

Name: **SR 46**
 Date: 7th November 2014

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of **SR 46**

I, **SR 46** will say as follows: -

1. I do believe **HIA 141** was in Nazareth Lodge; however **HIA 141** was not in my group. I had her sister **HIA 93** in my unit.
2. I do not have any memories on **HIA 141**

Statement of Truth

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

Signed **SR 46**

Dated 11-11-2014

Name: **SR 46**

Date: 7th November 2014

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of **SR 46**

I, **SR 46** will say as follows: -

1. At times it was difficult, but well worth the effort. In Nazareth Lodge, the worries were when the children were out and not home on time. I was maybe too strict at times, mostly so after a child had a bad accident on me.
2. Also, in those years the children seemed to be happy. Sometimes if they were due to go home for the weekend, the children would request to stay depending on what was on in the Lodge.
3. The children were quick to play a joke on you. They were relaxed and very chatty after school and when the returned back after the weekend.
4. They enjoyed plenty of activities and enjoy going swimming a few evenings. They also attended the local youth club, brownies, scouts etc. They would go to the pictures and have annual holidays.
5. The children were encouraged to save some of their pocket money each week. We went to the post office and each child had their own saving book. Their money may have been used for holidays, mother's day presents etc.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed **SR 46**

Dated 13-11-2014

Name: **SR 46**
Date: 7th November 2014

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of **SR 46**

I, **SR 46** will say as follows: -

1. I remember **HIA 5** is a frail looking child who was bossed by his older brother and had no knowledge of other children in the family.
2. To comment on paragraphs 2 and 3, we had three rooms with three beds, one with two beds and about six single rooms; **HIA 5** shared a room with his brother. We did not have green blankets nor did I knock on the wall of the bedroom and shout. **HIA 5** bedroom was down the corridor on the right hand side, while mine was on the left hand side at the other end.
3. With regard to paragraph 4, I did not use a walking stick nor do not use one now. I was thirty-one years at that time and did not require a walking stick. As regards to wearing steel rosary beads, these were not worn on duty and were a light wood. I also did not have **SR 45** working with me but rather a sister helped me with homework.
4. To comment on paragraph 6 and 7, I can confirm each unit had their own dining room; in my unit, we had four tables with four children at each table. The sisters did not feed the children who were able to feed themselves.
5. To comment on paragraph 8, the children had their own toys in their bedrooms. We had a large sitting room with a snooker table and table tennis. We also had a TV in the corner. Larger toys were kept in a room at the top of the stairs.

6. With regard to paragraphs 13 and 14, the children were not in church at 7am as this was the Sisters breakfast time. Staff would come on duty at 7.30am, call the children to get washed, dressed, have their breakfast and get ready for school. Breakfast was at 8am with a choice of cereals, grilled bacon and sausages. In regards to the children being nipped, I have not nor did I see anyone being pinched or 'nipped' as **HIA 5** describes.
7. Some children needed to be at the gate in time for the school bus or taxi and some children remained at the school in Belfast. Some children went to St. Monica's, St. Augustine's and Cairnmartin Secondary. To comment on paragraph 16, I am not sure if **HIA 5** and his brother went to St Michael's or a different school.
8. With regard to paragraph 17, Fr Brendan Smyth did not say Mass on Sunday mornings as we had a Chaplin. Fr Smyth would only have said mass if he visited when on holiday. There were also no confessions on Sunday mornings as sometimes Father would be saying a later Mass.
9. With regard to paragraph 18, I have no recollection of such a punishment to lock a child in a room known as 'the dark room'. I am aware of a room at the side of the church in which two sisters slept, across from the lift.
10. With regard to paragraph 20, jumping out of the bathroom window could not have happened. The bathroom was on the fourth floor of Nazareth Lodge and the building was very high. (see attached photograph).
11. With regard to paragraph 23, the children were invited to a number of parties over the Christmas period. They received gifts and Santa also came. Toys were left under the tree in the sitting room.
12. I have no recollection of family visits for **HIA 5** but can recall social worker visits and regular case conferences.
13. **NL 100** and **HIA 5** were transferred to the group downstairs due to a baby being admitted into the Lodge. As the trained NNEB on staff, the child came into my unit. I had no empty beds so the brothers went downstairs to accommodate the baby.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed **SR 46**

Dated 11-11-2014

Name: SR 46

Date: 7th November 2014

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of SR 46

I, SR 46 will say as follows: -

1. I have no recollection of HIA 397 my unit.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed SR 46

Dated 11-11-14

Name: SR 46

Date: 7th November 2014

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of SR 46

I, SR 46 will say as follows: -

1. I remember HIA 41 is a quiet but serious child. At his own request, he went to De La Salle Kircubbin.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

