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HISTORICAL INSTITUTIONAL ABUSE INQUIRY

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being heard before:

SIR ANTHONY HART (Chairman)

MR DAVID LANE

MS GERALDINE DOHERTY

held at

Banbridge Court House

Banbridge

on Monday, 26th January 2015

commencing at 10.00 am

(Day 89)

MS CHRISTINE SMITH, QC and MR JOSEPH AIKEN appeared as
Counsel to the Inquiry.

1 Monday, 26th January 2015

2 (10.00 am)

3 WITNESS HIA297 (called)

4 CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. As usual
5 before starting this morning's proceedings I want to
6 remind everyone to please ensure their mobile phones are
7 turned off or at the very least placed on
8 "Silent"/"Vibrate" and also to remind everyone that no
9 photography or indeed recording is permitted anywhere on
10 the premises or within the perimeter fence.

11 Now before we call the first witness this morning
12 I have an announcement to make about the timetable.
13 Late on Wednesday night last week the Inquiry was
14 informed for the first time by their solicitor that
15 fifteen clients who are applicants to the Inquiry now
16 wish to apply for legal representation. Some are due to
17 give evidence during the current module. At the same
18 time representations were made to the Inquiry on their
19 behalf that their evidence should be postponed until the
20 outcome of the appeal to the Court of Appeal is known.

21 As a result the Inquiry has decided it must postpone
22 the evidence of a number of applicants and of other
23 witnesses whose evidence may relate to those applicants
24 until the appeal has been decided by the Court of
25 Appeal. The appeal is listed for 2nd March. This

1 decision has been taken with great reluctance on our
2 part, as we recognise that it may cause distress to
3 those witnesses whose evidence may have to be postponed
4 over the coming weeks.

5 The hearings listed for tomorrow, Tuesday, have
6 therefore had to be adjourned and there may be further
7 alterations to the timetable of public hearings in the
8 coming weeks. We will do all that we can to keep the
9 disruption of our timetable to a minimum and our staff
10 will be in touch with anyone affected to explain the
11 position and to try to identify alternative dates when
12 they can give evidence.

13 Now, Mr Aiken.

14 MR AIKEN: Morning, Chairman, Members of the Panel. The
15 first witness today is HIA297, who is "HIA297". He is
16 aware, Chairman, you are going to ask him and he is
17 going to take the oath.

18 CHAIRMAN: Good morning, HIA297.

19 WITNESS HIA297 (sworn)

20 CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, HIA297. Please sit down.

21 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

22 MR AIKEN: HIA297, the Panel understands the nervousness
23 that comes with doing what you are doing this morning
24 and, as I said to you beforehand, I will summarise much
25 of the material that we are going to talk about, and

1 I know that you have already yourself spent time trying
2 to find out about your family background and how you
3 came to follow the path through care that you did. We
4 have had various discussions today already about some of
5 those items because of their importance to the Inquiry's
6 work. So we are going to, as you know, look at some
7 documents on the screen that illustrate the involvement
8 between the Welfare Authority and the homes that you
9 were in. I will try and summarise as much of that as
10 possible, and if at any stage you have any difficulty,
11 just let me know and the Panel won't have any difficulty
12 taking a break, if that's what's required.

13 Before we look at some of the material I am just
14 going to give to the Panel some of the references that
15 are important for your evidence and so that the Panel
16 has a record of where they are in our big electronic
17 bundle that lies behind these screens.

18 So can we bring up, first of all, please -- I should
19 just confirm, Chairman, I have spoken to HIA297 and he's
20 keen for his anonymity to be preserved.

21 CHAIRMAN: Very well.

22 MR AIKEN: Therefore, while we will use names in here today,
23 HIA297, they won't be used beyond the chamber and the
24 Inquiry's restriction orders prevent the reporting of
25 your name in association with your story.

1 So if we can bring up, please, SNB-352, appearing on
2 the screen, HIA297, is hopefully you will confirm for me
3 the first page of your witness statement, except the one
4 you have in front of you you can see what's under the
5 black marks, and this is part of our anonymity policy,
6 so when the document is published, no-one will be able
7 to tell that it is you. Can you just confirm that's
8 your -- the first page of your statement?

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. If we go, please, to 356, and if you just look at the
11 last page of the hard copy, physical one you have in
12 front of you, HIA297, and confirm that that's the same
13 last page --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- and that you have signed -- on the screen the one has
16 the black mark over it with your designation, but you
17 physically signed the statement?

18 **A. Yes, that's my signature.**

19 Q. You want to adopt your statement as your evidence to the
20 Inquiry?

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. In addition to this document, if we can go back just to
23 352 and leave it on the screen, the Sisters of
24 Nazareth's response can be found at 1897 through to
25 1898, and HIA297 is aware that, while his recollection

1 of Nazareth Lodge is vague and he doesn't really make
2 any complaint about any particular individuals in terms
3 of abuse, the Sisters have offered him an apology for
4 any occasion whenever his care fell beneath the standard
5 that it should have.

6 The Health & Social Care Board response, which is
7 a detailed response , is at 5749 through to 5753 and
8 with exhibits that run from 5754 to 5796.

9 In addition, the Inquiry has been provided with the
10 social work file relating to HIA297, which runs from
11 SNB-44375 through SNB-44535. So from the numbering the
12 Panel will be aware that's an extensive file. That
13 stems from, as HIA297 and I were discussing earlier, his
14 family's involvement with Armagh Welfare Committee and
15 ultimately Armagh Welfare lying behind his path through
16 care that we are going to touch on as we go this
17 morning. HIA297 is aware that in his file are a number
18 of important documents that will assist the Panel to
19 understand the differences between how the Welfare
20 Authority's interaction with children that they placed
21 in the Sisters of Nazareth's homes in Belfast were
22 compared to perhaps private placements that took place,
23 and HIA297 is aware that we are going to look at some of
24 those documents to illustrate that point.

25 That all being said, HIA297, by way of background

1 been just over 3 years of age. The references for that,
2 Members of the Panel, are 5755 and 6.

3 If we just can bring up 5755 as an example of the
4 type of document the Panel may not have seen before,
5 this is a record of the Armagh County Welfare Committee.
6 It has the basic information about the individual and
7 then, as we scroll down, it records a chronology of
8 an individual's progress through care and the main
9 decisions affecting them.

10 If we just move through on to the next page, we can
11 see that continue until reference in HIA 297's case to
12 a discharge to foster care, which we will come to
13 shortly, in 1972. So it is a generic record that is
14 a chronology of the progress through care.

15 What that document records -- and there are other
16 documents that explain it in more detail -- are that due
17 to the difficult home circumstances HIA297 and his
18 siblings were brought before the Juvenile Court
19 in October '67 and a Fit Person Order, as it was known,
20 was made taking them into care. References for that can
21 be found at 5758 and also 44414.

22 As HIA297 has known from his own work looking into
23 this, originally you were placed, HIA297, in Nazareth
24 House in Portadown alongside your brothers and your
25 sister . We can look at, if we can, please, and

1 if you can bring up 44520, and this was a document,
2 HIA297, that you hadn't seen before in the material that
3 you got from the -- from your own efforts, but on the
4 screen is a document that shows a record whenever
5 an individual child was being taken into care by -- in
6 this case it is an Armagh County Welfare Committee form
7 and it records the circumstances and basic information
8 surrounding the child that's involved.

9 If we just scroll down, we can see that it involves
10 recording -- as well as the basic factual details as to
11 how the child came to be in the care of the welfare
12 authority, it records a medical history, and then
13 reference to various personal documents that were
14 obtained connected to the person.

15 If we scroll down then, we can see that it records
16 then information about the background in terms of the
17 family life of the child and then a general
18 section about the potential path through care of the
19 child who is being looked at.

20 There is evidence, and I am not going to bring it up
21 now, Members of the Panel, but, as I was discussing with
22 HIA297 earlier, it seems that as well as the person
23 being involved from the Welfare Authority with the
24 particular child, then the Welfare Committee itself was
25 looking at and considering each child and whether the

1 decisions that were being made were the right ones and
2 reflecting on what those decisions were. In HIA297's
3 case he was being discussed before the Armagh Welfare
4 Committee on 9th October, shortly after he had come into
5 care and went to live in Portadown. The references for
6 that are at 31574 and 31577.

7 As I was discussing with HIA297 this morning, in
8 November of 1967 the court made a Supervision Order in
9 favour of the NSPCC with the aim of that organisation
10 being involved with HIA297's mum and trying to develop
11 circumstances that could have seen the family return to
12 live with her. The references for that are at 44407 and
13 44408.

14 The material the Inquiry has received demonstrates
15 the Welfare Authority's Children's Officer in
16 conjunction with the NSPCC making efforts to rehouse
17 HIA297's mum and work with her to create the
18 circumstances where HIA297 could go back to live with
19 her. Unfortunately after a period of about six to eight
20 months of making those efforts the records show that the
21 conclusion was reached that that wasn't going to be
22 possible in respect of HIA297's family, and that the
23 decision was taken in April 1968 to apply to the court
24 for an order permanently taking HIA297 and his siblings
25 into care. Those records are at 5760 and 44405.

1 It was at that point, HIA297, in April 1968
2 essentially, whenever you are 3, that, having been taken
3 permanently into care at that stage, you and your sister
4 moved to Nazareth Lodge in Belfast.

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. As you have said in your witness statement, you don't
7 yourself have any particular memories of your time in
8 Nazareth Lodge save that you remember it being a big
9 place, and we will contrast that shortly with your time
10 in the family group home that you had a very positive
11 experience with.

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. You have one particular memory about how you were
14 punished whenever that situation arose in Nazareth
15 Lodge, but what you believed was you didn't see any
16 medical practitioners during your time in Nazareth
17 Lodge, and, as you know, I was showing you this
18 morning -- you have no memory of it yourself, which is
19 no criticism of you; you are looking back on a period
20 a very long time ago -- but it appears from the
21 record-keeping that before you moved to the Lodge, so
22 while you were in Nazareth House in Portadown, it was
23 recognised that you were going to need a tonsillectomy
24 and steps were put in place for you to see the
25 specialist that you needed to see in order for that to

1 happen.

2 As I was saying to you, you have in your case a type
3 of form that the Inquiry hasn't as yet seen as part of
4 its work in this module. If we can look, please, at
5 SNB-5776 -- and these are the types of documents,
6 HIA297, we were looking at earlier this morning -- this
7 doesn't appear to be a document just confined to Armagh
8 Welfare. It seems to be a generic form about a Report
9 from the Voluntary Organisation on Children maintained
10 on behalf of a Welfare Authority. This is one that was
11 completed. As we can see, the name of the voluntary
12 organisation was Nazareth House, Portadown. So this,
13 HIA297, is before you make the move to the Lodge in
14 Belfast along with your sister . You can see
15 "Good" under "General Health":

16 "Requires operation for tonsils. Subject to
17 tonsillitis."

18 There is a particular doctor who has already
19 examined you.

20 You can see then under the "General Remarks" it was
21 being said:

22 "This boy is developing very much for his age and
23 would benefit by mixing with older children."

24 That was being said in April of 1968 by the Superior
25 in Portadown.

1 Now if we can just scroll down so that the Panel can
2 see the remainder of the material, so it has "For
3 official use" entry and then on each occasion someone
4 within the Welfare Authority will have said something
5 about what's recorded on the form and what steps there
6 are to be taken.

7 We will see more of these forms reporting, because
8 it seems it was a six-monthly cycle of reporting that
9 was required by the Welfare Authority of the voluntary
10 home, and that's what takes place in HIA297's case.

11 CHAIRMAN: Just as you say that, Mr Aiken, if we look at the
12 bottom of 5776, it suggests that, in fact, it's
13 a quarterly report:

14 "Completed forms should be returned to the Welfare
15 Authority at the end of March, June, September and
16 December ..."

