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HIA REF: 50

Witness Name: HIA 50

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

WITNESS STATEMENT OF HIA 50

I, HIA 50 will say as follows:-

Personal Details

1. I was born on [REDACTED] I was placed in care by Social Services on 6th December 1983 under a place of safety order. I was thirteen years old at the time.

Palmerston Assessment Centre (6/12/1983 – 11/1/1984)

Nazareth Lodge (January 1984)

3. I entered Nazareth Lodge on 11 January 1984. I was fourteen at the time. I recall if you used curse words at Nazareth Lodge the nuns would wash your mouth out with hard soap or give you Jeyes fluid to gargle with. You were also frequently punished for minor incidents. For example, if you threw down a cigarette end you could be picked out for a punishment such as slapping. The

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nuns would slap you on the head with their hands frequently. This happened often to me and I also saw it happen to other residents in the home.

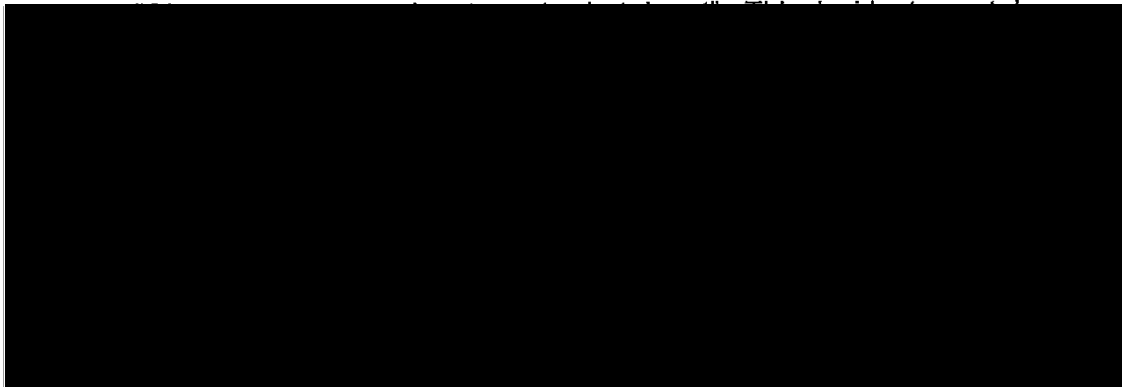
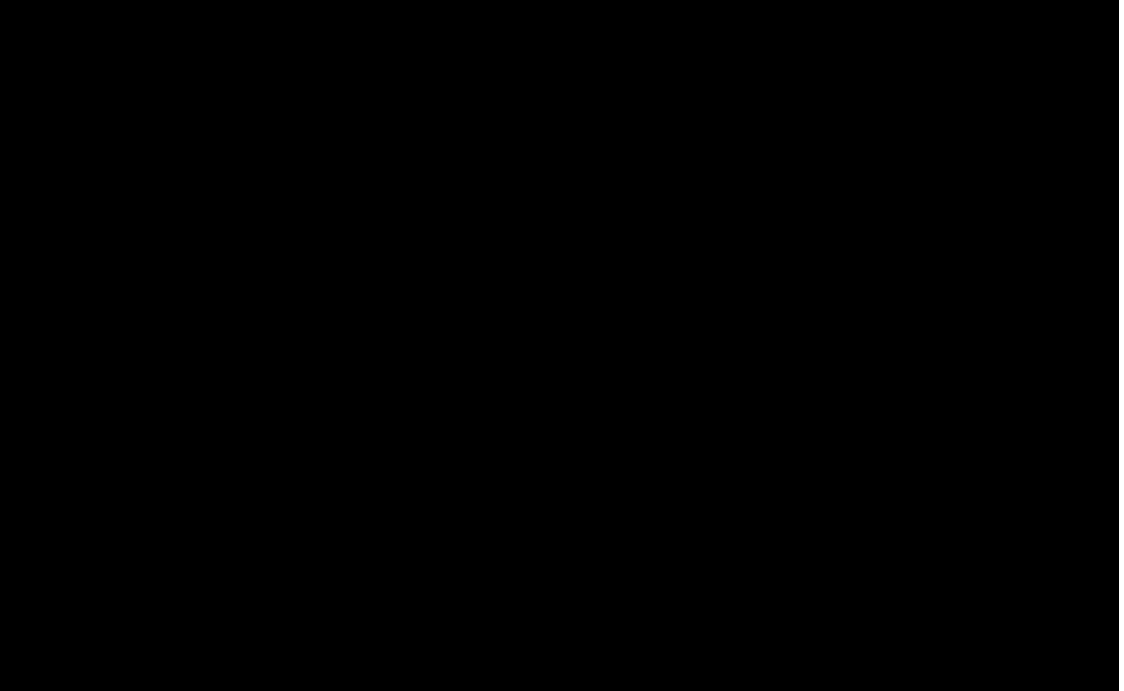
4. The first place that anything of a sexual nature happened to me was Nazareth Lodge by Father Brendan Smyth. I was under the care of **SR 2** **SR 2** She brought me in to a room to see Father Smyth for no particular reason. The room was to the right as you walk through the front door. He subjected me to anal rape. **SR 2** walked in on us when Brendan Smyth was abusing me. She saw what Brendan Smyth did to me in Nazareth Lodge. She walked out of the room again and closed the door of the front foyer of the Lodge. I have been told by police that she cannot recall this incident but she would have seen it happen at the time.
5. Father Smyth was a regular visitor. The children were always very discreet and there was no-one about to say what happened or what was seen.
6. **NL 123** was our doctor when we were in Nazareth Lodge. We would never get to see him because he was always busy or that is what we were told. I can only recall one visit from this doctor during my time at Nazareth Lodge.
7. Following this incident, I was taken that week at night time from Nazareth Lodge and moved to Rubane House, Kircubbin which was then run by the De La Salle Order. I was thirteen or fourteen at the time. It seemed strange to me that I was moved at night time but I think I must have been moved due to the incident with Father Smyth. I recall speaking to a former resident, **HIA 10** about this incident. She was in Nazareth Lodge at the same time as me and she now lives in Bangor. She also thought it was odd that I was moved at night.

