1		1	out of this, but I don't think we need to detain you
2		2	further thank you this morning.
3		3	MR McATEER: I am obliged.
4		4	(Mr McAteer withdrew)
5		5	CHAIRMAN: I should just say before we go any further I am
6	HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY	6	minded at present to have this witness' statement read
7		7	at an appropriate time during the course of the
8		8	proceedings, but if there's anything you wish to say
9		9	about that, ladies and gentlemen, those representing
10	being heard before:	10	individual parties, you are free to do so at some
11	Ç	11	appropriate stage, but I think, since we have another
12	SIR ANTHONY HART (Chairman)	12	witness here, we will proceed to deal with that witness
13	MR DAVID LANE	13	and we can come back
14	MS GERALDINE DOHERTY	14	MR MONTAGUE: Yes. Thank you, Chairman. I would like
15		15	CHAIRMAN: to this one in due course.
16	held at	16	MR MONTAGUE: I beg your pardon. I would like to reserve my
17	Banbridge Court House	17	position in respect of the witness who hasn't turned up
18	Banbridge	18	this morning. Obviously it will depend on what
19		19	explanation has been put forward, if we are to be privy
20	on Monday, 10th February 2014	20	to that in the chamber.
21	commencing at 10.30 am	21	CHAIRMAN: Well, there will be occasions when for all sorts
22	(Day 7)	22	of reasons witnesses will not be able to attend, and
23	( <del>- 1</del> ) //	23	I see no reason in principle why a witness statement
24	MS CHRISTINE SMITH, QC and MR JOSEPH AIKEN appeared as		can't be read to the Inquiry. The weight to be attached
25	Counsel to the Inquiry.	25	to it, however, of course, will depend very much on
	Page 1		Page 3
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>
1	Monday, 10th February 2014	1	a number of factors, one of which is the reason why they
2	(10.30 am)	2	are not here, whether their the evidence that they
3	Discussion re absence of witness	3	give in their statement can be appropriately addressed
4	CHAIRMAN: Good morning.	4	by any of the parties.
5	MS SMITH: Chairman, Panel Members, ladies and gentlemen,	5	MR MONTAGUE: I accept those points, that they follow, which
6	first of all, there is a change in the schedule of	6	is why I wish to reserve my position.
7	witnesses who are to give evidence to the Inquiry. The	7	CHAIRMAN: Sadly there are so far as I'm aware at least two
8	first witness, who I believe was HIA90, is unavailable	8	witnesses who have died since their statements were made
9	to give evidence for reasons which we understand, and so	9	to the Inquiry and there are a number of witnesses who
10	the first witness that we will be calling this morning	10	for health reasons I have already indicated that I will
11	is HIA367.	11	accept their statements, but the weight to be attached
12	CHAIRMAN: I think it is more accurate to say reasons that	12	to a statement is a different matter.
13	have been notified to us; to say understand might	13	MR MONTAGUE: Yes. Those are compelling reasons, if I may
14	suggest we accept them as valid.	14	say so, why a statement could be read and, of course, it
15	MS SMITH: I apologise, Chairman. That certainly wasn't	15	would then be a matter for the Inquiry as to what weight
16	intentionally what I intended to convey, but we have	16	would be attached to it, which is why at the outset
17	been notified of her reasons for non-attendance.	17	I said, Mr Chairman, it obviously will depend on what is
18	CHAIRMAN: She lives outside the jurisdiction.	18	the reason proffered for a witness not giving evidence,
19	MS SMITH: She does.	19	but I've nothing further to say at this point.
20	CHAIRMAN: Mr McAteer, I understand this witness and as	20	CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Well, we'll come back to
21	you will appreciate we don't use the names of people	21	this at some appropriate point, possibly later today.
22	concerned I understand she is not here. Is that your	22	MS SMITH: Then if witness HIA367 could come in, please.
23	understanding?	23	WITNESS HIA367 (called)
	MR McATEER: That is my understanding, Mr Chairman.	24	MS SMITH: Good morning, HIA367. Now the Chairman is going
24	WIK WICKTEEK. That is my understanding, wir Chairman.		
24 25	CHAIRMAN: Yes. There may or may not be matters that arise Page 2	25	to ask you whether you wish to take the oath or affirm.  Page 4

# 1 A. Okay.

- 2 CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to take the oath or to make
- an affirmation? The two have the same legal effect. It
- 4 is very much a matter for your own choice.
- 5 A. Take the oath.
- 6 CHAIRMAN: Very well.
- 7 WITNESS HIA367 (sworn)
- 8 CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.
- 9 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
- 10 MS SMITH: Now, HIA367, first of all, thank you for coming
- 11 to speak to the Inquiry, and we understand that giving
- evidence can be difficult. So if you do need a break at
- any stage, please just let us know and you can have
- 14 a break.
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 Q. Okay? Could you also speak into the microphone as
- 17 everyone in the --
- 18 A. Okay. Sorry.
- 19 Q. There is nothing to apologise for. Just take your time
- and speak into the microphone. Okay?
- Now you are now aged 58. Is that correct?
- 22 A. That's correct, yes.
- 23 Q. And you were first of all placed in Fahan Ladies Home in
- 24 County Donegal before you were moved to Nazareth House
- 25 -

# Page 5

- 1 **A. Yes.**
- 2 Q. -- in Bishop Street in Derry?
- 3 **A. Yes.**
- 4 Q. And you were in Bishop Street from 1957 to 1969. Is
- 5 that so?
- 6 A. About that, yes.
- 7 Q. So if we could just look at document SND-4198, please --
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. -- now you will see that this is detail of your name,
- where you were born, your date of birth --
- 11 A. That's right.
- 12 Q. -- where you were baptised, your mother's name and the
- 13 fact that you were received into Bishop Street from
- 14 Fahan nursery on
- 195

- 15 **A. Yes.**
- 16 Q. And if we could just go on to the next page, please,
- there's more details on this. These are documents that
- 18 you, in fact, yourself received --
- 19 A. That's right, yes.
- 20 Q. -- from the Sisters of Nazareth. Isn't that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. We will see this one again is giving further details.
- If we could just scroll down that page, please. You
- will see that the date of discharge is not actually
- recorded on that, but we know that you left in 1969.

# Page 6

- A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. Now can you please take a look at another document,
- which is SND-4185? Now this, HIA367, is the witness
- 4 statement that you provided for the Inquiry. You will
- 5 see it says "The Witness Statement of HIA367", which is
- 6 the designation, the number that we have assigned to
- 7 cover your identity and to protect your identity.
- 8 A. Yes, that's right.
- 9 Q. If you could just look at the last page of that
- document, which is SND-4194.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 O. Go back, 4194, 4194. That's it there.
- 13 A. That's fine.
- 14 Q. You will see there there's a large black rectangle with
- 15 "HIA367" and underneath that is your signature. Isn't
- 16 that correct?
- 17 A. That's correct, yes.
- 18 Q. So can the Inquiry take it that this is the statement of
- 19 evidence that you wish the Inquiry to consider?
- 20 A. Pardon?
- 21 Q. This is the statement of evidence that you provided for
- the Inquiry?
- 23 A. Yes, yes.

1

- Q. It is the evidence you want us to consider.
- Now can I ask, HIA367, what is your earliest memory
  - Page 7
  - of being in either of the two homes?
- 2 A. Nazareth House was -- all I remember is I was only small
- 3 and a man and a woman -- I presume they were my parents
- 4 -- was -- they brought me there anyway, but I can't
- 5 remember. I don't know if they did bring me, but
- 6 I never seen them again. So ...
- 7 Q. So you believe that this couple --
- 8 A. They were possibly -- well, I believe they were my
- 9 mother and father, but never mind.
- 10 Q. Can I take it from what you have said that during your
- time in Nazareth House you never had any further contact
- 12 --
- 13 **A. No.**
- 14 Q. -- with either of your parents?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. And do you -- what about siblings? Did you have any
- 17 brothers or sisters?
- 18 A. Only had one when -- I didn't know till later that I had
- one sister in the convent.
- 20 Q. Her name is SND 85. Is that correct?
- 21 **A.** SND 85 , SND , yes.
- 22 Q. If we could just look at paragraph 17 of the statement,
  - which is page SND-4188, in that you talk at paragraph 17
- about how you learned that you had a sister in a home,
- and this was at a time you were with a foster family.

Page 8

- 1 Your sister got injured and she was helped upstairs and
- 2 in her bedroom she said, "You know, I'm your big
- 3 sister".
- 4 A. That's correct, yes.
- 5 Q. So you had been in this home placement with this family
- 6 with this girl who you didn't know was your sister?
- 7 A. No. I didn't know until she told me herself.
- 8 Q. I'll come back to what contact you had with her then.
- 9 Did you have -- after this in the foster setting,
- did you have contact with her then in the home after
- 11 that
- 12 A. It was later when she left. She left when she was about
- 13 **16 I think. I think she said "Goodbye" to me and she**
- wanted me to go with her, but the head nun said no,
- 15 I~was too young, so -- but she did come back once or
- twice to visit me, but we never had a chance to talk.
- We were kind of -- the nuns just surround us and that
- was it. Couldn't talk to her.
- 19 Q. You talk about that at paragraph 26.
- 20 A. Yes. Okay.
- Q. If we can just scroll down to paragraph 26, which is
- SND-4190, at paragraph 26 you say that she came back
- three times to visit you in the home:
- "... but on each visit the three nuns stood around
- us and would not give us privacy to talk."

- 1 secondary school you kind of stick together like in the
- 2 classroom and that was it. So no, not really.
- 3 Q. Did you ever bring friends back to Nazareth House --
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. -- from outside?
- 6 A. No.

11

- 7 Q. And what about your education? Where did you go to
- 8 school, first of all?
- 9 A. I went to primary school in Nazareth House and then
- 10 I went to the secondary school. What is the name of it?
  - . What's the name of the school?
- What's the name of the school now? St. ...
- 13 Q. Perhaps if we could be shown a copy of your school
- report actually, it might help. It's page SND-4197.
- 15 I don't think actually it identifies --
- 16 **A. It's not on --**
- 17 Q. -- what school this is from.
- 18 A. It's not on there.
- 19 Q. But in any event your -- the grades that you were
- achieving at school are recorded on that document.
- 21 **A.**
- 22 Q.
- 23 A.
- 24 Q. Yes. It's at paragraph 19 you talk about going to
- 25 school there.

#### Page 11

- 1 A. That's right, yes.
- Q. "I think she may have tried to take me out with her on
- 3 each visit but was not allowed to do so."
- 4 A. That's correct, yes.
- 5 Q. Now, HIA367, you subsequently tried to find SND 85.
- 6 Isn't that right?
- 7 A. I've been finding her since I left the convent.
- 8 Q. Have you ever made contact with her?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Now I will come back to your search for her, but can
- 11 I~just ask you whenever you were in Nazareth House, were
- you ever aware of any other siblings mixing, playing
- 13 together? Did you ever remember any visits say from
- 14 brothers from Termonbacca coming to visit their sisters
- in the home?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. What about friendships? Did you form friendships when
- 18 you were in Nazareth House?
- 19 A. No. There was only a few of the girls. Yes, I had a
- 20 **few** --
- 21 Q. And what --
- 22 A. -- and they were -- pardon?
- 23 Q. Sorry. What about friendships outside; from school, for
- 24 example?
- $25\,$   $\,$  A. There wasn't that many outside school, because at

# Page 10

- 1 A. Yes. That's -- that's the school I went to, the
- 2 secondary school.
- 3 Q. Just in respect of school you seem certainly to have
- 4 been musical, if one looks at the grades that you were
- 5 achieving in music --
- 6 A. That's correct, yes.
- 7 Q. -- after the first year in particular.
- 8 A. That's correct, yes.
- 9 Q. Did you take part in any -- any musical activities in
- the home itself?
- 11 A. I was actually in the choir for a while and then they
  - took me out of it. Don't know why, but they did take me
- out of it.

