

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of Cardinal Sean Brady

I, Cardinal Sean Brady, will say as follows: -

1. I am Cardinal Sean Brady. I retired as the Archbishop of Armagh on 8th September 2014 and hold the title of Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Armagh at this time.
2. I have been asked to provide a statement to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry to deal with my knowledge of Brendan Smyth and what was known about him and when this information came to be known.
3. In that regard I will be giving my statement with my knowledge as a priest of the Diocese of Kilmore, where I served prior to being ordained Archbishop of Armagh. I am not speaking on behalf of the Archdiocese of Armagh, and I believe they will be providing their own statement of what the Archdiocese can say from the records.
4. After my ordination as a priest for the diocese of Kilmore, I became a fulltime language teacher at St. Patrick's College, Cavan from 1967 to 1980. During that time I provided very occasionally secretarial assistance to the then bishop of Kilmore, Francis McKiernan. My duties would have included circulating notifications of clerical changes within the diocese and minutes of meetings.
5. I did not have any administrative authority in the diocese nor was I ever involved in investigating clergy in any disciplinary matters

6. In March 1975 Bishop McKiernan summoned me to a meeting. He informed me that the Archdiocese of Armagh was going to investigate allegations about a priest abusing a boy. The priest in question was a member of Norbertine Order, based in Kilnacrott Abbey in County Cavan in the diocese of Kilmore, but who had faculties to allow him to carry out priestly duties in the diocese of Armagh. Bishop McKiernan asked me to attend the investigation, take detailed notes for him so that he could take appropriate action.
7. The investigation was carried by **FBS 50** priest of the Archdiocese of Armagh. It was essentially an evidence gathering exercise loosely based on the procedures used in Marriage Tribunals since this particular investigation did not come under any Canon Law procedure.
8. **FBS 50** asked questions and I wrote down the questions and recorded the answers accurately. In accordance with canonical procedure, and to protect the integrity of the evidence, an oath of confidentiality was administered to the witness, **FBS 38**, at the end of the hearing of evidence. This oath also protected the person giving the evidence as it allowed them to refuse to speak to the person they complained about and stop them from coming under pressure to change or withdraw their evidence.
9. It also gave solemnity to the proceedings and formalised the evidence. This was important to ensure the evidence was clear and strong.
10. I presented the written record of the meeting with **FBS 38** to Bishop McKiernan. I believed **FBS 38** from the start, and I advised Bishop McKiernan of that. He decided that we should add weight to the evidence and corroborate the evidence of **FBS 38** by interviewing the other boy who **FBS 38** said had been abused. This boy lived in **[REDACTED]**. With the help of the local curate a meeting was set up to talk to the boy. At the interview the local curate attended, to both give support to the boy, and also to give formality to the proceedings. I took a statement from the boy asking some of the questions used by **FBS 50** in the first interview. I also administered a similar oath of confidentiality to him for the same reason. I

6. In March 1975 bishop McKiernan summoned me to a meeting. He informed me that the Archdiocese of Armagh was going to investigate allegations about a priest abusing a boy. The priest in question was a member of Norbertine Order, based in Kilnacrott Abbey in County Cavan in the diocese of Kilmore, but who had faculties to allow him to carry out priestly duties in the diocese of Armagh. Bishop McKiernan asked me to attend the investigation, take detailed notes for him so that he could take appropriate action.
7. The investigation was carried by [REDACTED] FBS 50 [REDACTED] priest of the Archdiocese of Armagh. It was essentially an evidence gathering exercise loosely based on the procedures used in Marriage Tribunals since this particular investigation did not come under any Canon Law procedure.
8. [REDACTED] FBS 50 [REDACTED] asked questions and I wrote down the questions and recorded the answers accurately. In accordance with canonical procedure, and to protect the integrity of the evidence, an oath of confidentiality was administered to the witness, [REDACTED] FBS 38 [REDACTED], at the end of the hearing of evidence. This oath also protected the person giving the evidence as it allowed them to refuse to speak to the person they complained about and stop them from coming under pressure to change or withdraw their evidence.
9. It also gave solemnity to the proceedings and formalised the evidence. This was important to ensure the evidence was clear and strong.
10. I presented the written record of the meeting with [REDACTED] FBS 38 [REDACTED] to Bishop McKiernan. I believed [REDACTED] FBS 38 [REDACTED] from the start, and I advised Bishop McKiernan of that. He decided that we should add weight to the evidence and corroborate the evidence of [REDACTED] FBS 38 [REDACTED] by interviewing the other boy who [REDACTED] FBS 38 [REDACTED] said had been abused. This boy lived in [REDACTED]. With the help of the local curate a meeting was set up to talk to the boy. At the interview the local curate attended, to both give support to the boy, and also to give formality to the proceedings. I took a statement from the boy asking some of the questions used by [REDACTED] FBS 50 [REDACTED] in the first interview. I also administered a similar oath of confidentiality to him for the same reason. I

returned with the second set of questions and answers and presented those to my Bishop, again confirming that I had accepted the evidence of both boys.

11. I had no further dealings or discussions with the Bishop or any other person regarding the matters which had arisen. I believed then that I had carried out the duties I had been asked to do properly and that I had accepted the truthfulness of the boys and that steps would be taken by those with the appropriate authority to protect them, and others, from further harm. I believe I acted promptly and I also believed I had acted appropriately in ensuring the evidence was taken accurately and that all the evidence was then typed up and given to my superior. I was confident that he would act appropriately to ensure proper steps were taken and believe the records, which state that he did contact the Abbot quickly and obtained assurances from him.