17 MR AIKEN: Yes.

18 CHAIRMAN: So it looks like, at least when the forms were
19 printed, the intention was for a quarterly report.

20 MR AIKEN: Yes. Whenever you moved, HIA297, to Nazareth
21 Lodge, then, as I said to you, this form was suggesting
22 it was important for you to get the opportunity to mix
23 with older children, because at Portadown by that stage
24 you and were amongst the older children. It was
25 for young infants it seems. The reason being given was

1 you getting too old for Portadown. I am just going to
2 give the Panel the references for that. That's at
3 44402, and that you felt you should be mixing with older
4 children. That's at 44404. That was in conjunction
5 then with the permanent Fit Person Order that was
6 granted permanently taking into HIA297 into care in June
7 '68. That can be found at 4444.

8 As we were discussing this morning, HIA297, can you
9 remember -- initially you go with . Just the two
10 of you move to the Lodge in Belfast. Do you have
11 a memory of your two younger brothers then, and
12 HIA91, coming to the Lodge as well?

13 **A. No, I don't.**

14 Q. You don't?

15 **A. I don't remember that at all.**

16 Q. What I was showing you from the records is later in
17 September 1970, so about a year and a half later, the
18 Welfare Authority obtained places in Nazareth Lodge for
19 HIA297's younger brothers, and HIA91.

20 SNB-5768, if we can just look at that record,
21 because it illustrates, as HIA297 and I were discussing,
22 the Welfare Authority making an effort to get siblings
23 united. It is slightly difficult to read, but we can
24 see the County Welfare Officer saying:

25 "I am glad we could get vacancies so the children

1 will all be together."

2 Then:

3 "Perhaps you would kindly have their personal
4 documents ready for transfer with them."

5 So that's another point that comes out of the
6 material that exists in HIA297's case, where the
7 information that's available for the child is being
8 conveyed to the voluntary home.

9 We can see that on 18th September 1970. If we look
10 at 44393, please, we can see that the -- this is
11 a record maintained by the Armagh County Welfare which
12 gives a summary of the -- what progress there has been
13 for each of the children during their time in Portadown.

14 Then there is another letter of 18th September '70
15 where information is being conveyed to Nazareth Lodge so
16 that they can have an understanding of what took place.

17 HIA297, you stayed effectively in Nazareth Lodge
18 until you were 8 years of age.

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. 1st August 1972 is when you move out to the foster care
21 of NL78 --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- and you moved there along with --

24 **A. and HIA91, yes.**

25 Q. -- and HIA91. So an effort was made to find

1 a foster placement and then to keep the three of you
2 together, because had already gone into a foster
3 placement while you were all living in Nazareth Lodge.
4 She moved in December '70 to a foster placement in
5 Belfast with the family.

6 **A. That's right.**

7 Q. I was asking you could you remember -- because the
8 records that appear suggest that SR71 in Nazareth Lodge
9 was saying to the Welfare Authority that you -- that she
10 did come down to visit you after she moved to foster
11 care. You don't have a memory of that yourself.

12 **A. No, not at --**

13 Q. Your memory of visiting --

14 **A. -- not at first.**

15 Q. -- is later. I am not going to bring all of these up,
16 but the Panel is aware that the various monthly
17 reporting -- if we look perhaps, first of all, at the
18 first one that relates to HIA297's time in Nazareth
19 Lodge, if we look at 5777, please, so this is another of
20 these examples, HIA297, of the reporting that was done
21 by the nuns, as it were, to the Welfare Authority, so to
22 the social workers that had ultimate responsibility for
23 you. If we just scroll down, under "General Health" we
24 will see they discovered a problem with your adenoids,
25 like the tonsils, and were going to take steps. We can

1 see that the school clinic is going to see you about
2 audiology tests, something to do with your hearing.

3 You yourself don't have any memory of anything to do
4 with tonsils and the operation and anything to do with
5 hearing. That's news to you, as it were.

6 **A. That's the very first news to me.**

7 Q. News to you.

8 **A. You know, I have powerful hearing now. I can't remember
9 the tonsils now.**

10 Q. Yes.

11 **A. I can't remember.**

12 Q. It is just something you have no memory of.

13 **A. Nothing, not at all.**

14 Q. There are various other -- the report in March '69 -- we
15 will not bring it up, but 5778 -- confirms HIA297 going
16 for the audiology tests and what those results were.

17 Then in October '69 at 5772 SR71 is filling out
18 another one of these forms recording progress.

19 Then in November '69, if we just look at 5770, this
20 is a record, HIA297, of you -- of the Armagh Welfare
21 recording that you were admitted to Belfast City
22 Hospital from Nazareth Lodge for the tonsils to be
23 removed. You were successful and you were back to
24 school. That's just something you have no memory of.

25 **A. Not at all, no.**

1 Q. No. Those voluntary reports continued in April 1970.
2 The reference is at 5779, and then in October 1970 at
3 5780. So it seems that during that period the
4 congregation were completing these documents on
5 a six-monthly cycle, whether that was in agreement with
6 the Welfare Authority or not.

7 The records also show -- and I am not going to bring
8 this up -- that the Welfare Authority were visiting
9 HIA297 in Nazareth Lodge. Again that's not something
10 you have a memory of, HIA297.

11 **A. No.**

12 Q. That was taking place. For instance, in May '71 the
13 Assistant Children's Officer visited. That's at 44392.
14 In September '71, if we can bring up 5774, please, the
15 Children's Officer records a visit to Nazareth Lodge
16 where she learned from SR71 that , who by this
17 stage is out living with the family, was
18 visiting HIA297 and your two brothers, and HIA91,
19 very regularly, but she feels HIA297 should be placed in
20 a more stable environment. This is what begins, HIA297,
21 the move towards getting a foster placement for you and
22 your brothers.

23 As I said to you, I am not going to bring all of
24 these up, but these reports say very positive things at
25 times about you, about how well behaved you are and what

1 a nice child you are to look after. I think you smiled
2 earlier when I was telling you that, that somebody was
3 saying something positive about you. There is one from
4 March '72. That's at 5781.

5 The one thing did I want to ask you, HIA297, before
6 we move off your time in Nazareth Lodge, you explain in
7 paragraph 7 of your statement at 353, if we can bring
8 that up, please -- you say:

9 "If I did something wrong in Nazareth Lodge, you
10 were punished by being sent to your room."

11 **A. That's right, yes.**

12 Q. By "room" you mean the dormitory that you lived in,
13 which had 15 or 20 beds?

14 **A. Yes, that's right.**

15 Q. Your recollection of Nazareth Lodge was just of a --
16 it's a vague recollection, but it's of a big place --

17 **A. Yes.**

18 Q. -- that didn't feel terribly homely.

19 **A. It was that -- you know, when you were small, young, it**
20 **just seemed big to you. You know, the big dormitory and**
21 **all. As I said, like, if you were misbehaving, you were**
22 **sent to, as I say, your room basically. You were sent**
23 **to your dormitory, like, you know, but very vague, like,**
24 **but it wasn't -- to me, to my knowledge, you know, as**
25 **young children get on, you know, you do carry on life,**

1 **but there was nothing to my knowledge of misconduct or**
2 **anything like that there.**

3 Q. I was asking you, because, as we know, the aim of the
4 welfare authorities were to have children fostered out
5 to create as near to a family environment for them that
6 they hadn't had the opportunity to have themselves, and
7 the reality is that doesn't always work out, and in your
8 case, as we know -- I am not going to go into all the
9 material relating to it -- when you went there, it
10 worked for a number of years, but by 1975 all of you had
11 been getting beaten for wetting the bed --

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. -- and that was with a stick.

14 **A. It was a stick.**

15 Q. The idea was -- what the material shows is the reason
16 that was being given was that's how the foster mother
17 believed you would stop the children wetting the bed.

18 **A. Yes.**

19 Q. You beat them, and you see the social worker explaining
20 -- and I will give the Panel the reference shortly --
21 that that's not how to deal with bedwetting and how
22 children need love and support, not getting hit for it,
23 but the reason I draw that issue to your attention just
24 at this point, you were never hit that you remember in
25 Nazareth Lodge --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- but you do remember what happened when you were in
3 the foster home.

4 **A. Oh, yes, yes.**

5 Q. But as far as you are concerned the punishment for you
6 in Nazareth Lodge of when you did something wrong was
7 being --

8 **A. Just sent to the room, yes.**

9 Q. -- sent to the dormitory.

10 **A. Sent to the dormitory, yes.**

11 Q. As I said, it was 1st August '72. You were 8 and you
12 moved with and HIA91 to this foster home, where
13 you lived until you were 11 in 1975. You explain in
14 your Inquiry statement -- and I am not going to open the
15 detail of it -- that began well, but then it became
16 abuse I halve for the reasons we discussed. Again I am
17 not going to open the material, but the Panel is able to
18 see that the social worker was visiting regularly to
19 where you were living to check on you and there was
20 regular visits in '72. The reference is at 5785, and
21 '74, 44461 through to 4470.

22 Then -- and this you have, HIA297, from the records
23 you were able to obtain -- in March of 1975 the school
24 told the Welfare Authority about I think it was your
25 other brother, possibly , who had got bruising and

1 that was from him getting hit for wetting the bed.

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. The social worker then engages with the foster mother
4 and the reference for that is at 5787. That's a very
5 detailed record, which I am not going to bring up now,
6 but the record includes halfway down that the social
7 worker explains it is not appropriate to hit children
8 for bedwetting and has emotional problems at its root
9 which requires love and understanding, but you weren't
10 removed from the foster mother at that stage. The
11 social worker believed that the foster mother then
12 properly understood how to deal with bedwetting. You
13 stay there until further concerns are raised through the
14 NSPCC about not maybe being fed as well as you should
15 have --

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. -- as well as issues connected to the foster mother in
18 May '75 at 5791. We are not going to bring that up
19 either. Then in June '75 at 5794 the decision is made
20 to remove you from the foster parents. You and your two
21 brothers move together to Drumarg Family Home or Dalton
22 Road as it was known --

23 **A. Yes, Dalton Family Group Home, yes.**

24 Q. -- to you in Armagh. Before we talk about it, because
25 I know you want to say something about it that will

1 assist the Panel with reflecting on Nazareth Lodge that
2 the Panel is looking at at the moment, but these things
3 were happening to you in the foster home, the getting
4 hit for the bedwetting.

5 **A. Uh-huh.**

6 Q. The social worker is visiting, as we can see the records
7 of that happening --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- but you didn't at any stage feel able yourself to
10 tell the social worker about what was going on.

11 **A. No. I think at that stage we were more scared at that**
12 **age, you know, of saying anything, you know, to the**
13 **social worker. You'd be afraid, you know. You just had**
14 **to sort of walk way from it, blank it out or do**
15 **something. You know, at that young age basically you**
16 **didn't really understand why, you know, and then it was**
17 **just -- it was years later, like, you understood why,**
18 **the beatings, you know. At that age you were more**
19 **afraid and scared basically. You wouldn't say anything.**

20 Q. It seems it was the school and then, however the
21 additional information came, it was the NSPCC --

22 **A. Yes.**

23 Q. -- engaging -- communicating with the Welfare Authority
24 --

25 **A. Uh-huh.**

1 Q. -- that ultimately led to you moving to Dalton. From
2 your perspective, HIA297, what you have explained, and
3 I am not going to go through the detail of it, but that
4 was the making of you. That was an excellent experience
5 --

6 **A. It was.**

7 Q. -- that you had.

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. Can you -- if I were to ask you to summarise for the
10 Panel, what was it about that family group home that you
11 found so positive compared to the experience that you
12 had had before, including at Nazareth Lodge?

