed out and punched
- you in the face. You mention you had seen him punch
- someone previously. Did you then go in and stand beside
- 25 your friend until --

- A. Well, the cubicles were right beside each other. So we
- were standing right beside each other.
- 3 Q. Did eventually this man leave?
- 4 A. He walked out. Yes, he walked out.
- 5 Q. You have indicated other occasions in paragraph 13 where
- 6 he would appear out of nowhere when you were --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- out walking with your friend.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. That caused you some concern.
- 11 A. I was always concerned, because whenever this friend of
- mine would ask me to go for a walk, it was usually
- because he wanted a cigarette or, believe it or not, he
- 14 actually had . He
- 15 wasn't allowed and it was almost a running
- joke this boy would either have a
- 17 hidden somewhere, and we would go out
- walks what we called the back lane, but above
- 19 Termonbacca there was a farm, and years later --
- 20 I couldn't understand why he always knew we were
- 21 walking, and then someone explained to me that from the
- 22 farm you could actually look down on the farm and you
- could see the lane, and he was there because he used to
- work on the farm. He would see us and come down. He
- would just appear out of nowhere. I was just like,

- "What's going on?" It was just bizarre. This friend of
- mine, he always asked me -- I never smoked but he always
- 3 asked me to go with him basically because he was worried
- 4 about this other person, SND94.
- 5 Q. Now then if we go back to your statement and just scroll
- 6 a little further down, you talk about
- 7 , and you identify a particular individual,
- 8 HIA69, as someone who you later discovered had abused
- 9 someone else in the home --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. -- that you knew. That someone else is -- just so I get
- 12 the designation right -- HIA92 is the you
- who you say told you later in I think
- the that he'd been abused by this other boy
- 15 who was , and that was
- 16 HIA 69. You didn't know that at the time you were
- there.
- 18 A. I had suspicions.
- 19 Q. Do you need to take a moment, HIA60? There's no
- 20 difficulty.
- 21 A. No. Go on ahead.
- 22 Q. Now, HIA92, if we just briefly pull up SND-2531, please,
- this is what he has had to say to the Inquiry about you
- in paragraph 16. He said:
- 25 "After a while a lot of the bigger boys responsible

Page 60 1 for the bullying disappeared and life became more There was a bigger boy called ..." normal. 3 and that's you he's referring to. You would refer -- he would refer to you as the -- "our 5 protector". Him 6 7 "If he found out any of the other bigger boys were messing with us or hurting us, he would have sorted it 8 out with them." 10 He describes you as "a gentle soul". 11 HIA60, would you like to take a break for 12 a few minutes --13 Yes. Α. 14 -- just to have a bit of fresh air --15 Yes. 16 -- and ...? 17 CHAIRMAN: Very well. We'll take five minutes. No more, 18 please. 19 (12.20 pm)20 (Short break) 21 (12.25 pm)22 MR AIKEN: All right, HIA60? We'll continue. 23 A. Yes. 24 So we were just looking at SND-2531, which is where 25 you're described by HIA92. Could we have SND-2531 up,

- 1 please? We were noting he describes you as the
- 2 protector of him
- 3 -- and he says you were a gentle soul.
- If we go back then to your statement at SND-10074,
- you describe in paragraph 14 how you come -- become
- $^6$  aware in  $^{\circ}$  of the fact that this young boy that saw
- you as a protector had -- was saying that he had been
- 8 abused in Termonbacca involving HIA69. That was the
- 9 first you had become aware of that.
- 10 A. It was the first time anybody had spoken to me about
- this young person. I might have suspected it, but
- no-one had ever said to me before.
- 13 Q. The point you then make at paragraph 15 of your
- 14 statement --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- is that the young children had no chance, you say.
- 17 "There were too many nooks and crannies and too many
- rooms, such large grounds, not enough adult supervision,
- 19 especially if the nuns were at prayers. There was about
- 1 nun to twenty children.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. That's your memory of it. You describe in paragraph 16
- then being struck by a particular nun. Again the
- 24 Inquiry Panel will know who that designation refers to,
- but SR64 hit you when you were in the kitchen --

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1
    Α.
        Yes.
        -- but that was the once that she did that.
                                                          , SR6,
3
        another nun who took over the
        and again the Panel is aware of who that is --
5
    Α.
        Yes.
6
        -- also slapped and threatened you. Now I appreciate
    0.
7
        it's been difficult for you, and the other major issue
        that arises is of -- to do with the Social Services and
8
        their involvement with you, and what I'm going to do,
10
        HIA60, is just deal with that in a summary form rather
11
        than pour over all of the detail of it. Obviously, as
12
        I made you aware, the Panel has your document where you
13
        look at the Social Services' engagement with your family
        and has the opportunity to look at all of the records
14
15
        that are available, but you mention that a particular
16
                         SND 466 -- and again he shouldn't be
17
        identified -- you:
18
             "... only saw him about two or three times when
19
        I~was in Termonbacca."
20
            What I was indicating to you before we came in this
21
        morning was that the Social Services papers -- if we
22
        just look, by way of example, at SND-3858, because they
23
        show that in
                                 , when you are going into
```

Termonbacca, it is SND 465 who is

at that time.

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1
    Α.
        Yes.
        She records various visits that she makes in the
3
        pages that run from SND-3858 to SND-3860. It is not
                            which is only
        until
                                                      before your
        leaving Termonbacca, that SND 466 takes over your
        case again. He had, in fact, been
7
                                                          If we
        just quickly look at SND-3850, you'll see by the
8
        references that are underlined on the right-hand side of
                              , he is involved with your family
10
        the page,
11
        from
                          and that's until
            The Panel will be able to read the detail of these
12
13
        records, but SND-3852 shows
                                                  and at that
        case -- at that point in time then your provision is
15
        transferred over to SND 465 . If we just go to the
16
        page before, if we just scroll up a little, please,
17
        we'll see the last entry in
                                                 for SND 466
            So then SND 465 becomes involved and there's
18
19
        records from SND-3851 to SND-3860. So there are nine
20
        pages of detailed records that the Panel will be able to
21
        have regard to of the interaction between SND 465 and
22
                                               , and then
23
        ultimately her taking you to Termonbacca in
24
25
        She didn't take me to Termonbacca in . I was taken
```

- 1 there by SND 465 . I saw my mother once in that
- year.
- 3 Q. Yes. I am sorry. Maybe it is my fault, HIA60. I am
- 4 talking about SND 465.
- 5 A. Sorry.
- 6 Q. I'm saying that it was her who took you.
- 7 A. Sorry.
- 8 Q. You're all right. She took you to Termonbacca in
- 9 and continued to be involved with you on a regular basis
- 10 when you were in Termonbacca until , when the
- case transferred back to SND 466
- Now equally the Inquiry Panel will be able to see
- from pages SND-3860 to SND-3883 there are 23 pages of
- detailed case reporting of SND 466 interaction
- with you.
- Now, as we discussed before you came in, you have
- 17 a particular view about that and the Panel will have the
- opportunity to see that view, and equally the records
- 19 are here to show what Social Services say they did to
- 20 try and assist
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. You then mention in paragraph 18 of your statement at
- 23 SND-10075 that there was also then
- working for the congregation and that's SND332. That's
- 25 SND332.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Again his name should not be published, but the Inquiry
- is aware that is SND332. You say he was employed by the
- 4 nuns. Is it correct you had a good relationship with
- 5 him?
- 6 A. I would hope so. That is my recollection of it.
- 7 Q. In fact, I was showing you this morning that after you
- 8 left Termonbacca at one point in after the
- 9 foster placement had broken down you actually stayed
- with SND332 until you got other arrangements through
- 11 Social Services.
- 12 A. It was actually SND 466 had coerced me into going
- back and staying with my mother. That lasted five days.
- 14 Then on the Friday evening I went back to my mother's
- and she told me I had to leave. SND332 lived not far
- away and I went and knocked on his door and asked him
- what to do and he said, "Well you're going to stay here
- 18 for the night". So ...
- 19 Q. So you have a positive memory of his engagement --
- 20 A. Very much so.
- 21 Q. -- to try to help you.
- 22 A. Very much so, yes.
- 23 Q. Basically if I can summarise it in this way, HIA60, the
- 24 difficult relationship that you had with your mum before
- 25 Termonbacca, that continued after Termonbacca.

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1
        To this very day.
    A.
        Now you say in paragraph 18, the second half of the
3
        statement:
             "I understand that he became aware", that's SND332,
5
         "that a boy had been hit with the flex of a kettle by
        a nun, and when he questioned the nuns about this
7
        incident,
8
            Who told you that? Can you remember how you came to
9
        know that?
        Someone had told me after I'd left Termonbacca.
10
                                                            I think
11
        I was living in
                                  It was one of the other home
12
        boys.
13
        So that was a piece of information that was conveyed to
14
        you; you don't have first-hand knowledge of that?
15
        No.
             He was unhappy about it and questioned them about
16
        it
17
        That's what you were told about
18
19
        Yes.
    Α.
20
        Now you then describe in paragraph 19 about getting
21
                   . You thought it was miraculous, although you
22
        say that SR1, of whom you have a very fond word --
```

- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. -- wasn't happy with your Latin and your French.
- 25 A. No. Big use for it in Derry!

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1
        You then describe in paragraph 20 various occasions
        whenever you -- and again the Social Services records
3
        that the Inquiry has set this out, the various places.
        I think you describe you had stayed over the time in
5
                          locations --
6
    Α.
        Yes.
7
        -- before settling in and getting the job that
8
        you do now.
9
        Well, I actually -- between leaving foster care and then
        going on to Fort James around September I stayed in
10
11
        about
                                places and two of those places
12
        twice and then
                             I went to live in
13
        The Inquiry has obviously had the opportunity to read
14
        your statement and can see that you went into Fort James
15
        in
                          , by which stage you were --
16
17
        -- I think just turned and you stayed there for about
18
19
        Yes.
    Α.
20
        -- to
        I actually didn't want to go into Fort James.
21
22
        reason why I felt forced to go into Fort James was
23
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- got any help in finding accommodation. I knew other
- boys -- was one of them, and he was living
- 3 homeless on the Foyle Road. That's what I expected
- 4 I would have to do.
- 5 Q. Yes, and again what led you to give this detailed
- document was a report from SND 466 , which was to
- assist with you getting a house, but you have a
- 8 particular view about the content of that report --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. -- and again the Inquiry Panel has the opportunity to
- see what you're saying about it --
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. -- and see the report itself.
- 14 You describe in paragraph 23 and 24 particular
- incidents in Fort James and, as I explained to you, at
- this stage the Inquiry is looking at the two particular
- 17 homes run by the Sisters of Nazareth. So it may be that
- 18 we have to return too in relation to this matter that
- 19 you describe in Fort James connected to an officer there
- and involvement with the police.
- So if we move then through to SND-10078, you
- 22 describe going off to in and from then until
- now you have held jobs. Again these shouldn't be
- identified in the reporting about this, but you were
- 25

Page 69 1 Α. Yes. 0. -- in a and you now have the 3 4 Correct. 5 That's working with 6 I am part of the Α. 7 8 That's a job you have done now for a number of --9 years. 10 -- a number of years. 11 You describe then in paragraph 28 -- this is just 12 something I want to raise with you and give you the 13 opportunity if there's something you want to say about it -- about -- it's down as DL48. That's DL48. he shouldn't be identified, but you have described him 15 16 on a number of occasions in your statement, he being one 17 of the reasons for you stepping forward. 18 Yes. Α. 19 Is there anything else you want to say about DL48 or 20 ...? 21 asked me if I would meet with him the Well, DL48 in Α. 22 following day. I was in Derry for a week. I was 23 staying with , and he asked me to meet him 24 in Townsman's Bar the next day. It was -- I was

supposed to have met him at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

25

- 1 My lived five minutes from there.
  2 I remember sitting in in the front room
- 4 I~will always regret that, but I was just not ready,

just watching the clock. I didn't go and meet him.

- because when I'd met him the previous day, he told me
- 6 what had happened when he was with the
- 7 . Six months later rang me and
- 8 told me that he'd -- he'd been found dead.
- I have my own feelings about how he died and what
- 10 happened. The police have another opinion about that,
- but it's never been looked into. He told me that he had
- been threatened by other people and, well, after that
- 13 I~just thought. "Well, I can't just let this go on",
- 14 because DL48 died in . Another friend of mine died
- , SND24, and SND24 was a lot of things, but he was
- my friend.
- 17 Q. You mention in your statement then at paragraph 29,
- HIA60, that you've been --
- 19 A. Yes.

3

- 20 Q. -- over the years as a result of your childhood
- 21 experience --
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. -- and that has been -- you feel that you've been lucky
- 24 --
- 25 A. Yes, I do.

```
1
        -- and have had a life.
        I do. I feel like I've been lucky. I have got a --
3
        I-have got a job. I managed to get an education.
        got a partner. I left Derry in to become
5
                                                 , and one of the
        reasons why I left was because -- I know this is not the
7
        place for it, but this is what actually happened --
8
        I was constantly being harassed by the RUC.
                                                      I have no
        criminal record. I have never been charged with any
10
        offence, but it didn't stop, and when I was given the
11
        opportunity to work as
12
                                          , I thought,
13
                       I worked in
                                                  , where boys who
        had
15
16
17
            So I have been very lucky, and now I'm in a job
18
        where I meet young person
                                                         who have
19
        had much worse experiences than me. Nonetheless I have
20
        an insight into what actually happens to a young person
21
        when they have to go through that whole process.
22
            We are talking today about me as a 17 and
                                                      , which is
23
        18-year-old. I am sat here as
24
        amazing to me, and I do consider myself to be very
25
        lucky. I consider myself very lucky to even be here, to
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- have this opportunity, because ten, fifteen years ago
  a friend of mine said what would actually need to happen
  with Termonbacca -- he wasn't a Termonbacca boy, but
- he's -- he thought the only way that any of this would
- 5 have been unravelled and any kind of justice would have
- 6 been an Inquiry like they had in North Wales. I never
- 7 believed it would ever happen. It is because of
- 8 and she is here. I cannot believe how
- 9 she actually managed this. So I am grateful to be here.
- 10 I am happy to have had this opportunity, however
- difficult it is.
- 12 Q. You mention at the end of -- if we just scroll down --
- paragraph 29 -- you have recorded for the Inquiry
- a number of individuals who have disclosed to you what
- 15 they suffered.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. What I'd like to do, HIA60, which we do with each
- witness who comes along, and you have alluded to some of
- it already, the Inquiry whenever it makes its
- 20 recommendations can do so in relation to some form of
- an apology or some form of memorial or some form of
- 22 redress. Is there anything that you'd like to say to
- the Inquiry Panel about the recommendations it might
- consider making at the end of this process?
- 25 A. First of all, public apologies are all very well.

1 I don't see how it gives people back their lives, but I would like -- I left Northern Ireland in very proud of where I come from, but at the same time I don't like being in Derry. I try not to go anywhere near the place and I know now why that is, but I believed that there was an element -- more than an element of collusion between the RUC, Social Services and the clergy, and the aftercare service as I see it that was arranged for these boys who left care was either going St. Pat's, going to Kircubbin, prison or 10 11 just get themselves dead. How many of these boys I know 12 who are addicted to alcohol, drugs, on prescribed 13 medication. They are now my age and older. You know, their whole lives have been tainted. Their whole lives 14 15 have been effectively destroyed. 16 I mean, I am of age, and when this was all 17 announced, it took me right back to when I was When 18 , I didn't know what was going to happen to me. 19 All I felt was hopeless, helpless. The only option 20 I had was to go back into care to get accommodation, 21 because if I had been sent back to my family, I would have been on the street. 22 23

So we're talking years ago. So I know that things have moved on a lot since then and I doubt very much whether these circumstances could ever happen

24

25

again, but then there's complacency that creeps into everything. My concern would be that young people in care aren't subjected to this ever again, but also questions need to be asked, because in my case there was a -- I have also got the Social Services records where SND 466 , applied for a Training Detention Order on my behalf on , and that was over a A statement was taken to me by the -- taken from me by the RUC where I was told I was going to St. Pat's. was then that SND24, my friend, told me what happened to him when he was in St. Pat's. I was prepared to go across the border and just take my chances rather than go to that place. So no-one is going to tell me that there wasn't a level of collusion between all of these so-called agencies that had responsibilities for these young people. I know it is historical now. It is in the past, but it's -- I have even have a problem with the term "historical institutional abuse". institutional abuse. It is not history as long as I am

alive and breathing. There is others here who went through the whole system as well. So it's up to you to

decide what you think is the best way to deal with this,

but -- that's all I've got to say.