SR 46

Dated 11-11-2014

Name: **SR 46**
Date: 21 January 2015

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of **SR 46**

I, **SR 46** will say as follows: -

1. I am aware of a number of allegations against me by **HIA 41**
2. I deny that I ever beat a child in my care. I specifically deny that I and two other Sisters beat **HIA 41** in the parlour of Nazareth Lodge as described by him in paragraph 28 of his statement. **SR 30** and I did not work together in the Unit at all. When I replaced **SR 30** in the Unit she continued in her role as a teacher only. She did continue to live in the community but she did not work in the Unit.
3. I have no comment on the suggestion that I was somehow jealous or annoyed about a relationship that existed between **SR 30** and **HIA 41**. I was never aware of any relationship as it would have happened before I arrived. **SR 30** would not have been involved in the Unit once I took it over. **SR 30** would have been full time teaching with no responsibility with the children in Unit.
4. I also deny that I pressurised **HIA 41** social worker to take him away. I am aware of an entry in the records at SNB 30662 which records that the Sisters were having difficulty controlling him. I have no recollection of that at all. It is unfortunate that some of the children we cared for were more boisterous than others and some were more difficult to cope with. We would have had a regular contact with social services at this time who would have been involved in any decision making about the children. There would have been regular case reviews on the family by social services. Social Services were the final decision makers in any decision like this.
5. I have a vague recollection, but cannot be totally sure, that **HIA 41** wanted to go to Rubane. I think he had heard stories that the older boys had a great time there and

he wanted to go. However all these decisions were discussed with social services and they had the final say.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

SR 46

Dated 22-01-2015

1 "I deny that I ever beat a child in my care.
2 I specifically deny that I and two other sisters beat
3 HIA41 in the parlour of Nazareth Lodge, as described by
4 him in paragraph 28 of his statement."

5 She said:

6 "SR30 and I did not work together in the unit at
7 all. When I replaced SR30 in the unit, she continued in
8 her role as a teacher only. She did continue to live in
9 the community, but she didn't work in the unit."

10 She said she can't comment on the suggestion you
11 make that SR46 was somehow jealous or annoyed of the
12 relationship that existed between you and SR30.

13 "I was never aware of any relationship, as it would
14 have happened before I arrived. SR30 would not have
15 been involved in the unit once I took it over. She
16 would have been full-time teaching with no
17 responsibility for children in the unit."

18 Then she also denies that she pressurised your
19 social worker "to take him away". I will go to look at
20 that very shortly.

21 **A. Can I answer that?**

22 Q. Yes, of course.

23 **A. First of all, they were brought like as two apprentices**
24 **on to the group. SR30 was still the head honcho. So**
25 **they were getting used to the group. They were getting**

1 used to the children. So the three of them were there
2 in the group together. As I say, from the day SR30 came
3 into the home, she'd worked in the primary school and
4 she was sole in charge over our group. So SR156, SR46
5 and SR30 ran the group between them. So this was
6 an apprenticeship for two nuns to get to know everybody.
7 You know, they were abusive, as an earlier witness has
8 described. So she was there and SR30 just didn't leave.

9 It was all of a sudden that she did leave, but I have
10 five or six pages which I have showed you that this
11 scheming and coercion and plotting started in late '76,
12 October '76.

13 Q. We are going to -- we are going to --

14 A. There was no running away or bad behaviour before that.

15 Q. We are going to come and look at some of those documents
16 now, HIA41. The Health & Social Care Board have put in
17 a statement indicating that you were visited by your
18 social worker quarterly and you were visited by your
19 mother on a regular basis, but it is recorded there that
20 at times you preferred to stay at Nazareth Lodge rather
21 than go to be with your mother. I am not going to call
22 all of these documents up, but we can see that at
23 SNB-5608 and SNB-30613 and 30619. These are the Social
24 Services' records in relation to you, which you
25 eventually obtained from Social Services.

CHILDREN - IN RESIDENTIAL CARE

3 - MONTHLY REVIEW

Name of Child: **HIA 41** Date of Birth: **[REDACTED]**
 Home Address: **[REDACTED]** Care Address: Nazareth Lodge.
 Division: South School attended/~~Employment~~ St. Augustine's Sec. S.
 Date of Admission to Care: 6.6.73 Section under which admitted 95
 Reason for admission (be specific): Home conditions were very unsatisfactory
and Belfast Juvenile Court granted a F.P.O. on 5.7.73 following an application by Belfast
Welfare Department for same.

