

PRIVATE

HIA REF: 28

Witness Name: HIA 28

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA 28

I, HIA 28 will say as follows:-

Personal details

1. I was born on [REDACTED] in Belfast.
2. I am one of eight children. I have two older sisters NHB 66 and NHB 67 and five younger siblings - NHB 65, HIA 29, NHB 68, NHB 69 and NHB 70.
3. My parents separated when I was young and my mother had nowhere to live so we children were separated. My sister HIA 29 and I lived with a woman named [REDACTED] and NHB 65 lived with an old woman. NHB 66 and NHB 67 stayed with my mother and NHB 68 lived with my father. I later found out I had a younger brother NHB 70 in Nazareth Lodge who I never knew about. He was adopted by a relative of my mother's in [REDACTED].
4. I was placed in Nazareth House with NHB 65 and HIA 29 when I was ten years old in 1960. I didn't know it at the time but I also had a younger sister NHB 69 already in the baby home in Nazareth House. She had been there since she was about two years old.
5. My mother [REDACTED] brought us to Nazareth House. I thought we were going on a trip somewhere. I remember my granny kissing us goodbye on Royal Avenue.

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Nazareth House Belfast (SR 176 – SR 122)

6. The day we were brought into Nazareth House, we were taken into a big room while my mother talked to SR 176, the SR 122. Then my mother said goodbye to us and we all started crying. We were taken to the sewing room by SR 122 and changed out of our clothes into old clothes. We were brought to the canteen and given our supper and then just put to bed. We were just thrown in, we weren't introduced to anyone.
7. My sisters and I were kept in the same group – Our Lady's. SR 31 was in charge of our group. There were three groups – Our Lady's, Sacred Heart and St. Anne's. We all wore different colours to Mass on Sunday. Our Lady's were blue, Sacred Heart was red and St. Anne's was green. I didn't know I had a younger sister in the home until one day SR 31 asked us if we wanted to see our sister. I looked at her and asked what she meant and she said 'you know you have a sister in the baby section'. They brought her down to the railings then which separated the baby section from the children's part. We didn't have much contact with NHB 69 after this as the two sections were completely separate.
8. A normal day in Nazareth House began with the nuns clapping to wake us up. If it was our group's turn to go to Mass, we would get up at 5am. We washed and dressed then after Mass we went down to get our breakfast. We got porridge or dipping bread. The food was terrible but you had to eat it. I hated the bread pudding, it made me sick but SR 134 would stand over me and make me eat it even while I was retching. We wore pinafores to school which the nuns made themselves and we weren't allowed have our sleeves down. If you were caught with your sleeves down, you got a knuckle on your head from SR 116.
9. We were punished for every little thing in the home. You would be brought into the sewing room and slapped with a bamboo cane on the knuckles. If you pulled your hand away, you would get an extra slap. SR 134 used to beat me with a wooden walking stick like a shillelagh. She used to hide it under her clothes if she saw anybody coming, like the priest. SR 116 had the

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habit of hitting you on the head with her knuckles and **SR 31** hit you with a bunch of keys over the head. **SR 116** would grab you by the hair if you weren't kneeling upright when you were praying, even if you were about to be sick or faint. We had to kneel on the floor in the sitting room in our bare legs for half an hour saying our prayers before bed and children would pass out all the time.

10. We had retreats at the home where you couldn't talk for three days. We had to just sit there and read or knit. I was caught talking once and **SR 31** beat me on the hands and made me kneel and pray for three hours. I used to have to pump the organ on weekdays and one morning I fell asleep. Sister **SR 31** pulled me by the hair, beat me and shouted at me to keep my eyes open. My nose used to bleed when I got hit in the head.

11. One night my sister **NHB 65** nose was bleeding. She had a problem with her nose bleeding but this night **SR 31** had hit her and her nose would not stop bleeding. **SR 31** was shouting at me to stop it bleeding but I couldn't and she hit me over the head with a bunch of keys. I used to have to get **SR 31** hot water bottle for her and one night the kettle broke. I went to tell her the kettle was broken and she beat me over the head with the lead of the kettle.

