

THE HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY**STATEMENT OF:****LS 7**

1. I was born on [REDACTED] and am now 87 years of age.
2. I trained as a nurse at the Belfast City Hospital, and Jubilee Unit in the 1940s. I qualified as an SRN. I worked at the City Hospital and other facilities such as the in-patient care provided at Charlemont Street, off the Lisburn Road and Killowen, near Lisburn.
3. In about 1972, as an experienced nurse, a colleague, who thought that since I was greatly taken by children, that I would be a suitable person to work at the Lissue Unit, also situated at Lisburn, recruited me. While I received no formal training in child psychiatry, I was at that point a very experienced general nurse, with various specific experiences.
4. I got married to my late husband and we had two children. I very happily enjoy the company of my grandchildren.
5. I have never been convicted of any criminal offence whatsoever; I had one complaint made about me in respect of my time at Lissue. I was totally exonerated of any wrongdoing, after investigation.
6. I retired in 1995 at the age of 65. I was presented with a copy booklet/'scrapbook' of the history of Lissue and the various people and staff I worked with. I thoroughly enjoyed my time working at Lissue and found that we were able, in many instances, to return children to their families. Those who were living with us had various problems such as schizophrenia, anorexia, epilepsy and other behavioural issues.

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7. I never attained the rank of *sister*, but acted up into that role when my colleagues were on holiday or absent due to a bereavement or family illness. I was on the day shift only given my own family commitments.

*staff Nurses Grade 3
my grade 1-2*

8. The Lissue Unit was unusual in that the staff wore civilian clothes, and never uniforms. We were therefore inclined to pick clothes that were comfortable though smart. A further distinction from my previous nursing experience was that staff being the nursing staff and the medical staff called each other by their first names, rather than a rank and surname. These features were used to make the unit more comfortable for the children under our care.
9. The children we cared for were on an in-patient basis numbering around 20 aged from young infants to about 12-14 years. As indicated above at paragraph 6, they had a range of problems and sadly some of the children came from very disturbed and, came from what would now be called, dysfunctional families. Some of the children had been shown no apparent love and their interactions with their parent or parents who called could be quite heartrending. As a member of the nursing staff, I would have participated in the morning meetings with the social workers and doctors and the teachers who provided school facilities at the Unit.
10. The children under our care came from all over Northern Ireland.
11. As regards any medication these were as prescribed by the 3 doctors who were the general compliment of medical staff in my time both at Lissue and when we moved laterally for economic efficiency to the Old Foster Green Hospital at Saintfield Road, Belfast. The doctors would have prescribed the medication and its dosage. As I became more senior, I was conferred with by some doctors as to whether the dosage was adequate or too much and would certainly have reported back on what impact the medicines were having upon the children. This was in order to assist the doctors to form a clinical

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assessment and adjust the medication, if they thought in their judgement it was correct to do so.

12. I have had an opportunity to consider the statements and interviews given by 3 complainants, who allege wrong behaviour on my part. I refute all and every such allegation from the most minor, to the most serious.

HIA 38

[HIA 38]

Pertaining to any allegations of misconduct on my part, I respond as follows:

- (a) The medication [being *Ritalin* and *Largactil*] was prescribed by the medical staff in line with their experience as to the selection or dosage. These were matters for the doctors though I saw nothing that would have indicated to me in my experience that their choices were anything other than proper. Some major drugs in fact had to be signed as received by two nurses when delivered by the porters from the pharmacy at Lagan Valley Hospital. Nurses had no ambit of discretion in the administration of medication. This was a matter of clinical judgment by the doctors.
- (b) As regards the smoking of cigarettes, this was actively discouraged and all cigarettes were put in the bin if any were smuggled into the unit. I recall one occasion, a father suggesting that his daughter's behaviour was improved by smoking cigarettes and the unit agreed that she would be allowed to smoke but this was never compulsory, quite the contrary. We would have preferred if she did not smoke. I strongly disagreed with the view that any minor should be given cigarettes. I never allowed my children or my grandchildren to smoke.
- (c) Our method of trying to create an orderly atmosphere was that if a child was beginning to lose his or her temper, or behave in a manner that was disruptive then they would be invited in reasonably firm terms to stand facing a corner. That is entirely correct and true and it worked in the most instances as standing facing a corner for 3 minutes does have a calming, and