12. I left the Diocese of Kilmore and went to Rome in 1980 where I took up the position of Vice-Rector of the Irish College in Rome. I became Rector of the College in 1987. I did not return from Rome until 1993 and, at that point, I became Parish Priest of Castletara (near Cavan) in the diocese of Kilmore. I remained in that position until I was appointed Coadjutor Archbishop of Armagh on the 13 December 1994.

13. It was around the period when I returned, and then was appointed Coadjutor Archbishop and later Archbishop, that Brendan Smyth came to my attention again. He was in the news in regard to the extradition issues from the Republic of Ireland and his trial in the North, his conviction and subsequent imprisonment, and then his transfer to the Republic of Ireland where he was tried and imprisoned again, and shortly afterwards died in prison.

14. I have been asked: should I not have reported personally to the civil authorities? Unfortunately, and very regrettably, the matter was not reported at that stage to the civil authorities. I am very sorry that this did not happen. I believed then that I had acted appropriately and properly in the part I played in ensuring the evidence I took was robust and solemnly taken and passed to my superior. I was confident that Bishop McKiernan had taken the complaint,

received through **FBS 48**, seriously and that he accepted the evidence and my belief in the veracity of both boys. I believed he would act and the records do show he went to see Abbot Smith and withdrew the faculties of the diocese shortly after he received the statements.

15. Today measures are in place across Ireland to deal with the handling of complaints of abuse and to manage the transfer of information to the proper civil authorities. Each Diocese, Congregation or Order will have a Designated Person, who will co-ordinate the reporting and will co-operate with the proper authority, in how the matter will be investigated, who can and should be spoken to and how support and counselling can be offered. In 1975 these structures and procedures did not exist.

16. I deeply regret that any child suffered harm as a result of the actions of Brendan Smyth. I deeply regret the abuse of his position as a Catholic priest in order to deceive his victims and their families and his criminal conduct in abusing these children. I, once again, offer an unreserved apology to all those who have suffered as a result of the activities of Brendan Smyth.

17. It is a matter of great personal regret and pain to know, that despite the statements taken by me, and the report made to my Bishop, and despite the assurances given by Abbott Kevin Smith, that Brendan Smyth's activities would be controlled, it would appear that no effective steps were taken to protect children from him.

18. It appears from the information that has since come to light, that children continued to be abused in the very same year (1975) in which this information had come to light and which should have protected children from the activities of Brendan Smyth.

19. There was an absence of any proper guidance or procedures or protocols in the 1970's for issues of safeguarding children or other vulnerable people in society. In the early 1990's the church was involved in developing whole Church guidance, in how to handle these matters. This led to what is known

as: The Green Book being produced around 1996 and to the ongoing development of our safeguarding procedures, leading to "Our Children our Church" There followed the safeguarding procedures we have today with the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (NBSCCCI), the strong links to the civil authorities and the ongoing development of procedures in the church.

20. I can see that the failure to report these matters to the civil authorities in the Republic of Ireland and in Northern Ireland would be a systemic failing. I also accept that steps should have been taken to report back to FBS 38's family about what we had done and to confirm we had believed his evidence.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed Seán Brady

Dated 11 June 2015

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of Cardinal Sean Brady

I, Cardinal Sean Brady, will say as follows: -

1. This is my second statement to the Inquiry and is to address questions raised about my personal involvement with or knowledge of Brendan Smyth.
2. I confirm that I never met Brendan Smyth.
3. I have never had any direct contact with him.
4. I have been asked if I was ever aware of him being in or visiting St Patrick's. I can confirm that I was never aware of him being there during my time as a teacher in St Patrick's nor do I recall anyone talking about him having visited.
5. I cannot assist the Inquiry any further in that regard.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed Sean Brady

Dated 11 June 2015

THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

Witness Statement of Cardinal Sean Brady

I, Cardinal Sean Brady, will say as follows: -

1. This is my third statement to the Inquiry and is to address questions raised about the content of my first and main statement signed on the 11th June ("the 11th June Statement")
2. In making this statement I would like to say that the issues around **FBS 38** [REDACTED] and his presenting evidence of his abuse has been a matter which I have considered over a number of years. It is an issue of great regret to me that more was not done at that time to protect children from someone who misused his position of trust and status to abuse children.
3. In an effort to try to assist this Inquiry I have spoken to many of those who have advised me over the years and I appear to have become more confused rather than clearer as a result. I apologise to the Inquiry for this confusion and will try and clarify matters in this statement.
4. I refer to paragraph 5 of the 11th June statement. I would confirm I had no involvement at that time in the discipline of clergy nor I was ever involved in any situation such as the investigation into allegations such as those presented by **FBS 38** [REDACTED]. I had no previous experience of interviewing a child over matters of this nature. Although I had qualifications in canon law I was not acting as a canon lawyer in my role in the school. The nature of my work with Bishop McKiernan was administrative as set out in the examples given in paragraph 4 of the 11th June statement.

