

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 [REDACTED] 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 1974. As far as I recall I was not given any reason for being returned to the care of the nuns in 1974. I had lived with family called [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] from I can recall until I was placed with the nuns when I was [REDACTED] or so.
2. The nuns I was placed with in 1974 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 [REDACTED] HIA 113 [REDACTED] s accusations been interviewed by police about the accusations made by her.

4. Arising from the listing of [REDACTED] HIA 113 [REDACTED] s brothers' and sisters' names I assumed she was known to me as [REDACTED] HIA 113 [REDACTED]. The police confirmed that that was her name.
5. I was living in Termonbacca from 1974. As far as I recall boys and girls were living there. I was [REDACTED] I left when I was [REDACTED] in 1981. I lived in Termonbacca during the time [REDACTED] HIA 113 [REDACTED] 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 [REDACTED] SR 6 [REDACTED]. She had [REDACTED]. I did get hit in the way described by [REDACTED] HIA 113 [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] SR 6 [REDACTED] -- once. It was for talking back 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 [REDACTED] SR 6 [REDACTED] s room. I do not recall [REDACTED] HIA 113 [REDACTED] being beaten. I do not know anything about her dealings with [REDACTED] SR 6 [REDACTED]. I do not recall [REDACTED] SR 6 [REDACTED] cleaning anyone's mouth as [REDACTED] HIA 113 [REDACTED] describes. I do not recall [REDACTED] HIA 113 [REDACTED] having a stammer.
8. I did not know [REDACTED] SR 6 [REDACTED] was dead.

9. I cannot recall if the HIA 113 sisters shared a room. There were rooms that looked out onto a football pitch. SR 6's room was upstairs. I do not recall HIA 113 "mummying" her sisters. I was never in SR 6's room. As I recall I was in a bedroom on the same corridor as SR 6's room for some of my time in Termonbacca.
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 by **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 1975 when I was 11. I do recall a **SR 14** was living there in 1975.

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.

Signed **HIA 321**

Dated 03/02/14

COPY ~~TEXT~~ TO MOTHER SUPERIOR, ST. JOSEPH'S HOME

COUNTY TYRONE
WELFARE

W.22

To Mr. Vance Date 16th January, 1969
 From Children's Officer

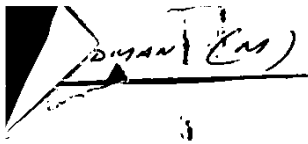
SND 148
 HIA 321

St. Joseph's Home, Termonbacca, Londonderry

Further to your report of 11th November, 1968, I should be glad if you would v [redacted] and advise him that his sons have not been placed in a foster home, to date. The prospective foster parents who had indicated an interest in these boys, decided against taking two children, and as the Mother Superior felt that they should not be separated, neither was placed.

I understand from the Mother Superior at St. Joseph's Home that Mr. [redacted] has only contributed a total amount of £3. 0.0. towards his son's' maintenance, since their transfer from Nazareth House, Bishop Street, Londonderry on 25th September, 1967. I note from your report of 6th December, 1967, that [redacted] indicated that he was prepared to make a private arrangement with

/the Home ,..... [redacted] 004



017 (T)

30. 10. 74

16th Review April 80

INTERNAL CASE REVIEW

To be completed by member of staff responsible for the child

Name of Child:

HIA 321

Date of Birth:

Date of Admission: 6. 11. 74

Responsible Local Authority:

W. 11. 55. 0. 11. 74.

Sex: M.

House or Group:

St. Genimes

Referred by: Omg4.

Responsibility:

DET 7 HOS 110

1. Contact and relationships with child's own family:
 - a) With parents:
 - b) With siblings or other relatives:
 - c) With other outside contacts:
2. Emotional Development and behaviour
3. Relationships in the children's home:
 - a) with residential staff:
 - b) with other children.
4. Health:
 - a) General health and physical development
 - b) Record of any serious illness
 - c) Date of last Medical Examination and findings
5. Education
 - a) Education progress and school reports
 - b) General comments and relationships with teachers and pupils
6. Religious Development and Education:

018

ST., JOSEPH'S, TERMONBECCA.

Name of Child: HIA 321

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Date of Admission: 6th., November. 1974. (Re-admitted from Foster Home.)

Nearest Relative: Father: HIA 321
[REDACTED]
OMAGH.

Mother: [REDACTED]
c/o [REDACTED]
Enniskellen,
Co., Fermanagh.

Responsible Authority: Strabane Social Services.

CASE HISTORY.5th., November. 1975.

HIA 321 is making steady progress at school, but he is quite slow in some subjects. He is doing his 11+ examination on Friday, and although he has worked hard for it, doesn't stand much of a chance of passing. He is a well-behaved boy and gets on extremely well with all the other children. No contact whatever with any relatives in the past year.

21st., Jan., 1976.

HIA 321 has had to do the 11+ over again this week - but this doesn't seem to worry him unduly. Still making progress - he is a well balanced boy and does not give any trouble here or in school. Enjoys going to the Sparta Club.

19th., May. 1976.

HIA 321 made his Confirmation in St. Eugene's Cathedral on Monday night. He had his party last night, so he thoroughly enjoyed himself. HIA 321 is no trouble whatever.

1st., September. 1976.

HIA 321 has just returned from 1 weeks holiday in Wales, with the Derry Holiday Project people. He thoroughly enjoyed his stay in North Wales, and had a great time hiking, walking, climbing and swimming.

15th., November. 1976.

HIA 321 failed in his 11+ so he has commenced school in [REDACTED]. He has settled in well and seems to enjoy it, especially metal-work. His behaviour is good, both here and in school.

18th., November. 1976.

HIA 321 was visited by his new Social Worker; Miss Mary O'Neill. She was pleased with HIA 321 and with her visit here.

12th., January. 1977.

HIA 321 has started back at school again after the Christmas holidays, and is beginning to take more of an interest in his studies. Gets on well with everybody both here and in school.

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 **SR 6** took 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 them. One of the boys was called **HIA 321** and 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 **SR 6** what had 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. **SR 6** force fed my sisters and me the lumpy porridge. On one occasion I remember vomiting. **SR 6** cleaned 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 **SR 6** didn't like any of the food and used to suck the food but never eat it. In the