

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF	HIA 113	

I, HIA 113 ill say as follows:-

Personal details

1. I was born on Altnagelvin Hospital. I have brothers and sisters however of them have passed away (and I am the eldest.

Altnagelvin Hospital. I have brothers brothers and sisters however of them have passed away (I and I am the eldest.

St Joseph's Home, Termonbacca

2. I was placed in Termonbacca around 1975 when I was wears old. I left on when I was ten years old. My brothers when I was ten years old. My brothers and I were in and out of Termonbacca in the beginning. This went on constantly. I think it was because my mother was a single mother and couldn't cope. I never knew my father. There were different fathers to my mother's children. She had a hard life. She was having one baby after another. As a baby was born we were put into Termonbacca and then out again. Also there were things going on with my mother and men and she was a heavy drinker and that's when we were put in Termonbacca permanently. I recall that two social workers arrived at our house and took us away in a car to Termonbacca. One of the social workers was a female with long red hair. I think her name was

- 3. When we first went in I don't think they were ready for us and I had to share a bed. I think there were less than ten girls in the home at the time.

 SR 6 ned us up and smacked us on the legs with her hand until we said who wet the bed. Then one of the civilian workers put us in a bath and scrubbed us with a wooden scrubbing brush. I don't recall the worker's name.
- 4. SR 6 ad one or two fingers missing. If you met her on the corridor she used to hit you on the head with her knuckles. She did this to all the children. It was really sore and stung. She always took you to her room to hit you harder. I felt that I was beaten all the time, certainly about two or three times a week.
- 5. I always tried to please SR 6 so she would stop beating me. I even told her things my sisters did to get in her good books. But she always beat the three of us anyway. One day the three of us went to the chapel when there was no service on. We were carrying on pretending that HIA 126 was the priest, was the altar boy and I was the congregation. We thought this was funny. I then told SR 6 hat we did and she beat us. She took us into her room individually and she beat me on the legs with a plastic curtain rail which was about a metre long.
- 6. SR 6 sed to wash my mouth with fairy liquid and a toothbrush if I gave cheek or said a bad word. When she was doing it she would say 'you'll not do that again'. She did the same to HIA 126 and When I was young I had a bad stammer and sometimes when I opened my mouth no sound came out. I was very nervous as a child and the longer I was in care the worse my stammer got. SR 6 ccused me of putting it on.
- 7. Despite the physical abuse there was something about her that I liked. When we went on holidays to Greencastle she was nice and didn't beat me. SR 6 s now deceased.

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- 8. I shared a room with my sisters. We had single beds. The room looked out onto the football pitch. As I was the eldest my sisters wouldn't do what they were told by the nuns until they got the nod from me to say it was okay. As a result of this ok me to her bedroom and hit me with a curtain rail and she kept saying to me that 'You're not their mummy'. Her bedroom was upstairs at the end of a corridor and it faced ours. Every time she swung at me I would try to jump over the top of the rail shouting 'I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry'. I didn't understand what I did wrong.
- 9. At night when we were sleeping some bigger boys from rooms down the corridor from ours came into our bedroom. I was terrified and didn't open my eyes. A boy knelt beside my bed and put his hands under the covers and pulled my pyjama bottoms and pants down. The boy inserted his fingers into my vagina. This went on for maybe ten to fifteen minutes. I didn't move and pretended I was asleep. I was frightened and my heart was pounding. This abuse occurred about ten times. It occurred maybe every two or three weeks. On some occasions when he came into the room I hung onto to my pyjama bottoms and he tugged to pull them down but he didn't succeed. On one occasion after the boy had inserted his fingers in me I had to go to the toilet. I walked past an older boys' room and the door was open and they were laughing and I knew it was HIA 321 them. One of the boys was called hd I am sure he abused me as I recognised his voice. I don't know who the other boys were that abused me but I think there was more than one. I couldn't tell happened because it was 'dirty'. We weren't even allowed to watch a James Bond film or kissing on TV because the nuns thought it was inappropriate. I didn't tell anyone. I don't know if the same thing happened to my sisters or if they knew. They never said anything.
- 10. If you didn't eat your porridge in the morning it was left for you when you got home from school.

 SR6 prece fed my sisters and me the lumpy porridge. On one occasion I remember vomiting.