Rubane House (17/1/1984 - 13/2/1985)

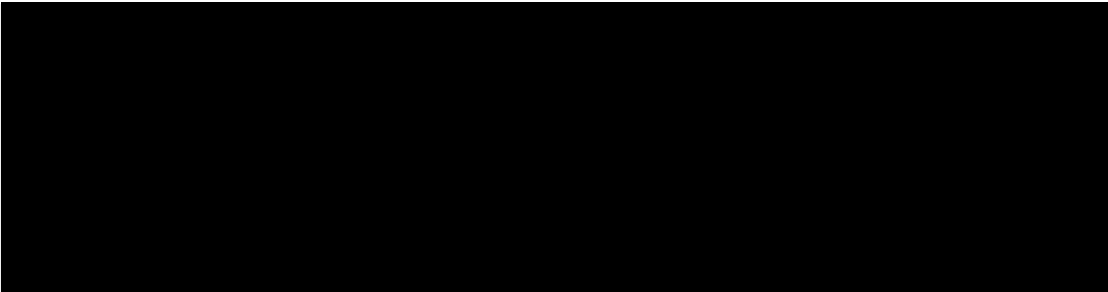
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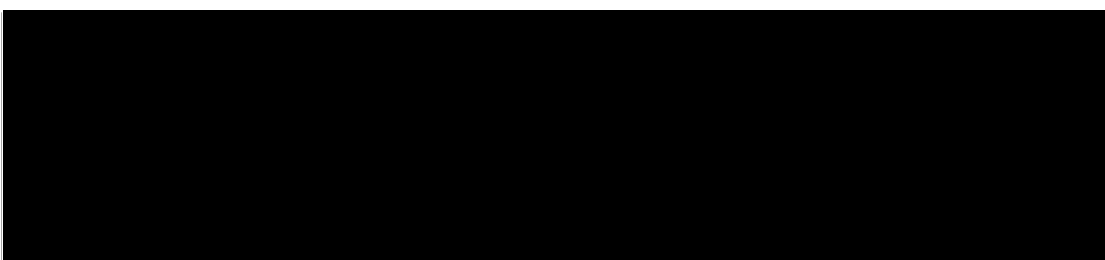
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