13 **A. The family group home, it -- it was more close. It made**
14 **you feel like a family, even though there was some, you**
15 **know, say, 15 at that time we were in it, and you all**
16 **got to know each other. You grew up as brothers and**
17 **sisters, and it was a whole -- you know, at that time,**
18 **as I was saying to you earlier on, moving on in life in**
19 **stages and sorting things out, you know, it would**
20 **broaden the horizon a wee bit. You know, it gave you**
21 **more security, because you had other fellas round you**
22 **grew up. To this day, you know, we are still friends**
23 **and families and all. Comparison of being in a big**
24 **room, say a big dormitory, you know, in a big house, you**
25 **were in a family house. You know, you grew up as**

1 a family, and it was a very good experience for the
2 other fellas and girls that grew up with us, and you
3 know, they're still around today like, you know, the
4 children and all, and I think the family group home to
5 me I think was an achievement itself, because it gives
6 you more security. You are brought up as brothers and
7 sisters and you looked after each other, you know.

8 If you were in a -- if you were in sports or
9 anything like that there, you know, it's -- the
10 , they were very good footballers. He got us
11 into sport, you know, boxing and all the -- every one of
12 us in that home, we were all either in football, boxing
13 or running. You know, it was great, because he had
14 a big trophy cabinet there and we were all trying to
15 bring home different trophies to see who was the better
16 person, you know, growing up, you know, chattering wise,
17 but it was a very good experience. It was -- to me it
18 changed the whole thing about, the small --

19 Q. You said to me earlier you think everybody should get
20 the opportunity to live in a place like that.

21 A. Well, I would definitely, definitely. It was -- it was
22 a good idea at the time, whoever came up with it, like,
23 you know. Brought up in a big institution, you know,
24 you're -- but a small complex place like that there ...

25 Q. You were saying to me, HIA297, the way it was done, you

1 had three terraced houses that were knocked into one
2 house --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- effectively.

5 **A. Aye. It was in a housing estate and it was just the**
6 **middle. The stairs were taken out so you can go up to**
7 **the top stairs, you know. You have all the rooms and**
8 **all, like, and a big yard. It didn't -- when you were**
9 **going in through, you know, going into the estate and**
10 **home, it didn't look like a big warehouse type you were**
11 **going in. You were just going into a house, you know,**
12 **like any other children was going into their house next**
13 **door, like, you know. So that was -- I suppose any**
14 **person who was going home from school, you are not going**
15 **into a big factory or something like that there. You**
16 **were going into a house, you know.**

17 Q. Yes.

18 **A. Feel homely, you know, that sort of way.**

19 Q. That's a very positive experience --

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. -- that you are very thankful for having had the
22 opportunity --

23 **A. Yes. That was a very unique experience, that there.**
24 **You know, it changed my life around, so it did, and made**
25 **me see things clear in life, bar the past, like, you**

1 **know, trying to cover -- get questions and answers to**
2 **it, like, you know.**

3 Q. Yes.

4 **A. So other than that it put some more -- bit of confidence**
5 **in me anyway, you know.**

6 Q. Yes.

7 **A. So it helped very much, so it did.**

8 Q. HIA297, there are two questions before the Panel might
9 want to ask you something.

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. There are a couple of questions that we ask each witness
12 towards the end of their evidence. The first is as part
13 of the Panel's work it has to consider what
14 recommendations it might make to the Northern Ireland
15 Government about three general areas: some form of
16 apology, some form of memorial, or some other form of
17 redress for those who were abused during their time --

18 **A. Uh-huh.**

19 Q. -- in care. We ask each witness whether there's
20 anything they want to say to the Panel to assist the
21 Panel's thinking about those issues. Some people do.
22 Some people don't. Is there anything you want to say
23 about recommendations that you have been thinking about?

24 **A. Could you be more specific than that, Joe?**

25 Q. Just some people have said they would like to see

1 a fuller apology, or maybe they would like to see
2 a memorial, some garden they could go to, or some other
3 people have said they would like compensation. Some
4 people have said, "No, I will happily leave the Panel to
5 do its work. They can sort all of that out".

6 A. I don't -- Joe, I don't think I'd be down the lines of
7 looking this and looking that there. It is just
8 basically, you know, the answers I would be looking in
9 life is why we were put in that situation. Why was it
10 so long taking us out of every -- you know, it had
11 a very big impact on me and my brother and HIA91.

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. If we got more clarification and that there and
14 understand why. It was hard enough for me to try to
15 find out whole family business, you know --

16 Q. Yes.

17 A. -- get the reports of my mother and father and brothers,
18 and getting vague reports, you know, for me to tell my
19 younger brother --

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. -- to explain to him, and you couldn't -- you couldn't
22 get all the information, like, you know. You were
23 getting bits and pieces. It wasn't, you know -- it was
24 hard enough to try to understand you come out of one bad
25 situation, then into a good situation, and ...

1 Q. So a better way, HIA297, of being able to understand
2 what happened to you --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- as a child, perhaps finding out the story that you
5 can't or didn't know --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- as a young child, that's something that would be
8 important to you, if that could be achieved.

9 A. Oh, it definitely would be, because, do you know, coming
10 out of that situation to me I know I blanked a lot of
11 things out and asking why. You know, they will always
12 stay in your memory anyway. When I writ over to the
13 brother, he writ a letter back that he didn't want
14 nothing to do with it, because there was too many bad
15 memories. When I found over in England, you
16 know, he sort of told me that he basically never
17 recovered from it, like, you know, that sort of way,
18 like, you know. Even though he took a drink, I didn't
19 really know that until we got over there, Joe.

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. So basically to me it sort of impacted on him a lot, you
22 know.

23 Q. Yes.

24 A. That was turning in... -- even though he lost a partner,
25 which he stated in his letter when he writ over to me,

1 and I was talking to -- what do you call them -- key
2 workers over there and I was trying get information out
3 of her, you know, what happened with , you know.

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. She was telling me, , would you like to go back
6 home", you know -- you know, "back home to see your
7 brothers or anything like that?" She just said he just
8 put the head down. You know, he didn't want to go back
9 to that sort of -- well, I know he lost his partner and
10 I think that sort of took a toll on him too, like, you
11 know.

12 Q. So it can be very -- for different individuals how they
13 react --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- can be -- can be different.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I suppose what -- the last question we ask each person
18 is whether there is anything else, HIA297, about your
19 time in Nazareth Lodge or -- that maybe I haven't
20 covered or you wanted to cover in more detail, or maybe
21 something I have missed out, that now is your
22 opportunity if you want to say anything more about that.
23 Is there anything else or have we covered most of the
24 ground?

25 A. We have covered most of the ground. I have no -- my,

1 you know, record of Nazareth Lodge is there was a quick
2 and easy night, you know, very quick. No bad memories
3 there now. You know, even though it was short lived
4 over there, like, you know, in Nazareth Lodge, but
5 I have no bad memories of that case at all, like, bar
6 , basically, you know, what happened there with
7 us, and I suppose that has led to sort of an impact in
8 those days to me and, you know, things like that don't
9 go away, like, you know, and then trying to explain to
10 younger brothers, you know, and them growing up too,
11 like, you know, it was hard, like, but I found it when
12 I came out of there and moved to Dalton home, actually,
13 as I state there, things changed. It had given me time
14 to change so I could look in more detail at the family
15 background, because I wasn't getting enough information.
16 I'd a girlfriend, like, you know. So --

17 Q. Yes.

18 A. -- and at that time, you know, I didn't know what way
19 the system worked, you know, until I actually got my own
20 files and look at what -- to see why -- was there any
21 answers, you know, why were we there, why --

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. You know --

24 Q. It is difficult --

25 A. -- It was difficult enough, it was hard enough to find

1 out and try and put two and two together, you know, and

2 ...

3 Q. As we were discussing earlier --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- you are aware that sometimes the information --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- is difficult and therefore there can be a desire not

8 to cause people more distress and more difficulty --

9 A. That's right, yes.

10 Q. -- but for you that's an issue that --

11 A. Uh-huh.

12 Q. -- having the ability to find out the information was

13 important to you.

14 A. Yes, it was.

15 Q. Well, HIA297, I am not going to ask you any more

16 questions. If you bear with us for a short time, the

17 Panel may want to ask you something, but just give us

18 a moment for them to speak to you about that.

19 A. That's great.

20 **Questions from THE PANEL**

21 CHAIRMAN: HIA297, we know from what you have said you got

22 some information yourself. As Mr Aiken has been taking

23 you through the documents before he came in this morning

24 and during the hearing, you appreciate that we have been

25 able to get a lot more information just coming to us in

1 the last couple of weeks. If I have understood you
2 correctly, one of the things you would like to see
3 happen is the ability for people to get at this
4 information in the way you have learned things through
5 the Inquiry today --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- and for somebody to have the records for people like
8 you who want to find out --

9 **A. Uh-huh.**

10 Q. -- and I presume to talk you through it and make it
11 clear to you just what it all means, because you are not
12 an expert.

13 **A. No, but, as you said there, you know, I know that times**
14 **have changed from -- to the present day, like, you know,**
15 **and circumstances. If circumstances of my case ever**
16 **arose again, you would like to think, you know, a child**
17 **would get more clarification on their background and**
18 **give them more understanding, and if they didn't go in**
19 **through a bad situation into a good situation, you know,**
20 **give them more clarification where they are, more**
21 **understanding life and all, and where they take from**
22 **there rather than trying to find out bits and pieces**
23 **over the years, you know, and lose them a lot.**

24 Q. Yes. Thank you very much. Well, I am sure you will be
25 relieved to hear, HIA297, we don't have any more

1 questions for you, but thank you very much for coming to
2 speak to us today.

3 **A. I don't mind. Ask away. It doesn't matter, but thanks**
4 **very much.**

5 Q. I think one way or another you have covered everything
6 we need to ask you about. So thank you very much for
7 coming today.

8 **A. Thanks very much.**

9 **(Witness withdrew)**

10 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, Ms Smith is
11 taking the next witness. Perhaps if we took a few
12 moments to ascertain the position.

13 CHAIRMAN: Yes. Well, we hope we'll be ready to start
14 fairly soon. We will let you know, ladies and
15 gentlemen, when that is the case.

16 (11.20 am)

17 (Short break)

18 (11.30 am)

19 WITNESS HIA5 (called)

20 CHAIRMAN: Yes, Ms Smith.

21 MS SMITH: Good morning, Chairman, Panel Members. The next
22 witness is HIA5. He is "HIA5". HIA5 wishes to affirm,
23 and he is aware that the Inquiry has granted him
24 anonymity, which we will maintain for present purposes,
25 but he may choose to waive that later, but at present we

1 will just keep it in place, Chairman.

2 WITNESS HIA5 (sworn)

3 CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Please sit down.

4 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

5 MS SMITH: HIA5, I am just going to tell the Panel Members
6 where documents are in the bundle, first of all.

7 HIA 5 statement is at SNB-032 to 041.

8 The congregation have provided us with responses
9 which can be found at -- Sister Brenda's response is at
10 SNB-2168. There is also a response from SR46, which is
11 at 1586 to 1588, and there is a response from SR45,
12 formerly known as SR45, which is at 1702.

13 Again I am using the names, but they are not to be
14 used outside this chamber without written permission of
15 the people involved.

16 The Health & Social Care Board response, including
17 exhibits, can be found at SNB-5831 to 5887. The Health
18 & Social Care Board accepts that HIA 5 was the
19 responsibility of the Eastern Health & Social Services
20 Board.

21 There are a substantial number of social work papers
22 which can be found at 40001 through to 40105 and again
23 at 42892.

24 HIA5 did bring along some photographs to the
25 Inquiry, which show him and his family. They can be

1 found at 18444 to 18466.

2 There is also police material at SNB-61628.

3 CHAIRMAN: Hold on.

4 MS SMITH: Sorry.

5 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

6 MS SMITH: The police material is at SNB-61628 to 61638,

7 including a statement that HIA5 gave to police in

8 January 2013, which is at 61631 to 61633.

9 Now, HIA5, this is the witness statement that you
10 prepared for the Inquiry. You will see there that it
11 says "Witness Statement of HIA5", which is the
12 designation we have given to you to protect your
13 identity insofar as you wish to have it protected.