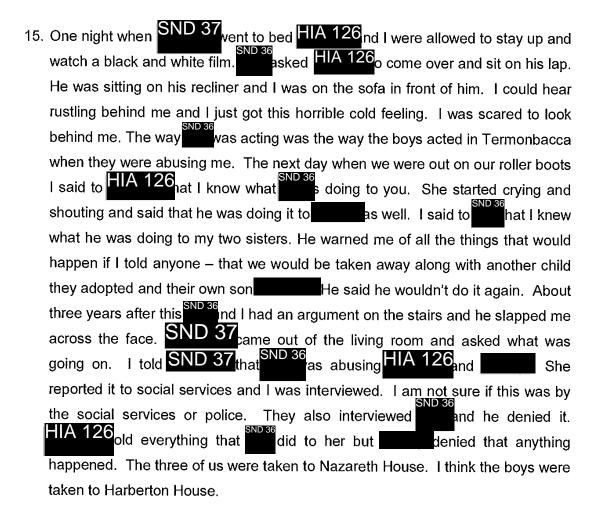
 SR6 prece fed my sisters and me the lumpy eaned up the vomit and then continued to force feed me the remaining porridge. Apart from the porridge the food in the home was alright. However, my brother didn't like any of the food and used to suck the food but never eat it. In the

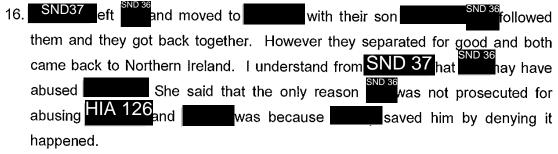
dining room my sisters and brothers all had to sit at separate tables. We weren't allowed to sit together.

- 11. Every day HIA 126 ame from school she had to take her pants off because she always wet herself. I think it was her nerves. On occasions my brother vas made to sit on the toilet until his bowels moved. Sometimes he was on the toilet for maybe two hours. I don't believe he had a medical problem. He was made to sit on the toilet and the indentation of the toilet seat left a mark on his bum. A tall thin civilian worker with brown hair used to dress my brother p as a girl and take photos because he had blonde hair and big blue eyes. I don't remember her name.
- 12. We went to Rosemount Primary School. We walked to school. I think we went swimming every couple of months and were taken on a blue minibus. My education wasn't very good as when I was living at home my mother never sent me to school. I remember going into primary 5 and I couldn't read or write. After Rosemount I went to St Cecilia's Secondary School which was a fantastic school.
- 13. There were good times in Termonbacca. We used to go to the beach in Greencastle for a couple of weeks during the summer. I remember the nuns used to bring a big flask of soup.

Foster care

14. We left Termonbacca or solve the stayed the stayed there until when I was sixteen. The SND 36 Ne stayed there until when I was sixteen. The SND 36/37 rere taking us out for day trips from Termonbacca to see how we would get on with them. About a year after we left Termonbacca we went back to visit and we found out that we had another sister there. HIA 233 was in the nursery. She was born after we went into care. SND 37 ostered her as well.





Nazareth House

17. I was placed in Nazareth House with my sisters on when I was years old. I remained there for months. In Nazareth House there were two units - one on the middle floor and one on the ground floor. The children stayed in the units. There was an old people's part at the front of Nazareth House.

18. I was treated alright in Nazareth House. However, on one occasion I wanted to go to the corner shop nearby and stand with boys and girls around the same age.

SR 19 ppped me at the front door and wouldn't let me out. She pinned my arms up my back and said 'are you going whoring?'. I didn't even know what that word meant. I believe that SR 19 as since left the Order and is married. My younger sister was in Nazareth House and she told me this. Apart from this everything else was fine in Nazareth House although I was on the phone every day crying to my mother saying 'are you taking us out of here, are you taking us out of here'.

Life after care

and I left Nazareth House when I was sixteen and we returned home to My mother had another baby called Life at home was terrible. My mother was back with a man who was father to of her children. He was Ind he was an alcoholic and was violent towards her. I stayed in my room most of the time. I met my boyfriend and I moved into his parents' house for five years. However I never felt that I belonged. In 1992 I married and we bought our own house. We have been there ever since. We have girls and they are aged Mhen I was a child I felt that I had to be a mother to my brothers and sisters. I want my children to enjoy being children for as long as possible.