12

- 14 Q. When you were in the choir, did you ever engage -- did
- 15 you ever go anywhere with the choir or --
- 16 A. We did. We used to go to different places like the
- hall, shows or whatever it is, competitions,
- competitions. That's what it was, yes, but I didn't --
- 19 I didn't stay long in the choir anyway. So ... I was
- 20 taken out.
- 21 Q. But would it be fair to say, though, that music did play
- a large part of life in the home?
- 23 A. It would have been -- it would have been if I had stayed
- 24 with it
- 25 Q. Now if I can just bring you back to -- what about

- 1 clothing that you were provided? Is there anything you
- wish to tell the Inquiry about that or -- was it
- 3 adequate?
- 4 A. I suppose -- I suppose in the winter you wear a jumper,
- 5 a skirt or something. No, not really.
- 6 Q. You have certainly no complaints to make about the
- 7 clothing that --
- 8 A. Well, I had no choice. I had to wear them, you know, so
- 9 ..
- 10 Q. You had no choice. What about food in the home? You
- 11 talk about this in paragraph 11 on page SND-4187. You
- 12 say that:
- 13 "The food was all right."
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. "Breakfast was either lumpy porridge or cornflakes.
- 16 Lunch was usually potatoes and things like that."
- 17 A. That's it, yes.
- 18 Q. "For our evening meal we just got bread and tea."
- 19 A. That's it, yes.
- 20 Q. "At mealtimes" --
- 21 A. That was the supper.
- 22 Q. That was supper?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Was lunch eaten in the home or was this in school?
- 25 A. This was in the convent, the dining room. It was in the Page 13

- 1 washed in the bath, and she would be shouting at you to
- 2 get out. You got your hair washed on Saturday
- 3 afternoons by either the nuns or older girls in two tin
- 4 baths outside in the yard."
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. "Again the water was never changed."
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. You say you got your hair combed for nits.
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. When you were older, you washed the younger girls' hair.
- 11 A. That's correct, yes.
- 12 Q. Now you don't say anything about bedwetting. You
- yourself were not a bed wetter. Is that correct?
- 14 A. Not that I know of anyway.
- 15 Q. And you have no recollection of --
- 16 A. No, no.
- 17 Q. -- what took place if anyone did wet the bed?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. At paragraph 6 of the same page you talk about the
- sleeping arrangements in the home and you talk about
- 21 sleeping in big dormitories where there was no privacy.
- 22 A. That's correct.
- 23 Q. And that the nuns had a room off the dormitory.
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And they would walk up and down and check that you were Page 15

#### 1 dining room.

- 2 Q. So did you go back -- did you go back from primary
- 3 school to have your lunch in the convent?
- 4 A. Primary school? Primary school was actually in the
- 5 convent.
- 6 Q. Right.
- 7 A. So ... But the secondary school would have been --
- 8 a canteen in the secondary school, we would have got our
- 9 **food there.**
- 10 Q. Okay, and you go on to describe about what would happen
- if you put your elbows on the table.
- 12 A. That's right, yes.
- 13 Q. And you say that one of the nuns who was supervising the
- meal -- and you name both of the nuns there in that
- 15 paragraph -- she would have hit you with a thin red
- stick to get your elbows off the table. Is that
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. That's correct, yes.
- 19 Q. Now if we could look at paragraph 8, you talk about what
- bath time was like in the home, and you say that:
- 21 "It was every Saturday. We were not given any
- $\,$  22  $\,$   $\,$  privacy. There were over 100 girls for two baths and
- they never changed the water." A nun whom you name
- "supervised bath times. We had to queue up wearing our
- 25 nightdresses along the corridor and then quickly get
  - Page 14

- 1 asleep.
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. You say you had to sleep with your arms crossed, and if
- 4 your arms weren't crossed, a particular nun would waken
- 5 you up and tell you to cross them.
- 6 A. That's correct, yes.
- 7 Q. And there was never any explanation given for why you
- 8 were to sleep in this way.
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. And you say that your arms were always sore, because of
- 11 this.
- 12 A. That's correct, yes.
- 13 Q. Can you explain what you mean by --
- 14 A. Across here was sore between the creases. The bones
- were sore. I'm in pain -- I was in pain.
- 16 Q. Sorry?
- 17 A. I was in pain.
- 18 Q. And you say that if you snored, you were also wakened
- and told to get up and blow your nose?
- 20 A. That's correct, yes.
- 21 Q. Is there anything you want to tell us about illness or
- 22 medical treatment or seeing the dentist? You talk about
  - this in paragraphs 13 and 14.
- 24 A. That's right, yes. That's correct. There used to be
- a couple of girls called for the dentist and my name was Page 16

4 (Pages 13 to 16)

2

3

4

5

- 1 always called then, and all the time -- they filled all
- 2 my teeth, filled them all any time I went to the dentist
- 3 and the dentist would say, "You've beautiful teeth" and
- 4 I says, "Why am I getting this done then?" That's what
- 5 I can't understand.
- 6 Q. Do you also remember about playing outside in the summer
- 7
- 8 A. That's correct, yes. We used to be -- they used to
- 9 leave us out all day. The sun would be beaming down on
- 10 us. You'd be burnt. They just left us out all day.
- 11 Q. Do you remember an occasion when you say that you fell
- 12 off the swing?
- 13 A. That's -- yes. I was sitting at the edge of the swing,
- 14 not very high, but I fell off it and hurt my back on the
- 15 concrete, and the nuns brought me into a room and left
- 16 me there. They just said, "You'll be fine in
- 17 a few minutes".
- 18 Q. And were you fine?
- 19 A. No, I wasn't.
- 20 Q. Was a doctor called?
- 21 A. No.

1

2

- 22 Q. And is it generally the case that if anyone was sick,
- 23 they were put to bed for a day or two?
- 24 A. That's correct, yes.
- 25 Q. Was the doc... -- did you ever see the doctor being

Page 17

called to the home?

- 1
- 2 our homework and that was it, you know.
- Q. You talk about remembering one girl being very ill. 3

A. Try to check. No, I don't think so, no.

- 4 A. That's correct, yes.
- 5 O. And she -- the nuns kept saying she would be fine, but
- 6 it got to the stage where her appendix burst and she had
- 7 to be rushed to hospital.
- 8 A. That's correct, yes, yes. She was nearly -- they left
- 9 it to the last minute.
- 10 Q. Now what about chores in the home?
- 11 A. Chores in the home was first thing after breakfast we
- 12 had to -- I worked upstairs with a couple of girls and
- 13 used to do -- made beds, polish and scrub the floors and
- 14 put the covers on the -- counterpanes on the beds before 15 we went to school, and then after school I was -- had to
- 16 go up and take them all off, counterpanes off the beds,
- 17 and sis... -- head nun, she followed me upstairs one
- 18 evening and she said that, "What are you doing?" 19 I says, "I am taking the counterpanes off the beds".
- 20 She says, "It's too early", she says. "Put them back
- 21 on" she says, and then she starts giving out -- threw
- 22 everything up in my face about my sister this, that and
- 23 the other.
- 24 But we had to polish the floors. We had to polish
- 25 the floors on a Saturday, and we -- the floor I was
  - Page 18

with our work. She was always giving out. So ...

Q. You've talked about the daily routine and you said that

doing in the hall, when it was damp, it wouldn't shine.

So she got me to do it again and again and she said she

wasn't happy with the floor at all. She wasn't happy

- you got up about 7.30 and most mornings you went to 6
- 7 mass. It's been suggested that that -- that you didn't
- 8 go to mass most mornings; that you would have gone on
- 9 Sundays, on holy days of obligation.
- 10 A. That's correct, yes. That's ...
- 11 Q. In fact, you would have been encouraged to go on a daily
- 12 basis during Lent.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Is that more accurate than saying you went on most days?
- 15 A. No. Most days we did go to mass, you know, so ... We
- 16 used to go to -- in the evenings what's the --
- 17 benediction. That's -- that's often, a few times, and,
- 18 yes, during the day.
- 19 O. I'll come back to that --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. -- in a moment, but would it have been correct that when
- 22 you got back from school, you would have played outside
- 23 until about 5 o'clock and then gone in and got your
- 24 evening meal?
- 25 A. I can't remember. I just -- I think we used to go out, Page 19
- but we weren't out that long. We used to go in and do
- 3 Q. And what about doing homework? Was there someone to
- 4 help you with your homework?
- 5 A. No, there was no-one there. Just you have to do it
- 6 yourself.
- 7 Q. What about special occasions such as Christmas? What is
- 8 your recollection of Christmas in the home?
- 9 A. Christmas -- every Christmas they just have the choir,
- 10 the band and later on they give out the presents, but
- 11 they were just clothes, shoes, no toys, no doll, no
- 12 nothing, just something to wear. That was it.
- 13 Q. And who gave out presents? Who do you remember gave out 14 presents?
- 15 A. The bishop or someone like that. Someone like that
- 16 anyway. I know that.
- 17 Q. Do you have any recollection of who would attend the
- 18 concerts in the home at Christmas?
- 19 A. Some of them were from families we were staying with for
- 20 two months. They'd come up and see some of the girls.
- 21 That's all I can remember anyway. So ...
- 22 Q. You talk at paragraphs 15 and 16 about when you made
  - your Confirmation and your first Holy Communion in the
- 24 home.
- 25 A. That's correct, yes.

Page 20

- 1 Q. What are your recollections of that?
- 2 A. Well, I remember the first Holy Communion we were
- 3 outside. I know the nuns took a photograph of us at Our
- 4 Lady -- the statue of Our Lady and God. Then they took
- 5 the clothes off us and put on our own clothes. The
- 6 Confirmation was -- it was outside the convent, just up
- 7 the road, at the church up the road. There was only
- 8 a few of us in the church. All I heard was the doors
- 9 locking. All the doors were locked, and we went up to
- 10 the bishop and he asked me to name my Confirmation, and
- 11 I had to kneel down, and he had a ring on his finger and
- he just hit me across the check. It was very sore and
- 13 hurt. That's all I can remember from the Confirmation.
- 14 That's all I can remember.
- 15 Q. You say -- in paragraph 9 you talk about when puberty
- 16 kicked in. What can you tell the Inquiry about what
- 17 preparation there was for the girls in Nazareth House
- 18 for puberty?
- 19 A. We never had anything. They never explained about our
- 20 bodies or nothing. They never told us anything about,
- 21 you know ... They never, never explained what would
- 22 happen to our bodies.
- $\,$  23  $\,$   $\,$  Q. And whenever you did start your periods, how did you
- 24 feel then?
- 25 A. I was scared and I didn't know. I thought there was

- 1 a visit?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. And is it correct that, in fact, visitors who did come
- 4 to the home were shown into the front parlour, which
- 5 would have been away from where the girls were?
- 6 A. That's correct, yes. That's correct.
- 7 Q. Do you ever remember anyone else visiting apart from the
- 8 Christmas concerts?
- 9 A. I can't remember.
- 10 Q. You do talk about a priest called --
- 11 A. SND237. Oh, sorry.
- 12 Q. -- who came and played football with you. Is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. That's correct, yes.
- 15 Q. Apart from members of the clergy then you don't remember
- anybody else coming to visit?
- 17 **A. No.**
- 18 Q. Can I take you on to some specific allegations that you
- make, HIA367? If we look at paragraph 19, now you name
- a nun there and you say that:
- "She was a cruel nun."
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. "She often beat me and other girls such as ..." and you
- 24 name two other girls.
- 25 At one time you and one of these girls were coming

Page 23

- something wrong, and I rushed out -- took the sheets off
- 2 the bed and rushed out to the bathroom and washed them
- 3 -- hopefully they'd be dry -- and one of the seniors
- 4 seen me and she says, "Have you got your period?" and
- 5 I says "What's that?", and she says, "I'll bring you
- 6 into the room" she says, and this small little room you
- 7 change your sanitary towel. So she showed me. Other
- 8 than that I wouldn't have known anything, you know. So
- 9 ...
- 10 Q. So one of the older girls --
- 11 A. One of the seniors, yes.
- 12 Q. Can I ask were you ever given pocket money in the home?
- 13 A. I wasn't, I wasn't, no, not really. The only time we
- 14 got pocket money when we had to save to go on a trip,
- 15 say Butlins or something like that. Other than that we
- 16 **never got nothing.**
- 17 Q. And what about birthdays?
- A. Birthdays we never had. I had no birthdays. I don't
   even remember what age I was or nothing. Knew nothing.
- 20 Q. But you do say in your statement that it was only when
- you got sight of your birth certificate that you
- realised what your date of birth was. Is that correct?
- 23 A. That's correct, yes.
- 24 Q. Now did you ever see anyone from Social Service visit
- 25 the home while you were there or any senior nuns pay

Page 22

- 1 late back --
- 2 "We were late coming back from

- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. -- "and she grabbed us and started hitting us."
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. "She would punch you, or hit you with a black belt she
- wore round her waist, or stick, or whatever she could
- 8 get her hands on. She would just lose her temper."
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. You go on to speak about one occasion where she told you
- 11 to stand in a dark corridor, took something from behind
- her back and starting whacking you across the legs with
- 13 a stick --
- 14 A. That's correct, yes.
- 15 Q. -- and you had bruises as a result.
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 Q. You were trying to grab the stick, but she said there
- were nails in it.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And you have no idea why you were beaten.
- 21 A. No, no. She just had me standing there and I tried to
- 22 grab whatever she had in her hand, and she just said,
- 23 "Don't grab it". She says, "There's nails in it" and
- 25 next day, I had PE, and I told the teacher I had pain in

I was black and blue, and when I went back to school the

Page 24

- 1 my stomach. So I said I couldn't do PE, but she did see
- 2 my legs being black and blue. I tried to cover them up
- 3 but she seen them. She said, "Do you want to talk?"
- 4 and I says, "No, because if I say anything, I will get
- 5 killed".
- 6 Q. So the teacher noticed this --
- 7 A. She did, ves.
- 8 Q. -- and offered you the opportunity to explain what had
- 9 happened --
- 10 **A.** Yes, yes.
- 11 Q. -- but you were too frightened to.
- 12 **A. Yes.**
- 13 Q. Is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 15 Q. You talk about another time whenever an older girl had
- 16 given you and some other girls cigarettes at
- 17 paragraph 20.
- 18 A. That's correct, yes.
- 19 Q. The nun found out that you smoked and she lined you all
- up in the corridor and asked who the cigarettes belonged
- 21 to. The other girls said that they were yours.
- 22 A. That's correct, yes.
- 23 Q. She then grabbed you, pushed you into the music room,
- 24 banged you off the piano stool and kept thumping you on
- 25 the back.