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salutary effect upon a child. The second stage of that strategy, if the first failed to produce calm, then the child, would be taken by 2 members of staff in an established planned method to his/her room and placed upon their bed. They would not be stripped of their clothing and would be told that they would return upon amendment of their behaviour. I was trained in restraint techniques at that time and these would have been used if the situation required it for the safety of the child in question, the other children and the staff members, but a child would not have been struck by me or nor was a child struck in my presence. Equally children's hair was not pulled, nor were they nipped. I disagree entirely with any suggestion by any witness that this behaviour took place either through me, or by any of my colleagues;

- (d) I did not have any specific animosity towards **HIA 38** I found all the children that we worked with to be engaging to varying extents and almost all save one were capable of engendering affection and warmth from me and from my colleagues. That boy [who I will name to the Inquiry if asked] was a vicious deceitful bully who wound other children up to misbehave and stood back then to witness the after effects;
- (e) I did not take blood in a manner set out at paragraph 17, nor use the language suggested. I dislike the use of swear words and would not use them myself;
- (f) Equally I did not grab a child by the scruff of the neck and shove any child into its room, rather that a child would be restrained in the proscribed manner to remove that child from causing further disruption, upset and spreading his or her behaviour among the other children which was unsettling for the entire unit. No children were abused and any squealing was out-with my experience. I do not believe it happened;
- (g) Parents were treated respectfully. We tried were we could to explain our various strategies to both parents of the in-patients and the day patients. Some parents took some time to understand the ideas that were co-ordinated by the medical/ nursing staff to the benefit of their children. For example, I do recall a mother objecting to our strategy where her child would lie immobile on a bed. In order to get that child to mobilise and toilet herself, we

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initially brought a commode into the bedroom and gradually kept moving it a distance from the bed, each time helping and assisting the child to use it. We then moved the commode out into the corridor and then near to the toilets so that the child could regain her loss of confidence, that may have arisen from bullying or other traumatic factors thus causing her to withdraw from society and become a recluse to the point of not using the bathroom facilities. This was explained to the mother. When she saw the results, she was persuaded of the unit's views.

HIA 119

[HIA 119]

1. I entirely reject the allegation of physical or mental abuse by myself or my other colleagues. I saw nothing of concern in the behaviour of my colleagues when I worked at the unit that would have given rise for concern or led me to have made any formal complaint.
2. I do not recall the specific incident at paragraph 12 of **HIA 119** statement. Certainly a child that became disruptive as above would have been brought to a corner to try to induce calm. I know that I would have not grabbed a child by her hair and shook her. I entirely deny that this took place. I know my own ambit of behaviour, and am completely certain that this would not have ever happened.
3. Of paragraph 16 the conversation between the children at the table was not discouraged as a general rule, unless it was abusive of other children, was insulting, or that bad language was being used. Children were encouraged to interact with each other and members of staff in order to assist in their recovery. There would not have been therefore an attempt to make an example out of a child, but rather if a child was misbehaving it certainly was

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the case that that child would have been encouraged to calm down using the methods as set out above.

4. As to paragraph 19, I completely deny any beating, slapping or pulling of hair, pulling of ears or slapping on any part of the body by me or other member of staff.

HIA 172 [HIA 172]

1. As material to me, I will deal with the various suggestions. Just because I do not specifically reject or deny something, it does not mean that I agree with it, but simply I do not have direct evidence, or that it is out of my experience.
2. With regard to paragraph 4, I remember clearly that there was a strategy in place to try to deal with children who were wetting the bed. As I did not work on the night shift due to my own family commitments, I was not involved in the implementation of this strategy. An sensor alarm was fitted to the bed and the night staff who told me of this and I believe to be true, that when the alarm went off because a child having urinated, that the child would be raised from bed and changed, put into clean night clothes and a clean bedding put upon the bed. Children were encouraged not to wet the bed for obvious reason of hygiene, their own comfort and sleep pattern. If a child soiled itself or wet itself plainly it may have to have been washed with antiseptic or other cleaning fluid. I do not recall Dettol, which would not appropriate in those circumstances, being used but other fluids and cleaning agents were used to ensure the child's cleanliness and comfort.

*showered
or
Bath*

3. Pertaining to paragraph 7, as regards this allegation over a bowl of peas, I would state that children were not forced to eat all types of food though they were encouraged to do so. A child could not be pandered to and there was a set diet. Certainly a child would be encouraged to eat, with the admonition if

anxious children

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they did not eat then what was put in front of them, that there was no further food going to be available at that sitting. I have no recollection that I or any of my colleagues compelled a child to eat cold vegetables in the manner described. I do not believe that it happened.

4. I note at paragraph 9, that time out was one of the methods to be used. I believe this is and was, totally defensible.