5. To be clear the investigation involving **FBS 38** was set up by Bishop McKiernan and was always his investigation. Brendan Smyth had faculties granted by the Diocese of Kilmore not the Archdiocese of Armagh. I had previously tried to write out how this all came about and I note that in those handwritten notes I say that I was the one who involved **FBS 50**. I think these notes were prepared by me but I cannot recall exactly when they were made. It was in the last 10 years. I really cannot recall exactly how **FBS 50** came to be involved but I did have a role in assisting Bishop McKiernan in the process.
6. I was involved in the full investigation having initially taken the record of the first interview. I then took a corroborative statement from another child (who himself alleged abuse) and reported back to Bishop McKiernan.
7. **FBS 50** asked the questions in the interview with **FBS 38**. I remember that he had questions prepared but I really cannot assist on who it was spoke to him. I have no recollection of having any detail about the allegations before I attended at the interview.
8. I would like to expand on paragraph 7 of the 11th June statement also. The interview was conducted by **FBS 50**. He had prepared the questions and he asked them of **FBS 38**. I wrote down the questions and the answers. I may have asked for some questions or answers to be repeated to ensure I had correctly heard and transcribed the evidence but I did not pose any questions myself.
9. I was not aware of any similar process to this investigation which existed in Canon Law but the process loosely followed the procedure which would have been used at a Marriage Tribunal. In such a tribunal the witness would give their evidence but there would not be anyone else present other than Tribunal members. **FBS 48**, in whom **FBS 38** had confided, was present in the room throughout as a support for **FBS 38**. In retrospect it would have been much more appropriate for his father to be present and not to be asked to remain outside. This would not happen today and I accept

that this was a failing in the investigation. A child should always be accompanied by a friend or parent. I was not aware of what [REDACTED] senior knew of the matters we were investigating.

10. The oath administered to [REDACTED] FBS 38 is in the papers and was witnessed by me although I did not write it out.
11. When I interviewed [REDACTED] FBS 39 he was not accompanied by any parent. This was wrong. His family were not told of the alleged abuse. This was also wrong. This is not how matters would be handled today. I deeply regret that [REDACTED] FBS 39 was not accompanied by a family member or that his parents were not told. I also deeply regret that the parents of the other children of whom [REDACTED] FBS 38 spoke were not told of those concerns
12. I was of the view that the evidence of both boys was accurate and I now fully accept that either myself or someone from the Church should have gone back to both boys and their families to explain the process and reassure them. It was a failing that this did not occur.
13. I do not recall hearing anything else about Brendan Smyth during the time I remained in Cavan or during my time in Rome. It was not until I returned from Rome that Brendan Smyth was referred to on the news following his arrest that he came to my attention again.
14. I would like to say that I deeply regret and apologise for the fact that the information provided by [REDACTED] FBS 38 and [REDACTED] FBS 39 was not reported to the civil authorities both in Southern Ireland and Northern Ireland. While I believed at the time that I had done the right thing in reporting to my Bishop, as requested, I accept that these matters should have been reported and that the names of the other children identified were passed on to the proper authorities. For that failing and the fact that other children were abused as a result of these omissions I am truly sorry.

15. I again apologise for the confusion in my earlier statement and hope this assists the Inquiry.

16. I have made a number of statements on this matter over the last years in different contexts. On occasions the allegations made against me have referred to my role as Archbishop of Armagh and my response has been reflective of the fact that the role I played in 1975 as a priest of Kilmore and my later position as Archbishop of Armagh was different. This may lead to a perception that I was avoiding my responsibilities which was not my intention. I repeat now that I was asked by Bishop McKiernan to assist in a process to secure evidence against Brendan Smyth and that the procedure followed was, in hind sight, flawed and did not protect those we wanted to protect. Again I express my personal sorrow for that failing.

17. I have been asked to consider the way information of a safeguarding nature and concerns about priests or the removal of faculties is communicated between bishops or not communicated. Sadly, at that time there was a culture within the church of secrecy and silence and it was felt that these matters could be dealt with within the church structures themselves. Further, there was not a proper understanding of the devastating consequences of child abuse. Many bishops believed that psychiatric treatment of the individual perpetrator was an adequate response. The full horror and long lasting impact of such criminal behaviour has now been grasped. The church now obtains its guidance from the civil authorities and reports all incidents of child abuse immediately. All priests now carry a card called a celbret with them issued by their diocese which gives them faculties. This celbret can be requested by any priest before he would allow another priest to conduct any ministry. The bishop would require a priest from whom faculties had been removed to hand over his celbret which would mean he could not minister in another diocese. The celbret would also allow any priest or bishop to call the home diocese of a visiting priest to check his credentials.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed Sean Brady

Dated 19 June 2018

I attended at [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] - 1975 at the
 request of my Bishop -
 who had been contacted by a
 priest [REDACTED] for
 [REDACTED] to
 make a report about Fr
 Sytt. The only reason the
 Bishop of Kilmac [REDACTED]
 contacted me the [REDACTED]
 priest did not know
 which Fr Sytt was the
 Abbot and which Fr Sytt
 was the visitor to [REDACTED]
 should specify it was none
 of Bishop McKenna's ~~work~~ business
 to commission a
 inquiry into the actions
 of ~~some~~ not under his
 authority which we had
 committed outside his diocese.
 But I see it as
 a matter of his concern
 and care and sense of
 responsibility. The I was
 desperate to investigate the
 at conflict, I later
 to what [REDACTED] FBS 38 [REDACTED] led to
 say and I believe [REDACTED]
 made of it. I replied
 it back to Bishop McKenna
 who immediately put it
 up Fr Brendan Sytt.
 Sytt who was the Abbot
 of H.O. - ~~Consult~~ Abbot Ken

Bishop McKenna wet - for
 with the faultless small
 To Broad look f

FBS 38

I have been a - to
 hear the whistle
 I unreservedly apologize
 to you so B

FBS 48

of the [redacted] order and well aware of the exempt status of Norbertine Order - on receipt of a complaint by a young boy of ^{sexual} abuse on the part of an exempt religious - Fr Smyth, of Kilmacrott, was immediately minded to refer the matter ^{appropriate} to the Religious Authorities but on discovery that the abbot himself was himself a Fr Smyth, and not aware of the distinction of the two Fr Smiths, decided to approach Bishop Francis McKern of Kilmacrott whose diocese Kilmacrott Abbey is located for help. Bishop McKern decided to take the matter seriously & by the matter to the attention of the Abbot of Kilmacrott - Abbot Kevin Smith who was the ^{lay} Superior - but before doing so Bishop McKern wished to double check the evidence. He commissioned me to meet the boy - and to hear his story.