How accommodated during period in care:

Place	Period
Convent of Mercy, Newry.	6.6.73 - 30.8.73
Nazareth Lodge	30.8.73 - present.

Report

Dates of visits to child: 27.8.76 4.10.76

Dates of Interviews with Parents: 6.7.76 4.8.76 17.8.76 27.8.76

HIA 41 who is in a different group at Nazareth than his brother and sister, spent the month of August at Ballyhorman, he also enjoyed this holiday.

It was suggested to **HIA 41** that he could spend some weekends at Kircubbin with his brother **DL 87** but the two boys do not have a close relationship and **HIA 41** was not keen to do this.

HIA 41 is still rather reluctant to go home on Sundays to his mother, but prefers to stay at Nazareth, where he receives a small amount of pocket money for acting as 'doorman' and answering the telephone.

Social Worker: **NL 187** A.P.S.W.: **[REDACTED]**
 Principal Social Worker **[REDACTED]** Date: 7.10.76

*Delete whichever is inapplicable

HISTORY SHEET

Date	REPORT	Initials of Officer
6.5.77	Transferred HIA 41 to Kircubbin. He was quite upset at leaving Nazareth & cried quite openly in the cab. However, he cheered up somewhat on the way to Kircubbin.	
9.5.77	[REDACTED] phoned to say that her niece would be willing to have HIA 41 home at week-ends.	
10.5.77	Phoned [REDACTED] & arranged to see her & her husband on 11.5.77.	
11.5.77	Interview with [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] who rehab opposite HIA 41 wants to go ahead as soon as BR 2 feels he is ready to go out at week-ends.	
16.5.77	Phone call from SR 62 re NL 57 . Said that NL 57 has become very cheeky lately, won't do what she is told. Ran away on Saturday night (but came back about 10.30 pm) - had been down at [REDACTED] (but not on there). Got a very bad school report - hasn't been putting any effort into school work. Agreed to go up later this afternoon & talk to NL 57 . 4.00 pm Visited Nazareth & discussed this with NL 57 & SR 62 NL 57 didn't say much - started talking & SR 62 thought was rather punitive towards her. Didn't attempt to understand	

HISTORY SHEET

Date	REPORT	Initials of Officer
	<p>had stayed in a flat with an old man (they hadn't met him before). Asked him what they did for food & he said the old man had fed them, but I would presume that they stole some things. Told HIA 41 how worried we had all been about them & how much trouble they had given everyone. He promised that he wouldn't do it again.</p> <p>Felt that the man are just not able to cope with HIA 41 now and he is certainly at an age when he needs a man's touch. Called to tell HIA 41 that HIA 41 had turned up again - she had phoned Margaret earlier and knew about it. Told her that we proposed transferring HIA 41 to Kircubbin tomorrow - I had discussed the possibility of his going there with her before. She agreed that he would be better there & that he would prefer to be there himself. Said she had no objections to this. Asked her about HIA 41 coming home at week-ends - pointed out that he would want to go home if DL 87 was. She said she wouldn't be able to accommodate both boys - also got the feeling that HIA 41 doesn't get on well with HIA 41. However she said that her niece HIA 41 (HIA 41) might let him go to her house. She agreed to ask her about the week-end.</p>	

Name: **SR 46**
Date: 21 January 2015

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of **SR 46**

I, **SR 46** will say as follows: -

1. I have been shown a number of documents numbered SNB 60174-SNB 60254. These are records of police investigations carried out some time ago and include a number of allegations and a copy of my interview notes.
2. I confirm that the response I gave then to the allegations of **NL 58** at pages SNB 60206 – SNB 60210 are the same now as then. I have no recollection of any report of this kind. I also have no memory of any meeting of the girls as described.
3. I have also considered the allegations made by **NL 88** I remember **NL 88** and her brother **NL 59** and also her older brother and younger brother **NL 88** I liked **NL 88** She was a very pleasant, friendly girl. I think she is now working as a psychic. I recall an incident when I saw a love bite on her neck and asked her about it. She denied it at first and then asked how a nun would know about things like that. I explained that I was not always a nun. I reported this to her social worker who then investigated the incident and it turned out that her father had been abusing her. Social services became involved and there were restrictions imposed on his visiting and he reacted very badly. On one occasion he was grabbing me by the shoulder and a staff member, **NL 114** saw him through a window and ran down the stairs to make sure I was ok and told me I was needed somewhere else. **NL 114** then told me she had lied as I was not needed but she was just concerned about me.
4. I do recall an incident where **NL 88** complained about Brendan Smyth. Again my memory now is pretty much what I recalled in my police interview. I recall **NL 88**

complaining on one occasion that she didn't like Brendan Smyth and that he had rubbed against her breasts. She did not appear upset in any way and was actually just reporting it to me. I think I probably did just tell her to stay away from him if she didn't like him.