5. I have reflected carefully on the incident of the white trousers. These in fact were black, *worn when just sitting only over my clothes* as a matter of detail. I dealt with them in my police statement the police having investigated this matter. **HIA 172** [and his brother *I note a marked work.*

HIA 172 came from a household in Bangor where there seemed to be only one parent, a mother who sadly did not take a great or more interest in her children. There was a noticeable absence of affection. The two boys, and particularly **HIA 172** the eldest, could be quite troublesome. **HIA 172** and **HIA 172** both had rather unfashionable clothes that might be described as old fashioned.

6. I apprehended **HIA 172** on one occasion where he had taken wrongly [without permission] trousers from a store of extra clothes. Parents who generally provided clothing for their own children but sometimes this was not possible and social services were asked to intervene and provide clothing. In any event, the home always kept a supply of additional clothing for emergencies. In this instance **HIA 172** had cut the legs off the pair of trousers so far up that they were not even shorts any longer but were utterly inappropriate and would have made him the object of ridicule by the other children. I wished to save him from that ridicule which I know would have happened as this was in the summer. The boys were in short trousers and he did not have any such short trousers. He had cut the black trousers away to such a level that it would have nearly have been indecent. His version of events is utterly at odds with my memory. He was neither exposed to ridicule nor was his

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private parts on display. My effort was entirely to save him, from himself. This was not the only incident in which **HIA 172** did not behave in an honest manner.

7. As regards the police interview (enquiry reference LIS-31047) while I was a senior member of staff as the years went on I did not trail **HIA 172** into a room nor did I strip him and put him to bed. He would have been escorted to his room in the prescribed manner by two members of staff and left upon his bed. This was the invariable procedure, in my entire experience.
8. As to the reference of my mode of dress (LIS-31049) I countered that by inviting the enquiry to consider the photographic evidence showing myself and colleagues and our mode of dress at the various functions, events and work days that are captured therein.
9. As regards a suggestion made (LIS-31144) that I used a *jif lemon* on a small infant child, this is partially correct. The child in question had difficulty eating and Dr. McCauley [who was the clinician supervising her care] had suggested that I put a couple of drops of lemon juice on to her tongue in order to try to stimulate the child to eat. ^{I refused the use of lemon} The infant had great difficulty masticating and swallowing. The doctor thought it worth a try that if she had bitter taste in her mouth, she might thereafter welcome other food, which did not have the sharp flavour of lemon. Unfortunately, this strategy did not work but the whole purpose was humane and done under medical supervision. Ultimately, that infant needed surgery to correct her swallowing reflex. The use of the *jif lemon* was under medical direction and suggestion. It was a part in graduated care of most minimal intervention first. I appreciate **HIA 172** **HIA 172** as a young boy may not have appreciated what was taking place, and misunderstood the reasons for my directed and supervised actions with the infant.

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10. As regards general assertion that I was vicious and cruel, I am aghast at such a suggestion. I am an 87-year-old grandmother, devoted to my own children and to my grandchildren. In that regard, the reference that LIS-31086 that I was dragging a little girl and that **HIA 172** saw me at or near the Burger King restaurant in Lisburn. This is inaccurate. For a start, the child was my grandson, **[REDACTED]**. Secondly, **[REDACTED]** and I had gone into Burger King and had already sat down. We were enjoying something to eat. **HIA 172** came in with a lady, I assumed to be his wife, or girlfriend. He sat down nearby and when saw me he began to behave in a most and odd unusual fashion. He immediately left Burger King without ordering anything. I repeat that I was not dragging the child. I have a very warm and good relationship with all my grandchildren. We were sitting in the restaurant at the material time.

I left before him, he was eating his meal when I left

11. As set out at the commencement of this statement, there was an investigation in 1994 arising from allegations **HIA 172** made. I have re-read my statement to the police at that time. The complaint was not upheld and I was entirely exonerated. That statement appears in the Inquiry papers of LIS-31239.

HIA 38

1. As indicated in my police statement at LIS-31538, the incident pertaining to **HIA 38** and an injection needs to be read against the question and answer I gave when interviewed by police. I did ^{not} on occasion give injections as that is part of a nurse's job. However the manner of what transpired as set out by **HIA 38** did not happen.
2. Two minor points of detail [as can be seen from the photographs]. I did not wear white as **HIA 38** claims in his statement LIS-31556. The photographs of the two doctors, who were Pakistani in origin, were excellent colleagues with excellent English. They were husband and wife. The man

plainly does not have a beard. I do not recollect ever seeing him with a beard. This inexact recollection of detail is indicative of other misremembering by this witness to the inquiry.