- Q. She told you not to turn the lights on and you don't
- 2 know how long you were made to stand there.
- 3 A. That's correct, yes.
- 4 Q. You had to go to the bathroom in the dark. You believe
- 5 that this was a punishment for having answered her back
- 6 or having done something which she thought was wrong.
- 7 A. That's correct, yes.
- 8 Q. But were you ever given an explanation for it?
- 9 A. No, no.
- 10 Q. The same nun on another occasion made you and another
- girl wash most of the clothes by hand when the washing
- 12 machine broke down.
- 13 A. That's correct, yes.
- 14 Q. You say that you were always picked to do this.
- 15 A. I seemed to me I was, yes. I don't know why.
- 16 Q. Did the washing machine break down often?
- 17 A. It broke down a few times it seemed to me. We had to
- wash the jumpers, underwear, whatever was there. We
- 19 done what we can by hand, me and another girl, and our
- 20 hands were raw, raw, and as soon as the washing machine
- 21 was fixed she didn't say, "Thank you" or nothing. She
- said, "That's it". She said, "The machine is fixed".
- 23 Q. You talk about religion playing a large part of life in
- the home --
- 25 A. That's correct, yes.

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- 1 A. That's correct, yes.
- 2 Q. You say at this stage you had realised she enjoyed it
- 3 when you cried, so you didn't cry.
- 4 A. That's correct yes.
- 5 Q. She then said "There's no point hitting you" and
- 6 stopped.
- 7 A. That's correct, yes.
- 8 Q. After this she didn't -- she might have called you
- 9 "Smoker" or by your surname.
- 10 A. That's right, yes.
- 11 Q. But she never used your first name?
- 12 A. No, she never did.
- 13 Q. I mean, do you say that was a result of this incident or
- 14 did she --
- 15 A. No, she was always like that to me. I don't know why,
- but she was very cold, and she just didn't call my first
- 17 name. She always called my last name. Then when she
- found out I smoked, she just kept walking past me and
- 19 said, "Smoke". So that was it.
- 20 Q. You go on in paragraph 21 to describe an evening where
- 21 the same nun made you all stand in the corridor in the
- dark in your nightdresses.
- 23 A. That's correct.
- 24 Q. You were barefoot and it was freezing cold.
- 25 A. Uh-huh.

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- 1 Q. -- which is perhaps understandable, given that it was
- 2 run by a religious organisation, but you talk about
- a particular instance where you were all at Benediction
- 4 in the church and you heard screaming from outside the
- 5 church.
- 6 A. That's correct, yes. We were waiting for the
- 7 Benediction to start. We were all sitting in the church
- 8 and the head nun was outside with another girl and all
- 9 we heard -- she was hitting her anyway. She kept -- the
- 10 girl kept screaming and screaming. It got louder and
- louder, and I couldn't stick it, and I was getting up
- 12 and the other nun says, "You sit down", and Reverend
- 13 Mother -- sorry -- Reverend Mother came in and, "What is
- 14 going on?" she says. The head nun says, "She was
- being -- answering me back", and the Reverend Mother
- says, "You never do that outside the church. Don't do
- 17 that outside the church".
- 18 Q. And you could hear this conversation --
- 19 A. Hear all this, yes.
- 20 Q. -- taking place?
- 21 A. That's correct, yes.
- 22 Q. You talk about another nun at paragraph 24, and you say
- 23 that she had a habit of pinching you --
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. -- and hitting you across the head with keys.

# A. That's correct, yes.

- 2 Q. And that on occasions if the nuns weren't there, then
- 3 you would have been chastised for answering back by
- 4 older girls, who would have given you a slap?
- 5 A. That's correct, yes.
- 6 Q. And they also would whack you across the back of your
- 7 feet with a plastic sandal to punish you?
- 8 A. That's correct, yes.
- 9 Q. You subsequently wrote to both Sister -- both of these
- 10 two nuns that we have been referring to. If we could
- 11 just look at document SND-4205 and the following two
- 12 pages then, this is correspondence that you entered into
- 13 with these two particular nuns. Can you say why -- this
- 14 is after you had left the home -- you were writing to
- 15 them, HIA367?
- 16 A. I have been -- sorry -- I have been -- I have been
- 17 doing -- searching for my sister since I left the
- 18 convent, and I was getting in touch -- trying to get in
- 19 touch with the nuns in the home, but I wasn't getting
- 20 any satisfaction out of them, and I went to the CD -- CD
- 21 in Dublin and I only found out that the nuns were
- 22 actually in Nazareth House in Dublin. That's how
- 23 I ended up going -- going to them to find out where my
- 24 sister was, and I did write to them, that hopefully they
- 25 will find her or information about my sister. That's

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CHAIRMAN: Can these be enlarged, please, and the one on the

- 1 the only reason why I went there. So ...
- 3 left, is it possible to turn it the right way up?
- MS SMITH: It has been unfortunately scanned in in that 4
- 5 fashion, Chairman.
- 6 CHAIRMAN: Yes. Can we look at the other one, please?
- 7 MS SMITH: These are correspondence that you received after
- 8 having written to the two nuns --
- 9 A. Yes. That's correct, yes.
- 10 Q. -- asking about your sister's whereabouts.
- 11

2

- 12 CHAIRMAN: It would seem from the dates in the letters you
- 13 were writing about the end of 1993. Would that be --
- 14 A. Yes, that would be -- that's correct, yes.
- 15 MS SMITH: In fact, you did also go to Nazareth House in
- 16 Dublin to visit these two nuns. Isn't that correct?
- 17 You talk about that at paragraph 33 in your statement.
- 18 A. I went -- which one are you -- the one -- Dublin?
- 19 Q. Yes, in Malahide.
- 20 A. Yes, that's right, yes. I did meet them and they said
- 21 they didn't know where my sister was, and the head nun,
- 22 I was talking to her. I was actually dreading to meet
- 23 her, because my hands were sweaty. I just asked where
- 24 my family were, my sister was and she didn't know. She
- 25 said she got my letter and she ripped up the letter.

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- 1 I said, "I just want to find her". She said, "What
- 2 would happen if your mother -- you met your mother?" and
- 3 I said, "I'd like to meet her", but she said, "She might
- 4 slam the door in your face", but my mother was still
- 5 alive at that stage I believe.
- 6 Q. Did you ever meet your mother?
- 7 A. I never met my mother.
- 8 Q. At paragraph 32 you also talk about having tried to get
- 9 hold of your birth certificate.
- 10 A. That's correct, yes.
- 11 Q. You were working at that time in Dublin.
- 12 A. That's right, in
- 13 Q. You needed your birth certificate for work.
- 14 A. That's correct, yes.
- 15 Q. So you rang this particular nun and asked her for your
- 16 birth certificate?
- 17 A. The head nun. The head nun. I rang the head nun and
- 18 I asked her could she send me out my birth certificate,
- 19 because I need it for my job, and she said -- she said,
- 20 "You shouldn't have left the convent -- you shouldn't
- 21
- have left the job that you were in". I was in a job in
- 22 in Dublin. I worked there before
- 23 I went to Then she started throwing
- 24 everything at me about my sister this, my sister
- 25 wouldn't leave a job and all this. So I just said,
  - Page 31
- 1 "I just want my birth certificate". So Reverend Mother
- 2 got on the phone and I just explained to her, "I need my
- 3 birth certificate". She done the same thing. She just
- 4 talked about me, my sister this, and I said, "Do you
- 5 know where she is?" and she said, "No. Your sister
  - wouldn't leave a job like that", she says.
  - All right. I got no satisfaction out of them. So
- 8 I~hung up the phone and a friend of mine -- a friend
- 9 told me -- she says, "Go to a priest" and I said, "Oh,
- 10 here goes", because I had to pay my rent. I had to pay
- 11 bills. So I went down to the priest in
- 12 I explained to him to get my birth certificate and two
- 13 days later he knocked at the door and he had it in his
- 14 hand.

6

7

- 15 Q. So he was able to get it?
- 16 A. He was able to get it for me, yes.
- 17 Q. Now while you were in Nazareth House you spent time with
- 18 two families --
- 19 A. That's correct.
- 20 Q. -- and these would have been during summer holidays. Is
- 21 that correct?
- 22 A. That's correct, yes.
- 23 Q. The first of these you talk about going to stay with
- 24 a couple at paragraph 27. You went to stay with this
- 25 couple and with another girl who was younger than you.

- 1 You used to help on the farm, and one day the male of
- 2 the couple told you to drive the tractor.
- 3 A. That's correct, yes.
- 4 Q. There was another man who worked on the farm, although
- 5 you didn't know his name.
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. You were driving the tractor and changing gears and the
- 8 tractor shook and this other girl nearly fell off the
- 9 back of it. He started to shout at you.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. You say the other man who worked on the farm sexually
- 12 abused you by grabbing you, putting his hand up between
- 13 your legs and touching your private parts.
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. You tried to get away, but he was holding you down.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. You tried to hit him with a bottle which you saw.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. The person who was fostering you, looking after you --
- 20 A. That's correct, yes.
- 21 Q. -- saw what he was doing and told him to let you go.
- 22 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 23 Q. But subsequently, as you describe in paragraph 28, this
- 24 man then started interfering with you.
- 25 A. That's correct, yes.

- 1 Q. He sexually abused you a few times, took you over to the
- 2 outhouse, put his hands between your legs --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- and indecently assaulted -- touched your private
- 5 parts --
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. -- and told you not to say anything?
- 8 A. That's right, yes.
- 9 Q. One time you were in bed with the other young girl and
- 10 he came into bed between you. His wife came in and told
- 11 him to get out and you were then taken back to Nazareth
- 12 House.
- 13 A. That's correct, yes.
- 14 Q. You say that you tried to tell the nun about what
- happened, but she wouldn't listen to you.
- 16 A. She wouldn't listen at all. She said, "Go away". She
- says, "You're talking nonsense".
- 18 Q. These two people are now dead, the couple that you were
- sent to.
- 20 A. Yes. That's correct, yes.
- 21 Q. You were also sent out to another family when you were
- about 12 years of age and that was for about two months
- 23 each summer --
- 24 A. That's correct, yes.
- 25 Q. -- on two separate occasions. You said that you did all

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- 1 the cooking and cleaning and you worked on the farm.
- 2 A. That's correct, yes.
- 3 Q. In the second summer the wife was away visiting a sick
- 4 friend and you were there on your own --
- 5 A. That's correct, yes.
- 6 Q. -- with the husband and their son.
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. One night you were watching television and he came --
- 9 that's the husband came -- and told you it was time for
- 10 bed --
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. -- turned off the television, grabbed you and pushed you
- 13 against the wall --
- 14 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 15 Q. -- and told you he would give you sweets and cigarettes
- and he tried to touch you.
- 17 A. That's correct, yes.
- 18 Q. You managed to get away, ran upstairs and got into bed
- 19 and he followed you.
- 20 A. Yes, that's correct. He followed me upstairs, yes.
- 21 Q. He again said he would give you money and you pleaded
- with him to leave you alone.
- 23 A. That's correct.
- 24 Q. It was only when the front door opened and someone came
- into the house that he left the room.

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- A. That's correct, yes.
- 2 Q. As a result of this you then ran away and the only place
- 3 you --
- 4 A. I didn't know where to go at the start. So I just had
- 5 my case already packed anyway, but I just got the hell
- 6 out of there. I said, "That's it". I didn't know where
- 7 I was going, because it was lashing with rain. I just
- 8 kept walking, and then eventually the other couple, the
- 9 first couple I was staying with, she stopped the car and
- says, "What are you doing in the rain?" I said,
- 11 "I~don't know". She says, "Get into the car". So I got
- in and she brought me back to her place, and I tried to
- explain to her, but I don't think she was listening, but
- 14 they sent me back to the convent anyway.
- 15 Q. In fact, did you write to the convent?
- 16 A. I had to write -- yes, I had to write to the convent for
- 17 I was told to go back. I had to write to the head nun
- 18 to say I was in such and such a place in -- with the
- 19 family, and she told me to go -- she wrote a letter to
- 20 say to get -- put me on a bus back to Derry. So ...
- 21 Q. So when you got back to Nazareth House --
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. -- were you ever asked for an explanation as to why you
- 24 had left --
- 25 **A. No --**

1 Q. -- the home?

- 2 A. -- I wasn't. I tried to explain, but she said, "You're
- 3 talking nonsense". She never -- she didn't listen and
- 4 she just told me to go away.
- 5 Q. Shortly after this when you did get back is that
- 6 whenever you left Nazareth House?
- 7 A. She left -- no. She -- no. They took me out of school.
- 8 I went down to There was four nuns in the car.
- 9 One was the head nun. I was in the middle, and I didn't
- 10 know where I was going. I was brought down to this
- 11 family. They owned a bakery shop, and I had to mind the
- kids, like a nanny I suppose, do the housework and
- stuff, and I was left there. They didn't give me any
- explanation, just left me there -- the head nun did.
- 14 explanation, just left me there -- the head hun did.
- 15 I was there for six months I think, and the woman
- 16 that owned the house, she says, "Are you not going
- 17 home?" and I says, "What home have I got myself like?"
- 18 So then she says to me, "Go home for Christmas". So
- 19 I said "Okay". So on my own I said, "I'll go back to
- 20 the convent", but I believe there was a bus strike in
- 21 Derry that year. I couldn't get the Derry bus anyway.
- 22 So I heard someone else saying, "Maybe get another bus
- 23 near Derry" and I got one, and I was on my own and
- 24 didn't know -- I asked the driver, "Are you going to
- Derry?" and he told me -- he says, "You know there's Page 37
- a bus strike". He says, "Hold on a minute. There might
- 2 be a bus behind might be going to Derry". So one of the
- 3 girls -- one of the girls on the other bus was going to
- 4 Derry.
- 5 Q. So you got back --
- 6 A. So when she got back she gave me --
- 7 Q. -- for Christmas?
- 8 A. Yes, I got back eventually and banging the door and
  - banging the door. "Oh, God! Please don't keep banging
- 10 that door." I could hear the nuns saying, "I can't
- 11 find the key of the door. I can't find any". I goes --
- 12 I got the gist of it, and they opened the door and gave
- out, "You shouldn't be banging that door", you know. So
- 14 ...