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- Q. HIA60, there's one matter that in fairness the Social
  Services -- if we can bring up SND-3881. It is a point
  that was raised with me and we have summarised the
- 4 Social Services' interaction, but the entry -- if we
- just scroll down, please, to the entry of
- you are quite right that there was a discussion in
- 7 Social Services about what steps were open as to how to
- 8 manage where you might live. What the record indicates
- 9 is that the senior social worker, whose name is given
- there, informed SND 466, following discussions with
- another senior social worker, the principal social
- worker, that a Training School Order would not be
- a viable proposition in your case --
- 14 A. Yes. I'm aware of that.
- 15 Q. -- and principally to do with your age there were
- difficulty identifying other residential places, and
- an effort was made at a particular location in Belfast.
- Therefore effort was made by SND 466 to -- whenever
- 19 Fort James were of the view you should no longer live
- there to keep you living there and fought for them to
- 21 not close the door on you.
- 22 So that is a point of -- the record suggests
- 23 certainly the Social Services considered that as
- 24 an option --
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. -- but it's not something that was considered viable and
- $^2$  therefore it didn't -- didn't proceed and you stayed in
- Fort James.
- 4 A. I was left with the impression that's what they were
- 5 trying to do. I was told that at Spencer
- 6 Road Police Station by FJ 35
- 7 who was also , who told me
- 8 previous to that that I would be taken care of, that
- 9 I would be sent to the same place as DL48. Fast forward
- 10 to , and then I find out that's what they did to my
- friend. You think I am going to sit here and let
- anybody now do anything to any of my friends like that
- ever again? Well ...
- 14 Q. You are referring then to the particular matter in Fort
- James that you have set out in your statement that
- occurred --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. -- with the police. So in addition to the
- 19 recommendations, HIA60, that you've addressed this is
- your opportunity, and we say to each witness who comes
- forward to assist the Inquiry with its work by giving
- 22 evidence is there anything else that now that you have
- this opportunity that you'd like to say to the Inquiry
- 24 Panel?
- 25 A. Well, you're here to do a piece of work and hopefully

- redress some of the injustice done to some of the boys 1 I hope that you do that, because there's that I know. some of them have lived lives which are sad, lonely, miserable and that's how they've died, and especially a few of them have died in the last couple of years like I don't know how do you that. You're best qualified to decide how that's done, but I think it would only be fair, and I think a society that treats its children like it -- and I am in the profession -who treats children as these children were treated 10 11 really needs to be -- I am sorry -- ashamed of itself. 12 I am not saying that's what's happening now, but nonetheless these are -- these boys and girls, who are 13 now men and women, deserve a chance. 14 15 Also the very fact that it can be acknowledged here, 16 I know it's made a big difference to me. So I'm hoping that that starts the healing, and I've said before I'm 17 very happy I was able to actually have this opportunity, 18
- Q. Thank you, HIA60. I don't have any more questions for you, but if you just remain where you are for a moment or two, the Panel may want to ask you something.
- 23 CHAIRMAN: We don't have any further questions for you,

even if it's difficult.

24 HIA60.

19

25 A. Thank you.

Day 15 HIAI Inquiry 3 March 2014

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1
    CHAIRMAN:
              Thank you very much for coming to speak to us
        today.
3
        Thank you.
4
              I appreciate that you may be asked to come back
5
        again but as far as --
6
        Yes.
7
               -- today is concerned, that's it as far as you
8
        are concerned.
9
        Thanks very much. Thank you.
10
                          (Witness withdrew)
11
    CHAIRMAN:
                Well, we will start again at 1.45, please.
12
        ladies and gentlemen. We have an extra witness to deal
13
        with this afternoon. So we need to start promptly.
14
    (1.00 pm)
15
                             (Lunch break)
16
    (1.45 pm)
17
                        WITNESS HIA92 (called)
18
    CHAIRMAN:
                Yes.
19
    MS SMITH:
                Good afternoon, Chairman, Panel Members, ladies
20
                         The first witness this afternoon is
        and gentlemen.
21
        HIA92, and he is present, but if before, Chairman, you
22
        ask him to take the oath if Mr Toner could announce his
23
        appearance.
24
    CHAIRMAN:
               Yes, Mr Toner.
25
    MR TONER:
              Good afternoon, Chairman. My name is Toner.
```

- I -appear with Mr McAteer, instructed by Mr Casey, on
- $^2$  behalf of HIA69.
- 3 CHAIRMAN: Yes.
- 4 Now, HIA92 --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 CHAIRMAN: -- do you wish to take either a religious oath or
- 7 to take an -- make an affirmation, which is a promise,
- 8 a solemn promise? They have the same legal effect.
- 9 It's entirely a matter for your choice.
- 10 A. I'll take the affirmation.
- 11 CHAIRMAN: Very well.
- 12 WITNESS HIA92 (affirmed)
- 13 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
- 14 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
- 15 MS SMITH: Thank you, HIA92. HIA92, can I just confirm I've
- 16 explained to you that every witness who comes before the
- 17 Inquiry is being given anonymity so that their name
- cannot be used outside this room and I've spoken to you
- about that this morning and you want to ensure that your
- 20 anonymity is preserved --
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. -- and you don't want your name to be published in any
- way. Isn't that correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Could we pull up SND-2527, please? Now, HIA92, again

- this is a document that I showed you to you earlier
- today and this is the witness statement that you have
- made to the Inquiry, and you'll see that where it says
- 4 "Witness statement of HIA92" that on the original
- document your name is there in full underneath that
- 6 black rectangle. Isn't that correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. If we could just move to the final page, please, of the
- 9 witness statement, which is SND-2537, and at the bottom
- of that page you will see another black rectangle with
- "HIA92" on it and can you confirm that your signature is
- underneath that rectangle and that it is dated
- 13 2nd July 2013?
- 14 A. Yes, that's it.
- 15 Q. HIA92, can I just confirm then that this is the
- 16 statement of evidence that you have provided to the
- 17 Inquiry and which you wish the Inquiry to take into
- 18 account?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. You are now aged . Is that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. You spent a number -- all your childhood effectively in
- care. Isn't that so?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. If I can just give a little of your family background,

- 1 you and your parents and family lived in , first of
- all. Then your mother returned to Derry and you and
- 3 your two -- were taken into
- 4 care.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. You were in -- placed in Termonbacca in Derry.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 O. You were there from
- 9 , and you were transferred at
- that point to Nazareth House in Bishop Street.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. You were there from -- well, first of all,
- you went into Nazareth House and then you were fostered
- in . Isn't that correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Then eventually after about or months you went
- 17 back into Nazareth House.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. We will discuss later what happened, but you were
- 20 eventually transferred to Fort James.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. From there you spent time in St. Pat's in
- 23 Belfast --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. -- before returning back to Derry.

- 1 A. Yes. Back to Fort James.
- 2 Q. Pardon?
- 3 A. Back to Fort James.
- $^4$  Q. Back to Fort James in Derry. That's correct. So
- 5 effectively most of your time in care would have been
- 6 with the Sisters of Nazareth and with the Social
- 7 Services in Fort James.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Now can you say when you were in Termonbacca what your
- earliest memory of being there is, HIA92?
- 11 A. Well, first memory that I remember was whenever we were
- 12 lifted with Social Services and we were taken to
- 13 Termonbacca, just basically being put on
- group and it was just basically we didn't know what
- was -- what was happening or -- we were young at the
- 16 time.
- 17 Q. You were the
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Is that correct? Your sister was

20

- 21 a
- 22 A. She was taken down to the nursery, yes.
- 23 Q. You and your brother SND134 --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. -- were put together initially. Is that correct?

- 1 A. That is correct, yes.
- 2 Q. At some point you were, in fact, separated, SND134 and
- you.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. We'll come again to that. You talk about that in your
- 6 statement, but can I ask you did your mother visit you
- 7 during your time there?
- 8 A. She did, yes, whenever she wasn't on the alcohol.
- 9 Q. Your mother did have
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Isn't that correct? That's part of the reason why you
- 12 and your --
- 13 A. Both parents.
- 14 Q. Both parents did. You talk about your mother visiting
- at paragraph 17 on page SND-2531. You say that over the
- 16 years she visited you and your brother and sister in
- paragraph 17:
- "She might sometimes and they
- 19 wouldn't allow her to see us but we would have always
- tried to see her. She did her best. I hold no grudge
- whatsoever against my parents. I do hold a grudge --
- I do however hold a grudge against the care system
- 23 because at the end of the day we should have been looked
- 24 after, cared for and protected, but we suffered and
- especially during the first years in Termonbacca."

1 Now there is quite a volume of Social Services' material relating to you and your family's time in care 3 and I've shown you some of those documents this morning. I'm not going to open them all to the Panel or to the Inquiry, but they are available to be viewed in the evidence bundle, and I will refer to a few documents, one of which is SND-2569. If that could be shown, 8 please. This is a page which -- if you just -- at the second 10 paragraph there this is the comment on the parents' 11 attitude to the child being in residential care, and it 12 is clear from that paragraph that your mother was 13 visiting you regularly. She is -- her name is there: "... has already indicated visits with great 15 regularity. She is very anxious to have the children 16 out of care. She's always accepted decisions of social 17 worker and caring staff. Has been pressing for Northern 18 Ireland Housing Executive for housing transfer with 19 a view of reestablishing a home for the children. 20 strong bond of affection between [your mother] and her 21 children. It is, however, difficult to assess her 22 reliability and there are continual doubts about her 23 general lifestyle." 24 You have already indicated that your mother did have 25 This document, which the Inquiry can

Page 85 1 look at in more detail, relates to what was happening in 3 Your mother then had in and thereafter she visited somewhat less often, but 5 certainly throughout your time in care she was a regular 6 visitor to all of the homes. 7 She was, yes. 8 Now if I can just take you back to your statement and some of the general points that we want to discuss about 10 your time in care. If we look at paragraph 20, which is on page SND-2532, this is just where you were talking 11 12 about your schooling that you received while you were in 13 care. You talk about being in Nazareth House and you 14 were there in the school in Nazareth House until you 15 were sitting your 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 A.

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Page 86
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6
7
8
10
11
12
        Could I just ask, HIA92, could you perhaps move the
13
        microphone a little bit towards you so we can all hear
15
        Yes.
16
        -- what you are saying? Thank you. So essentially you
17
        talk again in paragraph 22 about your education.
18
        say there you went to
                                          Primary School in Derry
19
        and then:
20
             "When we moved to Nazareth House, I left
21
        and went to Nazareth House Primary School. Went to
22
                 Secondary School in .
                                                There were
23
        civilian teachers in that school, but they were also
24
        fond of hitting you with a leather strap."
25
            You say that for the first three years of school you
```

- were a model pupil, and then you heard you could leave
- $^2$  school in fourth year, and that is when you changed, as
- you knew they no longer would have a hold over you.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. You wouldn't work hard or study for exams and you
- 6 wouldn't listen to anyone.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. You would accept that reflects the time you spent in
- 9 school.
- 10 A. On education, yes.
- 11 Q. Is it correct from what you have said in paragraph 20
- that you believe that the movements and the unsettled
- life that you had had a bearing on your willingness to
- work in school?
- 15 A. Well, I couldn't really pin down how settlement really
- 16 -- there was no really settlements in my time during --
- it was either -- it was Termonbacca I think was the
- longest place I actually stayed in. When I went to
- Nazareth House, I was shipped around, and foster care
- and then back to Nazareth House, and then shipped around
- 21 again. I was never no settled -- never no settled
- place.
- 23 Q. Can I ask you, going back to your time in Termonbacca,
- 24 did you form any friendships with anyone when you were
- 25 there?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Can you remember any of the names of the people?
- 3 A. Yes, I can.
- 4 Q. Do you want to talk about those, HIA92, or do you want
- 5 to just --
- 6 A. Basically the man that has been up before me, HIA60,
- 7 I would have known HIA60. I mean, SND134, wee
- 8 , the there would have been, you know.
- 9 That's basically the names I remember. The young
- 10 family as well, . Me and were the same
- ages together and all we done basically was play
- 12 football.
- 13 Q. At paragraph 6 of your statement, which is on
- page SND-2528, you talk about food in the home.
- 15 A. Uh-huh.
- 16 Q. You say there that you got fed in the home, but you
- 17 remember that you particularly hated the lumpy porridge.
- 18 A. Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. You say that the nuns tried to force you to eat it a few
- times, but they eventually eased off, because you think
- they got the message that you weren't going to eat it.
- 22 A. Uh-huh.
- 23 Q. You said you would rather take a slapping than eat that
- 24 particular substance.
- 25 A. Yes. I'd rather take a knuckle over the head, yes.

- 1 Q. Now I'm going to come on to the nun that you talk about
- $^2$  in that paragraph in due course, because you do have
- 3 a number of things you want to tell the Inquiry about
- 4 her, but can I just ask you in general terms do you
- 5 remember anything about bathing in the home?
- 6 A. Bathing in the home -- at the start I think it was, as
- I explained to you before I think, because we were full
- 8 of lice, etc, that we all were getting scrubbed. You
- 9 know what I mean? There was a scrubbing. It wasn't
- a bathing. Like I have children of my own and bathing
- 11 your own children, like, it's gentle and it's -- you
- 12 know, but for them it was like tearing and just
- basically rough.
- 14 Q. Do you remember anything about what you were bathed
- 15 with?
- 16 A. I always remember the big bars of soap, just the big --
- there were big chunky bars of soap. I always remember
- 18 that.
- 19 Q. What about chores in the home? Did you ever have to do
- anything in the home?
- 21 A. Well, at an early age they had us -- we were clearing
- 22 tables. There was like a rota put on the wall. We were
- clearing tables, washing dishes, drying, setting the
- 24 tables --
- 25 Q. And what --

- 1 A. -- scrubbing the yard out in the -- scrubbing the yards
- out in the square and stuff.
- 3 Q. What do you remember about special occasions in the
- 4 home, for example, Christmas or Hallowe'en?
- 5 A. Not much. Not much.
- 6 Q. Do you ever remember getting presents at Christmas time?
- 7 A. One present I always remember getting was a
- 8 . I think I was about or that I had got that.
- 9 I can't remember anything else like that after in
- 10 Termonbacca itself.
- 11 Q. Or do you remember anything about Hallowe'en in the
- 12 home?
- 13 A. Just -- just people dressed up. I always remember --
- 14 I remember a thing that they -- they would have had like
- an old woman's mask sort of thing and old clothing and
- the stick and they would have come up around the front
- of the building. I remember that, like, but nothing --
- nothing extremely major like, no.
- 19 Q. Do you ever remember anything music about choirs or
- 20 bands or anything like that during your time?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. What about pocket money? Did you ever get it?
- 23 A. Aye. If I can remember, it was like 25p or 50p and
- 24 stuff.
- 25 Q. Now, HIA92, you this morning brought three photographs

- to the Inquiry --
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. -- that you wanted to show of yourself and
- 4 \_\_
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- 6 Q. -- during the early years. If I could just ask these to
- 7 be pulled up. I think they have now been Bates numbered
- 8 now. This first one, that's you. Isn't that correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. That appears to be your first communion.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. That's your first communion photograph. If we can just
- move on quickly to the next one -- if we can just look
- at the bottom one, first of all, there, now who is in
- 15 that photograph?
- 16 A. That's myself and SND134.
- 17 Q. What ages do you reckon you were there?
- 18 A. I think we were around about around about
- 19 that.
- 20 Q. Was that while you were in Termonbacca or before you
- 21 went in?
- 22 A. I think it's just before we went in.
- 23 Q. And can I just -- you are the of the two boys.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Is that correct, and you are the in that

- 1 photograph?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Then if we can just go back to the middle one, now this
- 4 photograph you are obviously a little older --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- and this is you and SND134 again. Is that correct?
- 7 A. That's actually me whenever I left foster care and
- 8 I went back to Nazareth House, and that was one of the
- 9 days that SND134 came up to visit from foster care.
- 10 Q. Again you're the of the two boys.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Is that right? I think in the background we can see
- some elderly people.
- 14 A. That's the old people's place in Nazareth House.
- 15 Q. Thank you. Now you say in paragraph 5 of your
- statement, if we could go back to page SND-2528, you say
- 17 that Termonbacca was tough. You always remember it
- being especially tough the first years that you were
- there, that you were with a nun who you name in that and
- you say she was a great woman.
- "We had lots of people in our group. There were
- bigger boys as well. Girls were there only very
- 23 rarely."
- Now it's been -- you were here this morning and
- I think you did hear the last -- this morning's witness

- give evidence.
- Uh-huh, yes.

Yes.

- 3 He has indicated that he
- Α.

4

5

- Is that correct? 0.
- 7 Yes.
- 8 Do you remember being in the room with --
- 9 I remember being in that room, yes.
- You say that -- about that particular person -- well, 10
- 11 HIA60, who gave evidence this morning, you did talk
- 12 about him in paragraph 16 on page SND-2531.
- 13 this was read out to the Inquiry this morning.
- describe him in that paragraph as a gentle soul. 14
- Uh-huh. 15
- 16 You say that he would -- you and **SND134**
- 17 would refer to him as your protector, and if he found
- 18 that any of the other bigger boys were messing with you
- 19 or hurting you, that he would have sorted it out with
- 20 them for you.
- 21 Uh-huh. Α.
- 22 0. It is fair to say then that you looked up to him during
- 23 your time there.
- 24 For definite, yes.
- 25 Can you remember -- do you remember anything about your

```
Page 94
1
        birthdays at all? Do you ever remember getting any
        presents for your birthday or money or anything like
3
        that?
4
        The only birthday I can really remember whenever I first
5
        got a cake was -- I think it was coming my
                                                          birthday
        and that was in Nazareth House, whenever they had moved
7
        us from Termonbacca to Nazareth House. It was coming up
8
9
    Q. Can I just briefly look at SND-3289? This again is
10
        a document from Social Services Board material. You
        will see there that it is from an SND 466 , who is
11
12
                       in the
                                         team.
                                                It is dated
13
                          . It says:
14
             "I wish to apply for birthday money for the above
15
        named children", one of whom is yourself. "The children
16
        were ..."
17
             I think this is actually you,
18
                to be fair:
19
             "The children were admitted to care under section 99
20
                              and Fit Person Orders were granted
        on
21
        in respect of them on
                                              . These children
22
        are present in Termonbacca Children's Home."
23
            Do you ever remember getting birthday money --
24
        No.
25
        -- in
    Q.
```

Page 95 No. 1 A. What about -- do you remember going on 3 Yes. That would have been with the school about . 5 that right? 6 That was with Α. , yes. 7 Again Social Services' documents disclose that there was 8 financial support from Social Services to allow you to go on that trip. If we could see SND-3273, please, you see -- this is from the 10 a SND 468 , dated 11 It says -- it 12 refers to: 13 SND 466 's accompanying memo requesting approval for a grant of £75 to allow the above child in 14 15 care to participate in his school to 16 . On the grounds that this presents 17 an opportunity for him to broaden his horizons, 18 participate in the social intercourse involved and have 19 a potentially enjoyable holiday on equal terms with his 20 peers outside who are not in care, I would recommend 21 strongly that this grant is approved." 22 You certainly did go on the 23 Yes, yes. Α. 24 So it look as though the grant was --25 I went on a couple of them actually.

```
1
        -- actually approved. Sorry. You went to? Sorry.
        I went -- I actually went on a couple of trips with
3
                 school.
4
        To play
    0.
        To go -- it was actually to go to to watch
5
6
7
    Ο.
        To watch
                           . Now, as I've indicated, there is
8
        a vast array of material from Social Services relating
        to you, and I am not going to pull those all up.
        would accept -- and I have shown you some of the
10
11
        documents today -- that there was substantial
12
        involvement from the beginning of your time in
13
        Termonbacca right through. The social worker visited
14
        you while you were there, and reports were kept.
15
            For example, if we look at SND-2716, first of all,
16
        you will see that this is described as an internal case
17
        review, and if we could -- the date on that I think
        should be
18
                                         If we could just scroll
19
        down, please, in this it records details about your
20
        emotional development and behaviour, your relationships
21
        in the home. It describes you as -- your relationship
22
        with other -- with residential staff as good, willing to
23
        please. With other children you are quite good.
24
        can be somewhat aggressive. It talks about your general
25
        health and medical examinations, and general comments
```

Page 97 1 are: "Generally good." 3 It's very difficult to make out the handwriting. "To have an aggressive streak" that might be. I am not quite clear, but in any event it is signed there at the bottom by whoever 7 prepared that internal review. 8 If -- I am not going to open all of these other documents, but if the Inquiry wishes to see them, if they look at SND-2714, 2716, which is this one 10 I believe, 2790, 2786 and 2725, they show that there 11 12 were reviews taking place in 13 You would accept that Social Services were heavily 14 15 involved with you even during your time at Termonbacca? 16 I always remember seeing them, yes. 17 In fact, you invariably in all of these are described as making progress, both physically, emotionally and 18 19 socially. If we just look at SND-2731, and if we could 20 highlight there at E, if we just scroll down, E, "Child 21 in residential unit", and you'll see it says: 22 "Is well adjusted emotionally and his social and 23 physical development has been very satisfactory --24 despite the traumatic circumstances of his reception 25 into care and the problems in family background."