14 **A. Okay.**

15 Q. If we could just go to the last page of the statement,
16 which is 041, can I ask, HIA5, if you would confirm that
17 you signed this statement on 3rd August 2013?

18 **A. Yes, that's true.**

19 Q. Where we see "HIA5", your signature is actually
20 underneath that in the original.

21 **A. Okay.**

22 Q. Now coming back to the start of your statement, your
23 personal details are set out in paragraph 1. You are
24 now you aged 39. Is that correct?

25 **A. Uh-huh.**

1 Q. You were placed in Nazareth Lodge, age 6, from 1982
2 until June 1985. So you left when you were almost 10.

3 At paragraph 2 of your statement there you talk
4 about being taken by a social worker when you were 6.
5 You don't remember the social worker's name, but she was
6 .

7 "She told us to get in her car as she was taking us
8 on a trip to visit horses. She reassured us that our
9 mother and father said it was all right."

10 You say your brother -- your older brother -- and
11 I am just going to use his name, but again his name
12 can't be used outside this chamber without his written
13 permission:

14 " NL 100 and I stayed in the Lodge for about four
15 years until '86."

16 I think you would accept the records show it was '85
17 that you left. You say that your younger brother and
18 your sister stayed in Nazareth Lodge for about a year
19 and then they were fostered. Now I will come back to
20 that shortly --

21 **A. Uh-huh.**

22 Q. -- because you go on to say:

23 "I think the nun was called ...",
24 and you name SR45.

25 "I remember the room was very dark and the blankets

1 were a military green colour. There was hardly any
2 light in the place."

3 You go on to describe how in Nazareth Lodge you and
4 your siblings were separated. You say that you and
5 NL 100 were put into a room with two other boys, and
6 you give their names in the statement, NL12 and 13.

7 "I think there were about 20 rooms with four boys in
8 each."

9 Your younger brother was put in a separate room and
10 you say your sister was with the other girls who were in
11 separate rooms down the corridor.

12 "I think there were around ten girls in the Lodge
13 when I was there."

14 You were very sad at being parted from your younger
15 brother and sister and you kept saying to yourself,
16 "What is going on? Why are these people doing this?"

17 "There was no explanation given as to why we were
18 split up, and if we asked any questions, we were told to
19 shut up by the nuns",

20 and you name SR45 and SR46 as nuns -- as the nuns
21 who told you to shut up. You say:

22 "SR45 was taller than SR46 and she wore glasses."

23 Now you are aware from discussions we had earlier,
24 HIA5, we have received a number of documents from the
25 Health & Social Care Board about the social -- sorry --

1 the history of Social Services' involvement with your
 2 family, which dates back to 1979. It is clear from the
 3 documents there is a report of Social Services of a case
 4 conference which was held on 27th April 1982. If we
 5 could just look at that, please. That's 40027. There
 6 is some handwritten notes on this, but it is
 7 essentially -- again none of the names can be used
 8 outside this chamber -- but it sets out the family
 9 history there -- if we could scroll down, please --
 10 about the difficulties there were in the family. Again
 11 if we could just keep scrolling down, it says there
 12 about your brother and then it says:

13 "HIA5, the second child, also goes to
 14 , after having attended
 ."

16 Social work visits ceased in 1981. The family were
 17 referred to Child Psychiatry and attended in July '82.

18 Then in April '82 there is an incident involving
 19 your father and your younger brother, and as a result of
 20 that incident you are taken into care, but what this
 21 shows, if we could just scroll on down, please -- scroll
 22 on down to the next page -- it says:

23 "Place of Safety Orders were taken on NL 100 , HIA5
 24 and NL 101 and they were placed in Nazareth Lodge,
 25 Ravenhill Road",

1 and there are other documents, which I am not going
2 to pull up, but which clearly show that your sister
3 NL 102 who was known as NL 102 actually stayed with
4 your parents, and she had a heart condition, and your
5 parents continued to look after her at home while the
6 three boys went to Nazareth Lodge. So the documents
7 that we have received suggest that she was never in
8 Nazareth Lodge at any time. I know you feel that that
9 is incorrect.

10 **A. Well, the way I seen it was we were put in the car**
11 **outside . That was in . In**
12 **the car was my sister, who was sitting beside me and our**
13 **NL 100 in the car. Now forgive me, like. I mean,**
14 **I was six years of age, but, you know, I am not blind**
15 **and I seen my sister in the car going through gates of**
16 **Nazareth Lodge -- right -- and being there with us. So,**
17 **you know, people say things. You know, if they say**
18 **that's what happened, well, I am sorry, but I disagree.**

19 **Q. In fact, you actually say in paragraph 12 of your own**
20 **witness statement at page 035 that:**

21 "In the year that NL 101 and NL 102 were in the Lodge
22 I only saw them in the dining room, but we weren't
23 allowed to communicate with each other. We were kept
24 like prisoners on the other side of the table with the
25 nuns watching every move we made. We just gave quick

1 glances to each other. Their faces were sad like mine."

2 You say that a week after they left the Lodge you
3 found out that they had been fostered.

4 **A. Uh-huh.**

5 Q. The caretaker, whom you name there, NL14, told you that.
6 You said it made you cry as you didn't get a chance to
7 say goodbye to them.

8 **A. Uh-huh. Well, that's true. I was told that.**

9 Q. This man told you that.

10 **A. This man told me that, yes.**

11 Q. You would accept the records we have received suggest
12 that, in fact, NL 102 never was in the Lodge, that ^{NL 101}
13 was actually only there for a few months. He was in --
14 he returned to your parents in June 1982, and neither of
15 those two children was fostered to any other family.
16 That can be seen at SNB-40031. Excuse me. I am not
17 going to call that up. I don't think it is necessary,
18 but the Panel can look at the papers in due course.

19 There is also a document -- sorry. Can I just go
20 back to the -- what the -- the history shows this Place
21 of Safety Order was taken out on 30th June. We can see
22 the Place of Safety Order at SNB-40017. The reasons for
23 the obtaining of the Order can be found at SNB-40028 to
24 40029.

25 Then there were Supervision Orders made. Now

1 I appreciate, HIA5, you don't understand what these
2 legal orders were.

3 **A. Well, I say -- like I says, Christine, I said that to**
4 **them, "I haven't got a clue what you are talking about".**
5 **So ...**

6 Q. I believe you said it, and the reason that I am
7 outlining this is so that the Panel, who do have
8 experience of what kind of court records were needed to
9 take children into care, understand the history of what
10 happened and how you came to be in Nazareth Lodge.

11 **A. Yes. I mean, whatever happened in the background when**
12 **I was -- whatever Social Service did behind my back that**
13 **was up to Social Service. I just remember what happened**
14 **to me and my brother and that's it.**

15 Q. I am going to come back more to talk about it, but
16 I just need to show these documents to the Inquiry --

17 **A. No, I understand. That's fine.**

18 Q. -- so they have the full picture of what happened.

19 **A. Okay.**

20 Q. I say there was an Interim -- actually before the Place
21 of Safety Order there was an Interim Fit Person Order
22 obtained on 25th May '82. That was just after the
23 initial incident came to light involving your younger
24 brother and your father. Then Supervision Orders were
25 made on 29th June '82. They can be seen at 40033. Then

1 on 27th July 1982 a full Fit Person Order was made in
2 substitution for the Supervision Orders. That can be
3 seen at SNB-40016.

4 Now, just to be clear, we also can see that you
5 returned home full time on 26th June 1985 and there is
6 a report, which we can come to, of Social Services
7 following up what happened at 40020.

8 Now if I can go back to your statement and what you
9 say happened to you in Nazareth Lodge, HIA5, at
10 paragraphs 2 and 3 of that statement we have talked
11 about the separation. One other thing is that just at
12 SNB-40018 that document would show that both you and
13 your older brother were in Nazareth Lodge from Monday to
14 Thursday. ^{NL} 101 was at home all the time and you would
15 have gone home at weekends from the Lodge.

16 But paragraph 4 here of your statement on the
17 following page you talk about a particular nun, SR46,
18 who you say was in charge of the Lodge and in charge of
19 your group. You describe her as:

20 "... elderly and using a walking stick. She wore
21 steel rosary beads. She was very aggressive and nasty.
22 I cried a lot when I was in the Lodge, because I was
23 constantly terrified and I just wanted to go home. When
24 I was crying, she nipped me on the arms and the thighs.
25 She used to stick her fingers in me and tell me to shut

1 up and stop crying. When I had stopped crying but was
2 still whimpering, she used to take her walking stick to
3 me. She beat me across the back of the legs with her
4 stick and she had an aggressive tone in her voice and
5 she said, 'I'll shut you up. I'll keep you quiet.
6 There'll be no tears in this home'. She also said,
7 'You'll learn'. I had cuts and bruises on my legs as
8 a result. I never received any medical treatment.
9 I saw the same aggressiveness in SR46 as my father had
10 when he was drunk. The police have told me she is now
11" very advanced in years.

12 I am going to come -- you know that she has made
13 a statement, and I will come back to what she says about
14 the allegations you made against her.

15 You also go on to say that her room was beside
16 yours, and if she heard you talking, she banged on the
17 wall with her stick and shouted, 'Go to bed, you wee
18 ...' ",

19 and you -- it is deleted there, but the word would
20 have been "bastards".

21 **A. Uh-huh.**

22 Q. "'How dare you keep me awake!' Sometimes she came to
23 the door of the room and looked at me and scowled. She
24 terrified me. On some occasions during the night a nun
25 was beside my bed praying over me with a bible in her

1 hand whilst I was trying to sleep."

2 At paragraph 6 you talk about the dining room and
3 meal time. You say:

4 "The nuns' attitude was, 'You will put whatever we
5 put in front of you'. We usually got dried potatoes and
6 hard mince. They used to tell us that's all they could
7 afford. If you refused to eat your dinner, or you
8 started crying, or looking around the dining room or
9 trying to talk to someone else, the two nuns", whom you
10 have named, "SR46 and SR45 would come to your side of
11 the table and lift you up by both ears. The nun would
12 then take you out of the dining room and walk you up and
13 down the corridors, holding you by one ear, saying, 'You
14 will obey us and you will do what we tell you'. This
15 was one of their forms of punishment."

16 You say your ear would sting as a result.

17 You go on to describe the nuns force feeding if you
18 refused to eat the food you were given. You say you
19 used to pick at food, because you hated it, and these
20 two nuns used to say, 'We can't have any fussiness
21 here'. They would sit beside you on a bench, mash up
22 the food with a fork and then they grabbed your head,
23 forced your head back and forced the food into your
24 mouth. If you spat it out, they scraped it back into
25 your mouth again."

1 You remember one occasion where you were sick after
2 being force fed and you were made to clean up the mess.
3 You saw other children being force fed in the dining
4 hall.

5 You go on to say that you weren't -- you wanted to
6 do children's things but weren't allowed to. You had to
7 do what the nuns told you to do. There was a playroom,
8 but you can only remember a tricycle, which you all had
9 to share.

10 You go on to complain of the nuns saying to you,
11 "You will never see your mother or father again", which
12 left you extremely distressed. You say for the first
13 three months you had no contact at all with your
14 parents. You say your parents said they did write to
15 you, but you didn't get any letters, and you think that
16 the nuns read those letters and destroyed them. Your
17 parents later told you that they had phoned the Lodge to
18 speak to your older brother and yourself, but that the
19 nuns told them that you were either out playing or were
20 too busy to come to the phone, and you say that you feel
21 the nuns didn't want you to have any contact with your
22 families and you believe that your parents were kept
23 away.

24 You also go on to relate a conversation that you had
25 with someone who worked as a cook in the home, who told

1 you that she felt sorry for the children in the Lodge
2 but was told by the nuns to keep her mouth shut.

3 "I am sure she must have witnessed some of the
4 abuse."