FBS 50

I requested [redacted] FBS 50 a local priest to help me file the evidence and the meeting took place in the [redacted] parish of [redacted].

I compiled the evidence in writing & gave it to Bishop McKern. Who proceeded to Kilmerstall to report the matter to Abbot Sault. Bishop McKern withdrew faculty from Fr Brenden Sault, which was in effect a refusal of the M.C.I. and he had to leave.

presumably with a view to it being passed on to the
 The meeting took place at the behest
 of the Bishop of Kilmore in
 a [redacted] - itself an
 exempt place [redacted] FBS 50 was the
 a personal capacity - since
 the matter was not at any stage referred
 to the diocese of Argy

I would be serving a
 rule of such potential comm-
 usually in many Annual Case
 but were typed up - I hinder
 the [redacted] to involve requesting the
 [redacted] - this would be the
 end of my involvement in the case
 that was the process followed
 in the case also

I am being sued in my capacity as Bishop
 of all Gael - a title

I am being sued on the grounds that
 Kilmore Abbey is in the diocese of
 Argy - ST - in the diocese of Kil

I am being sued on the basis that as Bishop
 in such I was responsible for the ^{corporate} discipline
 of Exempt religion - residing -
 with disposal and visits social
 outside that diocese

Bishop McKenna - [redacted] FBS 48
 knew that the power to discipline
 is small by virtue of the article of
 his own Order - which says a
 Exempt Religion Institute has the discipline
 and structure of governance - and the whole jurisdiction

I can understand that the
 presence of **FBS 50** may
 be confused with people
 as the presence was taken to indicate
 involvement of the disease of Angel
 - which is not true

That is not the case
 It is the practice to make lower
 class 7 in the order

The inclusion of a killer guest
 in the put the idea that
 the was ~~found~~ the responsible
 of the disease

Doesn't it in general
 & deposited



Telephone (042) 4179

- 1 What is your name?
- 2 Address?
- 3 (Age) Date of birth.
- 4 Father's name
- 5 Mother's maiden name.
- 6a) What school are you attending?
- 6b) How are you getting on at school?
- 7 Do you take part in any games.
- 8 Are you a member [redacted]
attached to [redacted]
- 9 Do you know any priest associated with school.
- 10 Do you know any priest associated with the boys club.
- 11 Do you feel free to talk to priests.
- 12 Do you know Fr Smith. Have you
ever spoken to him by his first
name?



Telephone (042) 4179

13. Is his first name ... Brendan.
14. Do you know him well,
15. when did you first meet him.
16. ~~Just~~ would you regard yourself
as friendly with Fr. Smith.
17. You told **FBS 48**
of the **[REDACTED]** that
Fr. Smith had been doing
things with you which
worried you. (Could) you
tell us simply what
these things were?

3

Telephone (042) 4179

18. Did these things keep you
back from going to
Communion and Confession?
19. Would you have done these
things, in the first place with another
boy or grown up, ~~person~~ man?
If not, why not?
20. Did you tell your father
and mother?
21. Did you tell anyone else
if so, what is his/her name
and address?



4

Telephone (042) 4179

22. Did the other person or any other person to your knowledge do the same things with Mr. Smith. Did they ever say they did?

22(b) Did these worrying ^{things} happen in any other place? besides your home and boarding houses?

23. Can you give us any exact time and place at which any of these worrying things happened? In your home?

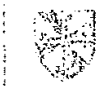
when your parents were out?

when they were there in?

24. Did you ever go on holidays with Mr. Smith?

4 In the company of other boys and girls? i.e. was there a group of you?

5



Telephone (042) 4179

24. could.

Can you give us any of the names of those who went with you?

25. Have you planned to meet Fr. Smith again? If so when?

26. when did you talk **FBS 48** first?

~~26.~~

27. Is there anything else you would like to tell us.

28. Did this happen between you and any other person — another boy and yourself for instance.

6



Telephone (042) 4179

29. Has this led to ^{any action with} yourself?

30. Would need come from your body as a result.

Questions put by me

FBS 50

FBS 38

John B. Brady

FBS 48

29 March 1975 at

I

Ad 1

FBS 38

2

3

4

5

Ad 6 a

2nd Year Secondary.

1) Great - Second Year got a bit bad.

7) Yes Football - Gaelic - Soccer. I played last year for [REDACTED] (1973-4). I don't know whether I will play this year - whether I will have time.

I have a part time job with a butcher.

8) Yes. I am. That is right.

9) I know you. Now alters

10) FBS 48

11) yes. I do. Q. How did you get to know him

12) yes I was serving a while but not in [REDACTED] and I

was serving the man. He was attending a wedding. About 18 months ago, He asked where he could get a cup of tea and I brought him to our house.