- 1 It describes you as having good relationship with
- 2 the Termonbacca staff --
- 3 . Now , his name is
- 4 actually underneath that. It is not to be disclosed
- outside the chamber, but that's SND332, who was
- . Do you
- 7 remember him?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. What do you wish to say to the Inquiry about him?
- 10 A. SND332 was a good man. He was a nice man. He was --
- I never had no problems with him.
- 12 Q. Apart from SND332 and social workers and your mother do
- 13 you remember anybody else visiting you in Termonbacca
- 14 or --
- 15 A. I remember one time my father come down. He came back
- over from and he came down, and I decided to go
- along with him whenever he was leaving like, but
- basically they came back down and grabbed the hold of me
- 19 **and** --
- 20 Q. And you weren't able to go with him.
- 21 A. -- back up into the home again.
- 22 Q. What about -- do you remember any visits by St. Vincent
- de Paul or senior nuns or --
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. -- anyone like that?

## A. No.

1

- $^2$  Q. No. Now if I can take you on to some of the specific
- 3 allegations that you do make in your witness statement.
- 4 If we could look again at paragraph (sic) SND-2528, now
- 5 there's a particular nun who is identified in
- paragraph 6, and she's identified as SR6, and that's the
- designation which the Inquiry has given to her, but if
- I can just read, there you say that she tried to force
- 9 your mouth open to get you to eat it -- and this is the
- 10 porridge that you are talking about. You describe her
- 11 as an animal.
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q.

14

15

16 You say:

- "Sh would have disciplined us by using her knuckles
- 18 with her fist closed. It would have been a crack on the
- 19 back or side of the head or whatever side she came at
- 20 you. She would have hit you every morning for a week or
- over a period of days. The beatings mostly occurred
- 22 from ."
- You recollect that?
- 24 A. I recollect that nun, yes.
- 25 Q. You talk about her again in paragraph 7. You say that:

1 "She would also hit us for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. I was kept along with SND134 when 3 I went into the home, but I remember when I was about , they moved me over to the other side from  $\,$ from one sister's group to this other sister's group, and say you were always trying to get over and see SND134 and SND134 would be trying to get over to see you but they wouldn't allow it. You think they 8 separated you because you were always carrying on 10 together. SND134 was only than you 11 and you were very close and: 12 "We were over-protective of one another." 13 You say this other nun who you name there, 14 got you moved back over. She sort of knew what was 15 going on and she would have scolded you, but she would 16 not have hit you. SR6 would have hit you with anything 17 that came to hand. You got hit several times by her. 18 "I got hit with brush shafts and with a dustpan 19 brush as well." 20 You say she left the home in around 21 know where she left, but when she left, the beatings 22 eased after her departure. 23 Yes. Α. 24 Apart from that one nun -- and I will go on; there is 25 another complaint about her further in your statement --

- 1 you have no complaints to make about the other nuns who
- looked after you in Termonbacca. Is that correct?
- 3 A. No, no.
- 4 Q. What did you -- I mean, how did they treat you?
- 5 A. Well, SR1, she basically was -- she was like -- she was
- a good guardian, you know. She would -- she wouldn't
- 7 have hit us. She would have used her voice more whereas
- 8 SR6, she would have -- she used physical violence.
- 9 Q. You talk in paragraph 8 about an old school house where
- they used to take you on holiday in Donegal.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. All the boys were in one room with mattresses on the
- ground. You and SND134 were small. You had one
- mattress and your sleeping bags, and you say that SND134
- had a problem with bedwetting.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. You remember that you received two main whippings, as
- you describe it, from this sister for bed wetting.
- 19 "SND134 had wet the bed, and although we were trying
- to hide it, she caught on and whipped us with the top of
- 21 a fishing rod."
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. You say:
- "She grabbed the springy bit at the top of the rod
- 25 and walloped us with it. It left marks on my legs",

- and you say it was the first time you ever saw
- white and red marks along the back of your legs where
- you had been hit.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. There's a second occasion that you refer to in
- 6 paragraph 9 when you got a whipping, which was when you
- were playing down in the playground at Termonbacca in
- 8 an area that you called the forest. I take it this was
- g just an area where there were some trees?
- 10 A. Just trees, yes.
- 11 Q. You were playing a game of soldiers. SND134 was up
- 12 a tree. He broke off a branch, but you didn't think
- anything of it. Later you saw this nun coming with
- the branch and she was pointing in the window at both of
- 15 you. I take it you were inside by this stage?
- 16 A. Yes. We were inside the dining hall.
- 17 Q. The dining hall. You say:
- "She beat both of us hard with this branch once she
- had stripped it of the leaves",
- and you were sent to your room.
- couldn't get up the stairs to the room and you say that
- 22 he told you years later that he wanted to sit on the
- cold tiles rather than go up the stairs as the cold
- tiles were easing the pain that he felt from the
- 25 beating.

- 1 A. Yes.
- $^{2}$  Q. You describe about the clothing that you would have been
- 3 wearing at that time.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. What would you have been wearing, HIA92?
- 6 A. Well, if it had been the summer, we would have been
- 7 running around in shorts.
- 8 Q. So your legs would have been accessible essentially?
- 9 A. Yes, yes.
- 10 Q. You also talk about being beaten for using bad language
- 11 towards this particular nun at paragraph -- well, first
- of all, you just talk about paragraph 10. You polished
- 13 your shoes after school, did your homework, got changed
- into your shorts and slippers and went out to play, and
- that's what you were wearing when she gave you the
- beating. Isn't that correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Now you say in that paragraph that you're sure that
- other members of lay staff saw her do it.
- 20 A. I am sure there was some staff around, yes.
- 21 Q. Do you recall how many lay staff there were in the home?
- 22 A. No, but there would always have been one.
- 23 Q. In paragraph 11 you say that she would have hit you,
- called you a brat even if you were just walking past
- 25 her. You remember you did turn to her and told her --

- 1 you swore at her --
- 2 A. Uh-huh.
- 3 Q. -- when she was hitting you, and you think you might
- 4 have only been about or , because you think it wasn't
- 5 long after , and she hit you for
- 6 using bad language.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. At paragraph 15 of the statement you talk about there
- 9 was a lot of bullying by older lads but that that made
- 10 you tough. You took the beatings from them. You also
- used to get thrown into big dryers. These were turned
- on and you were spun around. The older boys did that to
- 13 you. You say that that was always done out of earshot
- and away from the sight of any staff, and I take it by
- "staff" you include the nuns in that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. You say:
- "It was easy for this bullying by the older boys to
- 19 take place without the staff noticing. There were never
- very many staff on duty. Only two were on at any one
- time and there were over two dozen boys."
- You then talk about a particular boy who you name
- there and who you nicknamed. You say that he was
- bullied severely by the older boys.
- 25 A. SND35 was, yes.

- 1 O. We have heard some evidence I believe from other
- witnesses, but this boy would not have been intelligent
- 3 -- is that correct --
- 4 A. Yes. True.
- 5 Q. -- and may have been --
- 6 A. Easy picking. He was easy picking.
- 7 Q. Now if I can just take you back to paragraph 12, in this
- 8 paragraph you make a specific abuse -- sorry --
- 9 allegation of sexual abuse by an older resident who you
- name there. Can I just confirm that this is
- 11 ?
- 12 A. One of them, yes.
- 13 Q. The other person you named was HIA60, who was
- 14
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. You say you were or years of age. and
- 17 you shared this dormitory , who is named
- , and other boys. Your bed
- 19 was up against the wall. .
- 20 You say that SND134 has had -- has a better
- 21 memory of this than you do, and he recalls that -- he
- describes what he recalls and you have had this
- conversation with him subsequently.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Can I just ask you, HIA92, what exactly do you remember

- 1 about this incident and what happened?
- 2 A. All I basically remember is we were put to our bed
- 3 through memory now. What I remember then was basically
- being held down, and I don't know whether I passed out
- or not, because whenever I did come round, the -- I was
- 6 lying upside down. Whatever -- they must have set us
- into the bed or whatever, put me in. Like SND134's
- $^8$  head was up here and I was at the bottom, and I was --
- 9 I remember being underneath the quilt, and I remember
- 10 biting and it was our SND134 that I actually bit, but
- I don't know how I got into that bed in that position.
- 12 Q. You weren't in your own bed. Is that correct?
- 13 A. No, I was not in my own bed, no.
- 14 O. You were in SND134's.
- 15 A. Put me in SND134's.
- 16 Q. You go on there. You say that you don't know if you
- screamed, but you just blacked out somehow.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. You go on to describe a particular type of abuse in that
- sentence in the paragraph. What do you want to say
- about that today? Do you actually recollect that,
- 22 HIA92?
- 23 A. Actually I recollect -- it is vague in my mind, like,
- but I actually recollect being held down. As for ending
- up in the bed upside down, I don't know anything about

- 1 it.
- 2 Q. You go on to say what SND134 has told you.
- 3 A. What SND134 has said, what SND134 has -- aye, actually
- 4 SND134 -- SND134 has turn round and said he seen me
- 5 being held and basically screaming.
- 6 Q. Now at paragraph 13 you go on and you talk about what
- 7 happened just after that. You remember a particular nun
- 8 coming to both of you later on that night --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. -- getting you out of bed and taking you out into the
- 11 corridor and asking you if any of the boys had touched
- 12 you.
- 13 A. Yes. SR1.
- 14 Q. You had the opportunity to tell the nun at this time
- what had happened.
- 16 A. We had the opportunity, yes.
- 17 Q. You didn't take that opportunity.
- 18 A. Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. Isn't that right, HIA92? Why was that?
- 20 A. Well, one, she had a slipper in her hand and, two, we
- were scared, you know, and you just -- at that
- 22 age I didn't know what was actually happening and I was
- just saying, "No, no, no".
- Q. You say that it clicked with you you were going to have
- 25 to stick together --

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1 A. Yes.
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- $^{2}$  Q. -- and --
- 3 A. That's when we sort of stuck together hard then.
- $^4$  Q. You say that as time passed SND134 turned on and you
- 5 turned off.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. What do you me by that?
- 8 A. SND134 thinks that being lifted and put into care was --
- 9 basically that I just shut off from previous years with
- my parents and stuff whereas SND134 would go that he
- actually seen a lot more and heard a lot more than what
- 12 I can remember myself.
- 13 Q. Well, now we have indicated that
- , you moved to Nazareth House -- isn't that
- 15 correct --
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. -- for a short period of time? You then went into
- 18 foster care, and if I can just deal briefly with foster
- 19 care before coming back to the sexual abuse matter. You
- were put out at weekends, first of all, with this
- 21 family. That's all three of you. That's
- 22
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. You say that in -- you talk about this in paragraph 21
- 25 at page SND-2533. You say you stayed there for between

- and months. You said that you left because you

  were getting disciplined hard there. You say the foster

  father was

  So the discipline was severe

  and you took hidings from him. On one occasion you

  grabbed SND134 and pulled him over to you to protect you

  from the belt, but you stayed on for a year or two and

  took it, but you left as you got sick of it and you got

  sick of taking the hidings, although you accept in that

  that you were no angel.
- 10 A. Yes, true.
- 10 Q. You say they discovered that you had stolen some pound
  11 notes. It was fair you got beaten for that reason, but
  12 other times it was something petty and it wasn't fair.
  13 You give another example of where you got tar on white
  15 slippers from the hot road in the summer, and you got
  16 beaten for that, and if you were caught smoking, you got
  17 hiding -- you got another hiding.
- 18 A. Yes.

25

19 Q. You then ran back to Nazareth House and you told the nun
20 there that you didn't want to go back. Your social
21 worker came. The foster family came to the home and
22 they had with them. You say
23 that they wanted you to go back with them, but you were
24 afraid of being beaten again and you wouldn't return.

Your foster parents are still alive and

1 refers to them as 3 Now again coming back to the Social Services documents that we have received, it is clear from that that there was an internal assessment. If we could look at SND-2561, this is -- just scroll down through that 7 for a moment, please. Yes. You will see there that on 8 you presented yourself at Nazareth House and refused to return to your foster parents, saying you were unhappy there. The social worker felt 11 that it was necessary to determine if the foster 12 placement had broken down completely and, if so, the 13 reasons why. As a result of that you were then sent for a period of time to Harberton House for assessment 15 before being returned to Nazareth House. Isn't that 16 correct? 17 Yes. If we could look at SND-3534, if we could enlarge that, 18 19 please, you will see that this is social report which is 20 covering this issue, and you will see that this is 21 an internal assessment. It is dated 22 and it sets out the history of your family. Then it 23 goes down to the -- although you had been with the

years, problems as such did not arise

In particular you have

24

25

family for

until the summer of this year.

- 1 indulged in frequent bouts of stealing from the family home and there is evidence to suggest that you have been 3 stealing outside the home as well, which has brought you into conflict with the foster parents and the other children within the home. Unfortunately, despite being given every possible opportunity to discuss any problems 7 or pressures which you may have been under: 8 "... he has remained extremely uncommunicative. HIA92's failure to explain his behaviour and discuss any difficulties that may have been experienced have 10 11 resulted in the foster parents becoming frustrated and 12 at a loss to know how to work with him." 13 , giving no indication of On anything being amiss, you were requested to be home by 14 15 7.30 and certainly no later than 8.00. You arrived at 16 Nazareth House shortly after 5.00 and remained there and 17 you gave no indication of anything being wrong, but when 18 you were advised by the nun that it was time to go home, 19 you stated you didn't wish to return to the foster 20 parents and Social Services then were contacted about 21 that.
- So effectively you absented yourself from the foster home. Isn't that correct?
- 24 A. Yes, I run away, yes.
- 25 Q. SND-2576. You will see that this again is a document

1 and it is taken from Harberton House. There was a meeting to decide what was going to -- what they 3 intended to do with you during the period of assessment. If we could scroll down that page, if we just look there, it says that you have a strong bond with staff and children from Nazareth House and quite adamant you want to return there. Although you are not against being fostered again, you see placement with that particular family as being over and have spoken very 10 negatively about the foster father. The social worker 11 has recorded that you have already shown yourself of 12 being quite capable of playing one person off against 13 another and it is felt you have done that quite successfully in the situations that you set up between 15 your foster parents and Nazareth House. 16 So essentially Social Services are saying that you 17 are setting up situations to play off Nazareth House 18 against the foster parents. 19 Right. Α. 20 What do you want to say about that, HIA92? 21 SND 467 I basically refute that. knew me, 22 He knew me. He knew me and he knew I didn't 23 like it there. He knew -- I think he knew I was getting 24 disciplined hard, but as far as going to the Nazareth

House, it was the only place that I knew where I was

25

- actually getting a bit of care, looking after me -- you
- know what I mean -- where I actually felt wanted by that
- 3 nun.
- 4 O. I think we can --
- 5 A. You know, she could look after you and she would --
- I was settled. I settled right down again.
- 7 Q. So essentially can I confirm then, SR6, that apart
- 8 from the one nun who you name in Termonbacca as having
- engaged in beatings with you, you have no complaints
- about the Sisters of Nazareth and you would accept that
- there were other nuns who were caring and did their best
- 12 for you?
- 13 A. Oh, yes, definitely there was.
- 14 Q. In fact, I think at page SND-2555 in the social work
- 15 report -- it doesn't need to be called up -- you
- describe there in notes -- it is recorded that you were
- happy to stay in Nazareth House until you were , if
- that had been permitted.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Can I just ask you for the benefit of the Inquiry, and
- again these names will not be used outside and we have
- 22 been using designations for the nuns, but would you like
- 23 to clarify which nuns in particular that you want to
- speak about as having been loving and caring and looking
- 25 after you?