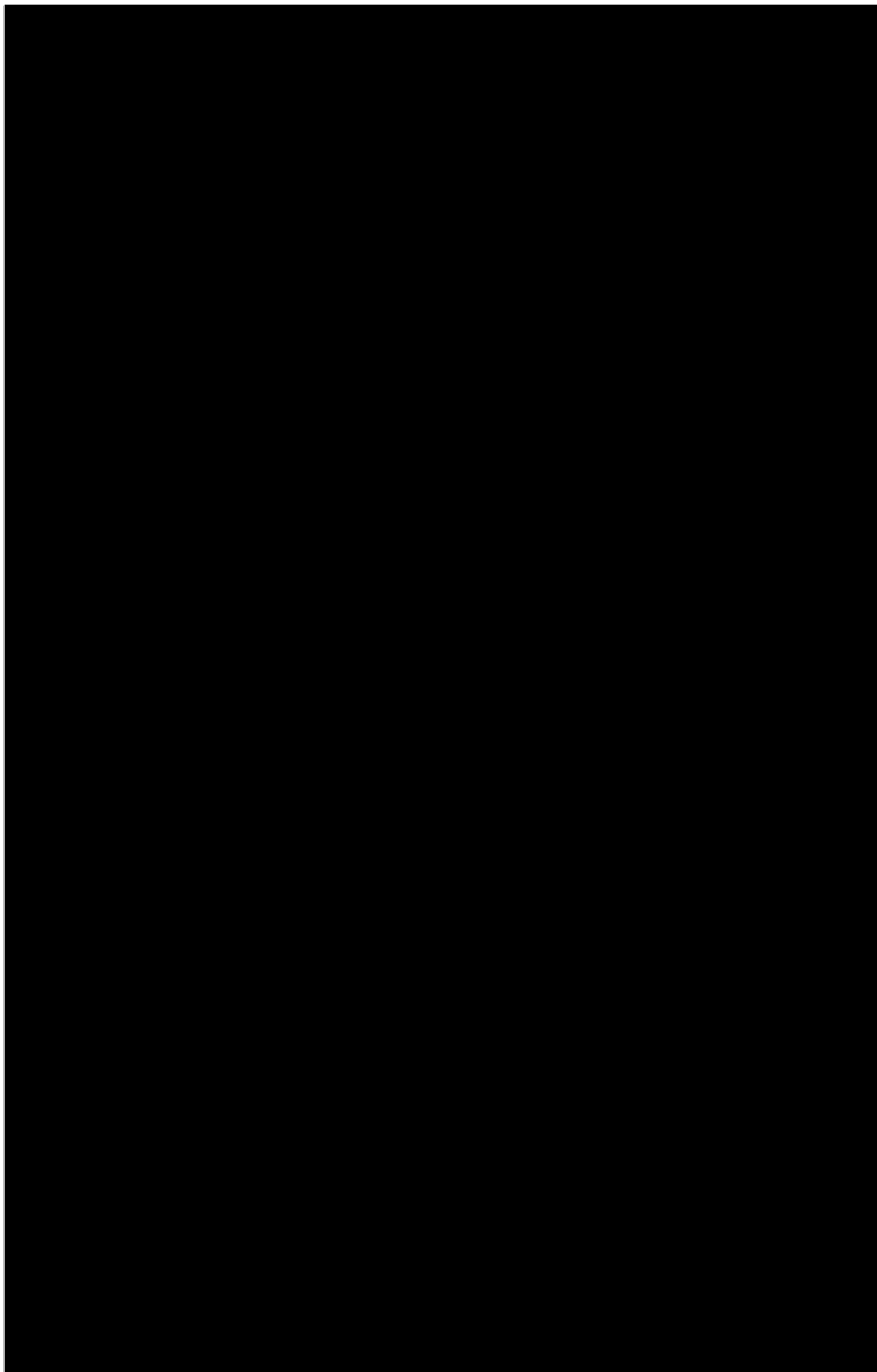
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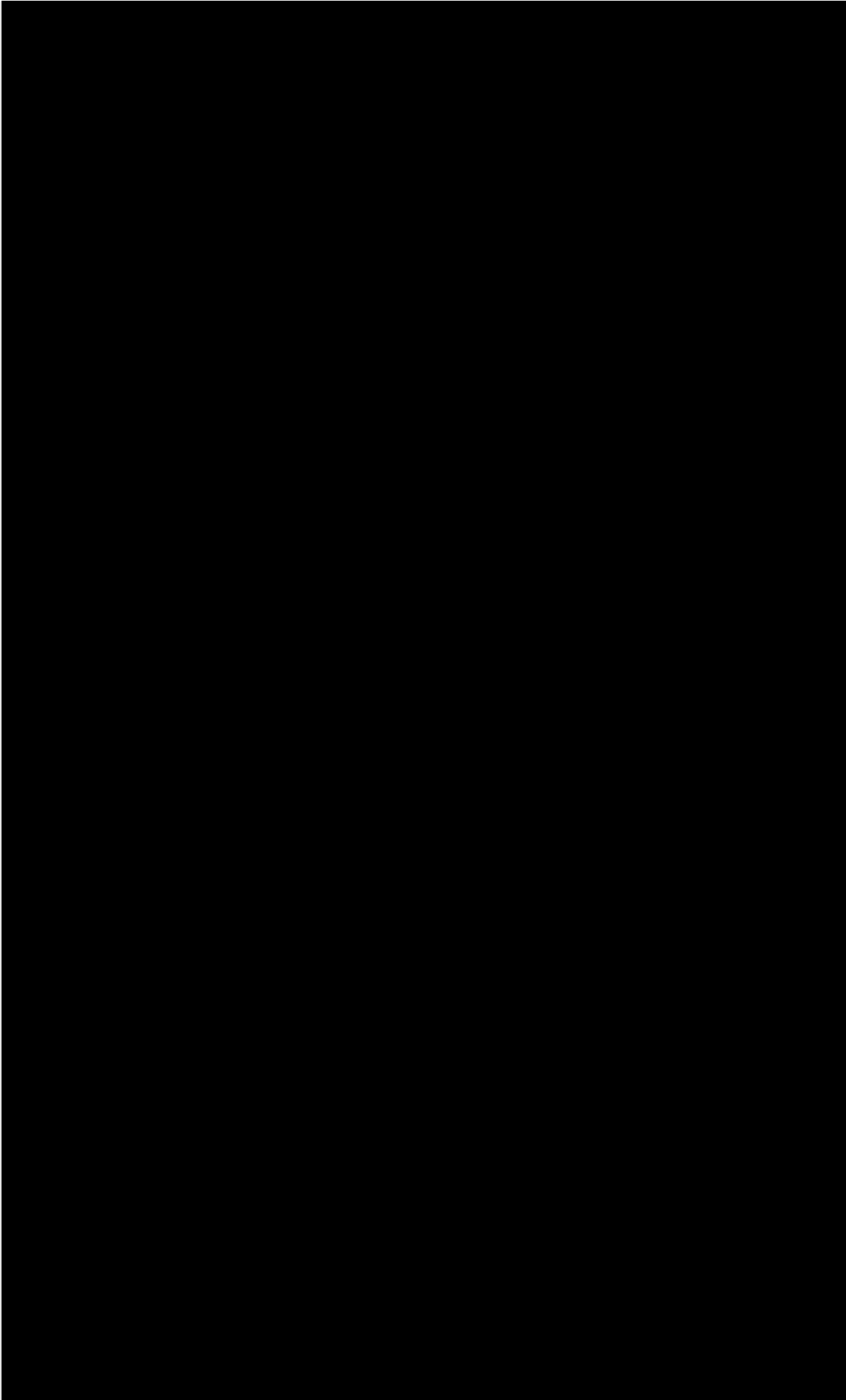
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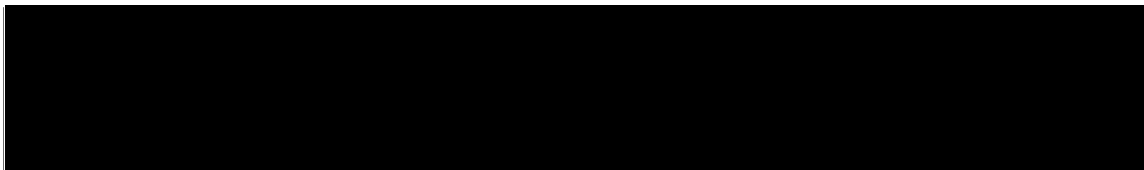