9

- 15 Q. HIA367, after Christmas you didn't want to return --
- 16 A. I didn't want to go back.
- 17 Q. -- to -
- 18 **A. I didn't.**
- 19 Q. -- and you've said that you were --
- 20 A. I didn't want to go back.
- 21 Q. So you were put on a bus and you went to work in the
- 22 in Dublin in
- 23 A. That's correct, yes. More nuns.
- 24 Q. You worked there until you worked subsequently in
- 25 a --

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- 1 A. That's correct, yes.
- 2 Q. -- after that. Can I just ask during your time in the
- 3 home is there anyone or anything you remember as being
- 4 good or positive about your time there?
- 5 A. Well, one of the nuns, she was very nice like, you know
  - -- actually two of them -- but the other two, they were
- 7 cruel.

6

- 8 Q. So -- what about -- I think you mention a teacher in the
- 9 school at some point who was ...
- 10 A. That's right. She was very helpful. She was -- she was
- getting me to try to talk, like, you know, but
- 12 I couldn't, because I was afraid, you know.
- 13 Q. And what about during your time there? Do you ever
- 14 remember anything in the home changing or did you
- 15 witness any improvements during your time?
- 16 A. No, there was no improvements. There were just -- if we
- answered back, we would get a slap or punched. We still
- 18 had to polish the floors on our hands and knees anyway.
- 19 It didn't make any difference. Nothing changed.
- Nothing changed at all.
- 21 Q. HIA367, you talk about -- you have told us about how you
- 22 searched to find your sister --
- 23 A. That's correct, yes.
- 24 Q. -- and as a result of your searches for your sister you
- 25 actually discovered that you had other family. Isn't

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- 1 that correct?
- 2 A. That's correct, yes, about three years ago.
- 3 Q. They were -- they had actually not been put in care.
- 4 A. That's right. They were put in -- the mother's parents
- 5 looked after them, the three of them, and I never knew
- 6 I had a brother and two other sisters until three years
- 7 ago.
- 8 Q. And you've -- you've stayed in contact with them since
- 9 -
- 10 A. I have. I have, yes.
- 11 Q. -- and, in fact, your brother actually tried to help
- 12 find your sister.
- 13 A. That's right, yes. That's correct, yes.
- 14 Q. There was an article in , which I will
- 15 just call up, which is SND-14109. This will not be --
- it is not redacted, Chairman, and it will not be going
- on to the website subsequently, but this was an attempt
- by your brother, who was in the living in the North --
- 19 A. That's right, yes.
- 20 Q. -- to try to find your sister.
- 21 A. Yes. That's correct, yes.
- 22 Q. Now you subsequently married and you have got five
- children.
- $24\,$   $\,$  A. I have five children and seven grandchildren.
- 25 Q. You said this morning there is another grandchild -- Page 40

10 (Pages 37 to 40)

# 1 A. Another one coming in June.

- 2 Q. Since you left care and your life after care, you
- describe it in your witness statement at paragraphs 31,
- 4 32 and paragraph 35 about the search for your sister and
- 5 meeting your family, and you talk about the difficulties
- 6 that you have had in life, and you have suffered from
- 7 panic attacks --
- 8 A. That's correct, yes.
- 9 Q. -- and depression.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Can I ask, HIA367, how you feel today about those who
- 12 cared for you?
- 13 A. In the convent they were cruel. They didn't give us
- an inch. Took me out of school before my time. I could
- 15 have done better with my life. They ruined my life.
- 16 Q. This Inquiry, HIA367, has to make recommendations to the
- 17 Northern Ireland Executive --
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. -- about what it feels should happen about a potential
- 20 apology, some form of appropriate memorial or tribute --
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. -- and whether some form of redress is appropriate.
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Is there anything you would like to say to the Inquiry
- about those matters?

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- or if there isn't, that's fine.
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Okay. If you could just stay there, HIA367 --
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. -- the Panel Members may have some questions for you.
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Questions from THE PANEL
- 8 CHAIRMAN: HIA367, you have told us that you haven't been
- 9 able to trace your sister, SND 85
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. -- although I see in the article from the paper that's
- just come up you gave phone numbers and everything, but
- 13 -
- 14 A. That's not my phone number.
- 15 O. No, but --
- 16 A. I know.
- 17 Q. -- through the numbers and everything else, but nobody
- else has been able to help you?
- 19 A. I think my brother got a phone call. He didn't know who
- 20 it was --
- 21 Q. Yes.
- 22 A. -- and that was it.
- 23 Q. But despite all your efforts you are saying you haven't
- been able to trace SND 85
- 25 A. I can't get hold of her, no.

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- 1 A. Well, I just want an apology, and I wouldn't like anyone
- 2 else to go through what I went through. I wouldn't like
- 3 anyone going through that, the life I went through.
- 4 I wouldn't like that.
- 5 When I found I had three of my family, I realised
- 6 that was my family, and it's terrible that you lose
- 7 contact with your real family. It's horrible. For
- 8 years I never knew I had them, and it's great that
- 9 I found them. I'm still trying to find my sister.
- 10 I still can't find her.
- 11 Q. Finally, is there anything else that you feel that you
- wish to say to the Inquiry? This is your opportunity,
- 13 HIA367, if there's anything else that you would like to
- add to what you've already told us.
- 15 A. I'm going blank. Just it's very hard. My life was --
- it's a struggle. It was a struggle, my life, all them
- 17 years.
- 18 CHAIRMAN: While the witness is thinking about that could we
- 19 have that article from again, please,
- 20 SND-14109? Just take a moment to think about the
- 21 question, HIA367. There's something else we can look at
- while you're thinking about it. Yes. Can we see it
- 23 all, please? Part of it seems to be cut off. Thank
- you. (Pause.) Thank you.
- 25 MS SMITH: Is there anything else you wish to add, HIA367,

# Page 42

- 1 Q. Thank you.
- 2 A. Thank you.
- 3 MS DOHERTY: Thanks for your testimony, SND 85 (sic). Can
- 4 I just ask in relation to going out to the placements to
- 5 the families was there any discussion with you
- 6 beforehand about going or whether you wanted to go away
- 7 for two months to go and be in people's houses? Was
- 8 there any --
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. -- discussion, HIA367?
- 11 A. No, there wasn't. There wasn't. Just -- we were just
- sent there; just case packed and that was it.
- 13 Q. And that was that?
- 14 A. That's it, yes.
- 15 Q. And is there anything else you want to say about the
- impact on your life as an adult in terms of what your
- 17 experiences were?
- 18 A. Well, I went through a lot when I was in -- I was living
- in Dublin. It took me a long time to sort out my life.
- 20 I had no friends, nobody. I had to go and get a job,
- 21 get a flat. It took me a long time, and I've been
- trying to search for my sister a long time since I left
- 23 the convent. I just can't find her.
- 24 Q. Okay, but there was no -- there was no support to you
- once you left?

1	A. No, there was nothing. There was nothing there,	1	CHAIRMAN: I would rather you didn't, because we don't have
2	nothing. I was just sent to Dublin on a bus and that	2	any power for the stenographer to prepare a transcript.
3	was it.	3	MR MONTAGUE: It is the history she gives about she and her
4	Q. Okay. Thank you.	4	sister being allowed to spend birthdays together in the
5	A. Okay.	5	home.
6	MR LANE: You have mentioned the nuns. Were there any other	6	CHAIRMAN: I am aware of that. You will have the
7	staff helping them in looking after the girls?	7	opportunity to draw any inconsistencies and
8	A. No. There was other nuns in the convent, but they were	8	discrepancies to our attention.
9	in another part for the old folks and that. There was	9	MR MONTAGUE: What is the appropriate time for that,
10	a few nuns, but they were most on the other side of the	10	Chairman? Is that to be done by submission?
11	convent, but there was only three nuns looking after us.	11	CHAIRMAN: Well, you can do it, if necessary, as we go
12	Q. And no civilian staff?	12	along, but you will have the opportunity in due course
13	A. No.	13	to draw any discrepancies or contradictions that you
14	Q. Thank you.	14	consider exist in material to our attention.
15	CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for coming, HIA367. That's	15	MR MONTAGUE: Thank you. It is the timing thereof. I am
16	all. Thank you for coming to tell us your experiences.	16	conscious on behalf of the Sisters of the sensitivities
17	MS SMITH: Thank you.	17	of the witnesses who are giving evidence and also the
18	A. Thank you very much.	18	passage of time, and I have discussed this at various
19	(Witness withdrew)	19	times with my learned friend Ms Smith.
20	MS SMITH: Chairman, if we could take a short break and then	20	CHAIRMAN: Yes.
21	consider the position with regard to the other witness	21	MR MONTAGUE: So thank you for that indication.
22	statement.	22	CHAIRMAN: My preference would be that it is done in an
23	CHAIRMAN: Yes. Is that convenient to you, Mr Montague, to	23	appropriate way as close to the time that somebody gives
24	deal with that issue this morning?	24	evidence; otherwise there is a risk it will simply
25	MR MONTAGUE: Certainly.	25	be forgotten.
	Page 45		Page 47
1	CHAIRMAN: Very well. We will sit again at 11.40.	1	MR MONTAGUE: I accept that. Thank you.
1 2	CHAIRMAN: Very well. We will sit again at 11.40. (11.30 am)	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	MR MONTAGUE: I accept that. Thank you.  CHAIRMAN: Well, we will start again hopefully at 2 o'clock,
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publication of HIA40's name in connection with the matters that the Inquiry is going to hear about this afternoon.

HIA40, the Inquiry appreciates that anyone coming to give evidence will find that a difficult experience and the Inquiry is quite prepared if you need a break at any stage just to say so. You have already put your hand to the water that's in front of you. If at any time you feel the need, then there is no difficulty. You just need to say, because the Inquiry is also aware that you have had considerable health difficulty, and you in your statement that we'll come to have indicated the extent of that, and that's something the Inquiry is cognisant of.

I think you wanted to say yourself that one of the services that the Inquiry has brought to your attention that you've made use of is that of Lifeline.

#### 18 A. That's correct.

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- Q. Do you want to say something about how you found thatservice?
- $21\,$   $\,$  A. Well, the service has been pretty okay over these last
- 22 couple of months since this Inquiry has taken place.
- Now I have acquired that service a bit more better. So,
- yes, it's been very beneficial to me. I wish it had
- 25 been -- I wish I knew about it sooner.

#### Page 49

- 1 Q. So you found it helpful?
- 2 A. Extremely so, yes.
- 3 Q. Now what you are holding in your hand and what I am
- 4 going to bring up on the screen -- if we can have -- all
- of the references today will be SND references. So I am
- 6 going to drop the SND. If you can bring up SND-4570,
- 7 please, and if you can max the screen out. That's not
- 8 4570. Just max the screen out for us. On the screen
- 9 you will see -- and you are aware -- we have discussed
- -- this is the redacted copy of your statement --

#### 11 **A. Uh-huh.**

- 12 Q. -- and you are holding in your hand a copy that you can
- see what's underneath the redactions, and you will see
- that this statement has "HIA40". If we can go to the
- last page at SND-4579, and if I can just ask you, HIA40,
- if you would turn to the last page of the hard copy that
- you have and just confirm that the two statements match
- and that you have, in fact, signed on 13th July 2013 the
- statement that we can see in redacted form on the
- screen?

21

- A. That's correct, yes.
- 22 Q. And you want to adopt the content of your statement as
- your evidence before the Inquiry before I ask you some
- 24 further questions about it.
- 25 A. Precise.

Page 50

- 1 Q. Now the Inquiry is aware, HIA40, that there is
- 2 a significant volume of material that has been produced
  - to the Inquiry by in particular the Health & Social Care
- 4 Board, who effectively cover the Social Services system
- 5 that was in operation at the time you were in care, and
- 6 the Inquiry has seen and will after today take further
- 7 time to look at that material, and I am only going to go
- 8 through some of the headline points from that material
- o anough some of the neutrine points from that material
- 9 with you in addition to you talking about what's in your
- 10 witness statement, but to try to assist both yourself
- and the Inquiry hearing your evidence I'm going to try
- to take you through a chronology of your time in care so
- that when you talk specifically back in the statement
- about your time in Bishop Street and in Termonbacca that
- the context of that is clear to the Inquiry Panel when
- they're hearing it.

#### 17 **A. Uh-huh.**

- 18 Q. So if you can help me along with this and where you
- don't agree, you just indicate, "No, that's not my
- 20 recollection" or "I don't agree with that".
- 21 You yourself were born in . By that time
- you describe in your statement that you came from
- a dysfunctional home life in Strabane.
- 24 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 25 Q. And you were one of eight children.