5 She also told you that the nuns weren't contacting
6 any parents.

7 "They were telling Social Services to inform parents
8 that everything was fine and not to come to the Lodge."

9 Now again pausing there, HIA5, to just say that the
10 materials we have received from the Health & Social Care
11 Board would show that your parents were visiting twice
12 a week from when you went into the Lodge until
13 November 1982, and there's SNB-40046 shows that. They
14 then sent a note saying that there was no money to
15 visit, and there is a report by SR46, which was prepared
16 for a case review on 18th November 1982, in which she
17 records that your also visited you
18 regularly. Have you any memory of your
19 coming to see you at the home?

20 **A. I have a memory of -- from speeches from my mother and**
21 **father, that I have asked them did they visit me in the**
22 **Lodge. They both even today say that they didn't --**
23 **they didn't come up to see me. Right? My**
24 **did come up. I do remember that. My did**
25 **come up, but my mother and father did not. So, you**

1 **know, it's coming out of their own mouths, you know.**

2 **I think my mother and father are educated people. So**

3 **why would they lie to me, you know? So ...**

4 Q. Well, there's also a document which shows that you went
5 home every other Saturday. Do you remember going home
6 for the weekends?

7 **A. No, I don't remember anything like that.**

8 Q. Certainly if we look at SNB-40057 -- do you remember
9 being moved out of SR46's group --

10 **A. No, I don't.**

11 Q. -- and into another group?

12 **A. No.**

13 Q. I think this is the -- this is just at this paragraph in
14 the Social Service -- social worker's report says:

15 "Since the last review in November '82 regular
16 contact has been maintained with and and
17 NL 100 and HIA5. They have visited Nazareth Lodge
18 regularly and maintain a keen interest in the boys'
19 welfare. The boys have started going home on every
20 second Saturday and everyone seems to benefit from these
21 visits. NL 100 and HIA5 have settled well in Nazareth
22 Lodge despite a changeover from SR46's to SR205's unit."

23 **A. No, I don't remember that at all.**

24 Q. "HIA5 appears less nervous and shy and is becoming more
25 outgoing. NL 100 remains lively, enthusiastic self and

1 is presenting no management problems at the moment. He
2 enjoys ..."

3 This is about your brother enjoying Cedar Lodge
4 School:

5 "... though his work is not up to standard, as he
6 still tends to lack concentration."

7 This is a report from May 1983, which is two years
8 before you returned to your parents. Then it talks
9 about ^{NL 101} going to the local primary school and ^{NL 102}
10 having ⁰chest and colds over the winter and about her
11 heart ¹ not being good and having to have an operation.

12 Your parents weren't urging for you to come back
13 home at that time.

14 **A. I have to agree with the -- my sister being sick. My**
15 **sister did have a heart problem and my sister was very**
16 **small because of her heart problem. She can't -- she**
17 **can't grow any taller. So I agree with that part.**

18 Q. So just going back to your own statement then, if we
19 may, HIA5, at paragraph 13, which is at 035, you talk
20 about how you were made to sleep on your backs with your
21 arms folded over your chests, and you say:

22 "SR45 used to say this was to get us ready for God.
23 If we moved during the night, a nun would put you back
24 in the proper position, and in the morning when you woke
25 up, SR46 and sometimes SR45 came into your room, brought

1 you down to the chapel about 7 o'clock and in the chapel
2 they held you by the side or shoulder, forced you down
3 on to your knees. They made a point of turning round --
4 these two nuns made a point of turning round and saying
5 to us that we were all sinners. They stood behind us in
6 the small chapel and listened to us saying our prayers.
7 If you made one mistake, they hit the back of our heads
8 with their knuckles. Sometimes they would put their
9 hands in a fist and they would smack the back of your
10 head. I saw this happen to other children too."

11 You go on to say that after chapel you went for
12 breakfast, which you describe as dry porridge, sometimes
13 with a glass of orange juice. You say:

14 "The nuns were sadistic people. If we were slow to
15 get out of bed, we were beaten by these two nuns" --
16 scroll on down -- "and we were constantly nipped.
17 I remember seeing a young boy in the corridor being
18 slapped in the face, punched in the head and kicked in
19 the ribs by a nun. I cannot remember the name of the
20 nun that did this. SR46 and SR45 were bad, but there
21 were also younger nuns and ordinary staff members who
22 were just as sadistic as the older nuns."

23 You name one nun here, SR29:

24 "... who was a decent nun and she never assaulted
25 children. She was pleasant and the only kind nun in the

1 Lodge. I am sure she must have seen the abuse that went
2 on but didn't do anything about it."

3 You talk about getting a treat if you said your
4 prayers correctly, which would have been a chocolate bar
5 under your pillow as a reward. You never received one
6 because you never said your prayers correctly.

7 You do remember that there was a school on the site,
8 but you don't remember attending it.

9 Now again the documents that we received from Social
10 Services suggest you were in Greenwood Assessment Centre
11 and at some point it was recommended that you move to
12 Harberton Special School.

13 **A. Uh-huh.**

14 Q. You do remember being there?

15 **A. I do remember being in Harberton. I have no**
16 **recollection of Greenwood at all, so, you know -- but**
17 **I do remember Harberton School, yes.**

18 Q. The documents would also show that while you were in
19 Nazareth Lodge you moved from Greenwood to Harberton,
20 but you have no memory of that move at all?

21 **A. No, I haven't, no.**

22 Q. In fact, the documents suggest that you went to
23 Harberton from January '84 and that can be seen at
24 SNB-40064 and 40067. It is recorded at 40073 that you
25 had made terrific progress since you started in

1 Harberton.

2 **A. Well, the way -- the way I seen myself I am a very quick**
3 **learner. You know, some would say that slightly**
4 **educated, you know, because I done it myself. I learned**
5 **how to go through school life and listen, you know. So,**
6 **yes, I remember Harberton, yes.**

7 Q. Well, one of the things there you talk about you found
8 out years later that Brendan Smyth -- Father Brendan
9 Smyth was in the chapel while you were in it, but you
10 can't remember him particularly, the priest who told you
11 this:

12 "... but he told me he saw me in the chapel the same
13 time as Brendan Smyth",

14 and that priest has since passed away.

15 "Brendan Smyth", you say, "said Sunday mass and
16 after mass he heard confessions. I didn't know who he
17 was at the time, but I remember he was small with sunken
18 eyes and a soft voice."

19 **A. Uh-huh.**

20 Q. You yourself have no complaint about him --

21 **A. No, I have no complaint about him, because I wasn't**
22 **sexually assaulted, but I do remember his face and**
23 **I never forget a face.**

24 Q. One of the things that the congregation have said in
25 response to this is that the memory of the nuns is that

1 he wasn't visiting Nazareth Home after around 1977/1978,
2 although he had been doing so prior to that --

3 **A. Uh-huh.**

4 Q. -- but you remember him being there when you were there
5 in the '80s.

6 **A. Well, the nuns can say what they like.**

7 Q. You also talk there in paragraph 18 that:

8 "As a punishment for talking back to the nuns and on
9 one occasion for telling a particular nun, SR45, to" --
10 you basically swore at her and told her to "Fuck you" --
11 "I was put in a room known as the dark room on my own
12 and the door was locked. These rooms were designed to
13 teach children a lesson. I was put in the dark room
14 about ten to twelve times over the years by different
15 nuns. You were left in the room for about four to
16 five hours. I remember I was hysterical and I started
17 to hear voices in the dark. What I felt was beyond
18 despair. I saw other children being put there too."

19 You say the room was near the chapel beside an old
20 lift, and when you were allowed out, you couldn't see
21 for a long time. You saw lights dancing in your eyes
22 and you feel that your eyesight was damaged as a result
23 of this punishment.

24 **A. Yes, this is very true. For me as a 6-year-old that was**
25 **extremely scary, because I was seeing strange lights in**

1 my eyes and I couldn't see properly because of it. For
2 me it was more like the dark was coming into me, you
3 know, as a child, if you understand what I'm saying,
4 where I couldn't see properly. I thought I was blind,
5 you know, and because of the result of the dark rooms
6 any optician today would say to yourselves or anybody
7 else that if you are kept in a dark room, your pupils
8 change -- right -- and your eyesight changes -- right --
9 and you will see stars when you go out in the light.
10 So, yes, I remember that.

11 Q. You go on to talk in paragraph 19 here, HIA5, about
12 baths in the Lodge, which you describe as horrific. You
13 say:

14 "Bathtime was every night around 8.00 or 9.00 pm.
15 The bathroom was quite small and had one window. The
16 nuns lined the children up outside the door on the top
17 floor of Nazareth Lodge and they asked the children to
18 strip naked."

19 You had never seen your brother naked before.

20 "There were even girls right behind us who had no
21 clothes on. There was a nun wearing an apron and
22 a staff member", whom you name here as NL15, "in the
23 room. They put me and my brother in the same bath,
24 which had no water. NL15 had her legs in the bath at
25 the taps and she held me down by the shoulders in the

1 empty bath while the nun held my legs. Then another nun
2 came in with a bucket and threw the contents of the
3 bucket round us. It was cold water and Jeyes Fluid."

4 You describe NL15 as having blond spikey hair. You
5 say:

6 "She was strong. She wore rings on every finger.
7 Her rings used to put dents into my skin as she held me
8 down. As the Jeyes fluid hit our skin and we squealed,
9 she would laugh. Then they washed us with carbolic
10 soap. They said, 'Stay still, little children. We are
11 here to wash the sin out of you. You are sinners. Open
12 wide'. They put soap in our mouths to wash our souls
13 clean."

14 You recall SR46 and NL15 doing this:

15 "... and I have never had a bath since I left the
16 Lodge."

17 **A. Uh-huh. Today that would be still the case. I would**
18 **shower. I would be in a shower, because I could not sit**
19 **into a dry bath, you know, because it will bring me back**
20 **to what they put me through. Now I have no reason to**
21 **lie about that, because you never forget.**

22 **Q.** You go on here to say on one occasion during a bath you
23 jumped out of the bathroom window, which was open to let
24 the steam out, and you wanted to escape from the Lodge.
25 You fell on to a ledge and then you hit the pavement

1 below.

2 "It was in November and I think I sprained my ankle.
3 I had no clothes on when I jumped and I was in pain and
4 I was crying. SR45 ran out the back door and grabbed me
5 and forced me back into the Lodge by the arm and said,
6 'Get in here, you little bastard'. She kept smacking
7 the back of my head. The beating ended when I curled up
8 crying inside my blanket in my bed. My ankle wasn't
9 tended to and it was left to bruise. I never received
10 medical attention while in Nazareth Lodge. I did not
11 see any social workers visiting the Lodge."

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. Now one of the things that I was saying to you is there
14 is a record which shows that certainly in 1983, in May
15 of 1983, you were medically examined. If we just look
16 at that, please. It is SNB-40061. This is a report
17 that was being prepared by a SR 52 for a review
18 which was to be held in November 1983. You will see
19 your name, your date of birth, your date of admission
20 are there and the social worker and the Department who
21 had responsibility for you is recorded there, NL 183

22 NL 183 . Do you remember a NL 183 at all?
8

23 **A. Is this the same social worker that took us away?**
3

24 Q. I can't answer that question at the moment. It may not
25 have been.

1 **A. Then maybe that's her name. I can't remember her name.**

2 Q. Okay. Well, just:

3 "Pen picture of child: HIA5 is an attractive boy
4 , and a pale but healthy
5 complexion, although he wears a worried expression at
6 times. He is of average height and build for his age."

7 It records you as attending Greenwood House
8 Assessment Centre and school is happy with your
9 progress. It says here you were medically examined on
10 31st May 1983 and you didn't require any treatment, that
11 your general state of health was good, and your physical
12 development was normal, but:

13 "HIA5 has a small appetite. He sleeps well.
14 Sometimes calls out in his sleep and wears a worried
15 expression. He sleeps with his head covered and his
16 body curled up."