5. I did not report this to anyone and in hindsight that was a mistake on my part. I did not report it as **NL 88** was not upset and I thought it was just a minor incident rather than the actions of a paedophile as we now realise it was. The way it was reported did seem like an inadvertent contact not as a deliberate act. We were so naïve in those days and we did not have the knowledge and training that we have now.

6. It is possible my view was tainted by the fact that he wrote regularly to the **NL 88, NL 59** children and had done so from before I took over the Unit. I probably assumed there was some sort of family friendship with him. It may be that this influenced how I saw the events.
7. I do recall Brendan Smyth as a visitor to the house. In my time I would say he visited between 6 and 10 times in all. I do not recall him ever staying in our house. My memories of him are his coming along to say Mass. I would have seen him in the halls going to and from Mass only. I only spoke to him a few times and did not really ever have a conversation with him.
8. I note the allegation that I, along with **SR 156** and **SR 46** beat **HIA 41** for going to Warrenpoint with another boy. I deny completely that this happened. I have never beaten a child and definitely never hit a child with other Sisters. I also deny that I was present when another Sister did not beat a child nor did I witness anything that could resemble this incident. I assume **SR 156** is actually **SR 156**.
9. I think my comments to the police about Brendan Smyth are perhaps tainted by hindsight. I would say I did not like him when he visited Nazareth. He was arrogant and I felt he walked about as if he was the most important person there. It is as I look back that I recall that he would visit the children after Mass, when the Sisters were at private prayer or at times when there were fewer Sisters about, but there would always have been staff about. I don't recall thinking that at the time.
10. My memories of Brendan Smyth at this time are not so clear. He was a visitor to Nazareth Lodge but was not a frequent visitor. I don't recall him visiting very often and this would have been around 1975-1977 but I cannot be sure. I was never

aware of any abuse taking place and I am very saddened that a priest would take advantage of his position to abuse children.

11. I have also seen the comments about **HIA 10** and an allegation I hit her with a wooden sandal or shoe. I have spoken to the police about this and confirm I did not hit **HIA 10** or any other child with a soup ladle or any other piece of equipment in the kitchen. The kitchen equipment was never hung on wall racks but was always kept in drawers.

12. I recall one incident in my time where I smacked a child on her bottom with my slipper for messing around in the bedroom. I never hit any child with any implement other than this one occasion. The child was not **HIA 10**

Statement of Truth

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

Signed

SR 46

Dated 20-01-2015

Stand-by 9.11.79 Approx. 6.00 p.m.

Re: [REDACTED] NL 93
[REDACTED]

Three children at home for the weekend from Nazareth Lodge, Mother alleging that nuns, naming [REDACTED] SR 46 was ill-treating [REDACTED] NL 92 for 4 successive weeks [REDACTED] NL 92 had bruises on her body, she could not believe the nuns would do such a thing. [REDACTED] NL 92 was alleged to have bruising on her arm.

Examining [REDACTED] NL 92 I found a mark about an inch long by about a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch on her shoulder which certainly was not caused by the nuns' fingers or hand, a very small mild bruise just above the elbow. I questioned [REDACTED] NL 92 alone, she said the incident had happened on Tuesday.

Mother stated that she had rung [REDACTED] SR 46 who said that she may have pushed [REDACTED] NL 92

Mother also stated that she had seen [REDACTED] SR 46 trailing the children when she had been at the Home.

I called the Standby Duty G.P., speaking to Dr. Hutchinson on the phone he agreed to call and examine [REDACTED] NL 92 His findings were that the mark was not consistent with alleged bruising. Also said that his own children had more bruises. Talking to Dr. Hutchinson outside, he said there was no evidence of earlier bruising, previous bruising would have been more than 2 weeks past.

An investigation will need to be made into the alleged bruising to clarify the matter.

[REDACTED]
NL 19 [REDACTED]

NL 90, NL 91, NL 92, NL 93

Family.

5.11.79: **NL 93** phoned me today. The children's extended visit home was very successful. She did have some bother with **NL 90** who had a few temper tantrums but, apart from this, the week passed by very quickly for her and she was sorry to see the children return to Nazareth Lodge. They will return home again this coming weekend.