13) FR Brendan Smith. He told me his name.

14) Well enough. Yes.

15) does not arise

16) I was friendly with him - Not now.

17

11

- (17) I went on holiday with him to
Cork. There was another fellow with
him & two girls

FBS 10 — from Belfast.

He just told me I was going on
holidays. The girls' names are

[REDACTED] for Belfast

[REDACTED], for Carron.

is boy's name

FBS 10

[REDACTED], **[REDACTED]**, **[REDACTED]**

Belfast.

Q Did he get your parents' permission
A He asked my parents first
and I went on holidays with him.
We went to Cork City — Killarney
House.

He took his own car.

At night he used to take one
fellow into bed with him

He took me into bed.

Before this He used to come to my home
every three weeks and ask me
upstairs. He would make some
excuse about reading books and
then he would ask me to "work" him.

(Interviewer distinguishes two areas of Questions)
Q What about at home?

At Home. He would ask me upstairs

and ask me to pull down his

zip and he did the same to me.

He wanted get me to pull his pants

Q. Did you like this.

A. No.

Q. Did he pull your pants?

11

Q Did he do anything else besides that
A ~~As far as~~ ~~what~~ you would not like.

A) His ^{seed} would ~~all~~ come
all over me in my hand

Q What happened ~~you~~ body?

A Nothing

Q2. Would that be the end?

A. No. He would start kissing me^{up}

Q Would he attempt to start all over again

A. No, he did it once and that would be the end of that time.

Q That was a year or a half ago? Now.

A⁷. Yes, about 1400

Q. Would you know the meaning of the word of "erectum"?

A No

Q. Would you notice your penis
become stiff

A Yes - ~~not~~

Q That happened to you?

A yes sort of these actions

How after would ~~the~~ have happened on you here

A. Every time he ^{in you} ~~case~~, it happens
He ^{every} ~~case~~ about ^{three} ~~times~~ weeks

He usually come on Sundays

Q. Would you further a matter like either house?

They would be downstairs.
My father, rather all ~~the~~ ^{my} sisters.

1.7

IV

on Holiday.

Q. What happened then?

He would take me to bed
with him

Q. What would he do in bed?

The same as he would do at home.

He would get my hands to touch his
body and he would touch my body
with his hands.

I would not stay in bed with
him all night but just for a
while.

Q. He did this with the other boy?

A. Yes

Q. How do you know?

A. The other boy told me,

Q. That was the rest of things he kept doing

A. Yes

Q. You never got to like it

A. No.

18) Yes, Father, ~~he~~ ^{not} communion,

Q. After the happened you stopped going
to communion?

A. Yes but I kept on going to
communion.

I kept on going to communion
but never told it in confession until
a few days ago.

V

19) a) No.

b) I did not like doing this.

Q. Why did you do it with G.R. Smith?

A. Because he was a priest, probably, and I did not like to refuse him.

Q. Had you any worry that it was wrong?

A) I thought it was all right when it was with a priest.

Q. You did not go to confession after this for some time. Why?

A) It would have been embarrassing and if I had not told it, I would have thought that I made a bad confession. I had of course, seen if it was wrong.

Q.

20 Not until after I talked to **FBS 48**.

21 No. I never told anybody, only the young clerk, **FBS 10**

22. **FBS 39** for **FBS 39**

Q How did you know?

A He took **FBS 39** and myself to the **FBS 39** in Dublin.

He did the same thing with **FBS 39** - the bed that night and with me.

VI

Q. How did you know

A. I was awake, all in the room.

Q. Can you remember the place

A. No.

22 B

~~Q. Did it~~ C

Q. Did these wrong things happen in any other place, besides your home and boarding house

A. Yes in the car. He would say he was going to the shop. He would pull up and do it in the car.

23)

The last time, was, ~~last~~ St Patrick's day in the house.

Before this it happened when my father and mother were at the S. & S. Since ~~that~~ on March 16, I think.

24 Already answered.

25 ~~Yes~~ Yes.

Q. When?

A. Next Thursday he is supposed to be taking us for a weekend to Dublin

26 On Palm Sunday. (March 23, 1975)

27 No. I don't think so.

VII

27 ^{ctd.} There was another lad, a friend
 of **FBS 39**, called **[REDACTED]**.
 I don't know his second name, but
 he and **FBS 39** and two girls
 were in Cork with Fr. Smith, and were
 left here by Fr. Smith on the same
 day he collected ^{us} to go to Cork.
 (**FBS 10** and myself)

28) Q. Did this happen with anybody else

A. No. Just between me and Fr. Smith.

(29)

Yes.

30

Yes.

~~SEP~~

FBS 38

FBS 50

John B. Brady

FBS 48

— Interrogator —

29 March 1975

at

[REDACTED]

I **FBS 38**, hereby
 swear that I have told
 the truth the whole truth
 and nothing but the
 truth and that I will
 talk to no one about
 this interview ~~to~~ ~~no~~ ~~one~~ ~~of~~
~~the~~ ~~FD~~ except authorized
 priests.

FBS 38

John B. Brady

29.3.1975.

Copy of Replies made by [REDACTED] FBS 38 to questions put to him
by [REDACTED] FBS 50, D.C.L., C.C., [REDACTED] in the presence
of [REDACTED] FBS 48, O.P., and Rev John B Brady, in [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] on March 29, 1975.

Q

Q.1 What is your name ?

A. [REDACTED] FBS 38

Q.2. Address ?