17 Unlike your brother, you are generally good humoured
18 when wakened in the morning and you can do everything --
19 everyday things for yourself, although you still had
20 problems tying your laces. You like active moving
21 about, moving about simple games:

22 "Enjoys going to the disco and watching children's
23 TV."

24 You accept and give affection freely.

25 "Always coming for love. Is easily upset if not

1 noticed. Friendly and natural. Normally talkative.
2 May open conversation. Does what he is asked to do and
3 is always willing to help. He is honest with things.
4 Tells lies mainly to avoid rebuke. He is a good mixer.
5 Makes up to new children. Always looks out for ...",
6 your older brother. "Good natured. Always willing to
7 share. Well liked by other children",
8 and can stand up for yourself.

9 It says, the final bit:

10 "How does he feel about his present position?

11 Like NL 100 , he is very happy in his day-to-day
12 living both at home and at school. He looks forward to
13 his visits with his parents at the weekends, but is
14 quite happy to return to Nazareth Lodge and shows no
15 emotional upset in his return."

16 That's dated 22nd November 1983 and it's signed by

17 SR 52 .

18 **A. Uh-huh.**

19 Q. You have no recollection of a nun of that name?

20 **A. Written by a nun, was it?**

21 Q. Yes, it was. It was written by the nun for the case
22 review.

23 **A. Well, I disagree with everything she says. I mean, how**
24 **could I -- how could I possibly be happy to come back to**
25 **Nazareth Lodge? You know what I mean? So how was**

1 **I a happy child, because my mother and father would say**
2 **completely different. So, you know ...**

3 Q. Okay, but I said to you, and we looked at this earlier,
4 that SR46 has given a statement to the Inquiry, which
5 can be found at 1586. She recalls you as a frail
6 looking child, who was bossed by his older brother and
7 no knowledge of other children -- she had no knowledge
8 of other children in the family. She comments on what
9 you say in your statement at paragraphs 2 and 3. She
10 said:

11 "We had three rooms with three beds, one with two
12 beds and about six single rooms."

13 She said you shared a room with your brother.

14 **A. Uh-huh.**

15 Q. "We didn't have green blankets. Nor did I walk -- knock
16 on the wall of the bedroom and shout. HIA5's bedroom
17 was down the corridor on the right-hand side where mine
18 was on the left-hand side at the other end."

19 Is there anything you want to say about that at all?

20 **A. She's a liar. That's what I'll say.**

21 Q. She also says she didn't use a walking stick, nor does
22 she use one now. She said she was 31 at the time that
23 you were in the home --

24 **A. Uh-huh.**

25 Q. -- and she was in charge of you. She didn't require

1 a walking stick. As regards to wearing steel rosary
2 beads, they were not worn on duty and were light wood in
3 any event. She also didn't have SR45 working with her
4 but rather a sister helped with -- helping with
5 homework. She said that:

6 "Each unit had its own dining room. In my unit we
7 had four tables with four children at each table and the
8 Sisters did not feed the children who were able to feed
9 themselves."

10 She said that you had toys in your own bedrooms.
11 There was a large sitting room with a snooker room and
12 table tennis. You also had a TV in the corner and
13 larger toys were kept in a room at the top of the
14 stairs. Is any of that correct at all, HIA5?

15 **A. No.**

16 Q. She also goes on to say:

17 "The children were not in church at 7 o'clock in the
18 morning, as that was Sisters' breakfast time. Staff
19 would come on duty at 7.30, call the children to get
20 washed, dressed, have their breakfast, get ready for
21 school. Breakfast was at 8.00 with a choice of cereals,
22 grilled bacon and sausages. In regard to the children
23 being nipped, I have not, nor did I see anyone being
24 punched or nipped as HIA5 describes."

25 She says:

1 "Some children needed to be at the gate in time for
2 the school bus or taxi and some children remained in
3 school in Belfast -- at the school in Belfast. Some
4 children went to St. Monica's, St. Augustine's and
5 Cairnmartin Secondary."

6 She is not sure whether you and your brother went to
7 the St. Michael's Primary School or a different school,
8 but we know the records show you were in Greenwood and
9 then Harberton.

10 **A. Uh-huh.**

11 Q. She said that Father Brendan Smyth didn't say mass on
12 Sunday mornings, as they had a chaplain.

13 "He would only have said mass if he visited when he
14 was on holiday. There were no confessions on Sunday
15 mornings, as sometimes Father would be saying a later
16 mass."

17 She has no recollection of punishment -- such a
18 punishment to lock a child in a room known as the dark
19 room. She is aware of a room at the side of the church
20 in which two sisters slept across from the lift.

21 She said about jumping out of the bathroom window,
22 that could not have happened, because the bathroom was
23 on the fourth floor and the building was very high.

24 She also said that -- you go on in your statement to
25 talk about some other things that I will come back to,

1 but she can -- she talks about children being invited to
2 a number of parties over the Christmas period. Do you
3 ever remember going to any parties over Christmas?

4 **A. No, I don't.**

5 Q. She says you got gifts and Santa also came and toys were
6 left under the tree in the sitting room.

7 **A. The only thing I says in the room till you that**
8 **I remember the disco and it was done by NL14 and .**
9 **Right? I don't remember any Christmas parties.**

10 Q. That disco was organised when you were living in the
11 home?

12 **A. That was organised, yes. For the other point of view**
13 **she says that I couldn't have jumped out the window.**
14 **Well, my brother was in the same bathroom even when**
15 **I did it. So, you know ... So I strongly disagree with**
16 **what she is saying.**

17 Q. She does talk about she has no recollection of family
18 visits, but can recall a social worker visiting and
19 regular case conferences. She says that NL 100 and you
20 were transferred to a group downstairs due to a baby
21 being admitted into the Lodge, and as the trained
22 nursery nurse on staff, the child -- as she was the
23 trained nursery nurse, the child came into her unit.
24 She had no empty beds. So you two went downstairs in
25 order to accommodate this baby.

1 **A. No, I have no recollection of that at all.**

2 Q. You just only remember ever being in her group?

3 **A. Uh-huh.**

4 Q. SR45, who is now SR45, gave a statement, which is at
5 SNB-1702. She confirmed she lived in the community
6 between July '80 and '99 until the house closed. She
7 worked as a primary school teacher in St. Michael's
8 Primary School. She says she didn't work in the
9 children's home, as each group had its own team of
10 social work staff who cared for the children. She
11 doesn't remember you. She didn't teach you and she
12 doesn't know if you went to St. Michael's, but we know
13 that you didn't.

14 She said she wasn't involved in the admission of
15 children to Nazareth Lodge, nor in the allocation of
16 rooms, and she denies any involvement in that complaint.
17 She says she wasn't directly or indirectly involved in
18 the dining arrangements and denies your complaining
19 about her in the dining room, and the same with regard
20 to the other complaints you make about her. She says
21 that she wasn't involved in sleeping arrangements and
22 deny those complaints. She says she had no contact with
23 you and accordingly has no recollection whatever of
24 having been told to remove yourself in the terms
25 outlined by you. She said she has no knowledge of the

1 dark room, and she repeats that she'd no direct contact
2 with the child and was never involved in bathing
3 children. She has no knowledge of any child jumping out
4 of a window, spraining his ankle and being grabbed back
5 in in the manner referred to. She denies ever showing a
6 wicked facial expression to any child and denies the
7 allegations of abuse that you outlined in your
8 statement.

9 Now that's what those two nuns that you have named
10 have said about the allegations you made about them,
11 HIA5. Is there anything you want to say about that?

12 **A. Whatever they say. I know what happened.**

13 Q. You talk in paragraph 21 of your statement -- you have
14 a memory of UTV coming to the home.

15 **A. That's right, yes.**

16 Q. You also at paragraph 22 there say that one day you
17 pleaded with the caretaker to help you, because you were
18 being physically and mentally abused, but he said he
19 didn't know what to believe.

20 **A. That's right, yes.**

21 Q. That's -- sorry. I should have said that's at SNB-038.

22 **A. That was NL14.**

23 Q. You say you think he died last year.

24 **A. Well, I was told he died and then I was told he is**
25 **alive. So you don't know what to believe. The internet**

1 **tells lies.**

2 Q. But you remember asking him for help and he basically --

3 **A. I do remember that, yes.**

4 Q. -- he basically dismissed it, because he didn't know
5 what to believe.

6 **A. Well, that's true, yes, yes.**

7 Q. You do remember Christmas. You say:

8 "There was a priest who dressed up as Santa and he
9 used to give us toys",

10 but they were symbols of Christianity, as you say,
11 rather than -- although you do remember one year getting
12 a plastic sword, helmet and a shield.

13 **A. Uh-huh.**

14 Q. You don't remember taking them home when you left the
15 Lodge, so they may have been taken off you. You say the
16 nuns didn't like noise, and football or games with
17 sticks weren't allowed, and the only thing you heard in
18 Nazareth Lodge was praying.

19 You go on to say that over the years the beatings
20 got worse. You and your brother were waking up with
21 welts on your legs and arms, and you say:

22 "Now and again a priest would come to ask how the
23 children in the Lodge were doing. I don't know the name
24 of the priest, and I were never allowed" --

25 Sorry. Your brother and you were never allowed to

1 speak to him. You say the nuns were probably afraid you
2 would tell him about the abuse.

3 "One time he saw me across the room and commented on
4 the marks on my body and the nuns put it down to
5 sunburn. They used to cover the bruises with Vaseline
6 and sun lotion as a disguise."

7 **A. Uh-huh. I still remember the smell of it.**

8 Q. You say you were going to bed with your head, hands,
9 knees and legs in agony and that the green blanket used
10 to irritate you because it was itchy and stuck to the
11 cuts and bruises.

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. Excuse me. You say that there was a social worker who
14 came and took you and NL 100 home on 26th June '85,
15 when you were nearly 10. You burst into tears when he
16 told you you were going home. You say you cried in
17 shock that you were escaping, but unfortunately things
18 weren't terribly happy when you did get home.

19 **A. Uh-huh.**

20 Q. I know that you describe later in your statement the
21 difficulties that there were in the home situation.

22 **A. Well, the way I seen it was I didn't want to go back**
23 **home because I knew what my father put us boys through.**
24 **Right? Now if you think about it this way, you were**
25 **actually not going back home to see your mother and**

1 father. You are going back to get more punishment, you
2 know. So I -- I hated going back to mum and dad's.
3 I loved them and I still love them today and I forgive
4 them for what they did. That took me courage to do so,
5 because my dad was a very abusive thug, who was
6 a whiskey drinker and had no regrets at beating us kids.

7 Q. Well, the social work papers again show that you were
8 returned home as part of a planned programme of care and
9 we see that through the case reports, the progression of
10 you going back home gradually until you end up spending
11 more and more time there. You can see that at SNB-40014
12 -- I don't think would need to call these up -- and from
13 SNB-40083 and 40093.

14 At paragraph 28 here you say that your brother and
15 you were beat so much that you just lost your will for
16 life.

17 "We were two shells that left the Lodge. I blanked
18 the world out and lost all sense of normality. All
19 I had was hatred, abuse and violence inside my head."

20

21

22 **A. Yes.** .

23 Q. You say that you regret it, because you love
24 now, but at the time you had no remorse and no feeling.
25 You say the nuns turned you into a psychopath as

1 an 11-year-old boy.

2 **A. I literally was.**

3 Q. Now you go on here to say that you were in St. Joseph's
4 Babies Home at a later stage when you were about 13.

5 **A. Uh-huh.**

6 Q. Certainly it's something -- I would ask Ms Smyth of the
7 Health & Social Care Board to double check this, because
8 they have not provided us with any records you were
9 admitted to that home and say they don't have any,
10 although they have managed to find records of your time
11 in Nazareth Lodge.

