

PRIVATE

HIA REF: SPT 52

Witness Name: SPT 52

 THE INQUIRY INTO HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE 1922 TO 1995

 WITNESS STATEMENT OF SPT 52

I, SPT 52, will say as follows:-

1. I was employed as a _____ at St Patrick's Training school in _____ and worked there in various roles until my _____ in _____. I was promoted to the position of _____ during the 1980s and was then appointed as _____ in the early 1990s. This was the position I held until my retirement.

2. I am now aware that allegations have been made against me by ^{HIA 384} HIA 384 who was previously known as HIA 384. I am aware of whc ^{HIA 384} HIA 384 is and recollect him fairly well. I considered him to be quite vulnerable and was always seeking attention. I am aware that ^{HIA 384} HIA 384 was the subject of proceedings in _____ on two occasions after he absconded from the Training School. I do recollect that I had to attend a number of hearings in relation to his cases. I believe that I had contacted the Northern Ireland Office in relation to these cases. I also believe that on one occasion I had to ask members of staff to go to _____ to collect him on an occasion when he absconded.

3. It has been alleged that ^{HIA 384} HIA 384 approached me and made a complaint about abuse/bullying which he was supposed to be suffering in the Training School. I can categorically state that any complaint he made to me was dealt with in accordance with the protocols in place. I would always make the other staff

PRIVATE

aware of it so that we as a staff could keep a watchful on the situation. I completely refute the allegation that I was not concerned or that I could do nothing about it. I have no knowledge of a conversation with him in which he said he would contact police if he was not moved.

4. I have also been advised that HIA 384 has made an allegation that I was in a meeting in which he was bullied by senior staff and forced to retract a statement he had made to police about sexual abuse he suffered at the hands of another boy. I attended meetings on a regular basis with senior staff to discuss and formulate policy but at no stage did I speak to HIA 384 about any statement he had made to police. The allegation against me is untrue and without any foundation. The meeting in which he alleges I harangued him did not take place.
5. I did attend the police station with him when he wished to make his initial statement to police about alleged sexual abuse. I did give to police various statements and documents which were obtained from the boys involved when HIA 384 made his initial allegations to staff at the School. It is correct that no solicitor attended at the station when HIA 384 was making a statement but it is simply incorrect to say that he was not allowed access to a solicitor. He did not ask for one at any stage to my knowledge. I also recollect that I personally signed a number of police statements during the time they investigated the allegations. These were essentially statements confirming I handed various items to police and also giving consent for HIA 384 to be medically examined.

Statement of Truth

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

Signed_ **SPT 52**

Dated 23/9/15

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION
AND TRAINING IN SOCIAL WORK

THE CERTIFICATE
IN THE
RESIDENTIAL CARE OF
CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE

IS HEREBY AWARDED TO

SPT 52

who has completed a full time course of training at

Polytechnic of North London

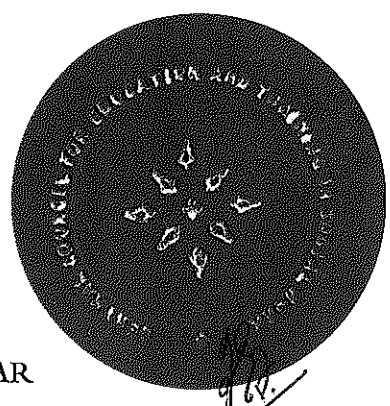
from 25.1.1971 to 10.12.1971

and has satisfied the Council's Assessor

Derman. G. Christopherson.
CHAIRMAN

J.E. Gray.
REGISTRAR

No. 71/11
Date 11th December, 1971



RESPONSIBILITIES**SOCIAL
WORKERS**

All child protection duties (1968 Act)

Investigation of case - child in need of care,
protection or control

Bring matter to Juvenile Court

Provision of services to maintain and
enhance family's own coping capacity

Providing immediate protection

Child - Primary concern but worker has
responsibility to other family members,
including abuser.

****PRIMARY ROLE******HEALTH
SERVICES**

1972 Order 4a and 8

Nursing expectant mothers and young children

Nurses: ante-natal, maternity, encouraging
mothers to take responsible attitude to care of
children.

Health Surveillance:

Baby clinics, monitoring child physical
development.

Medical and Nursing staff in hospitals,
especially Emergency Departments

**CONSULTANT
PAEDIATRICIAN**

Co-ordinating role in diagnosis, identification of child's
medical need.