9.11.79: I spoke with **NL 93** when she called to the office today. She is on her way to bring the children home for the weekend. She is looking forward to it very much. I explained that I had written a letter to supplementary benefits re the children's increased visits home and asked her to let me know as soon as possible if there is any weekend she cannot take them home. Her mother gave her the money she needed to clear her electricity arrears.

12.11.79: **SR 46** phoned me early this morning. Apparently when **NL 93** took the children home on Friday she discovered a 'bruise' on **NL 92** shoulder.

NL 92 told her Mum that **SR 46** did it. This upset **NL 93** greatly and she contacted the duty social worker - see **NL 195** report. **SR 46** told me that she did grab **NL 92** earlier in the week to prevent her from stepping on pieces of broken crockery. **SR 46** was concerned about the incident and asked if I could visit her today to talk about it. I arranged to call later this morning.

Shortly after **SR 46** call **NL 93** phoned me. She was upset about what had happened, saying that the children had never received rough treatment from herself. She was concerned about the fact that, although the incident happened on Tuesday, the mark on the child's shoulder was still quite large by Friday. Apparently **NL 92** said that **SR 46** has hit her before with a slipper. **NL 93** cannot understand why this has happened since **NL 92** has never posed any behavioural problems with her. I told her that I was going to see **SR 46** this morning, but from what I gathered **SR 46** was trying to prevent a nasty accident. **NL 93** said that she felt no malice or anger towards the nuns. She was just upset. I put it to her that it would probably not be in the children's best interests for them to be moved and any such action would be rather drastic. She agreed with this. In the end we arranged to speak again probably on Wednesday, when **NL 93** returned from Belfast, and I had the opportunity to speak to

SR 46

When I called with **SR 46** we discussed the incident which occurred last Tuesday **SR 46** had to grab **NL 92** by the shoulder and pull her to the side to prevent her from cutting her feet on broken pieces of a mug which she had just dropped. **NL 92** had not complained about an injury and it was to **SR 46** surprise when she learned about the mark from **NL 93**. One of the girls who works in the unit later mentioned that she had noticed a graze on **NL 92** shoulder and thought that the child had fallen against something. I looked at the mark on **NL 92** - it is more of a scab than a bruise. It is possible that the child had rubbed at it and her clothes might have added to the friction.

I mentioned to **SR 46** **NL 93** concern about previous incidents of slapping and hitting with a slipper. She said that she finds **NL 92** more difficult than **NL 90** to cope with at times. She can be rather stubborn. On one particular day she had been quite naughty and **SR 46** had to reprimand her several times. After she was in bed she continued to be disruptive and **SR 46** slapped her with a slipper. She noted this incident in her daily report. However, she does feel now that it was wrong to have punished the child in that manner.

After this discussion I felt that no further action needed to be taken. **SR 46** acted on impulse to save **NL 92** from a nasty accident and cannot really be held to blame. I tactfully advised her that it would be best to refrain in the future from hitting the children with a slipper, shoe, etc. She agreed.

14.11.79: **NL 93** phoned today. She had been visiting the children yesterday. At the beginning things were going quite well. She had a chat with **SR 46**. Later she met a friend - [redacted] and they were talking together. **NL 93** felt that [redacted] needed a nap and asked her friend's young daughter to mention this to **SR 46**. **SR 46** The child came out very upset, saying that **SR 46** had been angry and snapped at her. This annoyed [redacted] who turned her annoyance onto **NL 93**. Later **SR 46** wanted her to sit with [redacted] while he was in bed. However, **NL 93** wanted to be with the girls. Apparently an argument ensued, with **NL 93** calling **SR 46** "two-faced" etc. She told me that she doesn't want to see **SR 46** again. She will only go to Nazareth Lodge to collect the children. She doesn't want to go during the week. She feels that **SR 46** attitude towards her has changed since she reported the incident. She claims that the nun is very sweet

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF

NL 58

AGE OF WITNESS [If over 21 enter 'over 21'] : OVER 21

I declare that this statement consisting of 2 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 12 day of December 1995

WILLIAM NIBLOCK DCONST

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

by whom statement was recorded ~~ex-received~~

NL 58

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I am the above named person and I reside at an address known to the police. In December 1969 I was placed in Nazareth Lodge Childrens Home in Belfast along with my sisters [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. This was a result of family problems. When I went into the home I was placed into a huge dorm along with other girls. The first memory I have of Father Brendan Smyth was one day in the home I was along with him in a lift within the home. He was standing with me and he ran his hand up my back and groped at my breasts. He told me I needed to get a bra. I did not say anything to him regarding his behaviour. I was eleven or twelve years old when this incident happened. This happened a number of times that he groped at me and it always happened in the lift. I did report, to a nun, SR 46 what Father Smyth had

said to me in the lift but not what he had done. I didn't tell her what he had done as I didn't think she would believe me. She told me not to be silly, she just dismissed it. Soon after that all the eldest girls were gathered together from SR 46 group.