20. My mother passed away at with cancer. She had children in total. I am in close contact with my brothers and sisters except for two — who is in a relationship with his

21. I suffer from depression. I have been diagnosed by my GP and I am on medication. I like routine and feel anxious about any change to routine, for example attending appointments. My GP recommended counselling but I am worried it would not be useful and I try to get on with things. The only people I have talked to about my childhood experiences are my sisters.

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22. I have never reported the abuse to the police. About twelve years ago the police arrived at my house and asked me if I knew a boy in Termonbacca and whether or not he was abused by SR 6 cannot remember his name but we were in the home at the same time. I told them that we were all beaten by SR 6 They informed me that she died in a car accident

Statement of Truth

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

Signed HIA 113

Dated 26-7-13.

HIA 113

7

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF: Name Rank AGE OF WITNESS (If over 18 enter "over 18"): Over 18 I declare that this statement consisting of 7 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true. Dated this 14th day of November 2013 HIA 113 **Marie Rafferty** SIGNATURE OF MEMBER by whom SIGNATURE OF WITNESS statement was recorded or received MARIE RAFFERTY PRINT NAME IN CAPS HIA 113 Before I was married my name was and I was born on My mother's name was and she lived at County Tyrone. She moved about quite a bit. I remember we lived in for a bit before and also in I went into Termonbacca. Whilst I was growing up my mother was drinking heavily and was having baby after baby and as a result I was in and out of care. I first went into Termonbacca children's home in Derry when I was about years old. I was in and out of Termonbacca and other care homes a pile of times. I was the eldest of siblings who went into care; the others were although we didn't all go in together. My sister was also in

Form 38/36 6/05

To be completed

when the statement

has been written

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS:

HIA 113

Termonbacca but I didn't know this until later when I was fostered with the

STATEMENT OF:

HIA 113

. While I was in Termonbacca I suffered physical abuse at the hands of a nun called Sister In the mornings we were all fed lumpy porridge and were forced to eat it. She would have stood over us to make us eat it and when I didn't she took me into the kitchen and would have forced my mouth open and forced the spoon in with the porridge on it. This would have made me sick and she would have stopped. There would have been on-one else in the kitchen when this happened. When you didn't eat the porridge it was kept for you for after school and you were made eat it then. After this happened 5 or 6 times I learned to pretend I was eating the porridge. The porridge sat in the centre of the table and you were supposed to help yourself. I would have taken only one spoonful of the porridge and moved it about my plate to make it look like I had taken the porridge. I was about 7 years old when this happened. If I was cheeky or said a bad word Sr would have cleaned my mouth out by putting washing up liquid in a cup and making me drink it, she would have forced me to drink it. She would have said something like 'that'll cure that black tongue'. I would have taken a wee bit of the liquid in my mouth and would have cried and it ran out the side of my mouth. If I didn't drink it she clouted me with the knuckle of her middle finger on her right hand, I think part of this finger was missing and she seemed to only have a stump left. She may have had tow fingers missing. I was hit so much because the wee ones wouldn't do anything unless I told them to do it. She would have brought me into

STATEMENT OF:

HIA 113

her long narrow bedroom and hit me with a white plastic curtain rail. This rail just used to sit in the room, it was longer than a brush shaft. At the time I didn't know why I was being hit, I just used to keep saying 'I'm sorry and I won't do it again'. Looking back now I think it was something to do with my sisters and brothers as they didn't do anything without me telling them and this annoyed used to say to me 'you're not their mother'. I also suffered sexual abuse by some of the boys who were there. and I had a bedroom, the door of it was bedroom. There were other children in the dormitory opposite Sister further down it. Half way down the dormitory there was a glass partition or door and this was always closed, there were other children in behind this. and I were in one unit, there were about 10 or 15 children, some of them came in and left again. There were other children who were in the unit longer than us. ended up with us, although first went to the small and children's part. Some of the bigger boys would come into my room at night when I was sleeping and I would wake to find one of them tugging my pyjamas down. Then they would have put their finger into my private parts down below, there was only one boy at a time doing this. They were usually crouched down in the dark and I couldn't see their faces. I would have pretended to still be sleeping and didn't let on I was wide awake when they did this because I wouldn't have been able to face them the next day, but they must have known I was wide awake. Some times I