- 1 A. It would be SR1, SR 18 and SR 19.
- $^2$  Q. Now if I can take you back then to the sexual abuse that
- 3 we were talking about --
- 4 A. Uh-huh.
- 5 Q. -- you -- do you recall when you were at Nazareth House
- 6 you did tell one of the nuns about the abuse, and you
- 7 talk about this at paragraph 34 of your witness
- 8 statement. You said that you had spoken to the nuns
- 9 there and that after -- after a particular incident you
- 10 did tell them this.
- It might be prudent just to explain for the benefit
- of the Inquiry Panel Members, who won't be aware of
- this, that during your time at Nazareth House your
- behaviour deteriorated. Isn't that correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. It would be fair to say that at times it was extremely
- 17 challenging.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. There's a paragraph that you relate -- you relate
- a paragraph 23 of your witness statement about
- an occasion -- it is page SND-2533 -- when you were
- 22 about or you started to drink alcohol. Is that
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. That led to very aggressive behaviour on your part.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 3 "I got drunk with some boys who played in the
- 4 streets near the home. They brought me back to the home
- 5 drunk and left me at the front door, rung the bell and
- 6 ran way. I think the nuns took me upstairs to my room.
- 7 I had been keeping a Rambo style knife and I had it
- 8 under my pillow that night and I tried to stab myself
- 9 with it in the chest."
- 10 A nun that you name there found you and stopped you
- 11 from hurting yourself. What do you recollect about that
- incident, HIA92?
- 13 A. I remember I was really drunk and I was violent and
- I pulled out the Rambo knife, as it was called in them
- days. I pulled that out from underneath the pillow on
- my bed and I want to ram it into my chest.
- 17 Q. You described earlier when you were relating this
- incident to me that there was something that actually
- stopped the knife going into you.
- 20 A. It was a bible actually stopped me and it was SR 19
- SR 19 that had the bible.
- 22 Q. Now if we can just look at -- there's -- at
- page SND-10122, please, and this is again a record of
- 24 what is described as untoward incident reports in
- respect of you at Nazareth House. This is from Social

**HIAI Inquiry** Page 116 Services Board to the -- SND 469 , who would have been 1 the -- I believe the 3 worker, but I am not quite clear. It says: "I enclose for your information a number of reports which I have received in respect of the above named boy. Two of the reports dated and 7 refer to occasions when staff were aware that he had been drinking. This issue was focused on by both the 8 boy's primary worker and social worker. he returned from a visit to his mother 10 On 11 which obviously distressed him. He had scratched his 12 wrist as a result but no medical attention was 13 necessary. 14 On returned to the unit in a very 15 drunken state. Became extremely aggressive and 16 threatening, pulling a hunting knife from under his 17 mattress, attempting to injure himself. The Sisters had 18 to restrain him. An ambulance was summoned", 19 and you were taken to the Accident & Emergency Unit 20 at Altnagelvin. Because of your aggression there, no 21 medical attention was given. You were returned to the

> In fact, there is another document, which I will not pull up, but I have shown to you, which indicates that, in fact, the Sisters -- you were aggressive towards

unit and slept off the effects of the drink.

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- staff in the hospital and then you ran out of the
- hospital and the Sisters had to go after you to take you
- back. Isn't that correct?
- 4 A. That's correct, yes.
- 5 Q. You on absconded from the unit with another
- 6 resident and didn't return until 2 o'clock.
- 7 On review it was noted that the staff were following
- 8 up the incident of and you made allegations
- about interference when you were resident in
- 10 Termonbacca, and it was as a result of that information
- it was agreed that SND 467 would refer the matter to the
- 12 RUC.
- Just scroll on down, please. There were serious
- 14 concerns about your incidents of drinking which seem to
- have become a problem after your father spent a couple
- of weeks in Derry in early and the incident
- was being dealt with by relevant workers. Nazareth
- House, however, expressed serious concern about their
- ability to accommodate you during these outbursts and it
- was agreed to seek a place for you at Fort James. This
- 21 may take a period of time. Future incidents of
- 22 disruptive behaviour would result in you being
- transferred to St. Patrick's Training School and a Place
- of Safety Order.
- Now if I can come back to the incident of sexual

- abuse, you did tell the nuns about this.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 O. This was after this incident with the knife. Was that
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And that's --
- 7 A. It came to a head.
- 8 Q. It came to a head at that time.
- 9 A. In my -- in my brain, anyway.
- 10 Q. So you spoke to them and at that stage you talked to the
- nuns in the home. They reported to Social Services and
- as a result you eventually did make a statement to
- police, although there were cancelled appointments --
- 14 I~am not sure if you remember this again; this is all in
- documents Social Services have provided to us --
- 16 cancelled appointments by police, I should say. On the
- morning that you were to make your statement do you
- 18 recall what you did on that occasion?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Well, it's indicated that you broke a mirror with your
- 21 first.
- 22 A. Oh, aye, I cut myself.
- 23 Q. You had to be taken to the hospital.
- 24 A. I cut myself, yes. I remember that.
- 25 Q. Before you were actually taken to the police station

- 1 where you made a witness statement.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Now again I'm not going to call up all of these
- documents, but in SND-10105 you will see here that this
- is a document from Western Health & Social Services
- 6 Board and it says that -- this is where I was saying:
- 7 "In fact, when he was asked to meet with the police,
- 8 he reacted by putting his fist through a bathroom
- g cabinet in Nazareth House and a social worker had to
- bring him to hospital where he received appropriate
- 11 treatment."
- 12 At SND-14946, please, now this is, in fact, the
- witness statement that you gave to police and it is
- 14 dated . Do you remember going to the
- police station --
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. -- and making that? Your social worker was with you.
- 18 Is that right?
- 19 A. I don't think a social was there. I think it was one of
- the nuns.
- 21 Q. Well, is it possible the social worker went and the nun
- went into the room with you with the police. Is that
- 23 maybe what happened?
- 24 A. That was it probably.
- 25 Q. You describe there in the statement about what you say

- was done to you by a big boy, and you name him.
- $^2$  "He was about  $\,$  or  $\,$  . He was one of the boys that
- 3 used to bully us wee ones. He used to come over to my
- 4 bed, lie on top of me and bump up and down on me."
- 5 You go on in that statement. If we just scroll
- down, the Inquiry can read for themselves, but can
- 7 I just put it to you, HIA92, in the course of that
- 8 statement you don't describe what you do describe to the
- 9 Inquiry --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. -- in your statement to us.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. What do you want to say about that, HIA92?
- 14 A. Basically what -- that's what I've turned round and says
- about the blackout. That's -- it was the pressure of
- being held down. Whether there was penetration or not
- I don't think -- I don't know, but it was the pressure
- of being hold down and then coming round and the
- 19 position as I stated before with SND134 in the bed.
- 20 Q. So, as you sit here today, despite what you've told the
- 21 Inquiry in your witness statement --
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. -- you are not sure whether or not you were penetrated.
- 24 A. There was pressure on me. I was held down by him. It
- was -- it's the blackout, if you know what I mean.

- 1 O. Just for the --
- 2 A. The only person who could lifted me anyway would have
- 3 been him from the bed.
- 4 Q. Why do you say that?
- 5 A. Because he was in the same room as us and that's
- 6 whenever the nun -- the nuns then that was -- as you
- 7 stated earlier there, the nuns then had come that
- 8 evening and asked us did the boys touch us and we says
- 9 "No". It wasn't long after that they shoved us to the
- 10 room at the top of the stairs then where the two -- me
- and the brother were in the room on our own then.
- 12 Q. So you're saying that after the nun asked you if
- anything had happened, you --
- 14 A. The nuns actually moved us to --
- 15 O. From that room.
- 16 A. From that room, yes, and the nun's room -- where we were
- 17 put in at the stop of the stairs, the nun's room was
- directly just to the left as you were looking out our
- door.
- 20 Q. If we could just look at SND-2537 and SND-2538, please.
- Sorry. SND-29... -- I beg your pardon. SND-2937 and
- 22 SND-2938. If we could just enlarge SND-2937, first of
- 23 all, you will see this is another Social Services
- report. Could we remove SND2537 from the screen?
- Sorry. Can we remove that document, please, and put up

- 1 SND-2937? It is my fault for giving the wrong number in
- the first place. You will see that this is another
- memorandum from SND 468, the
- 4 and it is dated It says here:
- 5 "I refer to the allegations made by this boy in
- against one", and the person is named, "and your
- 7 subsequent enquiries about the case. You will recall
- 8 that the allegations concerned possible sexual abuse of
- one child in care by another while both were resident
- several years ago in St. Joseph's Home, Termonbacca. As
- 11 you know, the allegations were reported to the police
- who have been investigating. SND 467's accompanying
- memo now indicates that as a result of the police
- 14 enquiries the DPP has decided that no further action
- should be taken in the case."
- 16 Do you remember Social Services coming and talking
- to you and explaining to you that this person was not
- going to be prosecuted?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. But would you accept that they did do that?
- 21 A. Not to me they didn't, no.
- 22 O. Well --
- 23 A. Actually I heard nothing back.
- 24 O. Pardon?
- 25 A. I actually heard nothing back of it, of prosecutions or

- anything like that.
- $^2$  Q. You didn't hear anything about it?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. There are documents which are in the bundle, which
- I can't just give the name of now, which show that they
- did, in fact, try to tell you that this wasn't going to
- go anywhere and why and, in fact --
- 8 A. That's probably why I lost the head then.
- 9 Q. Pardon?
- 10 A. That's probably why I lost the head then after that.
- 11 Q. Well, do you remember -- you have talked about the
- 12 witness who gave evidence this morning and he has talked
- about meeting you on an occasion in Derry. Do you
- remember that at all, HIA92?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. What do you -- what's your memory of that?
- 17 A. I always remember it was down by the walls -- it was
- down by the walls. I think I was getting a bus back to
- was it to Harberton House or Fort -- I think -- no, it
- 20 was Fort James I was actually getting the bus back to
- I think. I met HIA60 and I was telling him the craic
- about what was going on.
- 23 Q. Were you drunk?
- 24 A. I had drink taken, yes.
- 25 Q. You say you were telling him the craic about what was

- going on. Do you remember what you did say to him?
- A. I just told him that -- I'd mentioned about what HIA69
- 3 had done.
- 4 Q. Did -- he has a recollection of you saying that you also
- 5 told him you saw him as your protector. Do you remember
- 6 that?
- 7 A. Oh, HIA60 -- yes, for definitely HIA60 looked after us.
- 8 Q. Now you didn't -- in your statement to the police that
- 9 we looked at earlier you only talk about this one boy.
- 10 You don't talk about other boys holding you down or
- anything like that.
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. Isn't that correct?
- 14 A. Yes. There was boys that was holding -- that was
- holding us on separate occasions. This wasn't just one
- occasion. This was like a couple of occasions. There
- was times that we were grabbed and held.
- 18 Q. But you didn't say that to the police at the time. You
- 19 accept that?
- 20 A. Yes, I accept that, yes.
- 21 Q. Now as I've indicated, there were -- we've looked at
- some of the behaviour that you were experiencing. If we
- could just look at SND-2628, please, it just says that
- you had been in the flat downstairs. You came up in
- good form. These are examples of -- this should be

- a report I believe, if this is the right document, of
- one of the nuns reported an incident where
- 3 a slapped you for bullying. Yes, that is
- 4 correct. This is -- this is this incident. Do you
- 5 remember that?
- 6 A. Aye, I do, yes.
- 7 Q. And what do you remember about it, HIA92?
- 8 A. Basically I remember that was I tried to face off big
- 9 , as we used to call her. So it was -- I am still
- 10 actually good friends with , but I actually tried
- 11 to face her off, thinking I was tougher than her, and
- 12 I lost.
- 13 Q. You are described in the documents as presenting a macho
- image.
- 15 A. Yes, yes, yes.
- 16 Q. Would you accept that is what you were doing?
- 17 A. I was tough, yes.
- 18 Q. As I have indicated, you having told the nuns about the
- 19 sexual abuse, they reported it to the social worker, who
- went to the police. There was an incident in
- 21 where you
- Do you remember that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 O. You also in -- sorry -- had taken
- 25

- 1 A. I did, yes.
- $^2$  Q. Your behaviour effectively was so challenging that the
- nuns were unable to look after you any longer. Isn't
- 4 that correct?
- 5 A. Basically at the time of
- 6 I was in Fort James. I wasn't in Nazareth
- 7 House.
- 8 O. So this was later?
- 9 A. It was later, yes.
- 10 Q. You were, in fact, transferred in to Fort
- James.
- 12 A. Fort James, yes.
- 13 Q. But again you were transferred I suggest because of the
- difficulties with your behaviour.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 O. If we can look at two documents -- SND-10122. Again
- 17 this is a Social Services document which again --
- I think we were liking at this earlier, where it talks
- 19 about the fact that you were to be transferred. I think
- I've read that one out already. Sorry.
- 21 SND-2799, please. Again if we can highlight the
- bottom of the conclusion. This is again another social
- work report. It says you were transferred to Fort James
- 24 because of difficulties with your behaviour, incidents
- of drinking, aggression generally towards yourself. The

Page 127 1 objective in Fort James is to help you to prepare for adult life in the community with the use of independent 3 living unit from the age of years -years. In respect of the allegations previously made you had now given a statement to the RUC. You were due to leave school in two weeks' time. 7 You were to be supported by your social worker in your 8 application for youth training scheme and you were to be permitted access to your mother as you wished, but you must arrange that with staff. That would have been in 10 11 12 Now you -- while you were in Fort James, your 13 behaviour became even worse. Is that fair? You were 14 involved in -- you actually received 15 16 A. Yes. 17 Do you remember that? 18 Yes. Α. 19 You talk about this in your paragraph (sic) at 20 paragraph 27. You talk about -- from actually 21 page SND-2534, please, paragraph 25, you say that you 22 were in Nazareth House until you were 23 24 "We had gone through a serious of nuns."

You say this particular nun left and that's why you

25

1 became very unsettled. She had been a stabilising influence on you. You say your head just totally went: 3 "... and I think the reason that they moved me was because they couldn't control me, so they shifted me to a place called Fort James in Tullyalley. There were no religious or clerical staff looking after me ... 7 life was in turmoil then." 8 You say the staff used to take you for a walk along the banks of Faughan River. There were parts of the 10 river where you could jump in and there was gravel. You 11 go on to talk about other boys up ahead throwing stones. 12 You lifted a stone, threw it but it ricocheted off a 13 wire fence, hit a young boy on the head. He started 14 crying. You ended up and you think 15 16 So you had 17 and as a result you were sent to St. Pat's in Belfast. 18 Yes. Α. 19 You actually talk -- a document that has been provided 20 to us which -- is at SND-3818. Sorry. I beg your 21 SND-2649 through to SND-2658. The Inquiry can 22 This is a handwritten document in which look at this. 23 yourself record about this first occasion when you were 24 taken to St. Pat's. Do you remember writing this, 25 HIA92? It is quite a lengthy document, and I am not

- going to open it to the Inquiry, but you go through
- a lot of detail about going from the home and telling
- 3 someone, parents, that you were going to be
- taken to St. Pat's, and you go right the way through
- 5 until you are put into the car and taken to St. Pat's.
- 6 You relate that there, and you talk in that about
- 7 a person called SND309 going to St. Pat's with you.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you remember that? Do you remember who that person
- 10 was?
- 11 A. SND309 .
- 12 Q. Yes. Now the Inquiry has received so far only in draft
- form a statement from the person you name as an abuser.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. This would have been of SND309.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Now, first of all, can I tell you that the person
- against whom you make the allegation completely and
- 19 utterly denies the allegations that you've made against
- 20 him, and he talks about how he was someone who was
- denigrated during his time in care, and as someone who
- 22 was called nicknames and because of behaviour that he
- engaged in and was abused for that, he found -- he says:
- "I find it really quite disturbing for someone to
- 25 suggest that I would perpetrate upon others the sort of

Page 130 1 abuse from which I ran and against which I rebelled." He goes on to say that he has no recollection of you 3 whatsoever, but you say 4 Yes, we did, yes. 5 You say that you now understand that he used to be 6 friendly with his younger brother -- sorry. He says 7 that he now understands that 8 10 , and he says he finds it strange that 11 someone would continue a friendship with 12 What do you want to tell 13 the Inquiry about that, HIA92, first of all? Did you 14 know SND309? Well, if he didn't know me, how did he know my mother? 15 16 You know what I mean? 17 Well, in fairness to him he says that he now also 18 19 understands that. So he is not saying he knew this at 20 the time. 21 Yes. Α. 22 He is saying he has no recollection of you and he finds 23 it strange that 24 Now 25

- 1 A. I met SND309 whenever they shifted me to Fort James.
- 2 Q. Had you known him in your time at Termonbacca --
- 3 A. No.
- 4 O. -- or in Nazareth House?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. You did, when you were speaking to me this morning, talk
- 7 about someone else who came in with the same surname --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- to Nazareth House when you were there.
- 10 A. Yes. That was --
- 11 Q. What do you want to tell the Inquiry about that?
- 12 A. That was basically SND300. That's whenever it sort of
- came -- sort of just came rushing back into my mind
- 14 about HIA69 --
- 15 O. This was someone with the same surname.
- 16 A. -- was because SND300 was . It sort of just
- 17 triggered memory.
- 18 Q. Are you saying that that's the time you told the nuns in
- 19 Nazareth House?
- 20 A. That was round the time, yes.
- 21 Q. He goes on to say that -- he says although he was aware
- of and indeed was the victim of the abuse, he was never
- aware of the level of the abuse that you outline. He
- was not aware of children being raped or sodomised
- during his time in care and he says that the level of

- depravity which you describe is not consistent with his
- own experiences. Is there any comment you want to make
- 3 about that?
- 4 A. He's a liar. He knows me and he knows
- 5 . He knows -- he knows who we are. No
- 6 witnesses. No crime. That's basically his word against
- 7 mine.
- 8 Q. Well, if I can take you back then to -- you went from
- Fort James to St. Pat's, and you talk again -- if we
- 10 look at page SND-2534, we are at paragraph 26 again, and
- 11 you say that after -- you spent in
- the justice side of St. Patrick's Training College --
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 O. -- after the incident
- 15 You were then brought back to Fort James, and
- 16 you say at that stage you were totally uncontrollable.
- 17 The staff there didn't like you. You wouldn't appease
- them or adhere to what they wanted. They couldn't
- 19 handle you.
- 20 and
- 21 you loved it, but then they made you go back to Fort
- James. At that time you were . Fort James had put
- you into one of their training flats, where they tried
- to prepare you for independent living. You did not like
- 25 the way the key workers were interfering with your

- 1 privacy and independence. For that reason they were
- 2 going to send you back over to St. Pat's another time.
- 3 A guy called was going to take you there. So you
- said you were going to get your coat and you ran away.
- 5 You ran to your mother's. You knew they would come
- 6 looking for you. So when you heard a knock at the door
- and saw the social worker, you didn't answer it. You
- 8 then appeared in court and eventually the judge said you
- 9 could live with your mother at that stage.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. You think you were about , almost , when you left
- care to live with your mother.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Now can I just confirm although you say you didn't get
- on with the staff in For James, you accept that your
- behaviour was -- as you described, you were no angel and
- 17 you must have presented them with considerable
- difficulties.
- 19 A. Well, I was disruptive with them, yes, but that was Fort
- James, but my case is not against Fort James.
- 21 Q. No. I just wanted to satisfy -- you are not complaining
- 22 about any institutions other than Termonbacca, what
- happened to you there.
- 24 A. Termonbacca, yes.
- 25 Q. You accept that Social Services had a difficult job with

- 1 you.
- 2 A. I had a difficult life. So I made it difficult for
- 3 them.
- 4 Q. Yes. One of the things you did say, that during your
- 5 time in Termonbacca things changed when this particular
- 6 nun and the older boys had left.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. I mean, when you say they changed, I take things got
- 9 better.
- 10 A. It was more of a relaxed state and it wasn't as -- what
- would the word be -- discipline, it wouldn't be -- like
- the violence from that nun that I have mentioned,
- I never seen that again. I never seen that again from
- any nun, but then again we were the youngest that
- actually left that home. We were next to the last
- 16 children to leave Termonbacca and we went down to
- a total different regime in Nazareth House.
- 18 Q. Now you left care and in paragraph 28 of your statement
- 19 you go to describe your life after care, and at
- 20 paragraph 28 you say:
- "Since leaving care my life has been terrible."