SR 46 told us that if any of us were in Father Smyth's company we were to stay in twos, we were not to be alone with him. I am aware that staff within SR 46 group were instructed to

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF [REDACTED] SR 88

AGE OF WITNESS[If over 21 enter 'over 21'] : OVER 21

I declare that this statement consisting of pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 14 day of July 1995

M R MARTIN DCONST
SIGNATURE OF MEMBERby whom statement was recorded ~~or received~~[REDACTED] NL 88
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I am the above named person and I live at an address known to police.

I was born on [REDACTED] SR 46 in [REDACTED] SR 46 When I was about [REDACTED] SR 46 years old my family moved to Belfast. Because of a family breakup my three brothers and I were taken into care in Nazareth Lodge Childrens Home on the Ravenhill Road in Belfast. I was about 5 years old when I went in and I stayed there until I was 14. During my time in Nazareth Lodge I met Father Brendan Smyth. I can't remember exactly when I first met him but I think I was about 10. He came to the home and took mass occasionally. He also visited the home when he was not taking mass. Father Smyth abused me sexually while I was at Nazareth Lodge. This happened on many occasions. I remember he abused me in the vestry after he had finished taking mass. He would have arranged to see me there after mass. The abuse took the form of him touching my breasts, I'm not sure if it was on the inside or outside of my clothes. He would also put his hand up my skirt and touch me on the bottom. I can't remember if it was inside or outside my pants, and it may have been both. He also kissed me and held my face up to him and kissed me full on the lips. He also held himself up against me, both in front of me and also behind me. I can't recall him ever getting me to touch

STATEMENT CONTINUATION PAGE

PAGE NUMBER 2

STATEMENT OF

NL 88

him.

I knew that this wasn't right and I told SR 46 and NL 114

NL 114 that this was happening to me. I think they said something like "stay away from him".

He also abused me in this manner in the parlour room at Nazareth. Sometimes he would come up to my group room and bring me down, and sometimes he would get someone to come up and get me. Every time he abused me he would give me money or sweets. He also took me out quite often and bought me dinner. He would have touched me in the car, but made it seem as if it was nearly accidental. Any time he took me out a record would have been made of it on my personal file. This would have been done by SR 46. During my time in Nazareth I was given some severe punishments. This would have been in the form of beatings mostly by hand. On looking back now, I know these were more severe than necessary. When I left Nazareth, I went to another home called Firmount Hostel in Antrim. Father Smyth came there and I believe he took me out to dinner. He would still have been abusing me in the manner I have described before. I think this was around the time he went to America. He still kept in touch with me after he went to America by sending me letters and post cards. As a result of what has happened to me I have tried to take my own life on three occasions. Father Smyth is a big factor in this. I believe he became aware that I had previously been abused and that is why he singled me out for attention. I trusted Father Smyth and I feel that he abused that trust because he knew I had no one else to turn to. This has also affected my personal life in that I cannot form a lasting relationship with a man or get close to anyone. I feel

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF

NL 87

AGE OF WITNESS [If over 21 enter 'over 21'] : OVER 21

I declare that this statement consisting of 1 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 11 day of May 1995

B LILLY

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

by whom statement was recorded ~~or received~~

NL 87

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I can remember back when I was very young I was in Nazareth Lodge Home. This was because of my parents splitting up and there was only an uncle to look after us. I can't remember the dates I was in the home or what age I was. I just know it was quite a long while. I can remember if we misbehaved the nuns would hit me with a metal serving spoon or a wooden spoon. One of the nuns who did this was called

SR 46

SR 180

would also have slapped people about a

bit. There was never any abuse of a sexual nature or any attempt to carry out sexual abuse. The only thing I can remember is that I wouldn't go into the confession box because there was talk amongst the kids that a priest would do something and the chat was that a priest was doing something to NL 88 I didn't pay any more heed to it and don't wish to make a formal complaint.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

NL 87

CHECKED AND CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL SIGNED :

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF [REDACTED] NL 90

AGE OF WITNESS [If over 21 enter 'over 21'] : OVER 21

I declare that this statement consisting of 1 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 14 day of April 1995