A. [REDACTED]

3 Q. Date of Birth?

A. [REDACTED]

Q.4 Father's Name ?

A. [REDACTED], who works in [REDACTED]

Q. 5. Mother's maiden Name ?

A. [REDACTED] from [REDACTED]

Q.6 a) What school are you attending ?

A. [REDACTED] Second year Secondary.

Q6. b) How are you getting on at school ?

A. Great. Second year got a bit bad.

Q. 7 Do you take part in any games ?

A. Yes, football, Gaelic and Soccer. I played for [REDACTED] last year
(1973-74) . I don't know whether I will play this year -
whether I will have time, or I have a part-time job [REDACTED]

Q 8 Are you a member of [REDACTED] attached
to [REDACTED]?

A. Yes. I am. That is right.

Q.9 Do you know any priest associated with school ?

A. I know you. None others.

Q. 10 Do you know any priest associated with the Boys' Club?

A. [REDACTED] FBS 48.

Q II Do you feel free to talk to priests ?

A. Yes. I do.

Q. 12a) Do you know Fr. Smith?

A. Yes.

yes.

Replies of FBS 38

2

Q. I2 b) How did you get to know him ? Would you know him by his first name ?

A. I was serving a while back up in [REDACTED], and I was serving the Mass. He was attending a wedding. : about eighteen months ago. He asked me where he could get a cup of tea and I brought him to our house.

Q. I3 Is his first name Brendan ?

A Fr. Brendan Smith. He told me his name.

Q. I4 Do you know him well ?

A. Well enough . Yes.

Q. I5 When did you first meet him ?

A . (Q. does not now arise . Already answered).

Q. I6. You would regard yourself as friendly with Fr. Smith ?

A. I was friendly with him . Not now .

Q. I7 You told FBS 48 of the [REDACTED] that Fr. Smith had been doing things with you which worried you.

Could you tell us simply what these things were ?

A. I went on holiday with him to Cork. There was another fellow with him and two girls. FBS 10 from Belfast. He just told me I was going on holidays. The girls' names are

[REDACTED] from Belfast and [REDACTED] from Cavan. The boy's name - FBS 10 , [REDACTED] Belfast. [REDACTED]

Supp. Q. Did he get your parents' permission ?

A He asked my parents first and I went on holidays with him. We went to Cork city - Killarney House. He took his own car.

At night he used to take one fellow into bed ~~with him~~ with him .

He took me into bed. Before this he used to come to my home every three weeks and ask me upstairs. He would ^{make} some excuse ^{98P.} about reading books and then he would ask me to 'wank' him.

(Interviewer distinguishes two eras and questions).

At Home .

Q. What about at home ?

A. He would ask me upstairs and ask me to pull down his

g.B.B.

Replies of FBS 38

3

A. ctd) zip and he did the same to me. He would get me to pull his penis.

Q. Did you like this ?

A. No.

Q. Did he pull your penis ?

A. Yes.

Q. Did he do anything else besides, that you would not like ?

A. His seed would come all over me in my hand.

Q. What happened your body ?

A. Nothing.

Q. Would that be the end ?

A. No. He would start kissing me.

Q. Would he attempt to start all over again ?

A. No. He did it once and that would be the end for that time.

Q. That was about a year and a half ago ?

A. Yes. About that.

Q. Would you know the meaning of the word erection ?

A. No.

Q. Would you notice your penis becoming stiff ?

A. ~~Yes~~ Yes. Sometimes.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Q. That happened to you ?

A. Yes, sometimes.

Q. How often would these actions have happened together in your home ?

A. Every time he came, it happened. He came about every three weeks. He usually came on Sundays.

Q. Would your father and mother be in the house ?

A. They would be downstairs. My father, mother, and my sisters.

Q. On Holidays, what happened then ?

He would take me to bed with him.

Q. What would he do in bed ?

A. The same as he would at home. He would get my hands to touch his body and he would touch my body with his hands.

gbr

Replies of FBS 38

5

after
A. Not until I talked to FBS 48

Q. 21 Did you tell anyone else? If so, what is his/her address?

A. No I never told anybody, only the young chap, FBS 10

Q. 22 Did the other person or any other person to your knowledge do the same things with Fr. Smith? Did they ever say they did?

A. FBS 39 from

Q. How did you know?

A. He took FBS 39 and myself to in Dublin.

He did the same thing with FBS 39 in the bed that night and with me.

Q. How did you know?

A. I was awake, all in the one room.

Q. Can you remember the place?

A. No.

Q. 22 b) Did these worrying things happen in any other place besides your home and boarding houses?

A. Yes, in the car. He would say he was going to the shop.

He ^{would} pull up and do it in the car.

Q. 23 Can you give us any exact time and place at which any of these worrying things happened? In your home? When your parents were out? When they were in?

A. The last time was St. Patrick's Day in the house. Before this it happened when my father and mother were at the S. and S. dance on March 16, I think.

Q. 24. Did you ever go on holidays with Fr. Smith. In the company of other boys and girls? Was there a group of you? Can you give us the names of those who went with you?

A. (already answered)

Q. 25 Have you planned to meet Fr. Smith again? If so, when?

A. Yes.

Q. When? A. Next Thursday he is supposed to be taking us for a weekend to Dublin.

Q. 26 When did you talk to FBS 48 first?

~~A. On 18th~~

gbb.