# Page 51

- 1 A. That's correct, yes.
- 2 Q. And your mother and father had considerable difficulty
- 3 in their relationship.
- 4 A. Yes. I was a victim of domestic violence I suppose from
- 5 that aspect, yes.
- 6 Q. The documents will show -- and I am not going to open
- 7 them to the Inquiry -- they will show that, in fact,
- 8 your mother had become known to Social Services a number
- 9 of years before you were, in fact, born.
- 10 **A. Right.**
- 11 Q. And a number of your brothers and sisters had been in
- care before you were born at times to give your mum some
- 13 respite.
- 14 A. That would be correct I think, yes.
- 15 Q. And you it seems first went into a children's home in
- 16 Coneywarren in 1973, by which time you would have been
- 18 **A. Uh-hul**

17

- 19 Q. From your statement there is no complaint you have about
- your time in Coneywarren.
- 21 A. That would be correct, yes.
- 22 Q. Then -- this isn't necessarily covered in your
- statement -- you indicate you were in and out of
- children's homes, and what we have been able to
- establish from the records is that for a couple of

1	months in of '74 and then again in	1	Q and that's recorded in the document. Now it is clear
2	of '74 and in '75	2	that on , when your mother took ill, you were
3	and in '75 you were in and out of	3	taken along with your brother, your younger brother,
4	probably Nazareth House in Bishop Street. The records	4	SND138 again his name is not to be reported to
5	show that at least two of those short occasions were	5	Bishop Street.
6	Bishop Street. Do you remember any other children's	6	A. Yes, that's correct.
7	home other than	7	Q. It is there that you lived for the next fifteen months
8	A. No, not that I am aware of.	8	between '76 and r '77. That's during
9	Q. So it may be they were all in Bishop Street?	9	a period when you are
10	A. Possibly, yes.	10	A. Yes. I would say that, yes.
11	Q. But certainly the record held by the congregation	11	Q. You turned in In aged
12	suggests that '74, which was your first	12	then you were fostered out with a family known to you as
13	time after Coneywarren, as it were	13	the Again their name is not to be reported.
14	A. Uh-huh.	14	A. Uh-huh.
15	Q was in Bishop Street.	15	Q. You lived with them until 1979. Now the you
	I should make the Members of the Panel aware that	16	
16			are aware from the material that we previously discussed
17	over the last number of days considerable effort has	17	that you were having difficulty at school with what was
18	been made by both the congregation, the Health & Social	18	called then truanting and reference is made to some
19	Care Board and by the Police Service to deal with some	19	difficulty with stealing.
20	very detailed points about documents, and there are some	20	A. Of course, yes.
21	material that have been produced as a result of that	21	Q. Are those things you recall at this stage or?
22	that have helped clarify the picture, and indeed the	22	A. I do indeed, yes.
23	Health & Social Care Board have more material that they	23	Q. And the records if we just take SND-4674 back out and
24	will be gathering; that if any of it needs to be	24	if we take the third paragraph down and just maximise
25	referred to you, HIA40, then that's what we'll do on	25	the third paragraph, this records how initially you went
	Page 53		Page 55
1	a latar data	,	out from Nazarath with factor parants and initially
1	a later date.	1	out from Nazareth with foster parents and initially
2	A. Okay.	2	settled quite well. However, by of 1978 the
2 3	<ul><li>A. Okay.</li><li>Q. So you've been in and out of Bishop Street for some</li></ul>	2 3	settled quite well. However, by of 1978 the foster parents were concerned about you about
2 3 4	<ul><li>A. Okay.</li><li>Q. So you've been in and out of Bishop Street for some respite for your mum. Then your mum takes ill on</li></ul>	2 3 4	settled quite well. However, by of 1978 the foster parents were concerned about you about truanting from school, about stealing some money from
2 3 4 5	<ul><li>A. Okay.</li><li>Q. So you've been in and out of Bishop Street for some respite for your mum. Then your mum takes ill on 1976, by which time you are</li></ul>	2 3 4 5	settled quite well. However, by of 1978 the foster parents were concerned about you about truanting from school, about stealing some money from your foster father, and they were indicating they
2 3 4 5 6	<ul><li>A. Okay.</li><li>Q. So you've been in and out of Bishop Street for some respite for your mum. Then your mum takes ill on 1976, by which time you are</li><li>A. Uh-huh.</li></ul>	2 3 4 5 6	settled quite well. However, by of 1978 the foster parents were concerned about you about truanting from school, about stealing some money from your foster father, and they were indicating they couldn't cope with you and your brother. You then
2 3 4 5 6 7	<ul> <li>A. Okay.</li> <li>Q. So you've been in and out of Bishop Street for some respite for your mum. Then your mum takes ill on 1976, by which time you are</li> <li>A. Uh-huh.</li> <li>Q and she was admitted to hospital, and the records</li> </ul>	2 3 4 5 6 7	settled quite well. However, by of 1978 the foster parents were concerned about you about truanting from school, about stealing some money from your foster father, and they were indicating they couldn't cope with you and your brother. You then entered Termonbacca on 1979.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	<ul><li>A. Okay.</li><li>Q. So you've been in and out of Bishop Street for some respite for your mum. Then your mum takes ill on 1976, by which time you are</li><li>A. Uh-huh.</li></ul>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	settled quite well. However, by of 1978 the foster parents were concerned about you about truanting from school, about stealing some money from your foster father, and they were indicating they couldn't cope with you and your brother. You then entered Termonbacca on 1979.  Now the records show that you spend nine months in
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<ul> <li>A. Okay.</li> <li>Q. So you've been in and out of Bishop Street for some respite for your mum. Then your mum takes ill on 1976, by which time you are</li> <li>A. Uh-huh.</li> <li>Q and she was admitted to hospital, and the records seem to suggest she was suffering from ed</li> <li>If we can bring up SND-4674, please. If you can just max out the page. Just take the second paragraph for me, please. This is from a Social Services report. It indicates that:  "On 1976 [your mum] was admitted to hospital for surgery suffering from an</li> <li>Then it indicates she then died as a result of that. The material seems to suggest that's either or , although you are saying your relation has put on the headstone.</li> <li>A. That's correct, yes.</li> <li>Q. And the Panel is then able to see that a Parental Rights Order was made in respect of you on 1976 in</li> </ul>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	settled quite well. However, by  foster parents were concerned about you about truanting from school, about stealing some money from your foster father, and they were indicating they couldn't cope with you and your brother. You then entered Termonbacca on  1979.  Now the records show that you spend nine months in Termonbacca from the age of , and when you're there, if we just max out the page again, and if we take the next paragraph down and just maximise that, you will see the type of you have acknowledged in your statement you have had difficulty growing up, and some of the types of difficulty are explained in the Social Services report. So the same type of problems are being described in Termonbacca, with truanting from school and stealing, and it then records the intervention of the second foster family and that's the Isn't that right?  A. That's correct, yes.  Q. Again their name is not to be reported. The were already fostering your older sister  A. That's correct, yes.  Q and they then engaged with a view to taking you and
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	<ul> <li>A. Okay.</li> <li>Q. So you've been in and out of Bishop Street for some respite for your mum. Then your mum takes ill on 1976, by which time you are</li> <li>A. Uh-huh.</li> <li>Q and she was admitted to hospital, and the records seem to suggest she was suffering from ed</li> <li>If we can bring up SND-4674, please. If you can just max out the page. Just take the second paragraph for me, please. This is from a Social Services report. It indicates that: <ul> <li>"On 1976 [your mum] was admitted to hospital for surgery suffering from an</li> </ul> </li> <li>Then it indicates she then died as a result of that. The material seems to suggest that's either or , although you are saying your relation has put on the headstone.</li> <li>A. That's correct, yes.</li> <li>Q. And the Panel is then able to see that a Parental Rights Order was made in respect of you on 1976 in favour of the Western Health &amp; Social Services Board</li> </ul>	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	settled quite well. However, by foster parents were concerned about you about truanting from school, about stealing some money from your foster father, and they were indicating they couldn't cope with you and your brother. You then entered Termonbacca on 1979.  Now the records show that you spend nine months in Termonbacca from the age of , and when you're there, if we just max out the page again, and if we take the next paragraph down and just maximise that, you will see the type of you have acknowledged in your statement you have had difficulty growing up, and some of the types of difficulty are explained in the Social Services report. So the same type of problems are being described in Termonbacca, with truanting from school and stealing, and it then records the intervention of the second foster family and that's the Isn't that right?  A. That's correct, yes.  Q. Again their name is not to be reported. The were already fostering your older sister A. That's correct, yes.

#### 1 A. Precise, yes. and you began to realise the extent of their feelings 2 2 Q. And I just want to in passing at this stage -- because for you. That's why Social Services --3 you are aware I have discussed it with you -- in 3 A. I don't remember that. 4 Termonbacca there you will have met a series of boys and 4 Q. You don't recall that? 5 they included SND33 and SND35, and those are two 5 A. No --6 individuals that we were discussing --Q. That's why they --6 7 7 A. Precise, yes. A. -- but it was a chaotic time, but I don't remember that. 8 8 Q. -- before you came in, and the Inquiry Panel will find Q. This helped you to look at yourself in relation to past 9 on page 10 of the designation list the identity of those behaviour and begin to accept some responsibility for 10 10 two individuals. So they were in Termonbacca at the your actions. That's what they're saying from the time. 11 same time as you --11 A. Right. 12 A. Uh-huh. 12 Q. I appreciate you are saying you don't really remember 13 Q. -- during 1979. 13 that now. Then we will touch on briefly the reasons for 14 14 it, but you lived in Fort James until A. Precise, yes. 1983, by 15 Q. You then go out with your brother to live with the 15 which time you are and you moved to St. Patrick's 16 of '79. you are 16 Training School in Belfast --17 17 recorded as leaving Termonbacca, age and there are A. That's correct, yes. 18 various documents that show that I'm not going to 18 Q. -- where you spent six weeks, and then on 19 19 take you to --1983, again aged you moved to live in 20 A. Uh-huh. 20 Tara Lodge, which was run by Dr Barnardo's, which was 21 21 Q. -- but you -- if we take SND-4674 back out, please, and a specialist unit, and that was as a result of a case 22 just if you maximise the fifth paragraph -- the fifth 22 conference with St. Pat's staff and various other 23 23 point -- yes, if you just blow that up -- this records agencies trying to work out what was the best place for 24 24 in short form the time that you spent with the you to live. 25 and you can see that it describes you as testing out 25 A. Yes. Page 57 Page 59 1 their love for you, for example, by taking items from 1 Q. We touched on briefly you were living then in Tara Lodge 2 the home, breaking them and denying knowing anything 2 and you lived there until 1985, when you were 3 regarding them, and truanting from school and getting 3 4 into trouble on the occasions you were there, and they 4 A. Uh-huh. 5 talk about selling articles belonging to school friends 5 O. -- shortly to turn and while in Tara Lodge you again 6 and so on -- what Social Services describe as "testing 6 meet up with SND33 and SND35. 7 out behaviour" -- and it then indicates that you asked 7 A. Uh-huh. 8 to leave the foster placement with the in around 8 Q. You know who I mean when I make those references? 9 1981 ---9 A. Yes, indeed I do from what we ... 10 10 A. Uh-huh. Q. Again that's on the same page in the designation list. O. -- 1980/1981 and -- sorry, 11 '81 -- and you went 11 '85 then you move out of Tara Lodge and 12 into Harberton House in '82. 12 into independent accommodation you had found on the 13 13 Lisburn Road. You don't remember that? A. That's correct. 14 Q. You spent three months then in Harberton House. By now 14 A. I don't. 15 you are 15 Q. Again that's what the records appear to suggest. If we 16 A. Uh-huh. 16 just take the page back out and look at-SND4595, this is 17 17 O. In 1982, after your assessment in Harberton House, a record notifying the fact that you are moving out. If 18 you move to live in the Fort James Children's Home. Now 18 we can scroll down to the second half of the page, if we 19 I am not sure whether you recall this now or not, but if 19 just stop there, you will see at 8(b): 20 20 "Reason for transfer: Found independent we go back out to the main page and just take the next 21 21 paragraph down, you'll see that initially you found that accommodation." 22 22. '85 by TL 9 a difficult experience and difficult coming to terms You will see it is signed off in 23 23 with what had perhaps gone before, but the record then TL 9, who was your social worker from the Western 24 records that they continued to visit -- that is the 24 Board. Do you remember her at this stage?

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your second foster family, continued to visit,

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A. No. To be quite honest I don't.