M G MCARDLE DSGT

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

by whom statement was recorded ~~or received~~

[REDACTED] NL 90

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

When I was about seven years old I went into Nazareth Lodge, Belfast along with my sister [REDACTED] NL 92 and [REDACTED] NL 91. A few months later my brother [REDACTED] was also taken into care at Nazareth Lodge. He was aged about 2 yrs at the time, but he was only there for a few weeks or maybe a month. Myself and my sister were there for about 1 1/2 years. While I was in care at Nazareth Lodge I was never sexually abused by anyone and I have no knowledge of any one else having been. On

occasions I was physically abused by [REDACTED] SR 46 who would slap with her hand, a wet towel or other items for no reason. I do not wish to make a complaint about this. I am only telling you so that you know about it.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

[REDACTED] NL 90

CHECKED AND CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL SIGNED :

STATEMENT OF [REDACTED] NL 91

long narrow cupboard with no windows. It was dark and smelly and it petrified me. To this day I'm claustrophobic and I blame being put in the cupboard for this. She would have left me there for anything from 1/2 hour to maybe 24 hours. I can also recall when I came home from school [REDACTED] NL 114 would have been in the reception area and she would have made me and the others along with me remove our underwear. She made me strip right down to my vest. She made me take all my clothes off. I can remember I refused but I was made to do it anyway. When I asked why I had to do it she would say she wanted to check if we had wet our underpants at school. I was made to stand in just my vest maybe for 10 minutes or longer depending on the mood she was in. I was then told to put my clothes on and go to my room. This procedure of taking my clothes off was almost on a daily basis. I can't remember the names of any of the other girls with me when this happened. I can remember [REDACTED] she was very abusive as well. She was very wicked. She would have hit me with anything that was closest to her. She would have hit me for no reason - sometimes if you didn't move when she asked you. I can remember she grabbed me by the arm and scratched me on the face and arms. On many occasions [REDACTED] SR 46 was also violent. I

remember on one occasion me and another girl took her hat out of her room because we thought she wouldn't come out without it - she was just so violent. We thought this would keep her in her room.

She also slapped and battered me on many occasions. After we were in the home for about a year I can remember my mum came to see us.

I told her what these people were doing to me and I begged her to take me home. Nothing was done about this, mum continued to come to see us

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF [REDACTED] NL 92

AGE OF WITNESS [If over 21 enter 'over 21'] : OVER 21

I declare that this statement consisting of 3 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 18 day of April 1996

WILLIAM NIBLOCK DCONST

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

by whom statement was recorded ~~or received~~

[REDACTED] NL 92

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I am the above named person and I reside at an address known to the police. When I was six years old I was placed in Nazareth Lodge Childrens Home in Belfast along with my two sisters, [REDACTED] NL 90 who was seven years old and my sister [REDACTED] NL 91 who was four years old. Whenever we arrived [REDACTED] NL 90 and I were put into a room with two beds in it while [REDACTED] NL 91 was put into another room. The nun in charge of our floor was called [REDACTED] SR 46 [REDACTED] NL 90 and I went to St Michaels School in the grounds of the home. Myself and my two sisters were treated badly in the home. [REDACTED] SR 46 used to punish me for minor

things. On occasions she would beat me with a wooden shoe, like a skoll sandal. She used to hit me on the head, arms, legs and back. She did this for laughing, failing to walk in a straight line and not eating my food. [REDACTED] SR 46 used to keep our food on the table until it was eaten even if it took days. I started to wet the bed and I was made to take a cold bath and they wouldn't give me any supper. Because of the beatings [REDACTED] SR 46 gave me I had bruises on my legs and one time I had a bruise over a right eye. On one occasion a

member of the Social Services came to the home and asked me and my sisters if we were happy there. At this time I had bruising on my

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OTHER DOCUMENT RECORD PRINT

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DOCUMENT D1013

Right, that's how you remember her.

SR 46

Yes.

OK. Right, OK, she, she, her recollection is that she came into the home around 1972 to 1981 as I say that's her recollection of it.

SR 46

Hhmm.

Ehm now eh again this is a case where

NL 88 has made allegations about being abused by Father Brendan Smyth ehm after Mass basically, ehm and she went to yourself and she described what was, she told you and eh

NL 114 what was happening, eh I think the suggestion is that you must have together when you were told this, and eh she says that she was basically told by one or other or as collective that she was basically told just stay away from him. Have you any recollection of this.

SR 46

I did remember **NL 88** coming to me and saying that she didn't like Father Smyth that he'd rubbed against her breasts and I said well in future when you see him around stay

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OTHER DOCUMENT RECORD PRINT

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DOCUMENT D1013

Ehm she said that she came in at a very young age, she was actually.