12. I went to school onsite in Nazareth House until I was 11. Then I went to St. Monica's on the Ravenhill Road. The nuns didn't bother with you if you were stupid. I couldn't spell and they would always call me stupid. **SR 31** would hit me on the head with a bunch of keys if I made a spelling mistake.

13. When we got home from school, we got our tea at about 5 o'clock and then we went to bed at 6 or 7 o'clock. Tea would be semolina pudding or a bit of bacon and bread. On Tuesdays we got two cubes of cheese and bread. I always went to bed hungry. My sister **HIA 29** was so hungry she used to eat dog food. The nuns got us a pup once and it was **HIA 29** job to feed it but she was so hungry she ate the dog food. They took the pup off us then because we all got too attached to it.

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14. We slept in big dormitories with 19 or 20 children in each. They were iron beds and they were comfortable enough. We had one sheet and one blanket and it was warm enough. **SR 31** slept in a little wooden cell at the end. My bed was nearest to her cubicle so I always had to do things for her. At 3am, I would have to wake the children who wet the bed – the 'wet the beds' the nuns called them. There was one girl **SR 31** who had really bad kidneys and bladder. She used to soil the bed as well. **SR 31** would shout out at me asking had she dirtied the bed and I was afraid to say no in case she found out. If I said yes, **SR 31** would make **SR 31** kneel at her bed all night. I used to lie and cry about it but there was nothing I could do about it. **SR 31** was only about 7 at the time; she was two years younger than me.
15. We got bathed in Jeyes fluid in the home. The nuns used to say 'that will cleanse you' as if we were really bad. There were nineteen of us sharing a bath and I was always last in because I had a verruca and the nuns didn't want it to spread. By the time I got into the bath the water would be freezing and dirty. Two girls would stand with a big sheet one each side of the bath and we had to dry ourselves with the sheet; there were no bath towels. All the girls used the same sheet so by the time it was my turn, it was damp and freezing. We got bathed every Saturday night. We each had a facecloth and a hand towel with our numbers on it. I was number 99. Mine was the highest number so there must have been 99 children there at that time. The nuns never called you by your first name; they always called you either by your number or your surname.
16. Every Thursday we got our underwear and vest changed in the big hall. You had to show the gusset of your pants and if they were dirty, you got slapped by **SR 122**. She was in charge of the sewing room. She would check our shirt collars every day after school and if there was a speck of dirt on it you would be caned on the hands. I got beaten all the time. If there was a rip or tear in your clothes, you would be murdered.

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17. At Christmas, we would put on a show like Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs for the Mother Superior and all the staff. Christmas was the only time the nuns were good to you and the only time you got a decent dinner. We might have got a pair of slippers in a Christmas box and maybe an apple and an orange. We thought that was brilliant; it was such a treat. I remember one Christmas two black women from South Africa came in to see [REDACTED] NHB 48 [REDACTED] a wee [REDACTED] We had to scrub the floors before they came and we were all dressed in our best clothes. Whenever there were visitors, we were told to clap for them and smile. If they came over to talk to you you had to tell them everything was great. You would have loved to have said to them 'can you help us' but you couldn't. I don't ever remember anybody visiting from the St Vincent de Paul or any senior nuns from Hammersmith.
18. In St. Monica's, the other children were always asking us questions about the home like what we got for breakfast and if we could watch television. We couldn't tell them anything though because the nuns always told us not to be talking about anything outside the walls of the home. Some of the children picked on us in St. Monica's because we were from the home but there were two lovely girls called [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who always stood up for us.
19. My mother came up to visit us every other week and my older sister [REDACTED] visited regularly too. My father only came up about twice the whole time we were in there. I don't remember anyone else ever coming to visit or inspect the home. A doctor came every other Monday but you only saw him if you were poorly. I only went to see him once in the five years I was there. You weren't allowed to be sick anyway. I remember once I was ill and throwing up and the nuns kept me in a wee room for two days but then on the third day they made me get up and go to school. You didn't get any special care when you were sick. A girl brought your breakfast and dinner up on a tray but apart from that you were just left in the room on your own and saw nobody. I remember there was a girl there with a [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] and she was just treated the same as the rest of us, she got no special care. She used to lie in bed and rock and her bed would move across the dormitory. There was