Replies of **FBS 38**

6

A. On Palm Sunday. (i.e. 23 March 1975)

Q. 27 Is there anything else you would like to tell us ?

A. No . I dont think so. There was another lad, a friend of **FBS 39**
 called I dont know his second name, but he and
FBS 39 and two girls were in Cork with Fr. Smith, and were
 left home by Fr. Smith on the same day he collected us to go to
 Cork. (i.e. **FBS 10** and myself)

~~Q. 28 Did this happen between you and any other person - another~~
~~boy and yourself for instance ?~~ *yes*
~~A. No. Just between me and Fr. Smith.~~
~~Q. 29 Has this led to any actions with yourself ?~~
~~A. Yes.~~
~~Q. 30 Would seed come from your body as a result ?~~
~~A. Yes.~~

Questions put by me: Signed **FBS 50****FBS 38** Witness

John B. Brady, Notary

FBS 48 Witness.29 March 1975 at

The replies were then confirmed by oath as follows:

I **FBS 38** , hereby swear that I have told the truth the
 whole truth and nothing but the truth and that I will talk to no one
 about this interview except authorized priests.

Signed **FBS 38**

John B. Brady.

29.3. 1975.

*bon cordat cum orig.
 John B. Brady*

Sub Secreto - Confidential

2

On 25 March 1975 ~~g received~~
 allegation of serious misconduct
 was made against Fr. Brendan Smith, O. Praem
 as a result of these allegations
 On 29 March 1975 FBS 38, aged
 14, of [redacted] was interviewed

in the presence of three priests.
 He stated that he met Fr. Brendan
 Smith at a wedding in the

[redacted] When Fr. Smith
 asked where he could get a cup
 of tea, [redacted] FBS 38, brought
 him to his home. They became [redacted] FBS 38
 and Fr. Smith began to visit [redacted] FBS 38
 about [redacted] house. There Fr. Smith would make
 some excuse and read and
 invite FBS 38 upstairs. He would
 then ask FBS 38 to pull down his
 zip while he did the same to FBS 38
 He would then get FBS 38 to pull
 his penis while he did likewise
 to FBS 38. He would then start kissing
 the boy.

This happened in [redacted] FBS 38 home
 [redacted] FBS 38 and he [redacted]
 came every 3 weeks, usually on Sundays

Fr. Smith invited FBS 38 on
 holidays with him where he [redacted] look
 the boy to bed with him and
 did the same actions as he had done
 in the FBS 38 home.

FBS 38 states that Fr. Smith
 also did this to another boy,

FBS 10, of [redacted]

This happened when J.R. Smith went
on holidays to Cork with FBS 38,

FBS 10,

and [redacted], for leave.

He also mentions a FBS 39

from [redacted] when J.R. Smith
took with FBS 38 to Dublin

He states that J.R. Smith

took FBS 39 to bed that night,

and also FBS 38 himself.

FBS 38

also states that there

FBS 39

was another boy, named [redacted], a woman

and two girls, who accompanied

J.R. Smith to Cork, just before

J.R. Smith brought himself & the three
others to Cork.

He said that these actions between
himself and J.R. Smith have also taken
place in J.R. Smith's car.

The last time these things
happened was St. Patrick's Day in the

FBS 38

home. He had planned to

meet J.R. Smith on Easter Thursday

when they were supposed to be
going for a weekend to Dublin.

This statement was then confirmed

on oath by

FBS 38

and his father,

confirmed that J.R. Smith often
visited there home.

Interview with [REDACTED] FBS 39
at [REDACTED] on 4 April 1975.


3

- 1 Name
- 2 Address
- 3 Date of Birth
- 4 Father's Name
- 5 Mother's Name
- 6 School
- 7 How are you getting on at school
- 8 Do you know any priests associated with school
- 9 Do you know any other priests
- 10 Can you tell us their names
- 11 Do you know Fr Brendan Smith of Kilmacrot
- 12 Do you know him well
- 13 Can you tell us when you met him first
- 14 You told [REDACTED] that Fr Smith did some wrong things to you. Can you tell us simply and in your own words what these things were and
- Can
- 15 Can you remember where this first took place
- 16 When.
- 17 Did this take place any where else

6

9 **FBS 39** hereby swear
 that I have told the truth, the
 whole truth, and nothing but
 the truth and that I will not
 discuss this interview with anybody
 except priests who have permission
 to discuss it. So help me God
 and these holy gospels which
 I touch.

FBS 39

 , 
 4 April 1975
 John B. Brady

Interview with **FBS 39** in **[REDACTED]** on
April 4 1975.

Q 1 What is your name ?

A. **FBS 39**

Q.2 Your address ?

Q. 3 What is your date of birth ?

A. **[REDACTED]**

Q. 4 What is your father's name ?

A. **[REDACTED]**

Q. 5 Your mother's name ?

A. **[REDACTED]**

Q. 6 What school do you attend ?

A. **[REDACTED]**

Q. 7 How are you getting on at school ?

A. Not so bad. I am doing the Inter this year.

Q. 8 Do you know any priests associated with the school ?

A. **[REDACTED]**. I don't see any other priests around it.

Q.9 Do you know any other priests ?

A. Fr. Smith of Kilnacrott Abbey.

S. Q. What is his first name ?

A. Fr. Brendan Gabriel Smith.

Q 10 Can you tell us their names ? A. not put.

Q. 11 Do you know Fr. Brendan Smith of Kilnacrott ? A. not put.

Q. 12 Do you know him well ?

A. Yes.

Q.13. Can you tell us when you met him first?