Forensic evidence

Sexually abused children - skills in examination so that
examination may form part of healing process and does
not compound abuse

Attend case conferences and Court

PSYCHIATRIST

Assessment of child's psychiatric status

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I also want to state that I'm very worried that I may be put under severe pressure by other boys when **SPT 61** and **SPT 62** are to be interviewed and the witness I'm asking you to try and to protect me as much as you can. I am scared stiff about these incidents which have taken place. I need reassured that I will be protected as much as possible.

HIA 384

17.4.95.

My comment ^{about} **SPT 87** I would like to withdraw because it was not the truth and I know I would not like it to happen to me. I know I have slandered **SPT 87**'s name and good character. I state that I made a false accusation **SPT 87** against.

HIA 384

HIA 384

The accusation was kicking myself and kicking other boys.

HIA 384

17th April, 1995.

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progress had been stifled by HIA 384 continually making serious allegations and the bitterness which seems to fill him about the past. Whilst HIA 384 was understandably confused it was vital that he trusted the staff working with him. SPT 87 pointed out that the residential staff in St Patrick's also felt it difficult to trust HIA 384 due to the seriousness of some of the claims which he had made. Mr Bailey asked HIA 384 if he felt that people understood how he felt. HIA 384 replied 'no' - he felt confused and had mixed feelings about his situation.

Mr Duggan said that this meeting was to help clarify the situation and pointed out that HIA 384 was adding to the confusion by giving different messages to Mr Lenaghan and Mr McCune and the staff in St Patrick's. He explained that this only served to damage any progress made. Mr Small agreed and stated that HIA 384 had openly admitted to him that he had been telling Mr Lenaghan what he thought Mr Lenaghan wanted to hear. Mr Lenaghan took this further by explaining to HIA 384 that he had to operate to what HIA 384 was telling him. HIA 384 said that he understood the point being made and Mr Lenaghan asked him if he was still saying that he was liable to offend. HIA 384 replied that he still felt the urge to offend. Mr McCune asked HIA 384 if he understood how trust was important. He replied that this was now clear to him. SPT 87 asked HIA 384 how he felt things should progress and HIA 384 said that he wanted to "do the work". Mr Lenaghan then put it to HIA 384 that there were certain things which quite simply could not be put right, for example, HIA 384's relationship with his [REDACTED] etc involved other factors which were outside HIA 384's control - for example, they may not want any contact. Mr Lenaghan went on to tell HIA 384 that there were other things which HIA 384 could put right - by addressing the issues which he himself had control over and that should be the first step. Mr Duggan told HIA 384 that his obvious feelings of intense bitterness served only to harm HIA 384 and that he should try to overcome them. He also put it to HIA 384 that he had recently received another letter from HIA 384 which HIA 384 was going to send to his mother - Mr Duggan pointed out that HIA 384 had sent a very similar letter over a year ago to no response. Mr Duggan felt that HIA 384 had to face up to his feelings of rejection caused by the lack of response. Mr Bailey felt that HIA 384 needed help to address the "here and now" as well. Mr Lenaghan stated that the most pressing need was to work with someone to gain control of the feelings that caused HIA 384 to abscond - if he is not here then no work can take place. Mr Small agreed but felt that within such a relationship HIA 384 only goes so far and does not put enough trust into the relationship. Mr Small said that during the Court case recently in Dublin, HIA 384 stated that he felt that he needed daily contact with an expert/psychologist. Yet, Mr Lenaghan pointed out, when he does leave such contact HIA 384 will state things which are not there. HIA 384 agreed that this was the case but stated his willingness to try again. Mr Duggan said to HIA 384 that he needed to work at the "here and now" issues and also difficulties with past feelings retained about his family. Mr Lenaghan however stated that it had to be acknowledged that it was very difficult for HIA 384 to trust as that trust has been abused so many times in the past, he understood how painful this would be for HIA 384. HIA 384 stated that he wanted to try again and gave his agreement and commitment to the Care Programme which was to be agreed later today.

The group then decided that further discussion should take place within the larger group. HIA 384 was asked if he understood all that had been said and he replied that he had. He said he had no further questions and was told that staff would discuss the outcome of today's meeting with him later. HIA 384 left the meeting.