Conclusion

- I finally invite the enquiry to consider the photographs which show the children content and generally very happy. They had activities arranged, had holidays provided for them at Garron Tower [a Roman Catholic boarding school on the North coast] that was given to us to use for a period in the summer. The army at Thiepval Barracks were regular guests who provided entertainments, such as fancy dress and musical performances for the children.
- To reiterate, I enjoyed my entire time at Lissie. I thought at the time, and still believe, that the work was very valuable for the children. It was pleasing to me that in the great majority of children's care we brought about a positive outcome. I had very good colleagues, who were both highly professional and very pleasant to work with. I have no doubt that my time and what I witnessed, that they behaved with total dedication, professionalism and respect, for the children under our care. I believe I did also.

Dated this 4th day of April 2016

Signed

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1 trousers. You were saying to me you have no
2 recollection of that at all. She says that you had
3 stolen the trousers from the linen cupboard and cut the
4 legs off to make shorts and the legs were uneven. She
5 told you that you couldn't wear them. She says her
6 concern was that you would be humiliated if you went out
7 in them and she wouldn't, therefore, let you go out in
8 them. She said she would never humiliate a child. Her
9 job was to do the opposite.

10 Now I am right in saying that even as we've
11 discussed it today, this potential cutting up of
12 trousers to create black shorts, you have no memory of
13 that at all?

14 A. No.

15 Q. No, and you were saying to me, "Is there no ..." -- you
16 were asking me, "Is there no record of me cutting up
17 a white sheet?" I was saying there is a record I could
18 find of you cutting up a shirt, but not a white sheet,
19 but I was saying to you if we had the nursing log --

20 A. Uh-huh.

21 Q. -- it's possible it might have been in there. I don't
22 have it, so I can't say.

23 A. Did you say that that shirt was something I had cut up
24 at home?

25 Q. It may be --

1 your parents to be contacting Lissue more, to
2 communicate with you more than they were doing.

3 A. Uh-huh.

4 Q. As to what the context of the remark is that you're
5 recounting --

6 A. Well, I'm -- in what they're referring to, I'm referring
7 to when various members of staff would comment to me
8 about, you know, "Your parents don't give a damn about
9 you", how LS6 on a couple of occasions I recall
10 essentially at the very spot where I made the allegation
11 to LS8 about the assault that had taken place on me the
12 previous night, I remember standing in that same part of
13 the corridor as my mother was leaving Lissue after
14 visiting me there and I was crying and I was crying for
15 my mum to come back, and LS6, obviously being vexed at
16 having to listen to my crying, told me to shut up, "Your
17 mother doesn't care and she doesn't want you", and there
18 was members of staff that would frequently say things
19 like, "Your parents don't give a damn about you", you
20 know. These would all be the likes of LS7 and LS6, and
21 these were frequent psychological things that were said
22 to me that disturbed me greatly and probably did set me
23 off I think, you know.

24 This is -- this is probably one of the reasons why
25 at the end of my time in Lissue I did start to quite --

1 Q. -- by not letting you go to school.

2 A. Uh-huh.

3 Q. You also describe if we can look at --

4 A. I know you referred earlier to sometimes the school
5 couldn't accept me in class because of my behaviour. So
6 whenever I say the school punished -- or whenever I say
7 LS7 punished me, I am referring to the fact that
8 I didn't actually go to school. Now maybe at that time
9 I could have been on restriction to be kept on the ward
10 regardless of whether I had the white trousers or not,
11 but by not being allowed to go down to school, that was
12 a form of punishment that would frequently happen, but
13 I can't recall if I was being punished. All I know is
14 that not being allowed to go down to school was being --
15 was part of being punished. So I presumed from my
16 recollection of it that, yes, I was being punished as
17 well.

18 LS7 made it her mission to punish me as frequently
19 as she could. I could not step out of line or make any
20 sort of mistake whenever she was around or I would be
21 put in my room, or I would be standing with my nose in
22 the corner, or there would be something, something,
23 anything. Anything would set her off, and I would face
24 the consequences because of it, and I wasn't the only
25 one. There was lots of other kids, you know, and most

1 of them probably haven't come forward because most of
2 them don't want to go through this, don't want to read
3 and hear about how they are denying what they did to
4 kids.