STATEMENT CONTINUATION PAGE

HIA 113

STATEMENT OF:

would hold onto my pyjamas and not let them tug them down. I was about years old when this happened, the boys would have been around 10 or 12 years old. I can remember one boy who did this to me, his name was HIA 321 and he was one of the bigger boys. He had . He came into my room one night and did this to me, he was playing between my legs and then he put his fingers into me. After he was finished I had to go to the toilet and this meant I had to walk past the room where the boys were sleeping in their room. The door was open HIA 321 talking to the other boy. I think there were only two of and I heard them. I couldn't hear exactly what he was saying but I knew he was talking about me. My nerves were bad and I was terrified and my heart was pounding. I couldn't walk past the boys' room so I turned and went back into my own room. I peed in the waste bin in my room. I can remember this happened with another big boy who only stayed at the home a short time, this boy had blond hair. It happened with other boys in the home, I don't remember them. The way I dealt with it was by not thinking about it; I thought if I don't think about it, it didn't happen to me. This abuse happened to me and went on until I was fostered out and away from Termonbacca. I remember one of the staff from Termonbacca, a tall thin girl. She used to dress up as a wee girl and took photos of him. And I remember another worker who I can't remember anything about; she used to make take her knickers off every day to check if they were wet. And would have been made to sit

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SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

STATEMENT CONTINUATION PAGE

STATEMENT OF: HIA 113 on the toilet, some times over an hour, until he used the toilet. I never reported the abuse in Termonbacca to anyone at the time. and I went on day trips from Termonbacca with a family who were supposed to foster us. This family had older girls and these older girls didn't like us. and were already taking and out of Termonbacca and they ended up taking us girls as well. So I was fostered with and when years old, this was in It was while we were being fostered that we found out about my baby sister and she came to live with us also when she was a baby. We in Derry. Then we moved to first lived at which is in when I was about years old. Then we moved to , this was a big corner house across from the shop. We stayed there the longest, about 2 or 3 years. Eventually there were us living there along with and their son was a bit older than and and adopted another baby called while we were living there. seemed to have a problem with me and When I was about 15 I had an argument with in the house. This was in . I can't remember what we were arguing about but slapped me across the face and I was told to go up to my bed. There was a big argument and some things were said and I remember two men in suits, who must have been welfare

STATEMENT OF: HIA 113

officers, came to the house the next day. They asked me a pile of questions.

and me were all taken to Nazareth House after this, I can't remember exactly when or how we got there. No one spoke to me there and the 3 of us didn't talk about what had happened to us. I was in Nazareth House for a while, I never got hit while I was in there but I remember Sister once asked me 'are you going whoring?' I didn't know what it meant. Sister never hit me; no-one hit me in Nazareth House. I was very naïve even at years of age; I actually thought that if a penis went into you, you just had a baby. I was in Nazareth House 6 or 7 months. I used to cry to my mum on the phone and was eventually sent back to live with her in had gone home before and at the time and he was a drinker. I had rows me. Mum was living with but stayed at home because I was too scared to and arguments with run away and I always hoped it would get better at home. ran away and ended up in a care home in the Waterside where she met her boyfriend became her husband. I eventually met my husband and I moved in with his parents when I was years old. We have children now and are still together. About 10 years after we left the and I talked about what happened when we were at told me about things and that had happened to her and We've had several talks about it and still talk about it now. I haven't seen in years. I still or

STATEMENT OF: HIA 113 some times but we don't talk about what happened in the past. I do remember two of the social workers who dealt with us at the time were . There were several other social workers but I don't and remember who they were. After I left care I would have taken my mum down to Nazareth House to see my younger siblings. and then later my other siblings and were put into care after me. I went to see them every Saturday, on my own sometimes, and took them out for the day. We all keep in touch to this day. My time in care has affected me deeply. I know I am very soft with my own kids as I want them to be kids and to have a childhood which I didn't have. I felt as though I had to grow up and look after the wee ones, my sisters and brothers. I have been prescribed anti-depressants by the doctor. My doctor wanted me to speak to a counsellor but I have said no. I have been to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry and told them my story. I have also been to see a psychiatrist in

HIA REF: [HIA 321]

NAME: [HIA 321

DATE: [20.01.14]

