

HIA REF: 294

Witness Name:

HIA 294

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA 294

I, Maria Dougan, Assistant Solicitor to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry confirm that I have read the transcript of evidence HIA 294 gave to the Acknowledgement Forum. HIA 294 sadly passed away on [REDACTED] 2014 before he met the Inquiry legal team. It was his wish to proceed to the Statutory Inquiry. The Chairman has directed that HIA 294 remarks to the Acknowledgment Forum about his time in Lissue House should be produced in the form of a witness statement so his evidence can be included for that module. I confirm that HIA 294 remarks about Lissue House from his Acknowledgement Forum transcript are as follows:-

Lissue HouseExtract 1

HIA 294 And last time I was in Marmion would have been say about '68 '69 I went back up into this other hospital called Lissue.

AF member: Okay so you would be about eight or nine now would you?

HIA 294 Yeah.

AF member: You were born in [REDACTED]

HIA 294 [REDACTED]

AF member: And you think this was about '69?

HIA 294 I remember lying at night sleeping and next thing I got woken up, the faces I couldn't see.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 And I was put onto my stomach.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 And there was someone down below and I don't know if I was or if I wasn't.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 But I can also remember the same thing happening to some other wee boy, the same cries.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 Yeah and this is at night time surely they would have come in and explained to me even then what was going on but there was none of that.

AF member: So you were put on your face.

HIA 294 Yeah.

AF member: And they were messing around with your bottom?

HIA 294 Yeah which made me feel very dirty you know.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 So me sister me older sister [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] went onto like a family group home in Newtownards.

AF member: Okay

Extract 2

HIA 294 His name would have been [REDACTED]. That would have been 1980 so back out in the middle of Bangor and the place me Auntie and Uncle bought, there was Police all on the street, I couldn't stick it, I had to get out. I went down and started living in bedsit land round Bangor.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 Every time I got a jail sentence it was like going home yeah, the characters I met you know.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 So then that's when I heard about, something about Lissue hospital being closed.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 Because of some scandal.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 That made me think even more and here's me to meself I wonder was I or wasn't I.

AF member: Yes.

Extract 3

HIA 294 Don't want anything, it's always been that way but then as I was saying I heard about the sex scandals going on and they must have got it real hard but I also didn't know until me Solicitors says **HIA294** see what your man **LS61** was doing that is a form of sexual abuse.

AF member: Yes.

HIA294 Yeah.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 I didn't know that, I'm not too sure about the hospital what they were doing but it didn't feel right you know how you know even at a young age I knew there was something not right.

AF member: Do you remember why you were in the hospital?

HIA 294 For not eating.

AF member: Oh for not eating was it?

HIA 294 Now the first time I was in the top ward, it was a big old house, there was a downstairs and an upstairs so I got medication the first time I was in it, the second time I went back, completely different, I think the upstairs had moved down the stairs.

AF member: Okay.

HIA 294 That's where apparently the abuse took place in the downstairs but they could have got up the stairs these people they could have got up there. You have to excuse me cos if you're on them tablets you keep forgetting.

Extract 4

HIA 294 Then I went to, how I found out about all this, I went to me doctor and told him all about I was getting pains and that and he turned round to me and he said you're going to have to go into hospital **HIA294** for checkups and cameras and here's me Doctor I'm not going into no hospital.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 I have a fear of them.

AF member: Yes.

HIA 294 And he turned and here he was **HIA294** talk to me, have you ever been sexually abused and I turned round and I says Dr. Jackson I don't

know if I was or if I wasn't and he was well them people need to be brought before Courts.

AF member: Yes.

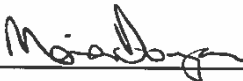
HIA 294

But them people is dead now you know but what I'm saying is the staff must have seen what was going on but they were too scared in case they got sacked or whatever.

AF member: Yes.

Statement of Truth

I confirm that this is a true account of **HIA 294** remarks about Lissue House which he made to the Acknowledgement Forum.

Signed 

Maria Dougan

Assistant Solicitor to the Inquiry

Dated 18/2/16