5 I mean, I can understand. I can understand if they
6 felt now how I felt. If I knew I would feel like this
7 here before this Inquiry started, I probably would have
8 had second thoughts. You know, the fact that, you know,
9 I don't feel any sort of gratification because I don't
10 see any sort of ending to this here or anything coming
11 out of this here where people go, you know, "That's
12 terrible what happened to you and we are sorry". It's
13 just everybody is just denying, "Well, there is no
14 evidence here". I can't provide evidence that these
15 things happened. I can only tell you what I remember
16 happening and I can tell you how I feel about it and how
17 I feel about it today.

18 Q. Equally, HIA172, you can understand that people who you
19 make allegations against --

20 A. Uh-huh.

21 Q. -- are entitled to have an opportunity to say what they
22 want to say --

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- and if they don't accept something, they don't accept
25 something --

1 that these trousers that I had made had come apart and
2 I was kind of holding them, covering myself, and then
3 I went back in and sat down, and I can remember her
4 talking. I think -- I suspect that the staff room or --
5 you know, the staff room is adjacent to that lounge, you
6 know.

7 Q. Now you return to LS7 more generally in the ABE
8 interview. I am just going to summarise this. You say
9 that she was the worst, that she was an ogre.

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. That she assaulted you on thousands of occasions.

12 A. Well, quite frequent occasions, yes.

13 Q. I was discussing that with you earlier, because
14 basically what you are saying is she was assaulting you
15 all the time.

16 A. Her physical manner in dealing with me was quite
17 aggressive.

18 Q. And she -- she was the one you said to the police in
19 2014 put you into your room for not eating mushy peas --

20 A. Uh-huh.

21 Q. -- until you did eat them.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. In addition to assaulting you -- how did she -- when you
24 say she assaulted you thousands of times -- leave aside
25 the number --

1 "Yes, whoever was supposed to do it did it". When
2 Aileen did it, she simply just took the child's -- stood
3 behind the child and held it and squirted the Jif Lemon
4 into the child's mouth. Of course the child spat it out
5 again and that was fair enough. It was kind of horrible
6 to see that there, but whenever LS7 did it, she did it
7 so viciously it was in and the lemon juice was pumped so
8 hard into her mouth it came out of the child's nose and
9 the child was in serious distress. The face was bright
10 red with distress whereas when LS 73 had done it, it
11 wasn't -- it was uncomfortable and the child was crying
12 about it, but they were not that distressed. You know,
13 I can -- you know, it is one of the strongest images
14 that I have of my time there. You know, it still kind
15 of shocks me. Just the aggression behind what she'd
16 done was -- you know, I can't really draw a picture, you
17 know, of the difference between LS 73 approach and
18 LS7's approach. You know, it's two completely different
19 things.

20 Q. I am not sure I found in the police material the
21 reference to a contrast, but you remember the contrast
22 --

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- between her and how LS 73 dealt with it?

25 The police did interview LS7 again after your ABE

1 Q. And the practice was not locking bedroom doors?

2 A. I don't remember anybody locking doors except for the
3 external doors that led outside.

4 Q. Yes, but the actual bedroom doors, you weren't being
5 locked in your bedroom?

6 A. I don't -- no.

7 Q. She said -- she was asked whether she had seen anybody
8 being physically or sexually abused in Lissue and she
9 said she hadn't. In fairness to her she does say -- she
10 is asked, "Well, was there any member of staff you were
11 ever concerned about?" I am not going to name the
12 individual now, but the Panel are aware of who it is.
13 She says she was concerned about one member of staff to
14 do with missing medication and money. She brought that
15 to the attention of senior staff, but her recollection
16 was that kids were treated well. If they got out of
17 control, they got their nose put in the corner for
18 three minutes, which is the time out procedure in
19 effect.

20 A. Does it take three minutes for the sun to go down,
21 because I remember being put in my room for a long
22 period of time and the sun actually going down. That
23 would take more than three minutes. I remember going in
24 the day time and coming out at night-time, sitting there
25 for maybe a couple of hours. I don't think -- I think

1 tough minded, but he was not aware of any abuse or
2 assaults at Lissue.

3 The Health & Social Care Board confirmed to the
4 Inquiry that LS7 was born in 1928, qualified as a nurse
5 in the '40s, worked as a Staff Nurse in child and
6 adolescent psychiatric care for nineteen years from 1975
7 before retiring. In her personnel files it was
8 confirmed she was never the subject of a complaint to
9 her employer or the subject of any disciplinary
10 proceedings. The Inquiry is, however, looking at three
11 complaints made against her to the Inquiry and in your
12 case your complaint was also made to the police.
13 Whether that is the case for either of the other two
14 I am not sure.