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

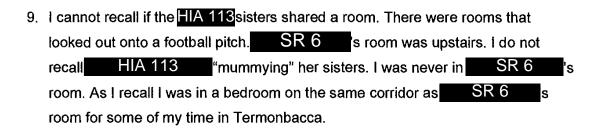
Witness Statement of HIA 321

I, HIA 321 will say as follows: -

- 1. I was born on the line I have no recollection of being taken into the care of the Nuns on the first occasion. I do not recall why I was placed in their care. I have no recollection of leaving the nuns care the first time. The only memory of being in the nuns care the first time was living in huts. I called them "Wagon Huts". I do recall going back to the nun's care in the line. As far as I recall I was not given any reason for being returned to the care of the nuns in the line I had lived with family called the line I can recall until I was placed with the nuns when I was 10 or so.
- 2. The nuns I was placed with in lived at St. Joseph's, Termonbacca, Derry. I have already made a statement to the inquiry and I have not seen a copy of that statement.
- 3. I have been asked to address the statement of HIA 113 That statement has been read to me. I have had time to reflect on her statement before making this statement. I have since receiving the letter from this inquiry

about HIA 113 s accusations been interviewed by police about the accusations made by her.

- 4. Arising from the listing of HIA 113 s brothers' and sisters' names I assumed she was known to me as HIA 113 The police confirmed that that was her name.
- 5. I was living in Termonbacca from termonbacca from the living there. I was left when I was in the living the living the living the living the living and her brothers and sisters lived there. I do not remember them leaving the home.
- 6. I recall that other children did wet beds. They had to get up first and go take a bath and change their pyjamas. The beds were lined with a rubber sheet. There were only boys in the boys' bedrooms. The girls had their own bedrooms. I do not recall anyone being hit for wetting the bed.
- 7. I remember SR 6 She had I did get hit in the way described by HIA 113 SR 6 - once. It was for talking back by to a nun in the kitchen. I saw her hit other children the same way. I do not recall anyone specifically or how often this happened - it wasn't a daily occurrence as far as I recall. I do not recall anyone being taken to SR 6 s room. I do HIA 113 being beaten. I do not know anything about her I do not recall SR 6 dealings with SR 6 cleaning anyone's HIA 113 HIA 113 describes. I do not recall mouth as
- 8. I did not know SR 6 was dead.



- 10. I did not abuse HIA 113 I did not touch her. I have told the police too.
- 11. There was a TV in a big room that everyone had to watch what was on. I do not recall who decided what would be watched.
- 12. As the dishes had to be washed after breakfast and each meal I do not recall anything being kept from one meal to another.
- 13. I was never force fed food. I do not recall anyone being force fed food. I do not recall anyone being forced to go to the toilet. I do not recall anyone being forced to dress as a member of the opposite sex. The home was staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year as far as I recall.
- 14. I recall going to the beach and the big army flask of soup.
- 15. Before this inquiry I had never spoken to police or been approached by police to make a statement about my time in care. I was approached by police since Christmas 2013. They did not say who was the alleged victim but wished to speak to me about alleged inappropriate sexual behaviour.

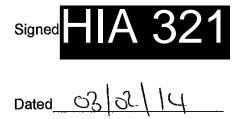
16. I was interviewed on a voluntary basis by police about accusations made to them HIA 113 made to them in the Autumn 2013. The accusations were that I had been involved in acts of sexual misconduct towards her when I was years old. I have denied these accusations. The accusations made to police seemed more graphic and detailed than those in the statement provided to me by the Inquiry.

17.I now believe that	SR 6	was not in Termonbacca in	when I was
l do recall a	SR 14	was living there in	

18. I have not made a decision about suing anyone about my time in care.

Statement of Truth

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



STATEMENT OF:

HIA 113

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Name

Rank

AGE OF WITNESS (If over 18 enter "over 18"):

Over 18

To be completed when the statement has been written

I declare that this statement consisting of 1 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this

3RD

day of

February

2004

M Boyd

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER by whom statement was recorded or received

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

M BOYD PRINT NAME IN CAPS

113

I was born

and along with my

sisters and brother I was a child resident at Termonbacca Children's Home, Londonderry for

three years from

I am now known as

Sergeant Michelle Boyd has asked me some questions

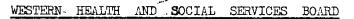
about my time there. I can say that I do not remember - A 60 or SND 76

SND 76 being at the home. I did not witness any abuse going on at the home whilst I was there and no-one discussed the fact that they were abused with me.

certified a true copy of the original

38/36 04/03

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS:



CASE RECORDING

NAME:

HIA 113

ADDRESS:

DATE	
1/3/87	HIA 113 syears old. She does not want to avail of social work services so we are unable to provide the after-care services that we would like. No further action.
:	