1 Q. The Inquiry is aware -- and I am not going to get into 1 Q. -- from the documents and from your recollection the TL9 was involved with you on a very 2 2 chronology of your movement through care, and you 3 3 regular basis for many years. describe it yourself as moving through a series of 4 4 A. I just don't remember. I'm sorry. places, but what I want to do now is, having set the 5 Q. You just don't remember. So if we move to the next 5 scene, take you back to look at your time in Nazareth 6 page and just scroll down to the bottom, please, you 6 House, Bishop Street and then Termonbacca, which is what 7 7 will see the type of engagement at the bottom of the you talk about in the main in your witness statement. 8 8 page. This just records that for late '84 and early A. Yes. 9 9 '85, but you will see: Q. So if we can go back to SND-4570, please, and then just 10 10 "Discharged from care" to the next page, SND-4571. Now you in paragraph 4 talk 11 and it has the address and date that you are 11 about your time in Coneywarren and then moving 12 leaving. 12 eventually, in paragraph 5, into Bishop Street. That 13 Then on and the Parental 13 1976. You will see in paragraph 5 you you turn 14 Rights Order that the Western Trust had had in respect 14 describe whenever you are brought to the front of the 15 of you expires. 15 house SR9 -- the Panel will be aware from the 16 A. Right. 16 designation list who you are referring to -- greeted you 17 Q. Now you then returned to live in Derry. Do you remember 17 like she was a member of the Gestapo. 18 doing that at this stage? 18 "It was horrendous. It put the fear of God in you." 19 19 A. I probably do. I am not quite -- it was a very chaotic What was it about coming to the home that made you 20 time, but this Inquiry is bringing a lot of things back 20 think of it like that? 21 21 to me to remember. A. Not something I was brought up in. We'd never -- we 22 O. That you hadn't remembered? 22 weren't religious -- foreign people, but it was just the 23 A. That I hadn't ... 23 attitude of them and the look just frightened the life 24 24 Q. The Inquiry is cognisant of that. I have made the Panel out of me from the very first day that I arrived there. 25 aware that a lot of this you didn't recall yourself. 25 Q. So it's the appearance of --Page 61 Page 63 Eventually if we just move to SND-4738, please -- we 1 A. It was the appearance also, yes. 1 2 seem to be having considerable technical difficulty. 2 Q. -- the nun who's greeting you? 3 Now these are -- this is an example, HIA40, of one of 3 A. It was the persona also. 4 the types of records that the Social Services were 4 Q. That was something that was foreign to you, as it were? 5 5 A. Yes, of course. maintaining on their engagement with you. It's recorded 6 as a case report and it has a narrative for each 6 Q. Then in paragraph 6 you then start to describe -- would 7 7 occasion that there was some engagement to do with your you just scroll down, please -- stop there -- you start 8 case, as it were, that TL 9 was engaging in. 8 to describe some of your experiences in Bishop Street 9 9 You will see by this stage you are over 18 and you refer in particular to two nuns, SR59 and SR6. 10 10 obviously, but she's recording efforts made to engage You are aware -- you have your statement in front of 11 with you. If you just scroll down a little further, 11 you. 12 please, you can see there one paragraph up from the 12 A. Uh-huh. 13 bottom you are trying to get some accommodation. Then 13 Q. So you can see the names --14 14 you will see in the bottom paragraph the reason why A. Yes, I do. 15 ultimately you come in contact again with the police --15 Q. -- and the Inquiry Panel are aware of who that is that 16 A. Precise. 16 you are referring to. They can be found at page 6 of 17 17 Q. -- and we will look at that in very brief terms later the designation list and on page 24. 18 on. So one of the things the documents show is that 18 Now most of your complaints, HIA40, about what 19 19 happened to you in Bishop Street and indeed Termonbacca , for instance, completed a particular 20 are about these two nuns. Is that fair? 20 housing form to try to help you get housing at the time 21 in Derry of a suitable type. You don't recall that 21 A. That's fair, yes. 22 22 yourself? Q. Now what I want to do, first of all, then is ask you 23 23 about SR59. You can see who that refers to on your --A. No. 24 Q. Now that is that attempt by me to bring together --24

A. Uh-huh.

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25

25

Q. -- statement. Can I ask you, first of all, to describe

1 that nun? From what you can recollect what did she look 1 automatically she was coming for me for some bizarre 2 2 reason. When they spoke your name, they only spoke you 3 3 A. Well, she was a h by surname. They called you by surname. So she called 4 4 me over and I sat down and she said, "I just got a phone I wasn't quite -- I wasn't quite used to 5 5 such a person like. It was frightening, intimidating call there". She said, "Your mother's dead" and she 6 when I look back on it now, you know. 6 walked away and left me to deal with it on my own. 7 7 Q. Can you remember what sort of height she was? Well, I didn't exactly know whether to believe her 8 A. I'd say she'd probably be a bit bigger in me actually as 8 or what was happening and that was the way it went. We I stand now today. Maybe about 9 never -- I never got to my mother's wake. We never seen maybe. 10 10 Q. You described her as broad -our mother dead. So for years I was convinced that she 11 11 A. A broad woman. wasn't, and I think after that whole experience it was O. -- or chubby or -- broad, is that a fair ...? 12 12 like she ripped my heart out and put a stone one in, and 13 13 A. Well, more ... I became more and more I suppose chaotic as the years 14 progressed really after it, not really understanding 14 Q. And were distinctive in any way? 15 A. Not really, imes 15 what had been put forward to me. You know what I mean? 16 . That's all I 16 Q. I think if we can bring up page SND-4801. If you can 17 17 maximise 4801 for me, but maximise the bottom half of remember. the page. Now this is a record that was part of your 18 Q. And the other nun that you mention is SR6. 18 19 January 1982 assessment when you are in Harberton House. 19 A. Uh-huh. 20 Q. Can I ask you to describe that nun? What did she look 20 A. Right. Is this my writing, is it? 21 21 like? Q. I am not sure whether it is. Do you recollect it as 22 A. That would have been a about just I would say 22 your writing? 23 would have been , if that's the nun that I'm 23 A. I don't know. Just when I seen that writing I thought. 24 thinking about here at the moment. That nun had 24 Q. Maybe someone writing down for you what you were telling 25 25 . That's what stood out a lot to me. them. Page 65 Page 67 1 That was a 1 A. Uh-huh. 2 Q. She had a distinctive characteristic? 2 Q. You will see that at point (3): 3 A. Yes. 3 "The worst thing that ever happened to me was ... 4 Q. Now we have established through conversation, you and I, 4 having to be in care and I never really liked it, but 5 that some of this is slightly out of sync. So what 5 when my mother died I nearly went crackers, because 6 I want to do is take you through to paragraph 11 at 6 I was not allowed to go to her funeral and all the rest 7 SND-4573. Now we were discussing earlier that it was 7 of my family got going. Why I was not allowed to go to 8 1976 that you go into Bishop Street and at that 8 her funeral was because they thought that I would run 9 stage you are You record here in paragraph 11 how 9 away. (I was in Nazareth House)." 10 you were told of your mother's death. 10 The rest of the note suggests that somebody told 11 11 A. That's correct, ves. you, in fact, that your dad was also dead, but that 12 Q. Now what do you want to say to the Inquiry about how 12 turned out not to be correct. 13 13 that was done? A. That turned out to be false, yes. 14 A. Well, I wasn't treated very delicately, to tell you the 14 Q. We will come to that, but can you remember who told you 15 15 truth. I think in the manner in which she had explained you couldn't go to the funeral? 16 to me this person was -- it seemed like she was just 16 A. Yes. That was the very first -- that was the sister in 17 17 getting a kick out of it, if you understand what I mean. question. 18 Maybe I am wrong but -- after the chaos, but the manner 18 Q. So that's SR59? 19 in which she had explained to me -- do you want me to 19 A. That's correct, yes. 20 20 Q. If we can go back then to SND-4573, you mentioned that explain what she had said to me? 21 21 Q. Yes, if that's something you'd like the Panel to the rest of the family had got to go. In your statement 22 22 understand. you mention just halfway through paragraph 11: 23 23 A. Well, I was out in the playground. She came along the "My brother and I did not see our mother." 24 big corridor. There was glass panels in the corridor. 24 A. It was only one sister I think. It was the sister who 25 25 She was rolling her sleeves up as she came out. I knew was with the foster parents that we went to on the Page 66 Page 68

- 1 second time, the second foster parents. That would have
- 2 been the only sister that was in the care system with us
- 3 that went I believe.
- 4 Q. Okay. So you and your brother didn't get to go?
- 5 A. And my other two sisters did not get.
- Q. So your younger brother who was with you in Bishop 6
- 7 Street, he didn't get to go either?
- 8 A. And the two sisters as well, they didn't get to go
- 9 either, ves.
- 10 Q. Now you then describe in paragraphs 6 and 8 of your
- 11 statement -- so that's at SND-4572. I want to take you
- 12 there first, and paragraph 8. If we can just blow up
- 13 paragraph 8 as big as we can. You describe here on one
- 14 occasion -- and you have accepted yourself you did a lot
- 15 of running away.
- 16 A. Precise, ves.
- 17 Q. You got caught shoplifting at the
- 18 off Ferryquay Street.
- 19 A. That's correct, yes.
- 20 Q. The police brought you back to Bishop Street and you
- 21 were in more trouble you say because you had embarrassed
- 22 the nuns and brought the reputation of the home into
- 23 disrepute. You say that you received from SR59 another
- 24 beating following the incident.
- 25 Can you describe what form the beatings from SR59

- 1 heating system worked, it only came on extremely hot, or
- 2 why do you have a view about --
- 3 A. I often thought about that for years, but I think they
- 4 just turned the tap on and whatever came out came out.
- 5 They didn't really care what came out, you know.
- 6 Q. And the second type of incident you describe is the
- 7 locking of children in cupboards.
- 8 A. Precise, yes.
- 9 Q. Now is this something you experienced?
- 10 A. I did indeed, yes.
- 11 Q. And who would have locked you in a cupboard and why
  - would they have locked you in a cupboard?
- 13 A. Locking me in a cupboard because I was running away
- 14 a lot. Basically they knew where I was when I was
- 15 locked in a cupboard.
- 16 O. And do you remember now at this remove who locked you
- 17

12

- 18 A. Yes. It was mostly the first sister which I have ...
- 19 Q. SR59?
- 20 A. Yes, indeed so, yes --
- 21 Q. If you can --
- 22 A. -- but it was other sisters involved, not just -- but
- 23 most of the time was that ...
- 24 Q. She was the main ...?
- 25 A. Yes.

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- 1
- 2 A. I was basically thrown into a shower -- I was told to
- 3 take a shower and I was thrown in, and when she came in
- 4 -- my head ran parallel with the tap there. It's not
- 5 one of those taps that had the squares, you know, stars
- 6 on it. It was one of them knobs. She just bounced my
- 7 face right into the tap and I fell to the floor. I had
- 8 quite a really bad headache. I was really shook up
- 9 about it. There was no medical intervention or
- 10 anything. So I had a good few days of internal pain,
- 11 you know, and very freaked out, more angrier afterward,
- 12 if you understand what I mean.
- 13 Q. If we can just go out and go back to SND-4571,
- 14 paragraph 6, just further down paragraph 6, this is you
- 15 describing in the bottom half of this paragraph the
- 16 incident with the shower, and you are saying, if I have
- 17 understood you correctly, that that was in the aftermath
- 18 of this incident where you had been caught --
- 19 A. That's correct, yes.
- 20 Q. -- that had caused embarrassment to the nuns.
  - You then describe in paragraph 7 two different types
- 22 of behaviour. One is, if we stay on the theme of
- 23 showers, that you were put into the shower and you would
- 24 either have a scalding shower or a freezing shower, and
- 25 do you know whether that was just the water, the way the
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- O. If we just scroll down slightly so we can see the second 1
- 2 part of paragraph 7, a third issue that you discuss in
- 3 this paragraph is you were having to go to the toilet
- 4 with the door open.
- 5 A. That's correct, yes.
- 6 Q. Can you explain to the Inquiry Panel what you might have
  - been doing that caused them to leave the door open,
- 8 whether you agree with whether this was the way to do it
- 9

7

- 10 A. Why did it come to the stage of that happening?
- Q. What had you been doing that they had --11
- 12 A. I had been climbing out the toilet window and down the
- 13 drain pipe and away. So when I had to go to the toilet,
- 14 I had to ask a certain individual there who was friendly
- 15 with this sister, and she had to ask the sister for me
- 16 when I wanted to go to the toilet. When I went to the
- 17 toilet, they would be either -- they kept -- the door
- 18 was kept open. They always seemed to take me into the
- 19 toilet where there was no bars on the window whereas
- 20 there was on the other windows, you know, and they would
- 21 watch me going to the toilet to the situation at times
- 22 where I have just wet my pants or dirtied myself and 23
- 24 a shower again, you know. I felt quite humiliated
- 25 actually that somebody was watching me using the toilet,

then I got another battering for that and put into

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- but this was a punishment they told me for me hopping
- off all the time, you know. So ...
- 3 Q. Now you then describe in paragraph 9, if we just scroll
- 4 down a little further, a particular incident, and this
- 5 is something perhaps that Miss Walk nshaw can check out
- 6 whether there is any record to show, but in the second
- 7 half of this paragraph you talk about a road traffic
- 8 accident where SR6, the other sister that you recall --
- 9 A. Yes, indeed.

1

- 10 Q. -- most vividly, was driving a blue transit bus over
- 11 Craigavon Bridge. This was bringing you back from
- a holiday cottage that you were at in Donegal?
- A. Bringing me back from Altnagelvin actually from getting
   awarded some stitches from an accident which had
- occurred during that holiday home.
- 16 Q. Yes. My apologies. So you had been at the holiday
- 17 cottage in Donegal. You had got a bang on the head.
- 18 A. No. I nearly lost my eye. I fell on a sharp stone in
- 19 the sand dunes. The stone went into my eye here. I had
- 20 to be taken to Altnagelvin for a few stitches, but we
- 21 had to stay the night at Nazareth House then. So she
- 22 was coming flying over the road. She got to the start
- 23 of the other side of the bridge at the Waterside and she
- 24 smashed quite -- she smashed into the railings of the
- 25 bridge.