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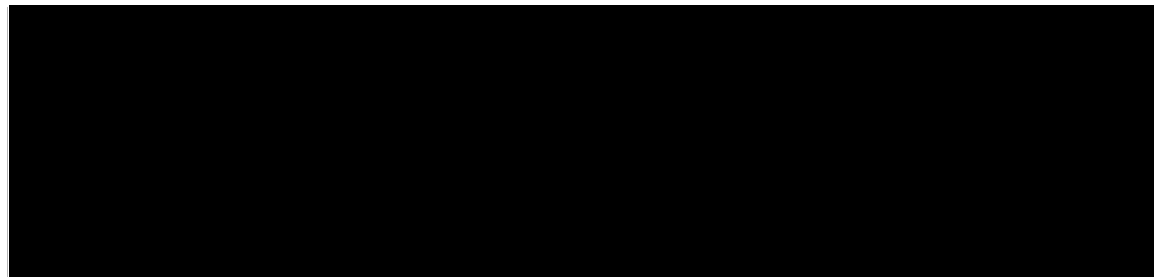
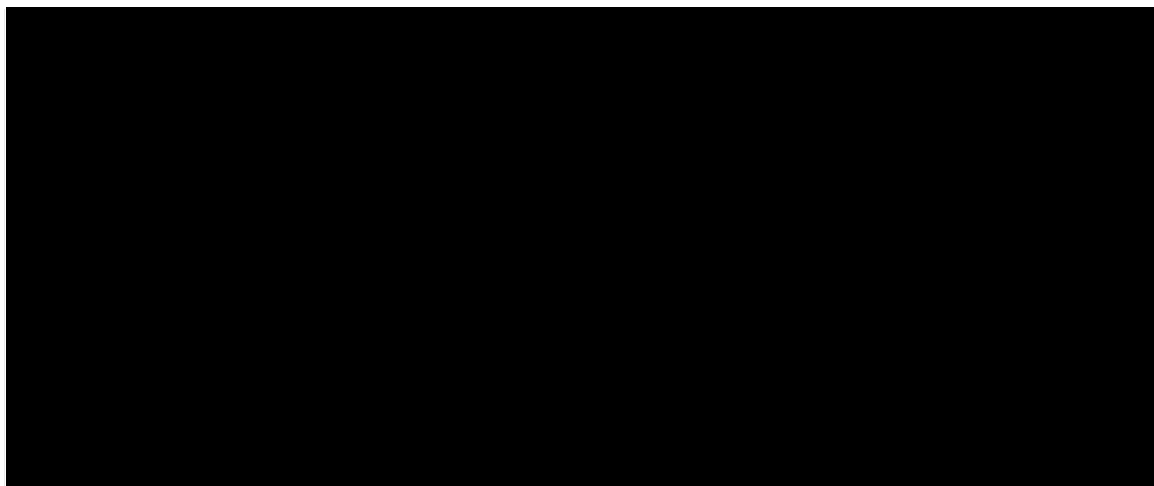
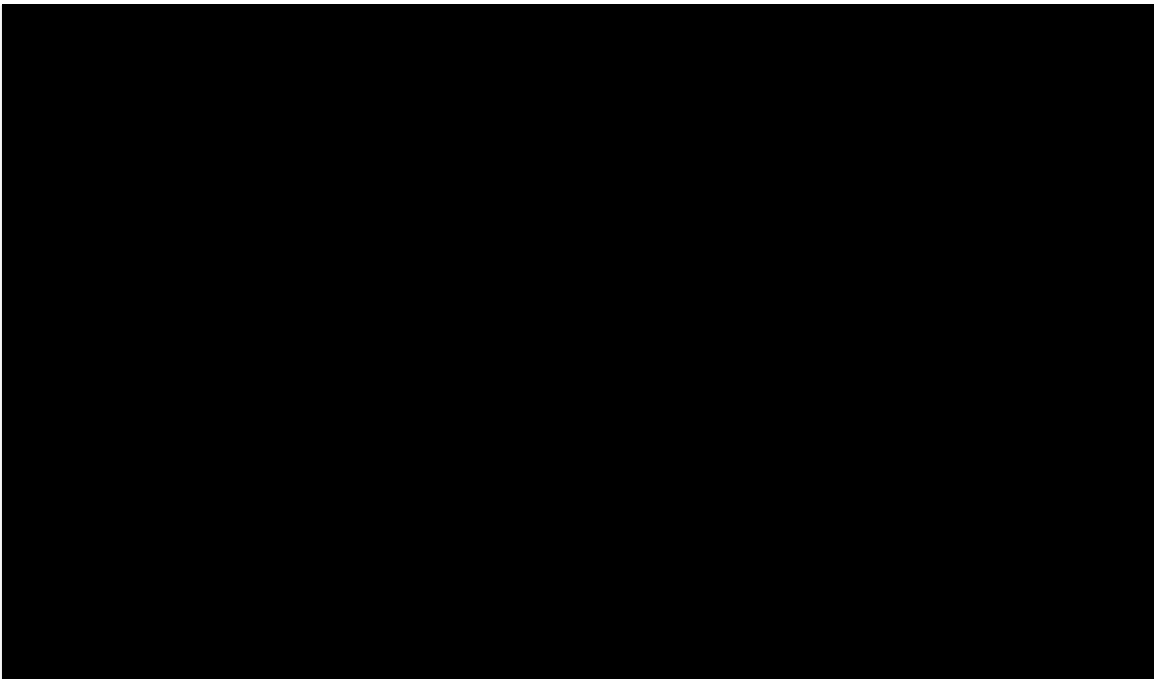