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a nice priest who said Mass in Nazareth House called [REDACTED] NHB84 and [REDACTED] would rock over and back saying "[REDACTED] NHB84 loves me". [REDACTED] NHB84 was only there for a few months and then he was replaced by [REDACTED] who was alright.

20. Sometimes my sisters and I got out to our mother for a day at weekends. We weren't allowed out for the full weekend, just a day. I used to be sick coming back from these days out because [REDACTED] SR 31 always told us to see if our parents had any money for them. I would dread coming back to the home because when I told [REDACTED] SR 31 I had no money for her she let the whole place know. She would say out in front of all the other children 'we're not keeping you for nothing, what do you think we are – a charity?' It got to the stage that when my mother said she would take us out I'd say I didn't want to go because I dreaded the humiliation so much. I would actually be throwing up before I went back and my mother would ask me why I wasn't well but I couldn't tell her.

21. One time when we were out visiting my mother and my older sister [REDACTED] NHB 66 [REDACTED] NHB 66 noticed that there were big chunks of hair missing from my sister [REDACTED] NHB 69 neck. [REDACTED] NHB 69 had really long hair and somebody had obviously been pulling at it because half her hair was missing. [REDACTED] NHB 66 said she was going to ask the nuns about it but I begged her not to because it would be me who would be punished. I would have been murdered. In the end she didn't say anything. I never told my mother what was happening because I was terrified of her ringing up the nuns and then I would be punished.

22. When I was about 11 or 12 I was sexually abused by an older girl called [REDACTED] HIA 430 [REDACTED] HIA 430 She seemed massive to me. She was about 14 or 15 and she was [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] She came into the dormitory one night and told me to come with her. I didn't know what was happening so I went with her. She brought me into her dormitory and told me to get into bed. She said if I didn't she would go and get one of my sisters instead so I got into bed. She took off her nightdress and made me take off mine. We weren't allowed to wear a vest

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or underwear under our nightdress. She lay on top of me and kissed me on the mouth and touched my breasts and my vagina. She made me touch her breasts and vagina and made me put my fingers inside her vagina.

23. This happened about twice a week for 4-6 months. I think she was abusing other girls too. She was doing it for her own satisfaction and she always seemed to want somebody new. If somebody new came in, she got fed up with you and pushed you to the side. She must have got bored with me after a few months because she stopped then. I last saw her when I was about 14 when she was leaving the home. I haven't seen her since [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

24. I had nobody I could tell about the abuse. I couldn't tell the nuns because I was terrified of them. I think they knew what was going on. I actually saw two nuns kissing once – [REDACTED] SR 31 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] SR 187 [REDACTED] SR 187 [REDACTED] was a young nun, she was only [REDACTED] and she was a [REDACTED] She was a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and all the delivery men fancied her. [REDACTED] SR 31 [REDACTED] seemed to have a hold over her and she used to get me to pass notes to her. Then one day I was going down to the pantry and I saw them kissing but I hid because if they knew I had seen them I would have been murdered. [REDACTED] SR 187 [REDACTED] was a lovely nun; she was different to the rest. She always made you feel welcome and she would put her arm around you. You could have a laugh with her, not like the others and she used to give us cigarettes. The only time I ever felt safe was up in the kitchen with [REDACTED] SR 187 [REDACTED]. I went to work there after I left school at 15. You were either put in the kitchen or the old people's home and the kitchen was the best place to be.