15 She has in addition provided a replying statement to
16 the Inquiry of 4th April 2016. That runs from 1389 to
17 1398. It is pages 1394 to 1397 that deal with your
18 allegations.

19 One of the points that she picked up, HIA172 --
20 essentially she makes the same denials that are detailed
21 in the two previous interviews that we have looked at.
22 One of the points that she picked up was a reference in
23 the ABE interview that seemed to be suggesting she wore
24 a nurse's uniform. You were saying you have never said
25 that. When we looked at what's in the ABE interview,

1 A. LS 73 I think. I'm not sure how it's pronounced.

2 LS 73 .

3 Q. You remember a particularly positive lady --

4 A. Yes, yes.

5 Q. -- who was very warm and you have mentioned her.

6 A. She lives behind me on the Lisburn Road.

7 Q. You have said that all the teachers were lovely people.

8 A. Most of the teachers, yes. I think all of them were
9 pretty dead on.

10 Q. LS3 in particular I think was the principal of the
11 school.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. You remember her fondly in your ABE interview.

14 A. Uh-huh.

15 Q. You also talk about LS21.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. You have a particularly warm word for him in the ABE
18 interview.

19 A. Uh-huh.

20 Q. You also explain he would have intervened when you were
21 being mistreated by LS7.

22 A. I can remember an occasion where he had -- where he had
23 came out into the hallway as LS7 was dragging me down
24 once again to my bedroom, and I think maybe even he was
25 sick of seeing this woman constantly harass me and just

1 intervened and said, "Sure, let him come into the office
2 with me and I'll deal with him", and that's what
3 happened, I mean, and I think LS7 was just, "I want this
4 kid out of my way. I can't be bothered with this kid".

5 Q. Obviously he I think was the Staff Nurse. He as well
6 would have had a professional obligation to report any
7 mistreatment. He never reported LS7 for mistreatment
8 and, in fact, said he never witnessed her mistreating
9 a child, but he has said to the Inquiry, and if we look
10 at 60517, please, in paragraph 23, that he has said:

11 "During my time in Lissue I did not witness any
12 inappropriate behaviour."

13 So your recollection of him is warm --

14 A. Uh-huh.

15 Q. -- and you regard him as having stepped in to protect
16 you. He doesn't regard whatever it is he interfered
17 with, if he accepts that when he is asked, was
18 inappropriate, but you had a positive view of him.

19 A. Uh-huh.

20 Q. HIA172, you will be very pleased to know I am not going
21 to ask you anything else.

22 A. Uh-huh.

23 Q. Unless -- we covered the issue of recommendations on the
24 last occasion. We ask each witness whether there's
25 maybe something in -- there were eleven times in Lissue

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. What sort of chastisement are you talking about?

3 A. Well, it was just mockery and shouting, depending on who
4 the staff member was. It's like I kind of explained
5 before. If it was a reasonable member of staff and
6 there was like a set period of time, "HIA172 should
7 really sit on the toilet for fifteen, twenty minutes and
8 hopefully his bowels will move in that time", then
9 that's what would have been done, but it seemed like
10 a lot of times other members of staff, the not so
11 favourable ones, would have left you there for
12 an excessive amount of time, and I did know the
13 difference between when LS 73 put me on time out and
14 I was on time out and I knew that she would come back at
15 a respectable and honest time whereas with the likes of
16 LS7 or LS6 or maybe even LS 85 if they put me on time
17 out, I could be there half the day.

18 It's not -- you know, it was like there was no --
19 there was no, you know -- you lost the sense of time,
20 because there was no clock in the room. You didn't have
21 an idea of, you know, how time was passing, but I do
22 recall on several occasions being put to bed and waking
23 up at night-time and being gotten up for dinner, or
24 being even gotten up for lunch, or even gotten up for
25 supper, being woken up, being brought out, given a glass

1 discretion in the administration of medication. This
2 was a matter of clinical judgment by the doctors."

3 That's what I was saying to you earlier, that she is
4 saying, you know, "We only gave out what the doctors
5 prescribed. We couldn't have given drugs ourselves
6 without that say-so".

7 A. Completely untrue and, as I say, if you don't mind me
8 interrupting -- sorry -- in paragraph (b) it says there
9 about if any cigarettes were smuggled into the unit,
10 they were binned, but --

11 Q. I am just coming on to read that, HIA38, if you bear
12 with me.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. It says:

15 "As regards the smoking the cigarettes, this was
16 actively discouraged and all cigarettes were put in the
17 bin if any were smuggled into the unit. I recall on one
18 occasion a father suggesting that his daughter's
19 behaviour was improved by smoking cigarettes, and the
20 unit agreed that she would be allowed to smoke, but this
21 was never compulsory, quite the contrary. We would have
22 preferred if she did not smoke."