12 **A. Well, like I says to you in the there, I could
13 name every staff that was in St. Joe's clearly. You
14 know what I mean? So I know for a fact that I was in
15 that home.**

16 Q. You gave me some names. , was it?

17 **A. There was a woman called . She was a staff
18 member. She was also a social worker before a staff
19 member. Right? You also had -- right -- who
20 was also a staff member, you know, and , who
21 works in St. Patrick's Training School, but it's no --
22 it's not called St. Patrick's now. It's a home now, but
23 he works there and he remembers me very well. So ...**

24 Q. So although we don't have any documentation to show, you
25 believe you were taken into care on another date and put

1 in there. We will ask the Health & Social Care Board to
2 look into that.

3 **A. You see, I remember going back home again and it never**
4 **changed. Right? We thought in our hearts that it was**
5 **going to change, but it didn't change. My da was still**
6 **a thug, still took it out on us and that's why they put**
7 **me in the second home, St. Joe's.**

8 Q. Well, you even talk about the name of the social worker
9 who took you there was a NL 184 .

10 **A. That's right, yes.**

11 Q. I am sure the Health & Social Care Board can look into
12 that in more detail.

13 **A. I know NL 184 very well, because what I told**
14 **you in the , that my father put a knife to her**
15 **throat. So I know her very well.**

16 Q. You describe life after care in the statement at
17 paragraphs 33 to 37, HIA5, and I am not going to go into
18 the details of that, but you can be sure the Panel have
19 read what has happened to you. I know you are on
20 medication.

21 **A. Well, I have been taking anti-depressant tablets for**
22 **eleven years. My medication has actually gone up higher**
23 **because of my mental state. I am still a very**
24 **aggressive person -- right -- who has no feeling at all.**
25 **Right? I try to -- I try to communicate with the world**

1 -- right -- and try to be as nice as possible to other
2 human beings, but inside me is just total rage. That's
3 all I feel, rage. You know what I mean? I could snap
4 like that, but I am on my medication they put me to calm
5 me down to be -- to make me more human like everybody
6 else, you know. It is not that I am not a human.
7 Sometimes with my anger and rage I don't feel that way.
8 I feel like I just hate society. Know what I mean? But
9 I was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and
10 -- look it up on the internet -- and the effects of Post
11 Traumatic Stress Disorder can make you hate people. It
12 can turn you very nasty and aggressive towards society.

13 Q. Well, HIA5, if I can just turn to one other matter, you
14 gave a statement to the police, which can be seen at
15 SNB-61632. In that you complained there again about
16 SR46 hitting you with the walking stick. You named
17 NL15, but you gave a surname there of , but you
18 believe that was -- that's wrong.

19 A. Yes, I made a mistake there, because a girl who was in
20 the group I was speaking to last Saturday -- I will not
21 mention her name -- but she told me that she was in
22 Nazareth Lodge. She described it till a tee when
23 I talked till her. Right? She says that she told --
24 she said to me her second name, but my memory is very
25 bad these days. Right? I can only remember certain

1 things -- right -- and all of a sudden it's a blank. So
2 her second name is away, but I know for a fact she was
3 definitely in the Lodge.

4 Q. Well, you said that she slapped you on your arm for not
5 finishing something.

6 You also named SR 181, who you say was
7 a music person -- music teacher, as the person who
8 locked you in the dark room --

9 A. Uh-huh.

10 Q. -- not SR45, but you told me you feel that that's -- you
11 gave the wrong name to the police.

12 A. Well, I feel -- I say that I must have give the wrong
13 name, you know, so ...

14 Q. I know the police certainly -- the papers we have
15 received from the police indicate that they interviewed
16 SR46, although the only interview that I have in
17 relation to her, and we can double check this, suggests
18 she was not interviewed about your complaint. You have
19 told me you received a letter from the Public
20 Prosecution Service --

21 A. Uh-huh.

22 Q. -- saying that the case was closed --

23 A. That's right.

24 Q. -- and you are very unhappy about that.

25 A. Well, the way I see it is when I was first called up to

1 see two members of your HIA, I told my story and stuff
2 like that there. Then I was told to go to Musgrave
3 Police Station. I willingly accepted and went and spoke
4 to a woman. Now I can't remember her name, but, you
5 know, I told her stuff and told her what happened to me,
6 you know, so -- but, like I say, I am not very happy
7 about the police the way they treated me, you know.
8 They were turning round and saying these people didn't
9 exist. I am sorry, but, you know, I might have been six
10 years of age, but I had eyes.

11 Q. Just to be clear as well there is a prosecutorial
12 decision which indicate they didn't feel that it was
13 necessary to interview SR46 again in relation to your --

14 A. Yes, I heard that. I am not happy about that either.

15 Q. Well, those are the questions that I want to ask you
16 save for one last one, HIA5, and that is that you are
17 aware -- sorry. I should have -- before I did that, we
18 also received a statement, a general statement, from the
19 congregation from Sister Brenda, who again also says
20 that -- she said:

21 "It was a matter of deep regret that any child under
22 the care of the Sisters of Nazareth did not feel loved
23 or cared for."

24 She said that while they had a policy of no physical
25 chastisement, they would accept that on occasions that

1 was not stuck to. She would also say that when you were
2 in the Lodge, there was no Sister with a walking stick
3 or that wore steel rosary beads, and certainly SR46 was
4 there at the time, but she was much younger and didn't
5 have a walking stick.

6 **A. Uh-huh.**

7 Q. They don't accept that any child was force fed, and
8 their memory, as I have indicated, is that Father
9 Brendan Smyth didn't come after around '77 or '78.

10 They say there was no staff member with the name
11 NL15, and they do say that the bathroom was on the
12 fourth floor, that it would seem impossible for a child
13 to jump out the window without requiring hospital
14 treatment for serious injuries.

15 Finally, she would say that the congregation offers
16 you an unreserved and sincere apology for any treatment
17 you received by any Sister which fell below the
18 acceptable standard.

19 Now I read that to you earlier before you came into
20 the chamber. There is something -- you didn't really
21 feel terribly pleased about the apology, if I can put it
22 that way.

23 **A. No comment.**

24 Q. Well, you are aware that this Inquiry has to make
25 recommendations to the Northern Ireland Executive about

1 what should happen --

2 **A. Uh-huh.**

3 Q. -- with regard to those people who were abused in
4 institutions, and the Panel is interested to know what
5 your own views are, HIA5, about what they should
6 recommend.

7 **A. All I want is the truth. All I want is people to see
8 the truth and not listen to their lies, because so far
9 their statement there has sickened the life out of me.
10 I am trying to stay calm the best I can, but when you
11 are abused as a 6-year-old child -- right -- and they
12 are denying abusing you is the worst thing that can
13 happen, you know. So I'm looking justice, whatever it
14 takes, you know.**

15 Q. Well, HIA5, thank you for that. I have nothing further
16 that I want to ask you, but is there anything that you
17 feel you haven't had the opportunity to say or that we
18 haven't covered about your time in Nazareth Lodge? Now
19 is the opportunity for you to do that.

20 **A. Well, I haven't got anything more to say about Nazareth
21 Lodge, because I just don't want to know about it, to be
22 honest with you, but I will say this.**

23 The cards that I was told that people gave out for
24 Lifeline -- right -- I will not accept, because I phoned
25 Lifeline when I tried to kill myself seven times, and

1 Lifeline -- I remember speaking to a young girl -- right
2 -- who was a teenager, who hadn't got a clue anything
3 I was talking -- I was speaking as clearly as I am to
4 you now. Right? Now at the time my head was all over
5 the place. The only thing I seen in my head was to
6 disappear and forget all this and go away and die.
7 Right? I tried to explain that till her. "Sure we'll
8 give you a call next week." That's what she said, "next
9 week". On the day in question I was trying to kill
10 myself. I wouldn't have been here next week, but she
11 says, "I'll give you a call next week". Know what
12 I mean? Totally sickening. Right?

13 Then I went to Wave Trauma Centre, and the girl that
14 I spoke to in Wave Trauma Centre was more interested in
15 the paint on the walls than to listen to me. Then she
16 started doing meditation. Meditation the way my head
17 was? You know, so ...

18 Then I went to PIPS. I have tried every single
19 organisation to try to help me. Right? Every time
20 I was let down, every single time. It is like they
21 didn't want to listen. You know what I mean?

22 It is very hard for a person who tries to commit
23 suicide, because even today people don't understand what
24 suicide is. They don't know how we feel, you know. So
25 it is very hard for me to explain to somebody -- right

1 proceed or not.

2 CHAIRMAN: Well, we will rise now, ladies and gentlemen, and
3 we will know in five or ten minutes whether we can
4 resume now. If not, we will try and start some time
5 after 1.30.

6 (12.20 pm)

7 (Short break)

8 (12.30 pm)

9 WITNESS HIA91 (called)

10 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, the next witness
11 today is HIA91. You heard from his brother earlier on
12 this morning. HIA91 is "HIA91", and he is aware,
13 Chairman, that you are going to ask him to take the
14 oath.

15 CHAIRMAN: Do you prefer to be called HIA91 or HIA91?

16 **A. HIA91.**

17 WITNESS HIA91 (sworn)

18 CHAIRMAN: Thank you, HIA91. Please sit down.

19 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

20 MR AIKEN: Coming up on the screen, HIA91, is the first
21 page of your witness statement, 197. I just want you to
22 confirm -- I explained to you earlier why the black
23 marks are there --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- because of the Inquiry's anonymity policy, but can

1 you just check from the hard copy you have got in front
2 of you it is the same statement?

3 **A. Yes, it is.**

4 Q. Then if you turn to the back page and if we move in the
5 bundle to 202, please, hopefully you can confirm for me
6 that's the same last page?

7 **A. Yes, it is indeed.**

8 Q. And that you have signed the statement?

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. And that you want to adopt that as your evidence to the
11 Inquiry?

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. Thank you, HIA91. Just bear with me while I give the
14 Panel some references to where material relevant to you
15 is in the Inquiry bundle.

16 CHAIRMAN: Before we do that what's HIA91's attitude towards
17 his --

18 MR AIKEN: He wants to keep his anonymity.

19 CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

20 MR AIKEN: The Sisters of Nazareth response statement is at
21 2012.

22 Then the Health & Social Care Board response at 5914
23 to 5917 with exhibits from 5918 to 5953.

24 The Inquiry has also received a social work file
25 relating to HIA91, as it did for his brother HIA297, and

1 that's an extensive file that runs from SNB-44375
2 through to SNB-44535. Like his brother -- HIA91, you
3 have the advantage of your brother has given evidence
4 already and has covered a lot of the type of ground --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- that also applies to you. So I won't need to open
7 the same number of documents --

8 **A. No.**

9 Q. -- but, like him, you have been exercised at trying to
10 understand the decisions that were made about your
11 family, how you came to need to be in care, how you came
12 to be in the places that you were --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- and I am aware that some of the material that
15 I've had access to to discuss with you today was
16 material that you hadn't seen before, and one particular
17 issue about a medical condition we are going to touch
18 on, because it is relevant to your grandson --

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. -- but what -- I tried to summarise for you what the
21 Health & Social Care Board say, because they are the
22 successor body of Armagh Welfare, who were involved with
23 your family, and what they say in paragraph 11 of their
24 statement at 5917 is that as a government body they
25 acknowledge the distress that you describe in your

1 statement of various things that happened to you, but
2 they point out that very active and extensive efforts
3 were made by those social workers involved with your
4 family to try and initially help you to be able to live
5 with your mum and then, when that wasn't possible, to
6 place you in the best places for you and for your
7 brothers and your sister --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- and over a lengthy period of time trying to help as
10 best they could. I think the issue for you was more not
11 being able to understand or hear or see why things were
12 done in the way that they were. I explained to you that
13 often perhaps things you weren't told was because -- out
14 of a desire not to cause you further distress --

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. -- because the content of this material at times can be
17 difficult for children about their parents and so on.

18 That being said, we are going to look at some of the
19 material, but before I do that, you were born on

20 .

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. You are now aged 48.