25. When I was about 13 or 14 a family of three girls came into Nazareth House. I think they were called the [REDACTED] They ranged in age from about 9 to 11. They had sores on their heads when they came in and Sister [REDACTED] SR 31 [REDACTED] got me out of bed to wash their heads. She made me scrub them with a scrubbing brush over the sink. The girls were screaming and blood was pouring from their heads. I was crying but [REDACTED] SR 31 [REDACTED] just kept saying I

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wasn't scrubbing hard enough. She hit me over the head with her keys because she said I wasn't doing it right.

26. Girls would often run away from the home but the police always brought them back. I remember one occasion when **NHB 40** and **NHB 25** were brought back at 4am by the police and the nuns made them scrub a big long corridor all night. They wouldn't let them go to bed. Any girls who tried to run away would be put into the Good Shepherd when they were brought back. That was the threat the nuns held over us. The Good Shepherd was across the road from Nazareth House and we were told you never got out of there. We were also threatened with a place in Scotland where you were locked up 24/7.

27. Some of the girls would stand up to the nuns occasionally. There were two girls who had brains to burn – [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. They passed their tests and were going to the big school but one day they were caught mitching. As punishment the nuns brought them into this wee storeroom off the sitting room where they used to make us kneel for hours. The girls were about 17 then and they had obviously had enough. We were outside the room and heard squealing. **SR 31** was beating [REDACTED] with a stick and then [REDACTED] pulled her habit off. The girls left the home soon after that.

28. When I was 16, I was moved over to the girls' dormitory from the children's section. I couldn't believe how completely different it was. You had your own bed and your own curtain to pull round so the other girls couldn't see you undress. It was great to have that privacy. We were allowed sit and watch television for longer, until 9pm. I had to leave my sisters in the children's part and I told them to watch themselves and not get into any fights or trouble. The nuns would stand and let girls fight with each other and afterwards they would give you six slaps.

29. I was only in the girls' section a few weeks when we were told it was time to go home. My parents got back together again and they got my granny's house so they came to take us all out on 19th December 1965. **SR 176** told

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me we were going home for good and I ran up to tell my sisters. They thought I was joking. Before we left the nun asked me if my parents gave me any money for them. My father had given me £200 when we had been out for the day because he had got a claim. I was supposed to give it to the nuns but I hid it up my sleeve instead. Unfortunately my granny rang the nuns though and told them I had the money so I had to hand it over.

30. We left Nazareth House with just the clothes we were wearing. When we got home, I cried because there was only one bedroom and I didn't know where my father was going to sleep. I was panicking but my mother calmed me down and said my father was going to sleep downstairs. There were four of us girls and my mother in one bedroom upstairs and my father and brother NHB 68 slept on settees downstairs.

Life after care

31. My relationship with my father was strained after I left Nazareth House. I always got the blame for everything and he idolised NHB 65 and HIA 29. I ran away from home once after he hit me. He and I fought a lot but then when I was having problems having children he stuck up for me. My father died in 1979 and my mother died in 1980.

32. I moved out of my parents' home when I got married at 19. I was married for 19 years but had no children. My husband got his friend's sister pregnant and had a child with her. I think he regretted it though because he and I got on great after we divorced. He wasn't well, he was always in and out of hospital and I would go and talk to him. He passed away in June 2013.

33. I have never been able to work; I have relied on unemployment benefit. The nuns didn't teach us any skills and they always put me down and called me stupid. My health isn't too bad, I had a major operation two years ago; I got half my bowel out. I have a hernia now but doctors have said it would be too dangerous to remove it.

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34. I put everything that happened in Nazareth House to the back of my mind until a woman called [REDACTED] called to my sister NHB 65 house and told her about the Inquiry. It all started coming back to me then. I was lying awake one night at 3am when it all came back to me. I had to jump up and make myself a cup of tea. I had forgotten all about the Jeyes fluid and things like that. I had completely blocked out the sexual abuse, I put it to the back of my mind. I never told anyone about the sexual abuse. I only told my sisters two years ago when all this started with the Inquiry.