22

23

- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q.

Page 135 1 (Witness withdrew) 3 We will just rise for a few minutes. CHAIRMAN: (3.00 pm)5 (Short break) 6 (3.05 pm)7 Mr Chairman, members and ladies and gentlemen, 8 the witness HIA92 is somewhat upset and feels he cannot continue to give evidence before you this afternoon. I had almost reached the end of his evidence in any 10 11 I would just actually refer you to the final 12 paragraphs in his witness statement where he sets out 13 what has happened to him in his life between -- those are paragraphs 28 through to the end of the witness 15 statement. He is somewhat distressed, and the Panel 16 may feel it is inappropriate to ask him to return. 17 CHAIRMAN: Well, the Inquiry Panel feel that's entirely the 18 right course to take. The episodes that he describes in 19 the section "Life after care" are exceptionally 20 distressing. He has so far as we are in a position to 21 judge dealt with all the matters that are relevant to 22 the Inquiry's terms of reference. Therefore, we do not 23 consider it appropriate to ask him to come in to proceed 24 any further. So we entirely agree with that decision 25 and he is free to go whenever he feels able to face up

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1 to departing.
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- $^2$  MS SMITH: I will certainly convey that to him, Chairman.
- 3 Thank you for that.
- 4 There is another witness to be -- to give evidence
- 5 this afternoon. I would be grateful for some time to --
- say to 3.30, and hopefully we could conclude by about
- 7 5 o'clock this afternoon.
- 8 CHAIRMAN: Yes. Very well. Ladies and gentlemen, we will
- 9 sit not before 3.30.
- 10 MS SMITH: I am grateful.
- $11 \quad (3.07 \text{ pm})$
- 12 (Short break)
- $13 \quad (3.30 \text{ pm})$
- WITNESS HIA169 (called)
- 15 MS SMITH: Good afternoon, Chairman, Panel Members. The
- next witness is "HIA169", who is to be known as HIA169.
- If you just stand there, HIA169, the Chairman is going
- to ask you about taking the oath or affirming.
- 19 CHAIRMAN: HIA169, do you wish to take a religious oath or
- to make an affirmation? They have the same legal
- 21 effect. It is a matter entirely for you to choose.
- 22 A. I'd like to take the affirmation, please.
- 23 CHAIRMAN: Very well.
- 24 WITNESS HIA169 (affirmed)
- 25 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please be seated.

- 1 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
- 2 MS SMITH: Now, HIA169, if you can just speak into the
- 3 microphone so we can pick up all that you want to say.
- 4 One of the things I forgot to ask you about is I think
- 5 I've explained to you that we have given everybody who
- is coming to speak to the Inquiry anonymity. I take it
- 7 that you do wish your anonymity to be preserved and you
- 8 don't want your name to be broadcast outside this room.
- 9 Is that correct?
- 10 A. Yes, Cath... -- Christine. Sorry.
- 11 Q. If you need a break at any time, just say. I appreciate
- that you're nervous. We'll just take it slowly and
- we'll deal with all that you have to say to the Inquiry.
- 14 A. Okay.
- 15 Q. You are now aged . You will soon be . Isn't that
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. As a child you -- sorry. If I can just ask that your
- 19 witness statement be put up on the screen. It is
- 20 SND-4268. Now, HIA169, I showed this to you earlier and
- I explained there would be black bands covering people's
- 22 names and you will see it is a witness statement of
- 23 HIA169, which is the reference number that the Inquiry
- has given to you. If we could just go to the last
- page of that, please. That's SND-4278.

- 1 A. Yes.
- $^2$  Q. You signed the witness statement on 2nd November 2013
- 3 and your signature is under that black box --
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. -- on the witness statement. Can I confirm this is the
- 6 witness statement that you have made for the Inquiry and
- you want them to consider it as your evidence?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Now you moved from to Nazareth House, Bishop
- Street when you were aged about until the
- 11 .
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. If we could just look briefly at SND-4265, this is
- 14 a document that we have received from the Sisters of
- Nazareth register. It indicates you were admitted on --
- 16 to Nazareth House on and that you had
- 17 come from the
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Can I ask you, HIA169, what you -- your earliest memory
- of being in Bishop Street was?
- 21 A. Actually -- it's actually a nice thing. I remember
- 22 I think I was about 4 -- I think I was about 4 and there
- 23 was beautiful round tables with beautiful coloured like
- rectangles in the table and there was glass on top of
- 25 the table -- the tables, and we were about 4, and

- I remember there was a few of them in the room. That's
- kind of like my earliest memory. I know SR50 was there
- 3 with us kids. That is my -- because I do art. So
- 4 I always remember that beautiful coloured --
- 5 O. Table.
- 6 A. -- glass tables.
- 7 Q. Well, while you were there is it correct that you only
- 8 remember your mother visiting you twice? If we just
- 9 look at SND-4267, please, page 4267. This is your
- witness statement again, and at paragraph 4 -- sorry.
- I've got my numbering wrong. SND-4269. Apologies.
- 12 SND-4269.
- 13 A. Do you want me to look at my statement?
- 14 Q. Yes, you can look at it, but it is coming up --
- 15 A. Oh, I see yes.
- 16 Q. -- on the screen here in front of you in any event. You
- say at paragraph 4 that you only remember your mother
- visiting twice during your time in Nazareth House. She
- visited and this particular sister held you and would
- 20 not let you go over to see her. You do not know why she
- 21 did that. You just remember her holding you tightly.
- 22 who was with you in the home was allowed to
- go over to see your mother.
- You go on in paragraph 5 to say that was
- 25 there, but you describe the nuns as not liking you to

- have contact with each other or being close, and you say
- that you didn't think that they liked anyone bonding in
- any way. You say if they saw any girls getting on and
- 4 having fun, they would come out and separate them. Do
- 5 you remember that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Now did you make -- you did form friendships. Despite
- 8 this you did form friendships in the home.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Do you remember some of the names of the girls you were
- 11 friendly with?
- 12 A. Do you want me to say them out loud?
- 13 Q. Yes. They won't be allowed to be repeated outside this
- 14 room, but you can tell the Inquiry.
- 15 A. Okay. People like , HIA105, HIA90,
- 16 **SND174**,
- 17 Q. Can I just pause there, HIA169, and can I ask -- you
- have named some people there, and HIA90, do you know
- what her married name was?
- 20 A. I forget. I forget. I know HIA90 married a fellow from
- . I know he wasn't very nice to her, but I know
- she married a fellow from . I forget her name, her
- 23 married name.
- Q. Is it possible it was HIA90? Does that ring a bell with
- 25 you?

## 1 A. I can't remember, but I know she married a fellow from

- 2 .
- 3 Q. In any event you talk at paragraph 7 about the daily
- 4 routine in the home.
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- 6 Q. You say that you got up about 7.00 am on an ordinary
- 7 morning. On a mass morning you got up earlier. You
- 8 went to mass and then you had breakfast. You had mass
- you think about three times a week and on a Sunday. You
- say that if you were being punished for something, you
- were not allowed breakfast, and you would then get
- washed. So are you saying that you got washed before or
- 13 after breakfast?
- 14 A. Before breakfast.
- 15 Q. You talk -- you go on there to talk about treatment that
- 16 you received, but can I just ask food in the home, you
- 17 talk about that at paragraph 9 and you say the food was
- 18 good.
- 19 A. I thought so, yes.
- 20 Q. Your only complaint was that really sometimes food was
- withheld as a punishment.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. But that the actual quality and quantity of the food was
- 24 good.
- 25 A. I thought it was good, yes.

- 1 Q. Are you happy with the clothing with which you were
- 2 supplied? It was adequate?
- 3 A. Well, I think it was adequate. It was hand-me-downs,
- 4 but yes. I think so, yes.
- 5 Q. Just these are some general issues that I am just
- 6 talking about --
- 7 A. Sure.
- 8 Q. -- addressing about your life in the home. At
- 9 paragraph 22, which is on page SND-4274, you talk about
- another type of punishment, and this was at paragraph 22
- 11 there. Another punishment was -- by the nuns was to
- make you have your bath last.
- 13 A. Yes, or maybe 16th or, you know ...
- 14 Q. Okay, and you all used the same water. It was filthy by
- 15 the time you got in. Some of the girls would have had
- their period. You can't have a bath to this day. You
- only ever have a shower. A bath would make you feel
- 18 dirty.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. That's your recollection of --
- 21 A. Very much so.
- 22 Q. -- the bathing regime.
- 23 A. Filthy.
- 24 Q. Some others have suggested that there was a disinfectant
- used in the bath. Do you have any recollection of that?

- 1 A. No. The bath was just filthy. The water was filthy.
- $^2$  Q. If I can just turn back to page SND-4270, paragraph 10,
- you describe the sleeping arrangements in the home. You
- 4 say you slept in a dormitory. You had metal beds with
- a sheet and blanket and you say it was freezing cold.
- 6 The dormitory was dark and scary and you talk about
- 7 a form of punishment, which was being made to stand in
- 8 a dark corridor naked. You say there were cockroaches
- 9 on the ground.
- 10 A. Oh, yes. Sorry. Yes.
- 11 Q. You recall this happened twice when you were 9 and 11.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. You go on to describe your problem with wetting the bed
- and that problem persisted throughout your time in care.
- 15 You say how that was treated was to get you up in the
- middle of the night to go to the toilet.
- 17 A. Oh --
- 18 Q. Sorry.
- 19 A. Yes, yes. About 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning they
- would get us up.
- 21 Q. And you still --
- 22 A. Wet the bed.
- 23 Q. -- wet the bed and you put your bed wetting to
- 24 a particular incident, which we'll come on to describe
- later, but in the morning after wetting the bed you say

- were beaten by one of two nuns who you name there, and
- $^2$  you won't appreciate from what's on the screen, but your
- 3 statement that you have with you should indicate which
- 4 nuns we are talking about there. It's --
- 5 A. Oh, yes, yes.
- 6 Q. -- in paragraph 10.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. The Inquiry has the names of those nuns.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. You say that you were beaten by them:
- "... but worse than that, they then humiliated the
- bed wetters by making us put our underwear on our head
- and standing at the breakfast table so everyone could
- 14 see."
- 15 A. That's my experience, yes. Some kids had sheets, but my
- experience was I had to put my underpants on my head and
- 17 stand up.
- 18 Q. Now in paragraph 8 of the statement you talk about you
- 19 had to do chores in the home and you talk about
- scrubbing the bathrooms, toilets, corridors, washing the
- dishes, and you say one particular nun was obsessed with
- cleanliness within your group, and if a spot was missed,
- she would get you down on her knees -- she would get
- down on her knees and start scrubbing, and if you didn't
- offer to help her, you would get punished by her, and

- she would pull your hair, kick you on the body or hit
- your heads off the wall. You describe her as having
- a nickname, because you say she always wore boots and
- 4 would kick you with them.
- 5 A. Yes. Not all the times, but sometimes. Yes. Yes.
- 6 Sorry. Yes.
- 7 Q. Now there is -- you go on at paragraph 11 just at the
- 8 bottom of that page to say that you suffered physical
- 9 abuse at the hands of three nuns who you name there.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. You then go on to give particular instances about this,
- but can I just pause for a moment to go back and ask
- again some general questions about the home?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Do you remember special occasions being celebrated such
- 16 as Christmas?
- 17 A. Well, there was Christmas, St. Patrick's Day,
- 18 Hallowe'en.
- 19 Q. What do you remember about those events?
- 20 A. Well, Christmas, you did have a party and the bishop
- would come and we'd get presents, and Hallowe'en there
- would be toffee apples and, you know, other stuff, party
- things in the big dining room.
- 24 O. And St. Patrick's Day?
- 25 A. Paddy's Day I think was just a special party meal thing.

- 1 Q. What about your birthday, HIA169? Is there something
- 2 you want to tell the Inquiry about that?
- 3 A. I thought my birthday was on up until I found
- 4 out -- I had to get my birth certificate and I saw on my
- 5 birth certificate it was on , but
- I always was told my birthday was on ,
- 7
- 8 Q. Do you remember your birthday ever being celebrated in
- 9 the home?
- 10 A. I wasn't -- no, not me, no.
- 11 Q. What about pocket money? Did you get pocket money?
- 12 A. Yes, we did get pocket money.
- 13 Q. Can you recall how much you got or what you did with it?
- 14 A. We went to the tuck shop, but if you were being
- punished, you didn't get the pocket money, but there was
- a -- there was a -- what they call a tuck shop, like --
- and it was in the school corridor, and you were allowed
- to buy sweets and stuff, things like that.
- 19 Q. What about day trips? I think you talk about these at
- 20 paragraph 9 of your witness statement. You say you did
- 21 get -- you went to the tuck shop. Sometimes you were
- allowed to watch a film on a Sunday.
- 23 A. That's right.
- Q. You got an apple to eat while you were watching the
- 25 film.

- 1 A. That's right.
- 2 Q. You say you were often punished --
- 3 A. Mostly cowboy movies and stuff like that.
- 4 Q. But you say that you were punished by being not allowed
- 5 to watch the films. Is that right?
- 6 A. Oh, yes, yes. You would have to stand outside the
- 7 classroom where the film was being shown, you know, and
- 8 you could hear the film, but if you were being punished,
- you know, you would be upset because you weren't in
- watching the film.
- 11 Q. Can I just say music played a large part in the life of
- the home. Is that correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. You do -- I think at paragraph 14 and 15 of your
- 15 statement you do talk about this as well. You say you
- 16 were and you would travel around Northern
- 17 Ireland winning every festival you entered, and you say
- this meant that everyone in Derry loved these particular
- 19 nuns. It was therefore difficult for anyone to believe
- that they were abusing you behind the scenes.
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. What do you remember about being ?
- 23 A. Well, we -- well, we pretty much won -- we pretty much
- won everything, feisean and, you know -- SR9 was really
- ambitious. We pretty much won everything.

1 Did you enjoy being I didn't like being , but I think I said to you earlier I loved listening to the harmonising, 3 because I love harmonising. I love music with 5 harmonising, but I didn't particularly like being , and sometimes I would have and 7 I didn't like that, because I'd be nervous and scared, 8 but I didn't really like -- I did like -- sorry. I did like going around the countryside and, you know, doing 10 con... -- not doing but I loved getting 11 out of the Nazareth House and going to different places 12 in Donegal or Northern Ireland or -- you know, because 13 14 15 You talk about Irish dancing in the home and I know you 16 wanted to clarify something about what you say in 17 paragraph 15 where you say that a particular person: 18 " . . . . He would beat us on 19 the legs with a steel ruler 20 . " 21 Now you were never actually an 22 yourself. Is that correct? 23 No, I also did the and, 24 you know, all that stuff. 25 But there was something you wanted to say about that,

Page 149 1 that --Well --Α. 3 There was a ceilidh band and you weren't in that. 4 Wasn't that right? 5 A. No, no, I wasn't in the band. 6 So you were Q. 7 I was 8 -- and the Irish dancing? We did Irish dancing and stuff like that. Well, can I -- during your time there did you ever see 10 11 anyone from Social Services visit? 12 A. No. 13 Or what about -- have you any memory of any senior nuns Q. 14 coming to visit the home? 15 Α. No. 16 What about anybody else visiting? Do you remember any 17 celebrities or ...? SR9 loved 18 Well, We did Α. 19 a --" , 20 which I hate to this day. Sorry. She loved 21 and, of course, brother 22 was a priest in the Nazareth House for about a year and 23 maybe three or four months, but she -came 24 and visited us. 25 Now in paragraph 5 of your witness statement, if we can

- just scroll back to that, these are some of the
- particular allegations that you make about your time
- 3 there, and you say that -- you have just indicated that
- 4 the brother of -- and again he can't be
- 5 named outside this room -- came to visit the home and
- 6 you say this particular nun loved him.
- 7 A. I'm really sorry. Is this number 7?
- 8 Q. Paragraph 5. Sorry, HIA169.
- 9 A. Oh, 5.
- 10 Q. If you just see, you say where it starts:
- 11 " also in Nazareth House ..."
- 12 A. Oh, sorry.
- 13 Q. Then if you go down, the large line blacking out the
- name is of the particular priest who was the brother of
- 15
- 16 A. Yes, yes.
- 17 Q. He came to visit the home and you say that this
- particular nun loved him. If it's easier to look at
- 19 your own statement --
- 20 A. Okay. Sorry.
- 21 Q. -- you can read it. That's fine.
- 22 A. Okay.
- 23 Q. You say that you were his favourite -- that's the
- 24 priest's favourite -- and she didn't like this, so she
- picked on you and beat you, but never in front of him.