At this point SPT 52 and Mr Gallagher joined the meeting. The main points of the preliminary meeting were relayed to them and the discussion moved on,

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chaired by **SPT 52**. He began by stating the need to focus on a treatment programme for **HIA 384**. Mr Duggan made the group aware that he had made a referral to the Young People's Centre as previously agreed and was awaiting a reply. **SPT 52** then stressed the importance of offering **HIA 384** as much professional assistance as possible as he was a boy who needed a lot of support. Mr McCune agreed, although he felt that the Child and Family Clinic were not in a position to provide this input. It was agreed that Mr Bailey, being closer at hand and based in Slemish, would be in a much better position to offer the psychological support required. Mr McCune stated that if **HIA 384** had co-operated more fully the Clinic may have been able to provide more for him. It seemed that **HIA 384** could not face up to the truth. Mr Duggan agreed, he felt that **HIA 384** had progressed little over the past year or more due to being unable to get over what had happened to him earlier in his life and his anger and bitterness was simply consuming him. Mr Bailey wondered whether it was a strategy of **HIA 384**'s to highlight to those around that he was a danger - all agreed that this was an attention-seeking device but one which should not be ignored. Mr McCune stated that he had learned this tactic over many, many years. Mr Duggan agreed, pointing out the attraction for **HIA 384** in observing the attention which he received following some of his allegations. Indeed Mr Duggan went on to state that he felt there would be more of a danger of further offences due to an attention-seeking escapade rather than **HIA 384**'s sexual urges. Mr Lenaghan pointed out that **HIA 384** had stated that his sexual urges had diminished whilst on the Prozac and that **HIA 384** would have been unaware that Prozac reduced sexual urges. But Mr Bailey stated that the incidents with the pencil cases had occurred during this time. Mr McCune felt that it was interesting that **HIA 384** had gone back to pencil cases which had originally started a long time ago.

SPT 52 felt that it was a terrible pity that **HIA 384** had so little going for him, he had very few contacts and obviously felt isolated. Mr Small stated that **HIA 384** bears some of the responsibility for this situation. He will take any relationship with a family members only so far and then he rakes up the past again and inevitably makes an allegation against the person, seemingly out of some sense of revenge. **SPT 52** felt that we needed to move the situation on and review the treatment programme to ensure that we are offering everything that could be available. He then stated to the group that further allegations of sexual misconduct had been made against **HIA 384** by other residents which are presently being investigated by the Police. **SPT 52** voiced his concern that it was possible that **HIA 384** would be moved on if he is found guilty of such offences. This may not be in **HIA 384**'s best interests as he felt that **HIA 384** would find it difficult to survive within a "Justice" environment. Mr Duggan wondered how we could move the case on. There was little that could be done that was not already being done and in any case he felt that St Patrick's was not the place to deal with a case like **HIA 384**'s. **SPT 87** stated that the risks which **HIA 384** posed were increasing, (as already proved by recent events), as he constantly searched for ways to "up the ante".

Mr Bailey then attempted to outline the situation and suggest roles. He pointed out that **HIA 384** had another eight months of his Training School Order left. He asked whether the Child and Family Clinic would remain involved in terms of treatment. Mr Lenaghan, however, felt that in the time remaining, work would have to move quickly, indeed **HIA 384** probably did require weekly contact with a psychologist. Mr Bailey said he could offer a session per week with consultative backup for staff. He wondered whether there would be any value in interlinking with the Child and Family Clinic given their knowledge of the case. Mr Lenaghan felt that this would provide too much of an opportunity to "divide and conquer". It was therefore agreed that the Family and Child Clinic would back Mr Bailey's work by liaising with him in terms of working out a programme. Mr Lenaghan was pessimistic, he felt that the pattern which

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Saturday 15th April 1995.

SPT 52

Dear

'I would like to state a fact to you. Aprox 2 weeks ago I reported to **SPT 65**. I felt that there was some sexual activity going on between **SPT 62** and **SPT 61**. I said to him I seen some things going on and I was very ~~anxious~~ about what was going on. I give **SPT 65** severely opporunties when these things where taking place. I am not aware if **SPT 65** went to Board of Mangement. I feel I have to say something to the Board of Mangement. I got a responce from **SPT 65** as if I was assuming this happened and that I was over exaggeration. I am aware that **SPT 65** had to decide to talk or not to talk to these boys are not

HIA 384

I say that this took place at around ~~10:45~~ 10:45am and also at 1-2pm. There where an number of incidents which took place.

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15-4-95

I am going to be more specific I seen
SPT 62 ~~and~~ SPT 61 handling SPT 62's
privates I also seen his hands in
SPT 62's ~~privates~~ trousers. I know this
is very serious.

HIA 384

also do with
this is ~~attached~~ to the letter.