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- People used to swing them all around the place and do
- 2 tricks with them. They are quite dangerous little
- 3 instruments to be messing around with. They could split
- 4 you open really.
- 5 Q. Who had a set of those?
- 6 A. The first sister that we were discussing here.
- 7 Q. SR59?
- 8 A. That's correct, yes.
- 9 Q. Now you are aware, because I discussed it with you in
- 10 advance of today, that -- if we can bring up -- you were
- in Bishop Street in 1976/'77.
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. If we can bring up, please, SND-6309, the Panel is able
- to see SR59 is in Bishop Street working in 1976, but
- there is no record at least on this employment register
- of the nun with the particular characteristic that you
- describe who has been given a designation of SR6, but
- 18 your recollection is that those two nuns were involved
- 19 with you in Bishop Street?
- 20 A. I would say so, yes.
- 21 Q. And the next page, 1977, SND-6310, again SR59 is present
- but not SR6.
- Now you then move on, and we are about to come to
- 24 it, to Termonbacca --
- 25 A. Uh-huh.

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- 1 Well, then obviously the police come. The policeman
- was quite shocked. He thought I was involved in the
- 3 accident. He thought I -- because, you know, I was all
- 4 bruised and stitched up, he thought I had been involved
- 5 in the accident there, which I hadn't.
- 6 So they took us back to the Nazareth House then
- 7 after the whole -- I don't know what she'd said to the
- 8 driver. I had to stay in the nuns' quarters that night,
- 9 you know, but I got quite a going over when I got back
- to the nuns' home, because I had caused the accident.
   I didn't cause no accident. She was the one driving the
- 12 Clarify the decident of the was the one driving the
- 12 van. She was the one that crashed it. It wasn't me.
- 13 You know what I mean, but ...
- 14 Q. And in relation to this incident you recall this while
- you were still living in Bishop Street?
- 16 A. That's correct, yes.
- 17 Q. But you had been off in Donegal?
- 18 A. They had a holiday home down in a place called Shrove I
- 19 think. It was outside Buncrana, yes.
- 20 Q. You then as part of this paragraph describe in the last
- section, the last five lines, a particular device that
- you recall, which you call clangers.
- 23 A. Yes, indeed. So I think they were the toy of the day.
- 24 They were like two balls. They must have been about the
- size of cricket balls. One cord joined the two of them.
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- 1 Q. -- in 1979.
- 2 **A. Yes.**
- 3 Q. If we just look at that record at SND-5789. Just
- 4 maximise that. You will see there, HIA40, that in 1979
- 5 SR6 is definitely recorded as working in Termonbacca,
- 6 but SR59 isn't.
- 7 A. Isn't, yes.
- 8 Q. Now SR1 is a sister with a similar name, but not the
- 9 same name. She might have had the same --
- 10 A. You see, as I said to you before, I think with the whole
- 11 trauma out of them all, I think every one of them just
- looked the same and were the same to me, yes.
- 13 Q. You see them all as SR59?
- 14 A. I did indeed, yes.
- 15 Q. And before I leave Bishop Street -- for instance, you
- record the occasion of the accident. You had been in
  - Donegal.

17

- 18 A. Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. Is there anything else -- is there anything positive you
- 20 can recall about your time in Bishop Street? You were
- there for, as we discussed, about fifteen months.
- Anything positive about that time?
- 23 A. The only positive things there was getting home to my
- 24 mother's house, no matter how dysfunctional it was.
- $25 \qquad \text{That was the only positive thing that I remember from} \\$

#### the childhood days there in the care system, you know. 1

- 2 Q. That was in the period before 1st June '76 --
- 3 A. Uh-huh.
- 4 Q. -- which is the period we have been primarily looking
- 5
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. You then describe -- if we go back to your statement, we
- 8 looked at the fact you went then into foster care --
- 9 A. Uh-huh.
- 10 Q. -- for a couple of years in the city. If we can go
- 11 back, please, to SND-4572. Take it on a few pages until
- 12 we get to the Termonbacca page, SND-4574. Now if we
- 13 just stop there, paragraph 14, just while we are on the
- 14 subject of identifying people, you are in Termonbacca
- 15 March '79 to December '79. So you are 11 and become 12
- 16

1

- 17 A. Uh-huh.
- 18 Q. You mention in paragraph 14 as soon as you arrived you
- 19 remember seeing SR59 and SR6 and we have looked at the
- 20 records relating to them. You also then mention another
- 21 nun, SR2. The Inquiry is aware of who SR2 is. You can
- 22 see on your statement the identity --
- 23 A. I can indeed, yes.
- 24 Q. -- that's underneath that.
- But if we look at SND-5789, please -- 5789, please 25 Page 77
  - -- this is in 1979, HIA40, when you are in Termonbacca.
- 2 The Panel is aware of the names that are under the
- 3 redactions. You have SR6 and SR1 who are working with
- 4 the children along with SR27. SR2 is not present, but
- 5 if we just go back a page to SND-5788, then the Inquiry
- 6 will see that SR2 is certainly present in 1978, but
- 7 I made you aware from her own witness statement she
- 8 indicates she went to
- 9 A. Right, yes.
- Q. -- in 1978, but you have indicated that these are the 10
- 11 nuns that you recall.
- 12 If we go back to your witness statement, please, at
- 13 SND-4574, and if we just maximise that -- thank you --
- 14 you describe in the paragraphs 14 through to 17
- 15 effectively bullying occurring in Termonbacca.
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. Do you want to say anything more about that to the
- 18 Inquiry? What is it you remember about your time in
- 19 Termonbacca that stands out?
- 20 A. That my time was chaos. I was solvent abusing at the
- 21 time. I was just trying to get any anaesthetic to get
- 22 the day -- to get the day through. There is not any
- 23 good memories for me anyway to be quite honest. I had
- 24 a younger brother I had to look out for as well as
- 25 myself. I couldn't look out for myself. It was
  - Page 78

- 1 difficult to look out for my younger brother, you know.
- 2 O. You describe in paragraph 16 another boy, HIA60. The
- 3 Inquiry is aware of who that is.
- 4

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9

- 5 Q. On page 3 of the designation list you will see who HIA40
  - is referring to. He is someone who did stick up for
- 7 you, as it were, and tried to --
- 8 A. Yes, he did, but he wasn't there very often, you know,
  - but when he was around, he did stick up for people, but
- 10 he was very much more better respected I feel within
- 11 Termonbacca, because he was -- he had a good education,
- 12 if you understand what I mean. They were maybe
- 13 expecting good things from him I think.
- 14 Q. How was this type of bullying you are describing
- 15 possible? Were the nuns aware that it was happening, or
- 16 were they not around to see it happening, or how was it 17
  - possible?
- 18 A. Look, I just think it just happened and nobody --
- 19 everybody was just so scared to say anything, you know.
- 20 People over the years ask me, "Was it normal?" Well,
- 21 I thought "normal" was a cycle on the washing machine
- 22 for a lot of years. It seemed normal to me. You know,
- 23 I think they knew but just turned a blind eye, you know.
- 24 That was the way it was.
- 25 Q. You in Termonbacca -- and again the Inquiry Panel are Page 79
  - aware of the police statement that we were discussing
- 1 2 earlier --
- 3 A. Precise, yes.
- 4 Q. -- from 1985, and in that police statement you discuss
- 5 the activity with the two individuals we mentioned --
- 6 A. Precise, yes.
- 7 Q. -- SND33 and 35. It's in Termonbacca where we're at
- 8 now, discussing now, that you met those individuals.
- 9 You don't recall what you were describing in the police
- 10 statement that the Inquiry --
- A. No. That was such a very fast moving, chaotic, mad 11
  - time. I still today just don't recollect even what
- 13 happened, you know, but it's in black and white before
- 14 me and something I have to learn to live with I suppose.
- 15 Q. It's a point I was discussing with you, that the Health
- 16 & Social Care Board are explaining about the extent of
- 17 the involvement with you.
- 18

12

- 19 Q. If we just can bring up, please, SND-4591. You are 11
- 20 at this point in your journey when you are in
- 21 Termonbacca. Now one of the items that the social
- 22 worker who was looking after you at the time -- and her
- 23 name is present again on the screen -- this records her 24 referring you to an educational psychologist in June of
- 25 1979. You will see the reason why she referred you.

- 1 Then the psychologist is indicating the occasions on 2 which he spent with you.
- 3 If we just scroll down through the report, please.
- 4 Just keep going, please. He then describes your
- 5 background and some of the history that we have
- 6 discussed today. Just keep scrolling, please. Then he
- 7 looks at your -- as he found you. He describes the
- 8 history of rejections and your testing out behaviour and
- 9 indicates that's not surprising. He talks about anxiety
- and emotional deprivation were the most prominent
- features of your condition. He makes a number of
- suggestions about your position and suggests -- you will
- see the discussion about foster parents, and ultimately
- that's what happens, and we'll come again shortly to you
- going out to the foster parents.
- Before I ask you if there's anything else you want
- 17 to say about Termonbacca can I just ask you: you
- remember the two gentlemen that we are --
- 19 A. We discussed, yes.
- $20\,$   $\,$  Q. -- we talked about. You remember them. You just don't
- 21 remember --
- 22 A. Just don't remember.
- 23 Q. -- what you're describing to the police as having
- 24 happened --
- 25 A. Precise. Uh-huh.

- 1 Q. -- in Termonbacca.
- Now we have then looked at your period in foster
- 3 care with the between
- 4 '82, between and we have looked at some of

'79 and

- 5 the difficulties that they experienced.
- 6 Can you just take me back, please, to SND-4575 and
- 7 to paragraph 18? If you just highlight that for me,
- 8 please. You record here that you went to Harberton
- 9 House and from there to Fort James. You say that was
- total chaos and you refer to it being in a Protestant
- neighbourhood and bullied for going to a Catholic
- school.
- 13 "After Fort James and until I was 16 Social Services
- got fed up with me and put me in different institutions all over the place. I was placed in Dr Barnardo's
- adolescent unit, Tara Lodge."
- You are aware from the chronology that we went
- 18 through earlier --
- 19 A. Precise.
- 20 Q. -- that that's not quite right.
- 21 A. No. That's exactly not.
- 22 Q. You went to Fort James and you left there because of
- 23 a particular --
- 24 A. Situation, yes.
- 25 Q. -- situation that had occurred. Again the Inquiry is Page 82

# 1 aware of that, but in summary form, HIA40, you were

- 2 charged with indecent assault on a younger female --
- 3 A. Uh-huh.
- 4 Q. -- and ultimately you were convicted of that matter in
- 5 1983.
- 6 A. Uh-huh.
- 7 Q. You pleaded guilty to the charge. That related to
- 8 something that occurred in 1982, and then shortly
- 9 before you left for St. Pat's there was a second
- incident with a different girl.
- 11 A. Which I don't remember.
- 12 O. You don't remember, but --
- 13 A. But, yes, of course there was. It is in black and
- white, yes.
- 15 Q. Take from the records that we have discussed that in
- of '83 there was a second incident --
- 17 **A. Uh-huh.**
- 18 Q. -- which you again accepted and you were subsequently
- 19 convicted of that.
- 20 A. Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. As a result of that second incident the records would
- suggest that the police made it clear to Social Services
- you couldn't stay in Fort James.
- 24 A. Precise, yes.
- Q. That's when you were taken to St. Pat's.

Page 83

- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. The records would suggest that your time in St. Pat's
- 3 was not -- you were certainly not keen to stay there and
- 4 were very worried, and the case conference that takes
- 5 place recommends that St. Pat's isn't the place for you
- 6 and ultimately you move out to Tara Lodge.
- 7 A. Uh-huh.
- 8 Q. Now if I can just show you -- if we can bring up
- 9 SND-4670. I've described for you while you are in Fort
- James -- if we can just maximise that letter, please,
- and then just take us down to the text. This is
- a letter that was written by the Assistant Director of
- 13 Social Services on your behalf while you are facing the
- 14 first matter --
- 15 **A. Uh-huh.**
- 16 Q. -- that occurred in 1982. So this letter is
- 17 written in 1982 before the matters come to
- court, and this is the Social Services expressing their
- view to the then RUC as to what should be done. This is
- before the second incident, which occurs in of '83,
- 21 but if we just scroll slightly further down -- if you
- just stop there so we can see the bottom paragraph. You
- will see the last line here, for instance, indicates
- 24 that despite the foster placement with the
- having come to an end, and the records suggest that you Page 84

21 (Pages 81 to 84)

- 1 were bringing that to an end, that they were continuing
- 2 to engage through the help of Social Services with you
- 3 while you were living in Fort James, visiting you, and
- 4 I was discussing with you earlier records to show they
- 5 went to court when you were going court to be there for
- 6 you and so on. Are those matters you remember now,
- 7 having thought about it, or do you still not?

# 8 A. Some I remember; some I don't.

- 9 Q. Then despite the letter -- if we just scroll down to the
  10 next part of the letter so that the Panel can see. Just
  11 stop there. You will see, HIA40, in the penultimate
- paragraph, one up from the bottom, the author of the letter is expressing the view that it would be better if
- 14 you weren't prosecuted and -- in his view and that's
- what he was recommending.

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Unfortunately that isn't what happened. The police took a different view or the DPP took a different view and you were served with a summons in of '83 and ultimately that led to the conviction which was in

'83.