- 1 A. Oh, yes.
- $^{2}$  Q. You are suggesting that she was jealous because he liked
- you.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. You talk about at paragraph 7, if we just go down there,
- 6 where you were saying that your hair was normally
- brushed with a normal brush, but if you were being
- 8 punished -- can you just see that halfway down that
- 9 paragraph?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Your hair was brushed with a steel fine toothcomb by one
- of the two nuns that are named.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. You remember on many occasions between the ages of 4 and
- 15 14 when this was happening, and having your head pushed
- about, and sister being very rough, often leaving your
- scalp bleeding.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Then you talk about the rest of the routine in the home,
- 20 about going to school. Primary school was Nazareth
- 21 House. After that you went to secondary school at
- 22 Sister -- sorry -- .
- 23 A. That's right.
- Q. After school you came back home, had your tea, you would
- be allowed to watch some television, did your homework

- and you went to bed about 8.00. When you were younger,
- that bedtime would have been about 6.00 or 7.00.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. That was essentially the daily routine in the home.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. We have already discussed about the chores and about the
- 7 nun whom you nicknamed --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- and what happened with the chores there?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. If we can just move on then to paragraph 12, you
- describe an incident here where you were in
- and you name three girls who were with
- 14 you, one of whom is now deceased, and another girl. You
- were playing in a workman's hut in the playground at the
- school.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. They said, "Let's get HIA169" and they took you into the
- 19 hut and they took most of your clothes off. You were
- 20 messing about essentially -- is that correct --
- 21 A. Yes, yes.
- 22 Q. -- carrying on?
- 23 A. Um.
- 24 Q. The principal then telephoned Sister --
- 25 A. SR9.

- 1 Q. -- and told her what was going on. When you got back to
- the home, you say this nun lined you up along the
- 3 corridor. She grabbed you by the hair and banged your
- 4 head off a wooden ledge above the lockers.
- 5 A. That's right.
- 6 Q. Your head was bleeding
- 7 . You were distraught at the
- 8 time. She wiped the blood off your -- off you, but her
- g face was red with anger, and you say that another nun
- witnessed this incident.
- 11 A. I -- I've made a mistake about that. You are talking
- about SR 18 . I don't think she witnessed that
- one.
- 14 Q. You don't believe that she saw that particular incident.
- 15 A. No, not that one.
- 16 O. We will come on to explain about that.
- 17 A. It actually did happen. However, dates and times and
- who was there, who wasn't there I do get mixed up about.
- 19 I don't think she witnessed that one.
- 20 Q. Right. Well, you say that you have a scar and perhaps
- 21 you could just indicate to the Panel Members where that
- scar is from that incident.
- 23 A. This. It's right here. (Pointing.)
- Q. There should be some photographs which I will come to --
- 25 A. Okay.

- 1 Q. -- which aren't terribly clear, but they do show
- $^2$  scarring. You go on then in paragraph --
- 3 CHAIRMAN: Just a moment, HIA169. You seem to be pointing
- 4 to a mark --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 CHAIRMAN: -- but I can see what looks like a mark
- 7 as well.
- 8 A. Sorry, your Honour. Sorry, Mr Chairman. That's from
- 9 another incident.
- 10 CHAIRMAN: I see. Thank you.
- 11 MS SMITH: I think, HIA169, you go on to describe you
- 12 actually have a number of scars --
- 13 A. I do.
- 14 Q. -- and we will deal with how you received those.
- 15 A. I do.
- 16 Q. In paragraph 13, for example, you say you had your nose
- 17 broken twice --
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. -- once by one nun and once by another nun.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. You say that you were about years of age and one nun
- 22 broke your nose by hitting your head off internal doors
- in Nazareth House.
- 24 A. Yes. I'm really sorry, Christine. I'm half deaf
- 25 sometimes.

- 1 Q. Sorry.
- 2 A. Could you speak up just a wee bit?
- 3 Q. I beg your pardon. Sorry. I did not realise that.
- 4 A. Thank you. Sorry. I am sorry.
- 5 Q. Hopefully you can hear me a bit better now.
- 6 A. Yes. Thank you.
- 7 Q. There is a system we can get for you if you need some
- 8 assistance with your hearing. I hadn't appreciated that
- 9 you had that difficulty, HIA169.
- 10 A. No. It is just sometimes I have, you know ... My
- apologies.
- 12 Q. No, no. As long as you can hear me.
- 13 A. I can hear you now.
- 14 Q. I will speak up a little bit louder --
- 15 A. Sorry.
- 16 Q. -- and hopefully that will make it easier for you.
- We were talking about your nose was broken off
- internal doors when your head was hit off internal doors
- in Nazareth House.
- 20 A. Yes, yes.
- 21 Q. Then there was another occasion about a year or two
- later when a different nun hit your head and face off
- a pebbledashed wall in the yard.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. You say that you didn't receive any medical treatment on

- either of those occasions.
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. You say that you know your nose was broken, because you
- 4 were bleeding --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- there was swelling and you had nose bleeds
- 7 afterwards.
- 8 A. Absolutely. Sorry. Yes.
- 9 Q. You don't know what you had done and you just say that
- 10 you truly believe they just hated you.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. You think that was because you were not like

13

- 14
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. She was considerably than you. Isn't that
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q.
- 20 . She was intelligent
- 21
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. She became a
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. She used to come back to Nazareth House in the holidays.

- Did you have any contact with her when she came back?
- A. Well -- well -- God! It's a complicated story. A lot
- of us didn't like her, because sometimes she wasn't very
- 4 nice to some of us kids.
- 5 Q. But you wouldn't have had a relationship with her when
- 6 you were growing up
- 7 A. Oh, God, no.
- 8 Q. You describe also these same two nuns you say would walk
- 9 up behind you and hit you on the head with their keys.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. They would come up with big heavy keys, say, "What are
- 12 you doing here?" You say you were obviously somewhere
- that you ought not to have been, but you don't remember
- being told not to be there. You don't remember the
- actual incident that caused them to do this. Is that
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. No. Sometimes out of the blue sometimes they would just
- 18 come up and they had these big keys and they would just
- 19 hit you on the back of the head with them. You know,
- they weren't the little keys. They were big iron keys,
- 21 you know.
- 22 Q. Now if we can move on then just to paragraph 16, you say
- that you were about 12 or 13 and you were at
- 24 and you took some --
- 25 . Isn't that correct?

Page 158 I stole -- I stole 1 -- how do you say that word? 3 Q. 4 Α. I 5 6 You were taken back to Nazareth House and you were given Q. 7 8 Yes. As a result of that incident you were then sent to the 10 in the school , who was also 11 12 A. Yes. 13 SND 472 -- a lady named Q. 14 Α. Yes. 15 You didn't tell her why 16 Isn't that correct? 17 Α. Yes. You say you couldn't communicate well at that time. 18 19 Yes. 20 You say you met her many years later, and she had 21 actually gone to speak to the nun at the time, because 22 she was worried about you. 23 I didn't know that she had gone. She told me 24 later that she had gone.

From about 2010 there is a series of e-mails between you

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Q.

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and SND 472 . Isn't that right?
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- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 0.

4

- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. I am going to ask that there be two documents pulled up.
- 7 Both are very similar in theme. If we can see SND-4390,
- 8 please. Now I showed this document to you, and you will
- not have seen this, but this was a document which
- 10 SND 472 -- a note that SND 472 had written in
- 11 July 2010 --
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. -- at a time when you had contacted the police about
- 14 what you say had happened to you --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 O. -- in Bishop Street.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. She records that she met with a detective constable who
- 19 she names to discuss an unrelated matter, and he asked
- 20 you -- he asked her if she remembered you as a past
- 21 pupil, and she said that she remembered you very well
- indeed. He explained that he had been in contact with
- you about allegations of abuse during your stay, and I
- 24 -- she -- that's SND 472 -- said in the years she had
- contact with you, approximately until

- 1 you were perceived to be difficult.
- $^2$  "She did tell me that she was very unhappy."
- 3 A. Sorry. SND 472 said that?
- 4 Q. She told a police officer --
- 5 A. Oh, sorry.
- 6 Q. -- that when she had contact with you --
- 7 A. Right.
- 8 Q. -- you were perceived to be difficult. She doesn't say
- 9 by whom, but she says that you were perceived by someone
- to be difficult.
- 11 A. Oh!
- 12 Q. Okay?
- 13 A. Okay. Sorry. Thank you.
- 14 Q. That's okay.
- "She did tell me that she was very unhappy in
- Nazareth House, but did not disclose any abuse.
- 17 I visited the Nazareth House to talk to the nuns about
- [you] and to ascertain the source of her unhappiness.
- 19 The nun with whom I spoke said she could not understand
- 20 how HIA169 could be unhappy as she had a 'lovely
- bedroom' which she then showed [you]."
- 22 She then said to the police to ask you to contact
- 23 her if you wanted to. You did do that then. You then
- 24 contacted SND 472?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. As recently as 12th February this year --
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. -- you received a letter from her. Isn't that correct?
- 4 A. Yes.

10

- 5 Q. If we could see that. SND-15827, please. SND-15872.
- 6 Sorry. It just says:
- 7 "Dear HIA169,
- Thank you for letting me know when you are due to
  give your account to the Historical Institutional Abuse

Inquiry. I wish you all the best on the day and I am

- glad you have kept me informed. As I told you when we
- met in Derry and we talked of the account you had given
- to your solicitor and e-mailed a copy to me, I had no
- idea in the when you were a pupil in
- what was behind your emotional distress. When you
- and I was asked to see you in my role as
- , you told me how unhappy you were in
- the Nazareth House, but did not give me any details.
- 19 I visited the Nazareth House at that time to talk to the
- 20 sisters about your unhappiness. When I addressed this
- with [a particular nun], she questioned why you would be
- so unhappy as you have a 'beautiful bedroom'. She asked
- 23 a young sister to show me your bedroom. I returned to
- school aware that there was little awareness of what lay
- behind your unhappiness. I will never forget that

Page 162 1 visit. I started in in September and you 3 would have left a few years later and you visited me once afterwards when you moved to 5 Wishing you all the best and keep in touch. 6 Yours sincerely. SND 472 " 7 8 Yes. 9 That is consistent with what she told the police officer 10 back in 2010. 11 Yes. Now there's -- paragraph 17, SND-4272, please. 12 13 back to your witness statement, you talk here about when 14 you were about 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 and as a punishment both the nuns beat a girl you 22 name and you with their fists on the way home on the 23 You said you felt very little pain at the time because of the alcohol, but once it wore off your body 24 25 ached for days. That was the first time that you had

Page 163 1 drunk alcohol and you started to realise it numbed the pain and gave you courage and you believe that that 3 incident is why 4 5 Yes. Can I make one correction? 6 Yes. Q. 7 I think I might have exaggerated about one of the other 8 girls, but I definitely --10 You 11 stop for tea, you know, and I remember up on the shelf 12 there was a clear bottle of stuff and there was biscuits 13 and other things, and 14 , and on the bus -- can I say the 15 nun's name? 16 Go ahead. Yes. 17 Well, you know, she really beat the living SR9. daylights out of me, but I think I've -- because 18 19 I checked it out recently. I think I exaggerated. 20 I thought it was another girl, but it wasn't, but 21 and I definitely didn't 22 really feel any pain, 23 24 You go at paragraph 18. You say there was another 25 occasion when you were about you were allowed

- 1 to go to a birthday party in which was held by
- $^2$  a you were friendly with, but you don't
- want to give her name.
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. There was vodka at that party and . You
- 6 say you discovered music and different people and you
- 7 had a -- you loved it. You were late returning to the
- 8 home and a nun was waiting for you. She was furious.
- 9 She was about to grab you and beat you, but because you
- were drunk, you stood up to her. Told her not to think
- about touching you. You used bad language and called
- her names, and ".
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. She ran to SR9's office and you followed her. You also
- called that nun a name. You could see that they were
- scared of you and they didn't touch you that night. You
- 17 realised as a result that alcohol could give you
- 18 courage.

23

- 19 A. Yes. Absolutely true. Yes, yes.
- 20 Q. You go on then at paragraph 19 to talk about being
- overwhelmed by everything that was happening to you, and
- 22 when you were about
- 24
- You say at night everyone received milk and buns at

Page 165 1 8 o'clock. You brought the milk round to three different groups and on your way back you threw the 3 empty bottles down the steps to smash them, lifted a piece of the smashed glass and 5 7 You don't know how you ended up there, but you were taken to 8 a classroom where a nun wiped the blood and then bandaged the leg you say with cotton wool and bandages. 10 11 You didn't receive any medical attention and the 12 dressings weren't changed for some days. You say when 13 the bandages were removed, the cotton wool was embedded in the wounds which was closing over and was infected. 15 You say two nuns, who you name there, held you down 16 while the nun who had bandaged your leg pulled the 17 cotton wool out of the wounds. You say it was agony. 18 You were screaming with the pain. You weren't taken to 19 hospital and you received no medical treatment. 20 that's because the nuns would not have wanted questions 21 to be asked. 22 23 Yes. Α. 24 Now you accept that at that time

25 Isn't that

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. Yes, I lied.
- 3 Q. Yes, and -- are you okay, HIA169?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. There's some water in front of you and some tissues if
- 6 you need it.
- 7 In fact, what the nuns were told was that this had
- 8 been an accident.
- 9 A. Yes. I lied.
- 10 Q. That you had fallen down the stairs --
- 11 A. I had fallen down the stairs.
- 12 O. -- carrying the bottles. I'll come back to what some of
- the nuns say about this, HIA169.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. But if we can just again go through your statement --
- 16 A. Sure.
- 17 Q. -- at paragraph 20 this is another incident when you say
- 18 you were about and you were physically
- assaulted with a brick --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. -- by this particular nun. At this time you say you
- 22 were going to . You were dropped off in
- the minibus by another nun. She drove on to drop off
- 24 another girl and then she dropped the rest of the
- children off in the Waterside. That was simply the

- 1 route that she took.
- 2 A. Yes. Sorry. She dropped another girl off in
- and then the bus went on to
- 4 Q. But you and another girl you say were playing truant
- from school.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. You saw British Army soldiers leaving their barracks in
- 8 a jeep, and you say you had picked up vibes from the
- nuns that they hated the British Army and the police,
- and if they came through the back gates of Nazareth
- House, the nuns would hit them with brooms.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. As a result you felt that you should hate them too.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. You talk about other things about that time, but you
- 16 say:
- "On this particular occasion the streets were
- 18 covered in bricks. So I picked one up and threw it at
- 19 the army jeep."
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Now the sister who had dropped you off in the minibus
- was coming back down with some of the children, and you
- 23 say the jeep nearly collided with that minibus --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. -- as a result of your action.

- 1 A. Yes.
- $^{2}$  Q. You are saying you are sure it must have frightened this
- 3 particular nun --
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. -- because you had nearly caused this accident. She got
- out of the minibus, picked up the brick and took it back
- 7 to Nazareth House.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. You describe being sick with fear all day and later that
- evening you were made to stand in a dark corridor with
- 11 about eight other girls who had found themselves in
- 12 trouble that day.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Was this a regular occurrence, that you were sort of
- summoned before this particular nun for bad behaviour?
- 16 A. On the school corridor?
- 17 Q. Yes.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Excuse me. Two nuns came out to you about 6.30 after
- they had been to church. You say you had been standing
- there for some hours.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. This particular nun had the brick in her hand and you
- say she started hitting you with the brick
- over and over again. While she was hitting you, she

- kept saying, "You are not worth it. I wouldn't be
- bothered hitting you with this brick". There was blood
- 3 pouring out and you didn't receive any
- 4 medical treatment as a result. You say you still have
- 5 scars as a result.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. I think the Chairman has indicated that he could see
- 8 some scars .
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. It is your evidence that those scars were caused by this
- 11 incident?
- 12 A. Yes. She just kept hitting me with the brick and saying
- those words to me and there was just blood coming out
- 14 and stuff like that.
- 15 Q. You also describe having indents in a circle from the
- brick on your head. Is that the scars that we are
- 17 talking about here ?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Now you say that another nun who you name there saw the
- 20 blood pouring and you say you know what
- you did was wrong, but you think you should have been
- 22 punished differently.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. You didn't deserve the punishment that you received. It
- 25 was witnessed -- this incident was witnessed by the nun

you name there and you name four other girls as having seen this incident, and they are named in that.

If I can just at this point pause to say that certainly one of those girls has come forward to the Inquiry and she has given evidence to say that she did witness this, that she does recall you being struck on the head by this particular nun with a brick. So she has said that.

The Inquiry has received a witness statement from someone who has not come forward but who also says that she did witness this incident.

A third statement has been provided by the Sisters of Nazareth from a third person that you name in that witness statement.