SR 46

She came in with her sisters.

Yes. Eh she was eh she said she was actually welcomed to the home and intro- eh introduced to you, **SR 46** would that, and put into your group, would that be right.

SR 46

Yes.

Sounds right. Ehm basically what she says about yourself is that eh, she describes you as being very violent. Ehm she said eh that you were, you slapped, battered her on many occasions.

SR 46

Yes, I did slap her but I wouldn't say I battered her.

Yes, now maybe just for the record you would give us what eh your interpretation of slapping would be.

SR 46

It would be slaps on the bottom, I know on one occasion I did slap her with my slipper one night, through the bed clothes, she was

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OTHER DOCUMENT RECORD PRINT

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DOCUMENT D1013

- making any allegations that they were being beaten.

SR 46

We had one incident with **NL 92** which I always remember and regret was she was standing in the kitchenette one evening ehm having soup, the cauldron she was eating out of (inaudible) before she went home for the weekend and I could see the soup going so I just put my arms out, pulled her away, as a result she had her shoulder skinned and the mother rang that night and reported it to the social worker.

Yes.

SR 46

Who came in and we explained what had happened and.

Right.

SR 46

But I didn't realise I had skinned her shoulder until the mother rang 'cos she went home.

We're, we're actually going to come to that in a wee minute.

Stand-by 9.11.79 Approx. 6.00 p.m.

Re: NL 93

Three children at home for the weekend from Nazareth Lodge, Mother alleging that nuns, naming SR 46 was ill-treating NL 92, for 4 successive weeks NL 92 had bruises on her body, she could not believe the nuns would do such a thing. NL 92 was alleged to have bruising on her arm.

Examining NL 92 I found a mark about an inch long by about a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch on her shoulder which certainly was not caused by the nuns' fingers or hand, a very small mild bruise just above the elbow. I questioned NL 92 alone, she said the incident had happened on Tuesday.

Mother stated that she had rung SR 46 who said that she may have pushed NL 92

Mother also stated that she had seen SR 46 trailing the children when she had been at the Home.

I called the Standby Duty G.P., speaking to Dr. Hutchinson on the phone he agreed to call and examine NL 92. His findings were that the mark was not consistent with alleged bruising. Also said that his own children had more bruises. Talking to Dr. Hutchinson outside, he said there was no evidence of earlier bruising, previous bruising would have been more than 2 weeks past.

An investigation will need to be made into the alleged bruising to clarify the matter.

J.F.
E. Miller

[REDACTED] Family.

5.11.79: NL 93 phoned me today. The children's extended visit home was very successful. She did have some bother with NL 90 who had a few temper tantrums but, apart from this, the week passed by very quickly for her and she was sorry to see the children return to Nazareth Lodge. They will return home again this coming weekend.

9.11.79: I spoke with NL 93 when she called to the office today. She is on her way to bring the children home for the weekend. She is looking forward to it very much. I explained that I had written a letter to supplementary benefits re the children's increased visits home and asked her to let me know as soon as possible if there is any weekend she cannot take them home. Her mother gave her the money she needed to clear her electricity arrears.

12.11.79: SR 46 phoned me early this morning. Apparently when NL 93 took the children home on Friday she discovered a 'bruise' on NL 92 shoulder.

NL 92 told her Mum that SR 46 did it. This upset NL 93 greatly and she contacted the duty social worker - see Mrs. Millar's report. SR 46 told me that she did grab NL 92 earlier in the week to prevent her from stepping on pieces of broken crockery. SR 46 was concerned about the incident and asked if I could visit her today to talk about it. I arranged to call later this morning.

Shortly after SR 46 call NL 93 phoned me. She was upset about what had happened, saying that the children had never received rough treatment from herself. She was concerned about the fact that, although the incident happened on Tuesday, the mark on the child's shoulder was still quite large by Friday. Apparently NL 92 said that SR 46 has hit her before with a slipper. NL 93 cannot understand why this has happened since NL 92 has never posed any behavioural problems with her. I told her that I was going to see SR 46 this morning, but from what I gathered SR 46 was trying to prevent a nasty accident. NL 93 said that she felt no malice or anger towards the nuns. She was just upset. I put it to her that it would probably not be in the children's best interests for them to be moved and any such action would be rather drastic. She agreed with this. In the end we arranged to speak again probably on Wednesday, when Mrs NL 93 returned from Belfast, and I had the opportunity to speak to

SR 46