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Barnardo's (Sharonmore) 8 Ravelston Parade, Belfast (6/4/1985 – 16/12/1985)



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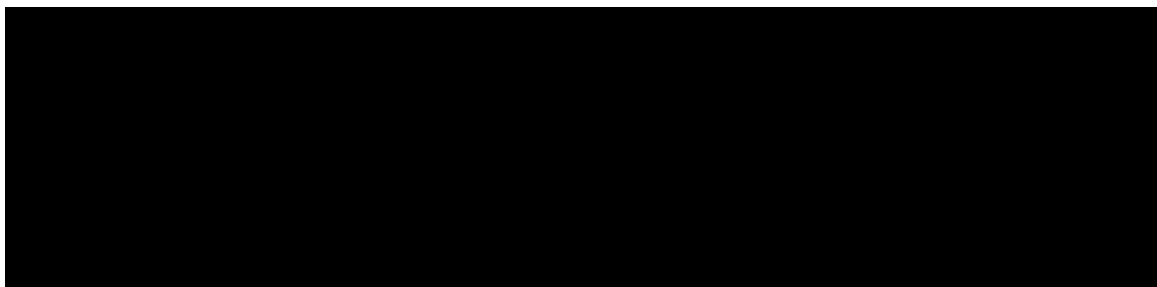
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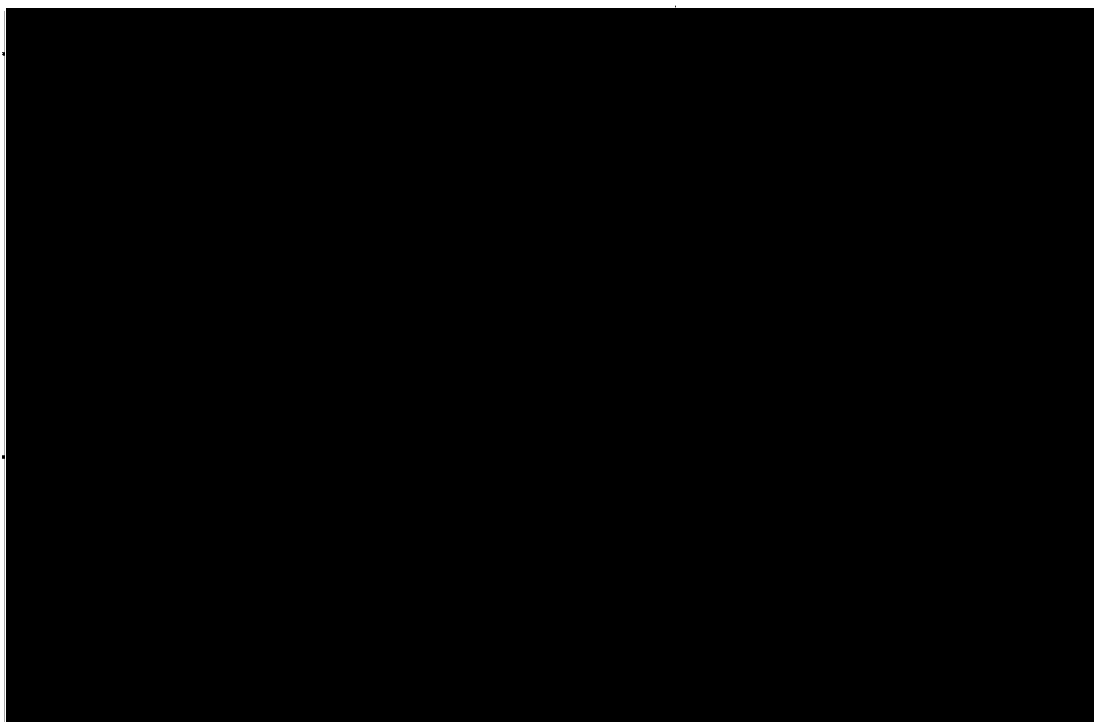