Now you can't see those on that, but again I am going to use the name just to make this easier, but say that, you know, she -- her name is not to be used outside the chamber, but that person's name is SND60, and you describe her as having been there. She has provided very recently a witness statement to the Inquiry and the Inquiry will consider whether they wish to call her forward to give evidence, but certainly in that witness statement she describes this particular nun

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, and that would be consistent with what

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1 you remember.
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- A. I'm sorry. The one who drove the minibus?
- 3 Q. No, no.
- 4 A. ?
- 5 Q. Yes.
- 6 A. Sorry.
- 7 Q. The one who hit you with the brick.
- 8 A. Yes. Sorry.
- 9 Q. She was the effectively.
- 10 A. Yes, yes.
- 11 Q. She describes her as "really like a mother to us all".
- 12 She says:
- "She was strict and we had to keep the rules, but as
- there was so many of us in the home, if you broke the
- 15 rules by carrying on at the wrong time, you would get
- a real telling off and sometimes girls got slapped with
- 17 a ruler",
- but she said she never -- this nun never to her
- 19 knowledge used the leather belt that all the nuns wore
- as part of their uniform. She goes on to speak about
- 21 her time in Nazareth House as -- memory of the home as
- of good times, and she speaks glowingly about her
- treatment in the home and gives a very different picture
- to what you describe, HIA169, and she makes no mention
- in her statement of any incident involving SR9 and the

1 brick.

## 2 A. That's okay.

- Q. At paragraph 21, just to move on, you say that when you were in trouble, you were made to stand in the corridor and wait for one of the two nuns, and you remember that they did put you over a table, take your pants down and hit you with a steel ruler on your backside or the back of your legs. You also describe a third nun who also hit you once with a steel ruler when you were about ten. You say it was very painful and you couldn't sit down afterwards.
- Now that particular nun, the third nun that you 12 13 named there, has also given a witness statement to the 14 Inquiry. If we could just look at this at 15 page SND-4150, first of all, please, to see the 16 If we could move to paragraph 10 of that 17 statement. First of all, paragraph 7, if we could just 18 pause there, she says in addition to her 19 duties, she would also be required to help the Sisters 20 in the residential home with the children, and that 21 would have been a supervisory nature.
- Then moving down to paragraph 10, she says that she doesn't --
- 24 "I do not recall any incidents of a child being 25 abused. I recall the head nun who was responsible for

- discipline in the home and also in the school. She was
- $^2$  very strict, but also fair. The usual punishments
- 3 I recall are of being refused an activity like music or
- dancing or of pocket money being withheld."
- 5 You accept that those were punishments that were
- 6 imposed. Isn't that right?
- 7 A. Yes, yes.
- 8 Q. "I never remember any occasion when a child left
- the nun's office and ever said they had been slapped or
- 10 beaten. They were upset if they had been punished and
- some may have felt it was unfair, because they did not
- think they were to blame, but none ever said they had
- been slapped or beaten."
- 14 She goes on specifically to talk about what you say
- about her at paragraph 29 on page 4154. She says that
- 16 you allege that she hit you with her fist and also with
- 17 a bunch of keys:
- "I have never struck any child with my fist and
- I did not carry a bunch of keys while I was in Bishop
- 20 Street. I completely deny this allegation. She also
- 21 alleges that I struck her with a steel ruler. I do not
- recall there ever being steel rulers or any other
- implement that could be mistaken for a steel ruler. The
- rulers in the school were all wooden. I did not teach
- 25 [you], nor was she . I completely

- deny this allegation."
- 2 She goes on to talk that children who wet the bed,
- 3 like you, were called by the sisters before they went to
- 4 bed. They were woken and went to the toilet to try to
- stop bedwetting. You say that is what happened.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. "If beds were wet, the sheets were taken by the sister
- 8 in the laundry and were washed during the day."
- 9 She goes on at paragraph 32 to say that the
- 10 referred to by you -- and this is where we
- 11 talk about the milk bottle glass --
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. -- was completely new to her.
- "I had no idea about this and had never been told of
- this before. I did not witness anything that might have
- indicated this was going on. Even now, thinking back,
- 17 with greater awareness of , I
- cannot say that there were signs I missed. I do recall
- an incident of HIA169 being injured, but my memory was
- that her sister told me that she had fallen carrying
- a crate of milk and cut herself on the broken glass."
- You accept that is effectively what you told them at
- 23 the time?
- 24 A. That I lied.
- 25 Q. Paragraph 33:

1 "I am sure she received medical treatment, but I could not say anything about a cotton wool dressing, 3 as I was not involved in the treatment. I deny being involved in holding her down while such a dressing was removed in the way she describes or at all. I am sure HIA169 sustained the injuries she has complained of and I have seen the report from the doctor and the pictures. I cannot comment on how these injuries were received other than the recollection of an incident with milk I do not recall any other major incidents with 10 bottles. SND 477 attended 11 HIA169. I believe 12 and any child who was ill or needed any care would have 13 been seen by him. I am sure he would have treated HIA169 for injuries she sustained, and if he was 15 concerned, I am sure he would have made some note or 16 comment about those injuries. I am also sure the staff 17 at the school would have noted serious injuries and made 18 inquiries about them." 19 You don't have to put your hand up, HIA169. 20 There is something you wish to say about that. 21 Sorry. First of all, the steel ruler, it wasn't like 22 a long steel ruler. It was a very special steel ruler. 23 It had a dent in it. It was -- it was a special steel 24 It had a dent in it. I could even draw it for 25 It wasn't one of those long steel rulers.

- a very unique -- it had a dent in it. Sorry.
- The other thing is I never heard of this SND 477
- person. I have never seen -- I never heard of this SND 477
- 4 SND 477
- 5 Q. You don't remember seeing a doctor in your time?
- 6 A. No, absolutely not. If SND 477 had seen my wounds and
- 7 stuff and he came every week, I am sure he would have --
- 8 he would have sent me to the hospital, got me stitched
- 9 up or something. There's no way -- I never heard of
- 10 **a** SND 477
- 11 O. Well --
- 12 A. Sorry.
- 13 Q. No. That is okay, HIA169. There's a witness statement
- that we are receiving. We have it in draft form, and
- SR 18 , who has reverted to her
- own Christian name, and that is -- we have received --
- we are to receive the full statement from her, but she
- does talk about what you say in your witness statement
- 19 and what she remembers, and she does say that she
- remembers you always a pleasant and helpful child, that
- she was fond of you, that your talent was art and you
- loved drawing pictures and showing them to her, that her
- dealings with you were on school mornings before the
- 24 dining room was refurbished and you had to sweep the
- dining room floor before going to school. Do you

- remember that being your chore in particular? Not
- particularly?
- 3 A. Not really.
- 4 Q. Well, in any event she says that, you know, when it was
- 5 her turn to supervise the children between 8 and
- 6 9 o'clock, you liked -- the children loved to sit on the
- 7 couch with her, show her photographs of work they had
- 8 done in school and have a chat. She said you liked to
- 9 chat with her before you went to bed. Do you remember
- 10 that?
- 11 A. I don't remember that, but
- 12
- 13 Q. You had a good relationship with her?
- 14 A. We used to -- again, like , we used to
- have to do each things -- see each other in secret and
- if SR9 caught us ... (Gesturing.)
- 17 Q. Well, you are gesturing, but you're --
- 18 A. I mean, if SR9 caught us -- I used to be in her
- 19 classroom helping her with her classroom and if --
- 20 believe me, if SR9 caught me in with her, she would get
- really, really angry. We loved each other.
- 22 Q. Well, this particular nun, SR 18 , says that
- she never saw or heard of SR1 wearing . In fact,
- she always wore -- her memory is of her wearing
- 25 , and she says she never

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heard of this particular nun kicking any child, nor did she ever hear of children who wet the bed having to wear their underwear on their heads, but that's what she says about those allegations that you make.

The other thing that she talks about is her recollection of you receiving an injury to your head and she relates this in this -- hopefully in the signed witness statement which we will get, but certainly what she says is that:

"The incident described here regarding SR9 did not take place after school. It happened one night before the older children went to bed. I was supervising the bath time of SR1's group. I cannot remember how it started, but HIA169 was swinging off the top of the bathroom door and fooling around. I asked her to stop but she kept on swinging. I told her if she did not stop, I would bring her to SR9. She didn't stop. the bathing was finished, I took HIA169 to SR9, who was downstairs. I told SR9 what had happened. SR9 lifted her hand to give HIA169 a clip on the ear, but HIA169 quickly moved her head to the side to avoid SR9's hand but banged the side of her head against a cabinet nearby. I did not see what happened next, because SR9 asked me to go upstairs. I believe HIA169 has a scar as a result of this incident.

- I was shocked, as I never previously witnessed anything
- 2 like this incident."
- Now I can see that you're crying, HIA169. Are you
- 4 okay? Do you need to take a break?
- 5 A. Can I have three minutes, four minutes? Is that okay?
- 6 CHAIRMAN: We'll just rise for five minutes.
- 7 (4.30 pm)
- 8 (Short break)
- 9 (4.35 pm)
- 10 MS SMITH: Now, HIA169, we were just talking before we took
- a short break saying what SR 18 is going say
- about what you have explained to the Inquiry.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 O. You were in contact with her. Isn't that correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Can I just -- in paragraph 35 you talk about a telephone
- 17 conversation with her. Sorry. If we could put up
- page SND-4277, just at paragraph 35 you say that in
- 19 September 2012 you telephoned her where she is now
- and you told her that you were actually
- 21 pursuing a civil claim against one of the nuns.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. You told her about the abuse and asked if she would be
- 24 a witness for you, as she was in Nazareth House at that
- 25 time. You actually -- you say in that that she admitted

- she remembered the time you were hit with the brick and
- that she said she would have to get advice from the
- 3 Sisters of Nazareth in London to think about putting
- $^4$  herself forward. However, what she says about that is
- 5 that she was totally surprised when she received the
- telephone call, because she hadn't seen or heard from
- you in years.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. She says the incident she admitted to remembering was
- not the one where you claimed that you were hit with a
- 11 brick --
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. -- but the incident that she talks about, about you
- fooling around, being told to stop, not doing so and
- then what she describes as effectively an accidental
- injury, where you moved to get out of the way of SR9 and
- 17 cracking your head at that stage?
- 18 A. Yes. I mean, I understand what you are saying.
- 19 Q. Yes, and just for the sake of completeness, you did
- 20 record that telephone conversation --
- 21 A. I did. I did.
- 22 Q. -- and she expresses annoyance with the fact that you
- 23 did record it. I am not going to go through the
- transcript, and it is certainly available for the Panel
- 25 to have a look at in due course --

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1
        Yes.
    Α.
    0.
        -- but that taped telephone call can be found at
3
        pages SND-437... -- sorry -- SND-4367 through to
        SND-4385.
5
             If we just look at a couple of those pages very
6
        briefly, if we look at SND-4382, you will see that in
7
        this she talks about -- we can see there is
8
        a conversation going on between you and her and she says
9
        that:
             "There are people -- things have changed so much in
10
11
           years and I am going back further than that but,
12
        I~mean, there are things still going on in people's
13
        houses."
14
            You agree. She says:
15
             "It is human nature",
16
             and you said:
17
             "Yes. Agreed, and in every religious institution
        everywhere."
18
19
             "Absolutely",
20
             but you say you can only talk about your experience
21
        and you say your experience with nearly years of
22
        Nazareth House was just with moments of fun, because you
23
        were funny when you were a child. You were cheeky, as
24
        you know, but you honestly don't think that you deserved
25
        from a very, very, very young age what you got.
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- 1 "I don't."
- She says that she's hearing what you're saying. It
- goes -- so the conversation goes on. You accept that
- 4 you were cheeky as a child and you were --
- 5 A. Yes, I was.
- 6 Q. You were getting into trouble. You were doing things
- 7 that were wrong, like drinking alcohol.
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. So while you do say that you did deserve to be punished
- 10 --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. -- you just simply didn't deserve the type of punishment
- that was meted out to you.
- 14 A. Yes, yes.
- 15 Q. If we just look at SND-4373, just you were talking about
- heads being bashed -- I think this is maybe
- a different -- sorry. I am looking at the wrong page.
- 18 4373 you say:
- 19 "Come on, sister. Come on. You were there when
- 20 heads were bashed. My head was bashed. Come on. Are
- you crazy. Come on. (Laughing.) Oh, my Lord. Yeah.
- Very funny. Yeah. Very funny. Yeah. See a doctor."
- 23 That's your response to her saying that if you had
- 24 a wound on your leg, surely -- you know, "Did you see
- 25 a doctor at all?" You say it would have been funny and