Now the case conference that occurred, I am not going to go through the documentation, but the Panel will be able to see that, for instance, when you went into St. Pat's, having been removed in of '83, after the second incident -- so the first incident

Page 85

1 having at the moment began with the point in your

2 statement where you say Social Services got fed up and

3 --

#### 4 A. That's the way I seen it anyway.

- 5 Q. That's the way you see it. Now, faced with the
- documents, you can see that there was a lot of Social
- 7 Service involvement.

# 8 A. A lot of intervention, of course, yes.

- $9\,$   $\,$  Q. Then your time in Tara Lodge. We have touched on
- 10 earlier you meet again with the two individuals --
- 11 **A. Uh-huh.**
- 12 O. -- whom you had known at Termonbacca, and the Panel has
- 13 the police statement --
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. -- in which you describe what was occurring there, but
- 16 again do you recall --
- 17 A. Indeed not, no.
- 18 O. You don't recall the detail of it?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. And the -- for instance, if we look at SND-4775, and we
- just scroll down a bit, please, to the bottom of the
- 22 page. Okay. So this is of 1985, by which you
- have already turned now 18.
- 24 A. Uh-huh.
- 25 Q. It is recording in summary form the difficulties that

Page 87

- 1 hasn't made it to court yet and the second incident
- 2 occurs and you go to St. Pat's -- there is an engagement
- 3 with a psychiatrist and a psychologist as well as -- and
- 4 I was showing you and you were surprised -- the number
- 5 of professionals who were round the table discussing
- 6 you. That's not something -- we talked about the number
- 7 of seven people who were talking about your case, trying
- 8 to work out how best to help you. That is not something
- 9 you recall now?

# 10 A. No, I don't recall it. That's a lot of people to be 11 dealing with one person. Why did it take so many?

- 12 Q. That's a matter for Social Services --
- 13 A. That's another day.
- 14 Q. -- but I would imagine they'll say that's what they
- needed to do to try to work out what was best. They --
- the result of that meeting and those experts, you seeing
- them and then them meeting and talking, was the
- placement in Tara Lodge, and the Panel will then have
- a significant volume of material showing the history of
- that stay and on various occasions you obtaining
- employment and being enthusiastic about it but that not
- lasting. Do you have any memory of that now at this
- 23 remove?
- 24 A. Not really.
- 25 Q. And your -- you can understand this conversation we are Page 86

- 1 you have had and the efforts to get employment and the
- 2 many moves that you'd had. We will see the suggestion
- 3 of your sister and I think at one stage you did move to
- 4 live with your sister for a period of time. Do you
- 5 recall that now?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. You don't, and you will see from that document your
- 8 social worker is going to try to help you get
- 9 accommodation. So your -- she's asking about your
- 10 housing application form.

11 If we look at SND-4743, you will see in the very

- last number of lines:
- "... I have agreed to complete the A2 housing
- application and also on him being rehoused to apply to
- 15 Supplementary Benefits for a grant for furnishings."
- 16 It indicates you had agreed to maintain contact with
- the social worker. Again this is August 1985. So
- 18 you've left Tara Lodge. You're back -- you move back to
- 19 Derry. The Parental Rights Order has --
- 20 A. It's over.
- 21 Q. -- expired, but this particular lady is still engaging
- with you, trying to do various things to assist you.
  - That's not something you recall now?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. That is the same social worker as I mentioned earlier, Page 88

22 (Pages 85 to 88)

1 TL 9 , who has appeared in various other

- 2 documents.
- 3 Now while you were living then in Derry with -- it
- 4 is a couple of a different occasions but ultimately in
- 5 Do you remember that?

#### A. I remember living at a place called yes.

- 7 Q. This same social worker -- I'm not going to go through
- 8 the records -- engages with you to let you know that the
- 9 police want to speak to you about your engagement with
- 10 the other two gentlemen that the Inquiry is aware of
- from your police statement.
- 12 **A. Uh-huh.**
- 13 Q. You went to Belfast and were charged along with them and
- then those charges were ultimately withdrawn. You don't
- 15 have any recollection of that --
- 16 A. No, I don't.
- 17 Q. -- now?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. If I can then take you back, HIA40, to the statement --
- 20 A. Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. -- and you describe in some detail the life after care.
- If we can go back to SND-4574. If we can scroll on to
- the next page, please, SND-4575. You describe, HIA40,
- over the next number of pages your travels, as it were,
- and the difficulties that you have had in adult life.

## Page 89

- Q. The Inquiry, HIA40, is obviously very grateful for you
- 2 coming and sharing your experiences with it. Before
- 3 I finish there's -- there are a few other questions that
- 4 I want to ask you.
- 5 A. Okay.
- 6 Q. The Inquiry, as you know, has to make a series of
- 7 recommendations --
- 8 A. Uh-huh.
- 9 Q. -- to the Northern Ireland Executive about the form of
- $10 \qquad \text{ an apology, about whether there should be redress of } \\$
- some kind, about whether there should be some form of
- memorial. Have you any views you want to make the
- 13 Inquiry aware of about those matters?
- 14 A. I don't really know for my own self. I just hope at the
- end of this that there will be services, more so and
- better, for children who require them, but the family
- intervention will also be there, you know, things that
- $18\,$   $\,$  just didn't seem to be there in my younger days. That's
- 19 **all I have to say.**
- 20 Q. Can I ask you if there is anything else -- we have
- obviously covered a lot of ground and we've tried to
- cover it in I describe it as a headline way. Is there
- anything else that you'd like to say to the Inquiry
- about your time spent in Bishop Street or Termonbacca or
- any of the other locations where you were?

#### Page 91

- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. You describe a particular problem with drug abuse --
- 3 A. That's correct, yes.
- 4 Q. -- and living homeless --
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- 6 Q. -- in London.
- 7 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 8 Q. And the drug abuse brought on serious medical
- 9 difficulties.
- 10 A. That's correct, yes.
- 11 Q. You describe two heart attacks and a stroke.
- 12 **A. Uh-huh.**
- 13 Q. And in other places I think you talk about difficulty
- with glue and alcohol.
- A. Yes, with solvent abuse, alcohol and prescription
   medication and illegal misuse.
- 17 Q. I think you say later on in the statement that you have
- been able to leave those activities behind.
- 19 A. Yes. I went to rehab, yes.
- 20 Q. The Panel will be able to read the "Life after care"
- section and see the type of difficulties that you are
- describing, but you explain then your local elected
- 23 representative got you a flat to live in in Derry and
- that's what you are now doing.
- 25 A. That's correct, yes. That's what I am now doing, yes.

Page 90

- 1 A. Well, I suppose every day for me was like Groundhog Day.
- 2 I don't have a good memory of it. That's sad, you know,
- 3 but I often wish things could have been different, you
- 4 know. The lost opportunities with not a good education,
- 5 you know, no good job, you know.
- 6 And the things that I~have learned out of this
- 7 Inquiry since I started the process, some of it is gut
- 8 wrenching, you know. It doesn't sit too good with me,
- 9 but I've got to try to address that myself. Yes,
- 10 there's a bit of food for thought here.
- ${\it 11}$  Q. I think there's one matter that you describe in the
- 12 "Life after care" section of your statement --
- 13 A. Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. -- which is what your father told you. He is now dead.
- 15 A. Yes, and I learned subsequently that the information was
- incorrect. So I have had a lot of years of hardship and
- 17 misery I suppose, and now I have to really look at other
- 18 things from that, yes.
- 19 Q. He suggested to you he had had some involvement in your
- 20 mother's death.
- 21 A. He did, yes. On the domestic side he claimed he
- 22 murdered my mother and the day he murdered us (sic) he
- 23 murdered every one of us with her, but ...
- 24 Q. But he told you he had spent some time --
- 25 A. He did indeed, yes.

1 CHARMAN: Thank you very much, HLAO, a you will appreciate from what you have said a few moments ago in answer to Mr Aiken, there's a lot of material here that information the Inquiry has received from the Police  5 Service is there is no record of an investigation of the trype of him having a criminal necord to reflect it, and that the Social Services pagers —  8 A. Uh-hub.  9 Q. — don't appear to suggest it, but that's what he told you for whatever reason he told it to you.  10 you for whatever reason he told it to you.  11 A. Ves. That's — that is not easy to fix with that what he told you for whatever reason he told it to you.  12 you for whatever reason he told it to you.  13 what I mean? More torture.  14 Q. Well, it may be that the Panel will want to ask you some questions or one. So if you have this opportunity?  15 A. No, I think that's great.  16 Q. — while she the Panel will want to ask you some questions or one. So if you have this opportunity?  17 A. I think I've said enough here.  18 Q. Well, it may be that the Panel will want to ask you some questions or one. So if you have wis opportunity?  21 A. No problem.  22 M. SDOHERTY: No, I don't have any questions. Thank you for coming and talking today.  23 A. I think that strying to run away. Was that mainly because you Puge 93  1 were trying actually to get back home or were you running away from Termorbacca as well?  2 what I was trying to run away from myself, to be quite honest—  2 you for what I was trying to run away from me really, but I'm away to get to home more times than anything. My mother was a young, fit, big, fall woman when have here premitting for un away to get to home more times than anything. My mother was a young, fit, big, fall woman when kiny here is no longer here anymore, it is quite transmite, if you understand what I knew. her. To be to loth then after 35 years old that she is no longer here anymore, it is quite transmite, fly you understand what I knew, her. To be be referred to Haldo to how and you have this open and resea	Ī			
Service is there is no record of an investigation of that type or him having a criminal record to reflect it, and that the Social Services papers	1	Q in prison in respect of it.	1	CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, HIA40. As you will
information the Inquity has received from the Police  Service is there is no record of an investigation of that type or him having a criminal record to reflect it, and that the Social Services papers - A. Cl-blub. Q. — don't appear to suggest it, but that's what he told you for what ever reason he told it to you. A. A. Yes. That's — that is not easy to lie with me at the moment, you know, but, yes. What can I say? You know what I mean? More torture. Q. — while you have this opportunity? A. D. I think that's great. Q. — while you have this opportunity? A. I think I've said enough here. Q. — while you have this opportunity? A. No problem. Question from THE PANEL Question from THE PANEL Question from THE PANEL A. So problem. Question from THE PANEL Question from THE PANEL A. Was that mainly because you Page 93  I were trying actually to get back home or were you running away from Termonbacca as well? A. I think I was trying to run away from myself, to be quite honest - Q. Right. A. — something you can't do, but I was also trying to run away to get to home more times than anything. My mother was a young, fit, big, tall woman when I kane her. To be told then after 35 years old that she is no longer here anymore, it is quite thome more times than anything. My mother was a young, fit, big, tall woman when I know her. To be told then after 35 years old that she is no longer here anymore, it is quite traumatic, if you understand what I mean. It affects everybody different. So, yes, I was trying to run away from me heother, trying to run away to get to home more times than anything. My mother was a young, fit, big, tall woman when I know her. To be told then after 35 years old that she is no longer here anymore, it is quite traumatic, if you understand what I mean. It affects everybody different. So, yes, I was trying to run away from me he home, trying to run away to get to home more times than anything hy mother was a young, fit, big, tall younderstand what I mean, It affects everybody different. So, yes, I was trying	2	A. Uh-huh.	2	appreciate from what you have said a few moments ago in
s Service is there is no record of an investigation of that type or him having a criminal record to reflect it, and that the Social Services papers—  8. A. Uh-bub. O. — don't appear to suggest it, but that's what he told vou for whatever reason he told it to you.  1. A. Ves. That's — that is not easy to be with me at the moment, you know, but, you know, you k	3	Q. What I have been able to tell you is at the moment the	3	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
s Service is there is no record of an investigation of that type or him having a criminal record to reflect it, and that the Social Services papers—  8. A. Uh-bub. O. — don't appear to suggest it, but that's what he told vou for whatever reason he told it to you.  1. A. Ves. That's — that is not easy to be with me at the moment, you know, but, you know, you k	4	information the Inquiry has received from the Police	4	both we and you have to come to terms with.
that type or him having a criminal record to reflect it, and that the Social Services papers  **A.* Uh-huh.**  7 A.* Uh-huh.**  9 Q. — don't appear to suggest it, but that's what he told you for whatever reason he told it to you.  11 A.* Yes. That's — that is not easy to lie with me at the moment, you know, but, yes. What can I say? You know what I mean? More torture.  14 Q. Well, is there anything else that you'd like to say — the first of what I suspect may be quite a number of you withing while you have this opportunity?  17 A.* I think Tye said enough here.  21 Q. Well, it may be that the Panel will want to ask you some questions or not. So if you bear with us for a moment.  22 MS DOHERTY: No. I don't have any questions. Thank you for coming and talking today.  23 MR LANE: Just one question I'd like to ask. You mentioned about the running away. Was that mainly because you page 93  1 were trying actually to get back home or were you running away from Termonbacca as well?  3 A. I think I was trying to run away from myself, to be quite homeser— obe told then after 35 years old that she is no longer bere anymore, it is quite tranmatic, if you understand what I mean. It affects verybody different. So, yes, I was a young, 8t, hig, tall woman when I knew her. To be told then after 35 years old that she is no longer lever anymore, it is quite tranmatic, if you understand what I mean. It affects verybody different. So, yes, I was ryon, when the ment of the panel, as I midicated, the referred to HIA40 to look at or comment on, then the first of the Hiards of the papers that the duter of the papers that have been you could, which are rather significant in volume.  4 C. I have a sou are concerned that the future is better for you. Thank you to the clear when whether I like it or not. I can't run away from the home, trying to the papers that when the papers that have been younged, this has the papers that have been y	5		5	
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