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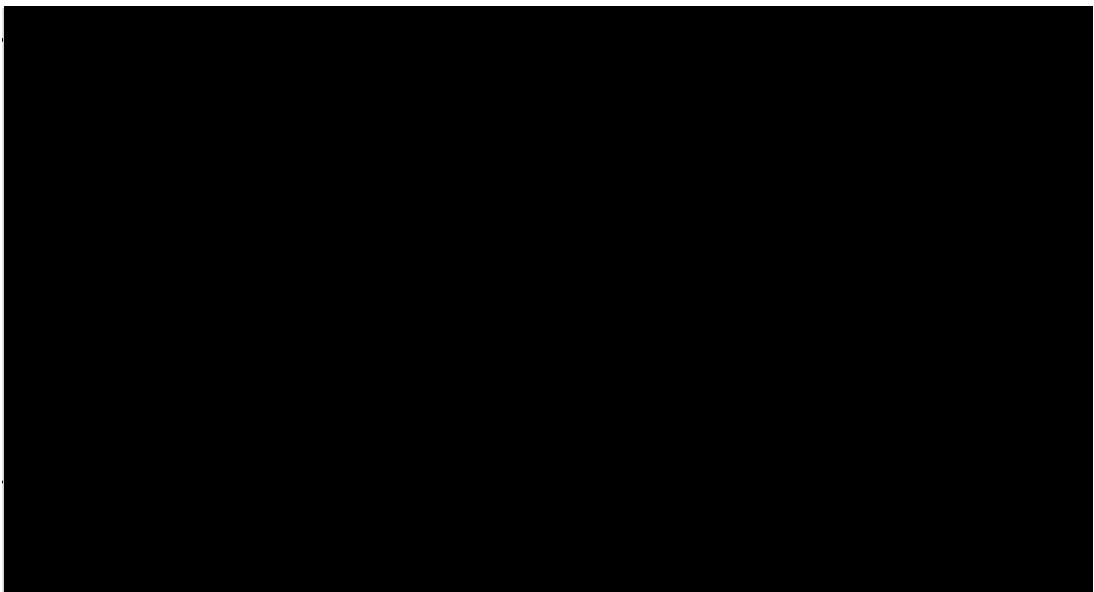
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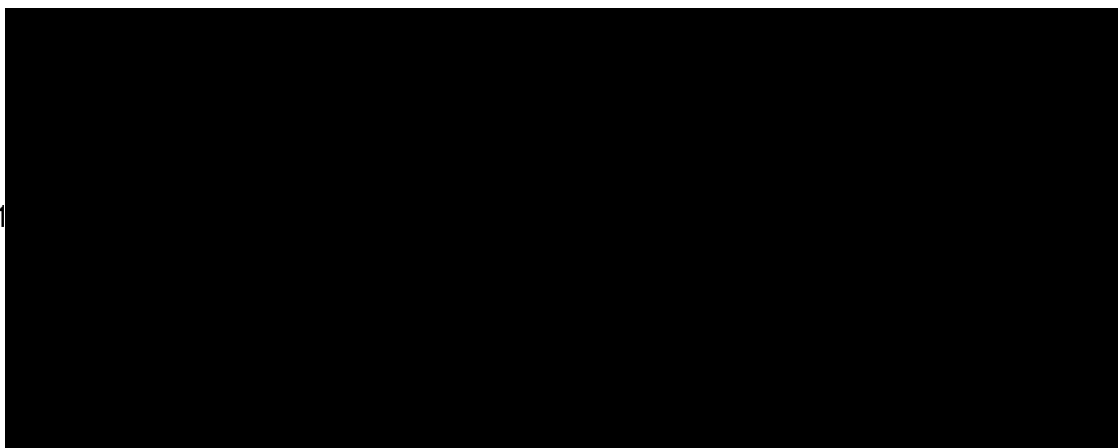
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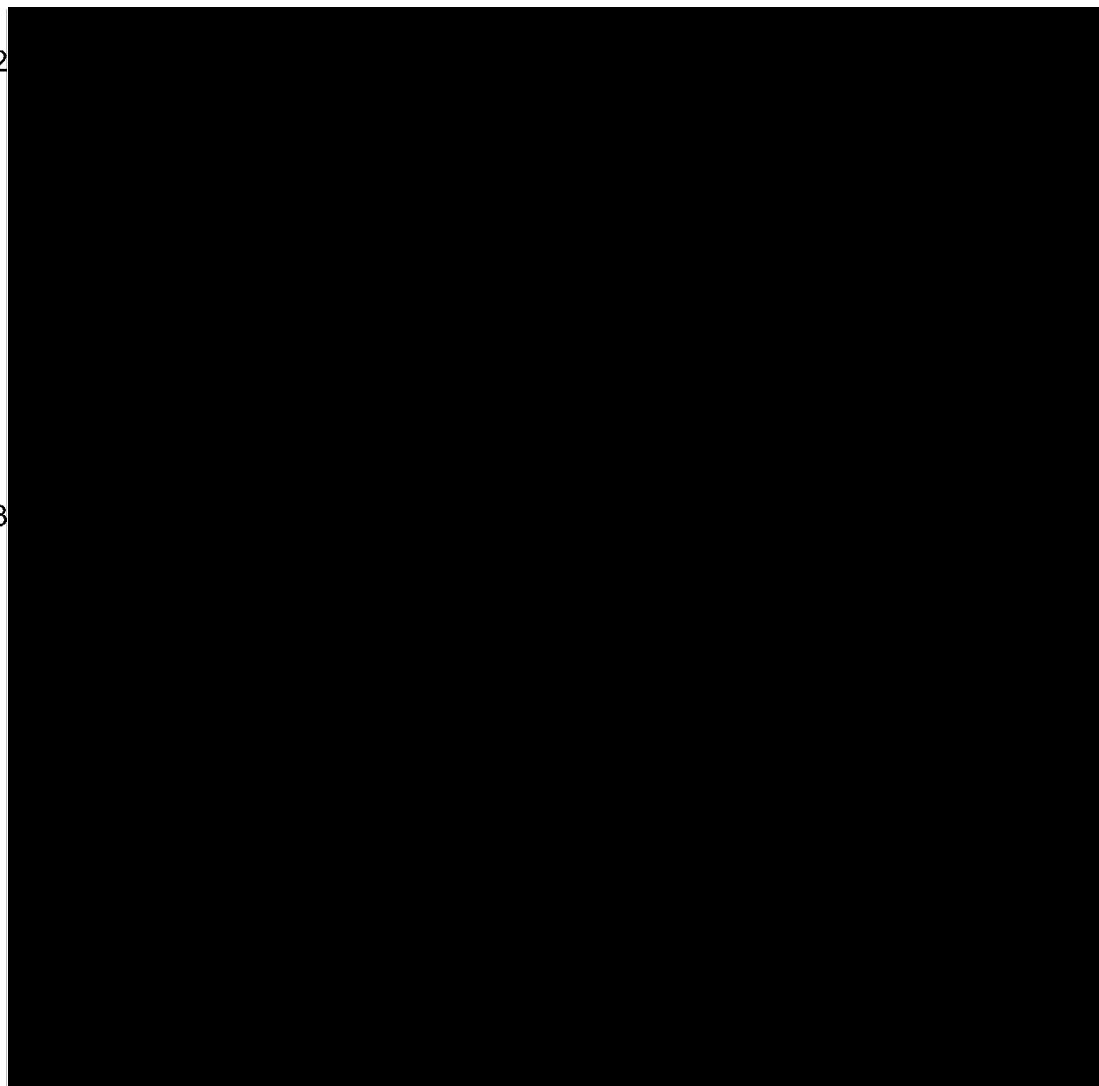
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St Patrick's Training School, Glen Road (7 December 1986 – 21 January 1987 – approximate dates only)