23 She goes on to say that she strongly disagreed with
24 the view that any minor should be given cigarettes.

25 "I never allowed my children or my grandchildren to

1 smoke."

2 You were wondering if the girl that she is talking
3 about was the girl LS47 who you say smoked cigarettes
4 and was made to smoke cigarettes with you.

5 A. Yes, and it also shows that I in actual fact am telling
6 the truth, that cigarette smoking did go on in Lissue
7 Hospital.

8 Q. She goes on to say at paragraph (c) here:

9 "Our method of trying to create an orderly
10 atmosphere was that if a child was beginning to lose his
11 or her temper or behave in a manner that was disruptive,
12 then they would be invited in reasonably firm terms to
13 stand facing a corner."

14 Do you remember that happening to yourself or other
15 children?

16 A. No, you were just pushed around and slapped, so you
17 were. That's -- where did they read that from, a book,
18 about standing on the naughty step and stuff? That
19 didn't exist back in the 1970s.

20 Q. She says:

21 "That is entirely correct and true and it worked in
22 most instances, as standing facing a corner for three
23 minutes does have a calming and salutary effect upon
24 a child. The second stage of that strategy is, if the
25 first failed to produce calm, then the child would be

1 Equally I did not grab a child by the scuff of the
2 neck and shove any child into its room, rather that
3 a child would be restrained in the prescribed manner to
4 remove that child from causing further disruption, upset
5 and spreading his or her behaviour among the other
6 children, which was unsettling for the entire unit. No
7 children were abused and any squealing was outwith my
8 experience. I do not believe it happened."

9 She goes on to talk about parents and she says:

10 "They were treated respectfully. We tried where we
11 could to explain our various strategies to both parents
12 of the in-patients and the day patients. Some parents
13 took some time to understand the ideas that were
14 coordinated by the medical/nursing staff to the benefit
15 of their children."

16 She goes on to give an example about another child.
17 So that is what she has said in response to your Inquiry
18 statement. Is there anything more you want to say about
19 that, HIA38?

20 A. My response to that load of rubbish, to be quite honest,
21 is that it appears that this woman should be nominated
22 to become a saint, and if I was up in court or faced
23 with that sort of allegation, I would probably paint
24 myself out to be like that as well. So it's her duty to
25 -- it's her duty to try and deny it all now, so it is,

1 but myself and other people will probably confirm all of
2 what I have said over the next few months or however
3 long this Inquiry goes, but she's lying.

4 Q. Going back to your own statement, if we may, at
5 paragraph 10, which is on page 050, just at the bottom
6 of that page there it says that:

7 "Next to the video room there was an interview room.
8 We were interviewed and asked lots of questions about
9 our medication and how we felt. There were about four
10 or five children present each time and the videos -- the
11 interviews were video recorded."

12 So you do remember the video recording of the
13 interviews?

14 A. Oh, yes.

15 Q. "During interviews there were a large -- there were
16 a number of people in the room. There was a man in
17 a suit, two larger man in white coats, who have been
18 doctors or orderlies, LS7 and a Pakistani doctor."

19 You go on then, as you were explaining to us, about:

20 "Our bedroom doors each had a chart with stars or
21 ticks for good behaviour. I think they were blue or red
22 marks and points."

23 Certainly that's -- the Inquiry has seen such
24 documents, and they are in your records which are in the
25 bundle:

1 his head. He said he was given cigarettes as well."

2 Her response to that to the police was:

3 "No. I would have given injections all right, but
4 that didn't happen. I don't really remember HIA38
5 anyway. Most of the children would have smoked, but
6 they weren't allowed and I never gave any of the
7 children cigarettes. Whenever the children came back
8 after home visits, they would have been searched, and if
9 any found, they would have been taken off them and
10 interviewed the parents how the weekend went. Any
11 cigarettes found would have been destroyed."

12 And then -- sorry.

13 A. See, the problem I have with that bit is any cigarettes
14 that were found were confiscated and destroyed. Then
15 how come me and the other girl who has already been
16 proven were allowed to smoke? That's it.

17 Q. Well, that's what she said when she was asked about the
18 matter by the police.

19 A. She's obviously going to -- if I was accused -- I will
20 reiterate what I was saying -- if I was accused of such
21 things and I wanted to protect myself, I would probably
22 come off with that spiel myself.