35. I have a good relationship with my siblings but my sister NHB 66 knows everything but won't tell us. She is not happy that I am speaking to the Inquiry because she thinks I'm letting our parents down. She won't talk about anything that went on in our childhoods. I told her it's alright for her because she didn't go through what we went through in the home. She lived at home with my mother and my granny because she was older. I think she feels guilty about that. My mother never talked about what happened either. I tried to talk to her about it when I was about 17 and she threw a teapot at me. I met my brother NHB 70 who had been [REDACTED]. He came over to meet us when he was about fifteen. He lives in Spain now and he comes over to visit us now and again. My brother NHB 68 is not well at the moment; he is in intensive care.

36. Growing up in Nazareth House made me hard. I live on my own. I am divorced and never had any children. I became very hard-hearted when I left the home; I didn't care about anybody. Because I had spent so long looking after my younger sisters, I thought "I'm going to look after myself now". I know my sisters are alright now and they have families who love them. I have a wee dog but that's it.

37. I reported the abuse I suffered to the police. They called me in October 2012 to say they had interviewed [REDACTED] SR 116 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. They told me her name is [REDACTED] now. She would be about 70 now. I think everyone else is dead.

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38. I am also taking a civil action against the Sisters of Nazareth.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed **HIA 28** _____

Dated 6-6-2014 _____

[illegible]

I hereby Certify that I have Received my *children*

HIA28

NHB65

HIA29

8 NHB69

from under the care of the Sisters of Nazareth, Nazareth
House, Ballynafeigh; in a Perfect State of Health and
Cleanliness.

Witness

Signed,

19.12.65

THE INQUIRY INTO THE HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA 430

I, HIA 430 will say as follows:-

1. I have been passed copies of the allegations made against me whilst I was a resident in Nazareth House.
2. Firstly, I categorically deny the allegations that have been made against me by HIA 28 in her statement.
3. The allegation she makes at paragraph 22 is inconceivable. The allegation is made that this occurred at midnight. My bed was situated at the top of the dormitory nearest to SR 31 bed. SR 31 had a clear view of the whole dormitory and the children's beds through a glass partition. Children were not allowed out of their beds at all at night time, and she had quite sharp hearing and she scolded children who made any noise or got out of bed.
4. Furthermore, I had, as per my statement, chronic enuresis which occurred on a nightly basis throughout my time in Nazareth House. In fact this continued for some time even after I left Nazareth House and relocated to England.
5. I have read the statement of HIA 103. This statement is also totally untrue.
6. I have a very vivid recollection of my time at Nazareth House and I can confirm that absolutely none of these allegations made against me are true.

Statement of Truth.

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

Signed

HIA 430

Dated

9 Feb 2015

Her father did not visit but her mother visited and would have taken the children out occasionally at weekends. Her older sister [REDACTED] visited too.

Following admission her hair was cut, her clothes taken away and she was scrubbed in a bath. She and her sisters were in the same group of children in the home. They rose at 5 or 6 a.m., made their beds, cleaned the dormitory and went to Mass. They went to school after breakfast. Until the age of 11 [REDACTED] HIA 28 attended a school in Nazareth House, then she went to St. Monica's Secondary School.

After school there was an hour of television or she and the other children played in the yard. There were swings there. Supper was at 4.30 or 5 p.m. In the summer time they went to bed at 7 p.m. and in the winter at 6 p.m. The only time she was ever happy was at Christmas. She was given a toy that was hers, she could keep it in her locker and no one could take it away from her.