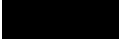
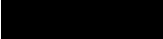

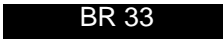

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Life after care

45. I ended up going in to care at twelve or thirteen and I came out a  and I cannot work out how or why that happened. I took an overdose on 31st December 2010. It was a very serious suicide attempt. My daughter was nineteen at the time and she came in the ambulance with me. I received electric shock treatment three times and was close to death.
46. I get my medication every Monday to treat my depression and mood swings. I get Sertraline, Diazepam, Lodine, Amitriptyline. The day I saw 
 I was crying my eyes out because he made that comment about twisting the truth. I went to my own doctor who gave me strong sedatives to calm me down.
47. I was taken from my parents and then put in to care with the Roman Catholic church and raped. Never a day goes by that I am not suicidal. I have told people that I will do it and suicidal thoughts are never far from my mind. In my view the police, social services, the state and the religious orders have all failed in their duty to me in the past and this failure continues today. They have failed in their duty not only to me but also to other victims. They promised us the sun, the moon and the stars in recent times and delivered nothing. Superintendent Brian Hannah, a plain clothed officer, told us there would be no stone unturned. The investigation is ongoing but they have still not managed to get to the bottom of things.
48. When you go to another home your social services record has to follow you but my record was sent to Barnardo's with nothing in it regarding  BR 33
 Social Services are meant to be looking after you and I was damaged for life. I don't know what life is about. I feel dirty and I can't maintain a relationship. I am separated now from the mother of my children over the way I am, the mood swings and depression. Day to day living is an uphill battle.