A. I think it was in second year. It was **[REDACTED]** and **[REDACTED]**

[REDACTED] that came up for me to go to the pictures in **[REDACTED]** with
Fr. Smith. I kind of knew him before that.

~~Q. 14 Can you tell us when you met him first?~~
~~A. I think it was in second year. It was [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]~~
~~[REDACTED] that came up for me to go to the pictures in [REDACTED] with~~
~~Fr. Smith. I kind of knew him before that.~~

~~Q. 15 Can you tell us when you met him first?~~

A.

gbb

7

INTERVIEW WITH [REDACTED] FBS 39

2

S.Q. Have you met him often since then?

A. Fairly often. About once a month.

S.Q. Where did you normally meet him ?

A. Going to [REDACTED] to the pictures. He might send word before that to come.

Q 14 You told [REDACTED] that Mr. Smith did some worrying things to you. Can you tell us simply and in your own words what these things were ?

A. Sometimes he would leave me home last and then he would be putting his hand onto my private parts.

S.Q. Did he ask you to do anything to him?

A. Yes.

S.Q. What ?

A. He would put my hand to his private parts.

S.Q. What would he ask you to do ?

A. He would get me to rub his private parts.

S. Q. Would he rub your penis?

A. Yes.

S.Q. Did you like this ?

A. No.

S.Q. What else would happen ?

A. He would leave me home.

S. Q. Did he do anything else to you ?

A. No.

Q.15. Can you remember where this first took place ?

A. After the pictures in [REDACTED] in his car.

16 Q When ?

A. About a year ago.

Q.177 Did this take place any ~~where else~~ ^{else} elsewhere?

A No.

Q 18 Did you like this to happen to you ?

A. No.

Q 19 About how often has this taken place ?

F m n

gbb.

Interview with [REDACTED] FBS 39

3

A. 19 Three or Four times

Q 20 Did you ever tell anyone about this ?

A. No [REDACTED] FBS 38 used to talk about this.

Q21 Do you know anybody else who did these things with Fr. Smith?

A [REDACTED] FBS 38

S.Q. How do you know?

R. He said he did not like driving with him alone . He said that Fr. Smith used always be at him, at his private parts.

S.Q. What was your reaction ?

A I said that he did the same with me .

Q.22 Have you ever gone on holidays with Fr. Smith ?

A. Yes to Cork.

S.Q. Who else was with you ?

A [REDACTED] FBS 38, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

S.Q. Do you know where [REDACTED] is from?

R. From [REDACTED].

S.Q. Did any of these worrying things happen on the holiday ?

R. He brought [REDACTED] FBS 38 with him to bed. I pretended to be asleep.

S.Q. Where is [REDACTED] from ?

A. [REDACTED]

S. Q. Did you ever go to Dublin with Fr. Smith ?

R. We spent the last day of the holiday in Dublin. We went once to see Jack and the Beanstock with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] long before the holiday.

Q.28. Did these things have any influence on your life ?

A. Not much.

Q. 29 Has this led to other similar actions with yourself . Q.not put.

Q. 30 Is there anything else you would like to tell us ?

A. We went that day from Dublin to [REDACTED] and from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] and back to [REDACTED].

Q 30 b) Is there anybody else who could give some information?

This statement was then confirmed on oath by [REDACTED] FBS 38

His father also confirmed that Fr. Smith, often visited their home.

[REDACTED] FBS 39 [REDACTED] has also been interviewed and he states that Fr. Smith engaged in similar activity with him on a number of occasions. He confirmed this statement on oath.

1455

February 11, 1991.

Appendix ②

CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Lord Abbot,

I have received further complaints about Father Brendan Smyth. I am afraid it looks as though he is using the excuse of his visits to Belfast for therapy to continue the practices about which we spoke some years ago. It is not for me to say what action should be taken; but I hope that you will forgive me for saying that experience seems to show that therapy is not being effective and that more drastic steps seem imperative if further harm is not to be done and if the risk of very grave scandal – and indeed, almost certainly, of court proceedings – is to be averted.

I am sorry for raising the matter with you again, but I hope that you will forgive me, since the matters at stake are so grave and might easily become public.

I hope that you are very well and I pray that you and your Community may be filled with every grace and blessing from God throughout 1991. I ask for the favour of a remembrance in your prayers.

Yours very sincerely,

Archbishop of Armagh

Rt. Rev. Kevin A. Smith, O.Praem.,
Abbot,
Abbey of The Most Holy Trinity & St. Norbert,
Kilnacrott Abbey,
BALLYJAMESDUFF,
Co. Cavan.



NORBERTINE CANONS.
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Holy Trinity Abbey

Kilnacrott, Ballyjamesduff,

Co. Cavan.

Tel: (049) 44416.

21st February 1991.

Most Rev. Cathal B. Daly,
 Archbishop of Armagh,
 Ara Chacoli,
 Armagh BT61 7QY,
 N. I.

My Dear Archbishop,

I am in receipt of your good letter of 11th inst.

I have spoken to the man in question and he assures me that there has been no incident of that nature for a couple of years now. He only goes to Belfast to visit his doctor [redacted] at [redacted]

[redacted] and the Royal Hospital. Otherwise he only visits his own family. For his therapy he goes twice monthly to St. James Hospital, Dublin and he assures me that it is helping him. I have made him aware of the contents of your letter and also asked him to be prudent in the matter.

With every good and kind wish.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,

(Rt. Rev.) Kevin A. Smith O.Praem
 LORD ABBOT.