She slept in a dormitory with about nineteen others. Her bed was beside a nun's cell. In the early hours of the morning the nun called her to "get the wet-the-beds up". One girl who also soiled her bed. If a girl's bed was wet she had to kneel on the floor all night until the following morning. [REDACTED] HIA 28 found witnessing that very distressing. She recalls hearing other children being beaten, in particular two girls who truanted from school because they refused to be physically examined by a school doctor.

An older girl aged 14 who slept in a different dormitory told [REDACTED] HIA 28 that if she did not sleep with her "She would have one of my sisters". Her sisters were younger. In order to protect them she felt obliged to accede to this girl's wishes. The girl got in to [REDACTED] HIA 28's bed, touched [REDACTED] HIA 28 on the breasts and vagina and made [REDACTED] HIA 28 touch her. The girl seemed more interested in [REDACTED] HIA 28 touching her than vice versa. It continued for a number of months. At that stage [REDACTED] HIA 28 believes this girl transferred her affections to another. [REDACTED] HIA 28 did not feel she could tell anyone. If she had told the nuns she would have been beaten. Beatings were a regular occurrence. She was hit with knuckles, keys and a strap. She was beaten "for the least wee thing".

She recalls being sent to secondary school on wet snowy days wearing wellingtons that were about four sizes too big. She and the other girls took their shoes with them. On the way to school they left the wellington boots in a garden and wore their shoes. On the way back from school they retrieved their wellingtons. When the nuns found out they beat them. Each night the children had to kneel for about half an hour and say prayers. If they did not kneel correctly they were beaten. She recalls how one night she fainted and was left where she was until prayers ended.

At the age of 15 she left school to work in the kitchens in the Home. They were run by [REDACTED] SR 187. She was fond of [REDACTED] SR 187 who "made you feel wanted". She took messages between [REDACTED] SR 187 and a much older nun [REDACTED] SR 191. The two nuns met daily in the pantry. She told me that on one occasion she caught them kissing each other and believes they were having a sexual relationship.

Right. It did not take place.

SR 134

It did not take place.

Ehm, from your recollection, was there any form of punishment imposed.

SR 134

Well they were denied television, they were sent to bed, they were denied pocket money, ehm, if there was an outing for the whole group they were denied it. I never slapped a child over 13. I think that's about all.

Right. You say you never slapped a child over 13.

SR 134

Over 13.

Right. Would it would have been practice to have done it under -

SR 134

No, not, except the ehm, I might give the very young ones that.

Right, just a small smack is it.

6.

somebody who would em decide what sort of punishment, or would it be left up to whatever individual.

SR 134

It would be left up to the individual in charge of them.

In charge.

SR 134

Yes.

Would you have been in charge.

SR 134

I was in charge of those yes.

Right. So you would have eh decided just to issue whatever punishment you thought.

SR 134

Yes.

Particular at the time.

SR 134

But I never had anything to do with NHB 58

[REDACTED]

Right.

SNB File 14
PERSON INTERVIEWED:

SR 116

Tape Number and
Tape Times:

the stairs and threw me into a dormitory. She gave me no medical attention or said anything to me. I was in agony because of the pain and just cried myself to sleep". Do you ever recall that?

A No.

Q Okay, did, did you grab her and (inaudible)?

A No, no.

Q In relation to, I mean she's obviously hurt her tooth there we've talked about medical attention what about dental attention, I mean would, would the children have been visited by a dentist or have visited a dentist?

A No they would go out to the dentist.

Q Do you recall where that dentist was?

A No.

Q No.

A No.

Q And how often would that be then, you know we're prompted nowadays twice a year you know.

A Well if they'd toothache or you know if they'd a toothache or anything like that.

Q Yeah.

A Yeah, I'm sorry I don't remember that.

Q Okay was there any sort of guidelines for yourselves as to you know, not just go whenever you get toothache because by the time you get toothache it could be too far gone.

A Well now there was something else wrong with them you would see it and then they would be seen to you know.

Q Okay, and HIA 28 as well obviously called whenever that was

Tape Number and
Tape Times:

prove it.