23 Q. Well, HIA38, I am not going to go into other matters.

24 A. Okay.

25 Q. I know you spoke to the press on occasions. You have

1 you ought to have received one, HIA38. We will
2 certainly look into why you didn't.

3 A. I'm not -- I'm not mindful, because, as I say, I am not
4 financially motivated in any way.

5 Q. You certainly ought to have received one. In any event
6 what I am asking you now is when we conclude our work,
7 the Panel in its report will have to make
8 recommendations to the government about what should
9 happen in respect of what happened to children who were
10 in institutions, and they are interested in hearing from
11 everyone who speaks to us what their views are. So what
12 would you like to see happen? What would you like to
13 see those recommendations include?

14 A. My number one recommendation is I would love to have eye
15 to eye contact with some of the people that are still
16 alive from Lissue, especially LS7, and I just want to
17 look into their eyes and I want to see it, see them
18 denying it. With my own eyes I want to see. I want
19 an explanation as to why they took a 7 and 8 -- a very
20 badly bullied 7 and 8-year-old child out of primary
21 school and locked him up in a mental hospital and why
22 they decided through drugs to destroy my life.

23 Other questions -- I call it the stupid
24 questionnaire -- other questions on it was about
25 financial issues, etc, etc. I am not financially

1 an example out of a child, but rather if a child was
2 misbehaving, it certainly was the case that the child
3 would have been encouraged to calm down using the
4 methods as set out above.

5 As to paragraph 19 I completely deny any beating,
6 slapping or pulling of hair, pulling of ears or slapping
7 on any part of the body by me or other member of staff."

8 Now I think I probably missed out on paragraph 16,
9 which was when -- if we can go back to that, please.
10 Your statement is at 004, and paragraph 16 -- sorry.
11 I did. I have read that out. Paragraph -- sorry,
12 HIA119. I should have said that is what she has said
13 about your statement, about the allegations that you
14 make in your statement about her. Is there anything you
15 want to say to the Inquiry about that?

16 A. She's a liar.

17 Q. Paragraph 17 you talk about the member of staff LS34.
18 You say:

19 "She took us to the marches in Lisburn on 12th July.
20 The other children who were in the home and I didn't
21 want to go, but she made us and said 'You're going
22 whether you like it or not, because there's nobody else
23 to look after you'. She was laughing and cheering while
24 the people were marching. We didn't want to be there."

25 You would only have been in Lissue on one 12th July

1 Q. Okay. That's what I wanted to check.

2 A. No.

3 Q. Can I say -- I mean, in relation to the staff hitting,
4 was that general? I mean, you name three staff in
5 particular. Was it them in particular or was it
6 a general approach?

7 A. Well, they were the three. They were the three most,
8 you know, and it was constant shouting and shouting in
9 your face and poking you, you know. This was all the
10 time, and keys on them. They were bullies. They were
11 parasites. Everywhere you went they were there, you
12 know, and then when your family came up, sitting close
13 by, you know, like that there. They would have sit and
14 dirty looks -- everybody got dirty looking. I would get
15 dirty looks.

16 Q. You say that in your statement. You had no privacy when
17 your family came to visit.

18 A. No. You definitely couldn't tell your family. I didn't
19 know any different. I wasn't well with behavioural
20 problems. I know now what I know -- I didn't know then,
21 if you understand that way, you know.

22 Q. No, I understand. I understand.

23 A. They're going that way like. You know, two weeks ago
24 I went on a week's bender and I self-harmed at the
25 thoughts of even coming here to give evidence --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. -- and red and green might have been the same age
3 groups, but just split between two groups?

4 A. Yes, yes. Puberty, post-puberty.

5 Q. Just -- I am just checking one -- yes. We were just
6 talking about -- when we were talking about staff
7 qualifications and that, you remember someone -- and
8 again I am going to use the name, but again not to be
9 used outside -- that was a **LS 7**, who you said
10 you forcefully applied for her status to be upgraded,
11 because of her competence and skill.

12 A. Uh-huh.

13 Q. And is that possibly because she did not have the RMN
14 qualification?

15 A. My initial memory is that she was a general trained
16 nurse, but really -- I'm sorry -- I can't remember.

17 Q. I appreciate, LS21, that we are talking about a very
18 long time ago --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- but doing the best we can.

21 A. She was a very competent individual.

22 Q. I was asking about student nurses. We know that there
23 were records kept in respect of permanent staff --

24 A. Uh-huh.

25 Q. -- in their personnel file and that, but student nurses,