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49. I can't understand why Judge [REDACTED] kept making six week orders and the more it went on the worse it got. Why return me to somewhere where something serious happened to me, where people were capable of anything to silence you and where you dare not open your mouth? Anything that happened within Rubane House stayed in Rubane House.
50. I emailed Drew Harris at PSNI (based at Montgomery Road) to try to speak to him because I feel that the investigating officers looking in to my allegations are more accustomed to dealing with terrorists and I am a victim not a terrorist. I think the Garda Síochána may well have interviewed [REDACTED] BR 33 by now and I would like to be kept updated.
51. I have told people that I will never be able to get my life back. I still have that in my head at least once or twice a day and I have nightmares that Brother [REDACTED] BR 33 is hiding behind the door or I visualise Father Brendan Smyth and I wake up in sweats. I just don't understand the whole cover up.
52. I recently complained to the Police Ombudsman via my solicitor, Kevin Winters of KRW Law. They have seen my documentation and heard my concerns regarding what I consider to be police failures. I referred the issue of being interviewed alone by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] DL 512 to the Police Ombudsman. Any time I encounter an obstacle and try to get over it, the police block it. I was not satisfied with how the Ombudsman handled my complaint.
53. I don't work, I can't work. I have too many health issues and I am diagnosed with depression and anxiety caused by the treatment I received during my time in care. I have a disease called multiple disc disease. I have been issued with a wheel chair, crutches and zimmer frame. I have been advised that I will be in a wheel chair by my mid forties. Where does it all stop? I am not going to get answers as there is too much of a cover up by the police, the state, social services and the church. They deny it happened and we are branded as liars and attention seekers.

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54. My children are twenty two, seventeen, thirteen, nine and eight, four daughters and the youngest is my son and I love him dearly.
55. I was at Stormont often when the issue of abuse was being considered. I was there when the police and Joe Napier were brought in and everyone said that they would all comply. I am not convinced that even this Inquiry will bring closure.
56. I reported the abuse I had suffered at Barnardo's to my solicitor, Jim Sheridan. His office is based in High Street, Belfast. He contacted Barnardo's insurance company and they offered me five thousand pounds which Mr Sheridan advised me to accept. Barnardo's gave me a cheque for five thousand pounds for being raped by [SHA 1]. There were no terms of settlement and I never received a letter of explanation with the cheque. At times I want to go to Barnardo's and hang myself.
57. I received three letters from Barnardo's dated April 2007 and February 2008. They are all signed by [redacted] Head of Children's Operations. They give a statement of the locations where I was based but Nazareth Lodge has been wrongly omitted.
58. The De La Salle Brothers gave me ten thousand pounds. I don't know if you can but how can you put a figure on rape?
59. So much has happened since I was twelve. I am embarrassed, truly, truly embarrassed. I will never feel clean, the way I was the day and hour I was born, from my encounter with [BR 33] Brendan Smyth and [SHA 1]. I don't like that feeling, dirty, I feel dirty. I have lost friends and my partner over this because of my mood swings. I have tried to kill myself. I no longer know how I feel. All I know is what happened to me should never have happened.

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Statement of Truth

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

Signed  HIA 50

Dated 10/3/2014

AP2768A

HISTORY SHEET

WCN552

Date	REPORT	Initials of Officer
	<p>BR 3 was coming to Belfast and he agreed to take him up.</p> <p>Interviewed HIA 50 in the office with Bro BR 3. After discussion it was agreed that HIA 50 would go home until the beginning of next week until the staff have discussed the situation fully. Brought HIA 50 with BR 3 to parents home. Father was very loud and verbally aggressive towards HIA 50. He eventually calmed down. We agreed that he would stay at home until staff at Kerubbin met and considered the matter.</p>	
17/2/85	<p>HIA 50 came to the office. He wanted to go to Kerubbin again and also to a disco in Portaferry. I told him that he could not go to Portaferry. Kerubbin related the staff met and in any case it was likely to be a negative decision. HIA 50 also wanted to go to a disco in Portaferry but this was not allowed because there were no buses returning late at night.</p>	
18/2/85	<p>Ra-g Bro HIA 50 He told me that staff had decided that HIA 50 wouldn't be allowed to return. They are going to send on some information in writing.</p>	

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF A CHILD ABUSE CASE CONFERENCE - 28 MARCH 1985

[REDACTED]

FAMILY

Father - [REDACTED] on invalidity benefit

Mother - [REDACTED] housewife

Children

[REDACTED] - aged [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - aged [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - aged [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - aged [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - aged [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - aged [REDACTED]

HIA 50 - aged [REDACTED] Subject to Fit Person Order, Nazareth Lodge

[REDACTED] - aged [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - aged [REDACTED]

PRESENT: NHB 122 APSW, Andersonstown Office (Chair)
[REDACTED] NO, Cupar Street Clinic
[REDACTED] SHV, Cupar Street Clinic
[REDACTED] SSW, Andersonstown Office
[REDACTED] SW, Andersonstown Office

Typed reports were presented by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] reported that a place had now been obtained for HIA 50 in Barnardo's Unit at Sharonmore. The introductory phase has already started and [REDACTED] is hopeful that Sharonmore will be able to help HIA 50 cope with his problems. HIA 50 has a major problem in controlling his temper and it was his repeated temper tantrums and destructive behaviour which eventually led to the request that he be removed from Kircubbin. Kircubbin did try to deal with this situation but the regular victimisation of HIA 50 by the other boys made this particularly difficult for them. There were