Q Okay.

A I went to [REDACTED], I was teaching.

Q And did you choose to go there or again was that something that just?

A No, no, no, I was assigned there.

Q Right okay.

A And then I went to [REDACTED] and I was teaching there and that's when I, I had my [REDACTED] citizenship because you couldn't teach until you were a citizenship, a citizen.

Q And within those schooling environments did you ever have to chastise a child?

A No, corporal punishment wasn't the thing, you didn't use it, you didn't do it, now I'm not saying it wasn't in other schools and different things, we, I didn't do it. I made it a point of not doing it for the simple reason, I came from a wonderful family, wonderful background, wanted for nothing and I felt sorry for these youngsters, my heart went out to them.

Q So how does it make you feel then whenever...

A It feels.

Q Whenever we're reading, like so far we've got to complainant number 10.

A How do I feel? I feel emotional, I feel hurt, I don't know where all this is coming from. I don't know, but I'm very, very hurt. You spend all your time looking, you know with the children and this is the gratitude you know what I mean, not that you're looking for gratitude, no way because you love them so much, no blame, no criticism, no condemnation, no judgement, no resentment, just pure love, and then this comes. (crying).

Tape Number and
Tape Times:

together.

A And they're all dead and I'm holding the candle.

Q Okay, well is there anything you want to disclose here to us, you know why, why is a significant amount of that enquiry focused around this particular time?

A I don't know, I'm sorry, I don't know, I don't know.

Q You know Nazareth House was open from when 1930 until 1989, but a specific and significant amount of the complaints are in relation to Sister SR 116, SR 134 and SR 31.

A Well, I don't know, I really don't know I'm sorry, I wish I could help you.

Q You've said that you came in as a young nun, were there, you know were these procedures already in place when you came in and you simply had to kind of follow what SR 31 and SR 134 were doing?

A But I've never seen this, no, no, no I'm a, I was a person in my own making, no if I saw any of that, I would say yes I'm a Sister I don't tell lies like that, I'm sorry but I wish you would have a lie detector and put me through it.

Q Okay.

A I don't know maybe they're living in the, I don't know, the age of suing for nothing, I don't know, I really don't know but that is a tissue of lies, I'm sorry.

Q But there's a common thread through all these statements, I can appreciate what you're saying, people suing but there's a common thread from people who live as [REDACTED] described all over the country, so where's that common thread coming from if it never ever?

A I don't know, I don't, I really don't know. I'm sorry but I really don't know I wish I did but I really don't know.

SNB File 14
PERSON INTERVIEWED:

SR 116

Tape Number and
Tape Times:

A I did, I had two actually, they were taken off in America.

Q She would say that, "I remember that I was fed poorly from day to day, I was given a piece", sorry 'piece' in inverted comma's, "Which consisted of a slice of bread with a slice of butter in the morning and very little for the rest of the day. On a regular basis I used to hide out near the toilets at about 1630 hrs", 4 30 for you and I Sister, "Close to where the dog was fed each day. I would sneak out and eat the dog food from the dog's dish because I was so hungry. I did this up until I was about 11 years of age", or sorry, "11 years old when I started secondary school at St Moncia's on the Ravenhill Road. I was able to get the food at the school then so I did not have to take food from the dog any more". That's obviously quite shocking to hear that myself, do you ever recall that at all?

A No, don't even remember a dog.

Q You don't remember a dog being kept at Nazareth at all?

A No.

Q Okay, and do you ever recall there being a lack of food for the children at all?

A No.

Q Would you...

A They were well fed.

Q You would say there was an ample, an ample supply of food?

A Ample supply.

Q Okay, she would say on another occasion whenever she was either 9 or 10 years old she would say about 1962 this would be, "I had fallen on the concrete steps in the house. I badly chipped my front tooth. SR 116 physically grabbed me by the scruff of the neck and trailed me up to the top of