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1
        you say:
             "Of course I didn't. Why would I be seeing a doctor
3
         if I am held down by two nuns?"
             You then go on at the bottom:
5
             "Anyway, look."
6
             You hesitate:
7
             "The other reason why I'm ringing you is not going
8
         to make you happy. If the prosecution -- well, first of
         all would you support me?"
10
             You see:
11
             "Well, I don't know the story."
12
             Then:
13
             "What do you mean that you don't know the story?
14
        You were there when I was battered and bruised and cut.
15
         You used to -- when I was a child."
16
             You're bringing up this case about the sister.
17
             Then if we can go over the page, you say:
18
             "Yeah, yeah, yeah"
19
              at the top of that page. If we scroll down, it
20
         says:
21
             "Right.
                     That's good. That's good, but you were
22
         there when I was a kid. Come on.
23
             Oh, I know.
24
             You saw stuff.
25
             I was only there that
                                    year with you.
```

Page 184 1 I know and I know all about what happened when you left." 3 There is a conversation about that. Then you go on. You bring her back at the bottom where it says: "No, but you know about the head, the bashing." She says: 7 "I wouldn't be part of that." 8 "No, but you know about it. Come on." "I'm just saying that if you were saying that you were blamed for being transferred ..." 10 11 So she brings the conversation back to that. 12 Then if we go over the page, she says just at the 13 top there: "I was new in the order and I wasn't in on that and 14 15 I used to sleep on the middle floor." 16 You say, 17 "Yes, I know all that, but are you telling me you 18 never saw me after the time my head was split and all 19 that?" 20 She says: 21 That was the only time, HIA169." 22 So she is suggesting that she only saw you being hit on the head once and she has described in that witness 23 24 statement what she says that was, but there are other 25 comments in that transcript which the Inquiry will have

- 1 the opportunity to read for themselves.
- 2 A. Okay.
- 3 Q. Can I just ask: you also in had contact with SR9.
- 4 Is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. If we could just look at SND-4299, now this is a letter
- 7 which is addressed to you from SR9 and you will see the
- 8 date on that is (sic). It says:
- 9 "Dear HIA169,
- I would like to meet with you again to clear up
- 11 a few matters."
- 12 A. You mean
- 13 Q. Sorry. I beg your pardon. My fault.
- "I will be free today (Friday) and tomorrow if you
- 15 would like to call."
- It is signed by that name.
- 17 A. SR9.
- 18 Q. Now can you recollect how you received that letter or
- what happened?
- 20 A. I went to Nazareth House to confront -- I think there
- was some sort of conference going on in the Nazareth
- 22 House in Derry around that time, and I went to -- up
- 23 to -- my friends told me to go up and confront her about
- stuff that happened to me when I was a kid. I went up
- and she brought me into the right-hand front parlour,

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and I tried to confront her as best I could, tried to be strong and confront her, and I said about things that she did to me and all the damage that she did to me and all the violence and stuff like that, and if -- she -- she seriously started talking about a little black book. Honest to God, that she had a little black book. If she ever hit any of us on the leg or something, that she had written it down, just little things like that in this -- honest to God. She started talking about this little black book, and I started getting scared of her again. I really did. I started getting scared of her again, because she was very powerful.

Then I said, "Well, you know, what about the time about the brick, SR 30 bringing you the brick,

SR 18 witnessing you bashing my head, and SR1 and SR2 holding me down while you took the cotton wool out of my leg?" There was like a conference going on.

So she said, "Well, let's -- they're all here. Let's go out and ask them", and I just -- I got petrified,

because she was going to put me in front of them to ask -- she was going to ask them, "Did any of this happen?", and I just got petrified and I got out of the Nazareth House as quickly as I could. That's -- she made -- she frightened -- she threatened me. She wanted to put me in front of the other nuns because I had

- confronted her, and I couldn't handle that.
- 2 Q. The --
- 3 A. Sorry.
- 4 Q. No. I didn't mean to interrupt you.
- 5 A. No, no.
- 6 Q. Did you respond to this letter at all? Did you go back
- 7 to see her at all?
- 8 A. Oh, absolutely not.
- 9 Q. And --
- 10 A. Sorry. No.
- 11 Q. You just -- you have talked about the contact then that
- 12 you had with SR 18 , and just for the sake of
- completeness you weren't aware that she was making a
- witness statement and, in fact, you wrote to her as late
- as 21st December of last year. Isn't that correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. You've got a copy of that. That's SND-15871.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. You just -- you say there that:
- The Inquiry is about to start in January. I am
- 21 pleading with you to come forward."
- 22 You say:
- "They will pay for you to come over."
- You give contact details there. You just say:
- "I just want you to tell the Lord Justice that you

- witnessed me being (my head being smashed) by SR9 at the
- first classroom and the other things you witnessed
- 3 throughout the year you were there. There is nothing to
- be afraid of any more, sister. It is about healing for
- 5 all of us and a lot of us need to heal. I know you have
- 6 talked to the head nuns and solicitors. If you can
- pursue those two nuns to come along, it can't harm. If
- 8 anything, some good can come out of it. Thank you.
- 9 Sincerely."
- 10 You wrote to her.
- 11 A. I did.
- 12 Q. You didn't receive any response to that letter?
- 13 A. No. First of all, I wrote the letter to ,
- because I thought she was still in
- 15 O. Uh-huh.
- 16 A. Then I subsequently found out that she had been
- 17 transferred to . So I wasn't sure that she got the
- 18 letter in . So I wrote pretty much the same
- 19 letter and I registered it. So that way I made sure she
- got it in . So it's never been brought back to me.
- 21 So I assume she got it.
- 22 Q. Well, now one of the things that you describe in your
- witness statement also, if we could just go back to
- that, at paragraph 24, which is on page -- the bottom of
- page SND-2... -- SND 4274, this is where you describe

- foster placements, as we are referring to them loosely
- with the Inquiry. Effectively in summer holidays and
- 3 that --
- 4 A. Summer holidays, yes.
- 5 Q. -- you were sent out to spend time with families outside
- 6 the home.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. You remember having to spend your summer with a family
- you name there. You were about
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. You say where they lived. They had who you
- name and you think he was about .
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. You describe him and you talk about a day you were out
- in the fields and he asked if he could do something with
- 16 you and then you describe the sexual abuse that you
- 17 suffered at his hands.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. You remember then being picked up by the father of that
- 20 household and carried to the house, where you were
- 21 bathed, and you don't remember talking about the family
- or how you got back to Nazareth House, but you never
- told anybody what happened.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. But you never went back to that particular family again.

- 1 Isn't that correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. You believe that that family had their suspicions and
- $^4$  that that's the reason they never had you back. Is that
- 5 right?
- 6 A. Yes. Well -- well, what had happened was I never -- do
- 7 I mention the half a Crown?
- 8 Q. Sorry?
- 9 A. Do I mention the half a Crown?
- 10 Q. If you want to do so, yes.
- 11 A. Oh, sorry. SND 173 offered me half a Crown to --
- 12 I liked him and he liked me and we used to play in the
- hay, and he offered me -- he said, "I'll give you half
- a Crown if you let me do something to you", but I didn't
- know what he was going to do, and the next thing --
- I had pink bloomers on and a dress and shoes and socks.
- I was in the hay, and he gave me half a Crown, and
- I just remember something being inside of me, and
- 19 I couldn't breathe. He was on top of me and I couldn't
- 20 breathe and --
- 21 Q. And you --
- 22 A. Sorry.
- 23 Q. I don't mean to stop you, HIA169, but the details are
- set out in that paragraph there and the --
- 25 A. Oh, sorry.

- 1 Q. -- just in -- this is --
- 2 A. There it is. Sorry.
- 3 O. Yes.
- 4 A. I didn't -- sorry.
- 5 Q. If we just move on then to paragraph 25, you talk about
- 6 going with another girl to a different family.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. You talk about the mother of that family being

9

- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. She made you kneel and pray daily.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. That she would hit you with a cane and the other girl.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. That she had son, who you think it was
- between and .
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. You actually describe in -- not in this statement but in
- a statement that you gave to the police --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. -- as having found him attractive.
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. You then remember going out into the woods with him on
- one occasion.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. You were kissing there.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Then you describe then what happened in the woods with
- 4 him, and you say what then happened is someone told, and
- 5 you think it must have been this girl SND 174 presumably.
- 6 A. Did I say that?
- 7 Q. No, I am suggesting that.
- 8 A. Oh, God, no. No, no, no. We don't -- I don't know who.
- 9 Q. You don't know who.
- 10 A. Somebody had told the woman. Oh, no, it couldn't have
- been SND 174. Somebody found us and the next thing
- 12 I remember SR9 and another nun came to pick us up the
- next day.
- 14 Q. Right, and you say that as a result of that at the
- 15 bottom of that paragraph -- of that page you say she
- 16 physically beat you, called you horrible filthy names,
- told you that what had happened was your fault.
- 18 A. Stuff like that, yes.
- 19 Q. You just remember being glad to be away from that house,
- even if you were being beaten as a result?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. You then go on to talk about when you were going to
- stay with a sister
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. You hitchhiked there, and getting back and being very

- 1 ill.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 9 O. A doctor was called on that occasion.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. This was in the home; you weren't taken into hospital?
- 8 A. No, no, this was in the Nazareth House.
- 9 Q. You had sweats and were feverish, and you remember one
- 10 particular nun visiting you and bringing you a bar of
- 11 chocolate and you describe her as a good nun.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. You then moved down to . Was that I take it to be
- nearer your sister? Sorry. You were moved down to
- Nazareth House in . Was that to be
- 16 nearer ?
- 17 A. Oh, God, no. No, no. That was because that's -- that's
- somewhere -- I was sent to the Nazareth House to -- for
- 19 like a summer holiday to do work and stuff in the
- 20 , which is where I discovered drugs, sex
- and rock and roll.
- 22 Q. You left Nazareth House in and you stayed in
- , as you say there.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Your life, as you describe it in paragraph 28, started

- to spiral out of control and you describe what you did
- $^2$  there. At paragraph 29 you say that as a result of
- these experiences you have been in therapy.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Again I am not going to open these up to the Inquiry,
- 6 but they can find records --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- of your attending therapists --
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. -- at pages SND-4315 to SND-4353.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. You told the police about your experiences in 2010. If
- we could just briefly look at SND-4300. This is
- a statement that you gave to the police relating all
- 15 that happened to you --
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. -- at that time. Eventually you received word that
- there was to be no prosecution.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. You received quite a detailed letter from the
- 21 Department -- the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Office, the Public Prosecution Service, saying that
- there was to be no --
- 24 A. Yes, yes. He just basically said there's no, you know
- 25 -- and if I wanted to -- what's it called -- pursue it

- again, I could. I could do that, but I never did.
- $^{2}$  Q. But you then talk about in paragraph 33 and 34 that you
- are taking a civil claim against the Sisters of
- 4 Nazareth.
- 5 A. Well, I started the civil claim in , but
- 6 then SND 472 got in contact with Detective and
- 7 then he -- and then all of this started. So ...
- 8 Q. So you haven't pursued that?
- 9 A. Absolutely not, because I thought this was a lot -- 100
- 10 times more important. I had nothing to -- I had nothing
- to do with that after all -- Detective and
- then this -- the Inquiry started. So no, that's ...
- 13 Q. Okay. Well, can I just ask as a result of starting the
- 14 civil claim --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- you tried to get hold of your records. Isn't that
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Exactly, yes.
- 19 Q. The only response that you got -- you didn't succeed in
- 20 getting records from them.
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. The only response was they told you that you owed them
- money.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. If we just look at SND-4288 and SND-4289, this is

- a letter from the Sisters of Nazareth to your solicitor
- 2 --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- which indicates that they do not retain medical or
- 5 educational records. They tell you that you were
- 6 admitted -- give you details of when you were admitted
- and when you were discharged. If we can just scroll on
- 8 down, please, on the second page it talks about:
- 9 "We have discovered a note of your client having
- borrowed the sum of £800 from the Sisters of Nazareth on
- 11 . There is a note in the diary to that
- effect and a copy of the cheque stub."
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. If we could just look at that, please, it is at
- 15 SND-10569. If we could enlarge that. You see it's
- 16 dated and it said:
- "Gave HIA169 £800 cheque. Asked how ..."
- I can't read this very clearly.
- "[Something] asked her to send me on receipts, etc,
- and promised to pay monthly payments of £20 towards
- loan, but of course did not do so. Told me she needed
- 22 money for community therapy. I gave -- I have never
- seen or heard of HIA169 since",
- I think that reads.
- 25 A. Sorry. Who is this from?

- 1 Q. This is a note that Sisters of Nazareth have -- this is
- $^2$  the note that was referred to in that letter to your
- 3 solicitors. You won't have seen this, HIA169, but this
- 4 is the actual diary entry. You will see it is in

5

- 6 A. Sorry. Is that community therapy?
- 7 Q. Community therapy.
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. It goes on. You can't see, but:
- "SR9", who we know is SR9, "asked me another
- 11 time shortly after this if
- 12
- I refused blankly. Felt she could say she was
- blackmailing us. Did not give her any more money",
- 15 I~think, "such money."
- 16 A. Sorry. Where does this say ...? I can't see this.
- 17 Q. It is very difficult I appreciate to see that, but if
- 18 you just -- I am reading it out to you. The date is
- 19 there, in the top corner.
- 20 A. Yes. I see that. I see.
- 21 Q. If we look, see where it says:
- 22 "SR9 ..."?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Then it says -- that's SR9:
- "... asked me another time shortly after this if

- 1 <u>I</u>
- I refused blankly. Felt she
- 3 could say she was blackmailing us. Did not give her any
- 4 such money."
- 5 Then it goes on. There is an entry about something
- 6 entirely unrelated after that.
- Now you haven't seen that before, but that is the
- 8 record that they have of loaning you £800. Do you
- 9 remember getting that loan?
- 10 A. Oh, yes, but I borrowed it because I moved into
- and I was getting furniture. I moved into
- 12 . I was in and I was getting
- 13 furniture. I don't -- that's not true.
- 14 Q. Well, did you -- did you make any repayments of the loan
- 15 for furniture?
- 16 A. No, I didn't. I'm sorry. I didn't, but however I -- as
- 17 soon as I asked for my records from the Nazareth Order
- 18 -- and they had no records of me, education, medical or
- 19 anything like that. The only record that they had of me
- was borrowing the £800. I'm sure --
- 21 Q. Can I just confirm you have since repaid that loan.
- 22 Isn't that right?
- 23 A. Oh, I paid it immediately. I paid it immediately,
- 24 because they had no records of me being educated. They
- 25 had no records of me -- they had no records of me except

- for when I was born and when I left, and the only record
- that they had, the solicitor had, was that I borrowed
- 3 this money, and immediately when I -- when I -- when
- 4 I -- when I -- when I got -- when I got the letter
- 5 I paid it immediately in postal -- postal orders and
- I wrote -- I don't know if you have it on the file
- 7 there.
- 8 Q. Well, the postal orders are certainly in the bundle and
- 9 the Inquiry can see those at SND-24... -- SND-4297. We
- don't need to pull them up on the screen --
- 11 A. No, but I --
- 12 O. -- but they are there to be seen.
- 13 A. -- but I wrote on them, on the photocopies of the postal
- order, "You have no records of me going to the hospital.
- You have no records of me being educated. You have no
- 16 records -- but the only thing you have a record of me is
- borrowing \$800 -- pounds".
- 18 Q. Uh-huh.
- 19 A. So I immediately paid it and I delivered it, hand
- 20 delivered it into the Nazareth House and gave it to
- a nun. Sorry.
- 22 Q. Okay. That entry can be seen at SND-2496, but again we
- don't need to call it up on the screen, and the Inquiry
- 24 Panel can look at that in due course.
- 25 HIA169, there are just -- when you did -- you were

- examined by a doctor who -- and there were photographs
- taken of your scarring whenever you went to the police
- in 2010. Isn't that correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Now they again are also in the bundle. I'll just get
- the page references, if I may. They are not terribly
- 7 clear, but you actually wrote on a number of these
- 8 photographs, and we can see them at SND-15313 through to
- 9 SND-15319.
- 10 A. Yes. I sent these to Detective
- 11 Q. You are saying that this is when -- the incident when
- 12 you self-harmed for the first time --
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. -- left that scarring on your leg and you describe about
- 15 the cotton wool --
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. -- and the treatment that you received there.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. If we just then briefly scroll down through these, I am
- 20 not quite sure -- that is a photograph of yourself.
- These aren't terribly helpful, but the actual
- 22 photographs are in the bundle and your face and details
- haven't been blacked out and the Inquiry Panel Members
- will be able to see those for themselves in due course.
- 25 A. Okay.

- 1 Q. Excuse me. Just for the sake of completeness, because
- we can't see those, can you just describe where the
- 3 scars are just for the benefit of the
- 4 Inquiry?
- 5 A. I've got three here and a big long one there and I've
- 6 got two scar dents . (Pointing.)
- 7 Q. In the police papers which is in the bundle there is
- 8 a record of those scarring.
- 9 A. Yes, and I saw photographs of me.
- 10 Q. You saw a doctor. Yes. They were taken by a doctor at
- 11 the police station.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Isn't that correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. She has given an account of her examination.
- 16 Unfortunately, Chairman, I can't just get that
- page reference, but I will get it for you in due course.
- 18 CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
- 19 MS SMITH: Now you also -- just for completeness, you also
- 20 wrote to SND 473 back in 2010 --
- 21 A. I did.
- 22 Q. -- to complain about what had happened to you --
- 23 A. I did.
- Q. -- when you were in care.
- 25 A. I did.

1 HIA169, can I just ask you now how you feel about those who cared for you when you were a child in Nazareth 3 House? Well, there were some good nuns. There really were some 4 5 good nuns. I mean, I'm upset today, because I thought they really liked me, and they're not coming -- they're not coming forward. There really was some good nuns, younger nuns, but I'm upset today, because they're not coming forward, and I honestly know they witnessed They saw stuff. 10 stuff. 11 The three main nuns, SR9 in particular and SR1, 12 I mean, I wasn't in , but, I mean, SR2 didn't 13 -- she did hit me with the keys a few times and she did hit me with this steel ruler and she did hold me down by 14 15 my legs while the cotton wool was being taken out, but 16 I wasn't , so I didn't have all that much 17 dealings with her, but I'm upset that she's lying that 18 she didn't hold me down. I'm upset that she's saying 19 things like she's saying, that only privileges like the 20 and, you know, stuff like that are -- that's --21 it's not true. 22 SR1 was -- she was pretty vicious. SR9 was at times 23 -- I am sorry -- but she was sadistic at times. 24 really was. They both were. I know SR2 abused a couple

of kids in her group. I know that. So how do I feel?

25

- I just think some of the things they did was just
- 2 terrible.
- 3 Q. Well, can I ask are you aware that this Inquiry has to
- 4 make recommendations to the Northern Ireland Executive
- about what should happen, whether by way of apology or
- 6 redress -- sorry; I am not speaking into the
- 7 microphone -- or a memorial. Have you thought about
- 8 that, HIA169, or what is your view as to what should
- 9 happen?
- 10 A. I really haven't. The apology thing, I honestly -- is
- that an echo -- I honestly really don't believe them
- when they apologise. Honest to God, I really don't.
- 13 I haven't -- sorry. A memorial. What was the other
- 14 word?
- 15 Q. A memorial or some other form of redress by way of
- 16 compensation or anything else.
- 17 A. No, I haven't thought about things like that. I -- I --
- I do -- I have friends who are down in Dublin -- okay?
- 19 I think this is important to say. I have friends who
- 20 are down in Dublin, and when the whole thing that was
- going on in Dublin with all the kids in Dublin who were
- 22 abused and stuff, I have friends who -- and there was
- 23 protest and a lot of people went to the Dail Eireann,
- 24 and about eight of my friends went and bought -- because
- 25 they know me and they know what happened to me, they

bought little children's shoes, which a lot of people in

Dublin did at that time, and they put my name on the

little children's shoes and they put them on the gates

of the Dail Eireann, because they were thinking about

me. So I don't know why I'm telling you that, but it's

a memorial.

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I mean, I don't think in the scale of what happened in the whole of Ireland, in England, Scotland and Wales, Spain or wherever, I really don't think that it's ever going to happen really on that scale ever again.

Probably going to be a couple of incidents where children are going to be abused, of course, and it happens in children's home, regular homes and so on.

I'm blabbering on here, but no, I haven't really thought about it.

I just kind of wanted to really -- I love the shoe incident. I really do like the idea that my friends put little shoes on to a gate for me. I just kind of want to pretty much tell what happened to me, some of the things that happened, and I am probably not even telling half the stuff that happened to me, to be quite honest, Christine.

Q. Well, I am running the risk then of inviting more, but do you feel that you have had the opportunity to say what happened to you today here and is there anything

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        you feel that we haven't covered that you need to say?
        Well, I think something really, really important is that
3
        the nuns were loved.
                               The nuns were loved, because
        I think one of the reasons -- one of the reasons was
        because of the
                                                  The nuns were
        loved because SR9 --
                                                               The
7
                                       They did all these
8
                    Ireland loved them.
                                         England loved them.
        Northern Ireland loved the nuns, because they were
10
        famous.
                I think that was one part of it. They were
11
        famous. SR9 and SR1 and SR2 were loved,
12
                                                        The band
13
        was in -- they did win "Opportunity Knocks" and they
        went on tours, and, you know, it might sound silly, but
15
        I think that's one of the reasons.
16
             I think the other reason was -- one of the reasons
17
        -- I really felt hated, hated. I think one of the
18
        reasons was because
                                                      , because
19
20
                                 I think that was part of it, and
21
        I think there was other things, because I was abused in
22
        holiday homes and I was taken away. There's lots of
23
                  Is it okay to call you Christine?
        reasons.
24
        That's fine.
25
        There's really lots of reasons.
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- 1 Q. Well, HIA169, thank you very much for what you've told
- 2 us today.
- 3 A. Thank you.
- 4 Q. The Panel Members may have some questions for you. So
- if you'd just stay there briefly.
- 6 Questions from THE PANEL
- 7 MR LANE: Just a couple of ones. Going right back to the
- 8 beginning, when you were talking about punishments, you
- 9 mentioned food was sometimes withdrawn. Was that just
- 10 yourself or did that happen to a lot of the children?
- 11 A. Oh, no, not only me. Other kids as well.
- 12 Q. And did it happen often or was it just once in a while?
- 13 A. I think -- probably -- not often, but not once in
- a while either, if you know what I mean.
- 15 O. From time to time?
- 16 A. From time to time.
- 17 Q. Okay, and the other one I just wanted to ask you about,
- 18 you mentioned having to stand outside naked --
- 19 A. On the back stairs.
- 20 Q. -- at night. Was this actually without any clothes on
- or just with nighties on or what?
- 22 A. Twice with no clothes on and there'd be cockroaches.
- 23 Q. Was that just you or did that happen to other girls as
- 24 well?
- 25 A. I don't know. It happened to me. I don't know if it

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1
        happened to other children.
    Q.
       Okay. Thank you very much.
3
        It wasn't -- it was just a couple of times.
4
    0.
        Fine.
               Thanks.
5
    MS SMITH: Chairman, Panel Members, the references to the
6
        FMO's report that I was talking about are to be found at
7
        SND-15288 through 15290.
8
    CHAIRMAN:
               SND?
9
    MS SMITH: SND-15288 to 15290. It's a two-page document.
10
    CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
11
             Well, HIA169, thank you for coming to speak to us
12
        today. As far as we're concerned, that's everything.
13
        Thank you very much.
14
       Thank you, sir.
    Α.
15
                          (Witness withdrew)
16
    MS SMITH: That concludes the evidence for this afternoon,
17
        Chairman.
18
    CHAIRMAN: Thank you. 10.30 tomorrow?
19
    MS SMITH:
               Yes.
20
    (5.15 pm)
21
           (Hearing adjourned until 10.30 tomorrow morning)
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