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. You were the youngest of five siblings. HIA297 was the
25 third in line and then , who has since passed

1 away, and then yourself was the fifth. You yourself
2 have four children.

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. Three daughters and a son, and three grandchildren --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- and keep you well occupied.

7 **A. Big time.**

8 Q. I was making the point to you that a lot of the
9 six-monthly reports that went back to the Welfare
10 Authority that the Panel looked at as your brother was
11 giving evidence relating to him, those relating to you
12 often say about you being a bright, nice child. Make
13 the point on occasion you could be stubborn. You smiled
14 because you thought that was pretty accurate.

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. You say I should ask your daughters, who would have the
17 same streak in them is the point you made.

18 **A. Yes, they would.**

19 Q. So you -- like your brother, you were taken into care at
20 the same time on 4th October 1967. You were just nine
21 months old at the time. You don't remember any of this,
22 as you pointed out to me when you were talking about it.
23 Initially you went to Nazareth House, Portadown, with
24 your brothers and your sister, , and I am just
25 going to give the Panel the reference. We are not going

1 to bring the document up. It is at 5919 and 5920 is the
2 chronology care record that you and I were looking at
3 earlier --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- HIA91, that just records your progress through care.

6 A court order was made in favour of Armagh Welfare
7 in October '67 to look after you and that was at 5922.
8 Like your brother, the Panel looked at the document
9 I showed you entitled "The Particulars of Child being
10 received into Care form" that was completed at the time
11 that was designed to give basic information about who
12 you were and what your circumstances were. That's at
13 44416 and 7.

14 As I said to you, as said to your brother also,
15 HIA91, the Health -- the Armagh Welfare -- excuse me --
16 and the NSPCC were involved in working with your mum to
17 see could circumstances be created that you could go
18 back and live with her, and it was when that wasn't
19 deemed possible about a year later at the end of 1968
20 that you were permanently taken into care, and that's
21 what then resulted in moving ultimately to Nazareth
22 Lodge and later to foster care.

23 I was drawing to your attention -- you were saying
24 you don't remember seeing doctors and so on --

25 **A. No.**

1 Q. -- but in October of -- in November of '67 you went in
2 and had an operation. You were pointing out to me you
3 have the scar on your body --

4 **A. Yes.**

5 Q. -- but never knew what that was about, but the point you
6 made to me was that when I told you what it was about
7 from the record, your grandson has an issue in the same
8 part of his body.

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. You are going to be checked out about whether your
11 chromosomes are a carrier for this particular issue.

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. So I am going to have a conversation later with the
14 representatives from the Health & Social Care Board to
15 see if there is a way for you to quickly have this
16 record with you when you go to see the doctors next
17 week.

18 So you yourself, though, don't have any memory --

19 **A. No.**

20 Q. -- of that taking place?

21 **A. No.**

22 Q. Your -- the Panel saw earlier that your sister
23 and your brother HIA297 moved on to Nazareth Lodge in
24 Belfast before you in 1968, when you would have been
25 just a year and a half. In your file is an important

1 document that I'm going to bring up and show to the
2 Panel, as I was discussing with you. A lot of the
3 material that's here is not just personal to you but
4 will also assist the Panel with its work in
5 understanding how the systems operated. It is a memo --
6 if we can bring, please, 44403 -- it is a memo, HIA91,
7 where you may well say to me, "What does this matter to
8 me?", but it is of importance to the Panel, because it
9 shows a record for your sister and your older brother:

10 "At the request of Nazareth House, Portadown they
11 are getting too old. Rang Nazareth House and Nazareth
12 Lodge, Belfast. Neither can take them at present. Both
13 homes now endeavouring to take families."

14 You will recall I was mentioning to you earlier,
15 HIA91, there was a period of time when individuals if
16 you were boys, you went to one place, and girls, you
17 went to another, and the siblings didn't get to live
18 together.

19 **A. Right.**

20 Q. This is recording that in March '68 it seems that
21 approach is changing for the Sisters of Nazareth and it
22 is recording then:

23 "On for Nazareth Lodge for admission at Easter of
24 '68",

25 and ultimately that is what then takes place. So

1 that's an important record in the chronology or
2 development of these homes that you have been able to
3 assist with.

4 It appears then, HIA91, as I was saying to you, that
5 the same six-monthly type reporting from Nazareth House,
6 Portadown and then Nazareth Lodge in Belfast, where they
7 write on these voluntary report forms to the Welfare
8 saying how you are getting on and what has happened in
9 your life over that period of time, exist for you. I am
10 just going to give the Panel the references. There is
11 one from April '68. I am just going to show you the
12 document, HIA91, so you recall what we were talking
13 about earlier. It is at 44443. You will recall me
14 showing you that type of Voluntary Organisation --
15 Report from Voluntary Organisation on Children
16 maintained on behalf of a Welfare Authority. It is
17 simply then reporting to the Welfare Authority every six
18 months then showing how you are getting on.

19 Another version is written in November '68 and that
20 is at 5932; then again in March '69 at 44445; in October
21 '69 at 44446. I was asking that that last one, 44446,
22 records you getting medical treatment for a skin
23 condition --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- and you were saying that is something that you don't

1 remember being treated for at the time --

2 **A. No.**

3 Q. -- but that is something that you did have, and it is
4 suggesting that they were organising for you to see
5 a skin specialist if it didn't clear up. Then in April
6 1970, if we look at the one at 5933, it is one of these
7 that contains the compliment to you of being a bright,
8 happy boy. If we can bring up 5933, please, it is
9 slightly more difficult to read, but if we just scroll
10 down to the "General Remarks" section, it is telling us
11 that you have now seen the skin specialist and that the
12 condition was improving.

13 So what it is showing, HIA91, is that you -- at
14 a young age somebody in the home was recognising medical
15 difficulties and getting you properly looked at, but it
16 is not something you remember out of your own
17 experience.

18 The decision then to move you from Nazareth House in
19 Portadown to Nazareth Lodge took place on 28th
20 August 1970. At that point you were 3 and your next in
21 line, , who has since passed away in recent years,
22 was essentially 5. The reason given was because
23 you were approaching school age. So, like and
24 HIA297 who had moved before you, the decision was taken
25 as you were approaching school age. That was at 5928.

1 The -- what the Welfare Authority appear to have
2 been keen on was keeping the family -- getting you in
3 alongside your siblings. If we can look at 44422,
4 please, and this might be again slightly difficult to
5 read, but it is a letter to SR172, who was the Superior
6 in Nazareth House. The last line of it is thanking her
7 for helping the County Welfare Officer to keep the four
8 children in the family together -- NL 131 was living
9 somewhere else in different circumstances -- but
10 allowing you and to be reunited effectively with
11 and HIA297, although only a few months later
12 moved out to a foster family in Belfast --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- but you continued to live in the Lodge with --

15 **A. HIA297.**

16 Q. -- your brother, HIA297. Again there are various
17 six-monthly reports that follow. There is October 1970
18 at 44393 and at 5934, and the reports as they continue
19 to come in -- I am not going to bring them all up,
20 HIA91 -- they are all very positive towards you,
21 describing you as a lovely child. April '71 can be
22 found at 5936. We can see in May '71 the Assistant
23 Children's Officer visiting, if we just look at 44392.
24 So it shows that the Children's Officer in Armagh was
25 checking on how you were getting on, this particular

1 Children's Officer saying:

2 "This was my first interview with them and was
3 therefore very informal and in a group. We talked about
4 football, cowboys and guns. They all related well,
5 HIA91 being the most reticent."

6 Well, you would have been the youngest. So ...

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. You promised to come and see them again. She indicates
9 that perhaps HIA297 and might be best fostered
10 together. That was something that was being
11 investigated, although that ultimately was not capable
12 of being achieved.

13 There is further reports in October '71 -- that's at
14 44449 -- and then in March '72 at 44390. The record in
15 March of '72 I was saying to you records you as waking
16 in Nazareth Lodge at night with nightmares, but you
17 don't have any memory of that yourself.

18 **A. No.**

19 Q. That's the one where it says you can be stubborn at
20 times, and you were telling me that might be accurate
21 enough.

22 You remained then in Nazareth Lodge until 1st
23 August 1972 -- the reference for that is at 5940 -- when
24 you -- by this time you are aged 5 and a half -- along
25 with your two immediately older brothers, and

1 HIA297, were fostered out to NL77 and NL78, who had
2 a farm

3 **A.**

4 Q. That's where you then lived for the next three years
5 until 1975. Now before I leave Nazareth Lodge, you have
6 said in your statement your memory of it is very vague

7 --

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. -- and you have no real complaint --

10 **A. No.**

11 Q. -- that you recall about your time there. You just
12 remember it being a big place --

13 **A. Yes.**

14 Q. -- where you stayed. The -- you don't remember -- when
15 you are with the foster placement, that seems according
16 to the material and your brother -- perhaps your
17 recollection is the same -- initially it was okay, but
18 then you along with your brother started to be beaten
19 for wetting the bed.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. As I said to you, there are records that the Panel has
22 seen already that show them working with -- having been
23 made aware of it by the school principal, trying to
24 explain to the family that's not how you deal with
25 bedwetting as an issue. During your time in the foster

1 placement -- again I am not going to open it -- but
2 there are in your file references to the social workers
3 visiting in 1972, in '73, '74. So there's a lot of
4 interaction, and I was asking your brother this as well.
5 You never felt able to say to the social worker what was
6 happening.

7 **A. We never -- we never seen any of them.**

8 Q. You don't have a memory of ever seeing them?

9 **A. No, we never seen any of them, because any time they did**
10 **come to visit us, we were put out to the fields. We**
11 **were taken away.**

12 Q. Okay.

13 **A. So they did come. They all made sure if we did say**
14 **anything, we'd be shipped out. You know, "Away out of**
15 **the road".**

16 Q. Okay.

17 **A. So we never got seeing any of the social workers or even**
18 **talking to anybody, so we didn't.**

19 Q. Okay.

20 **A. So ...**

21 Q. There are various references that I will give to the
22 Panel just so they can have a record of it and look at
23 that material. That's at 44454 to 44456, then 44453,
24 then 44457 -- I appreciate these appear out of sync, but
25 that's putting them in chronological order -- and then

1 at 44466 and 7.

2 Then as a result of being told about getting beaten
3 for the bedwetting the social worker attends and deals
4 with that at 44479 and 44480, but that didn't resolve
5 the problem, because there was an issue about you being
6 neglected in terms of what food you were being given --

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. -- and so on. Ultimately in May of 1975 the social
9 workers decided that you should be removed from the
10 foster placement, and the reference for that is at 5791
11 and 2 and ultimately at 5794.

12 Then the decision was made to take you and your two
13 brothers to live at Dalton Road --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- the family group home.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. Now your brother was explaining to the Inquiry earlier
18 that his experience there was very, very positive. He
19 had very good memories of that.

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. Your memories of that were not, and you have explained
22 this in your statement, and I am not going to go into it
23 in any detail, but you have -- your experience was
24 similar to what was happening while you were at the
25 foster placement --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- with the first family who ran Dalton Road --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- in that you still were being punished by them
5 physically --

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. -- but whenever the family who were in charge of the
8 home changed --

9 **A. Yes.**

10 Q. -- I think you mentioned, as you brother did, the
11 family --

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. -- then your experience was much more positive --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- but because of what had happened to you in the foster
16 placement, the point you were making is it took you
17 a very long time to trust even decent people who were
18 trying to look after you properly.

19 **A. Yes.**

20 Q. Is that fair?

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. Again there are various -- through your file lots of
23 reports of social workers visiting to check how you are
24 getting on at Dalton Road. Again do you remember that
25 at this remove or is that something that was a surprise

1 to you?

2 **A. No, I remember the ones at Dalton, like, so I can, the**
3 **reports there.**

4 Q. You remember occasions of getting to see your sister,
5 who was --

6 **A. Well, we seen her once or twice when we realised -- we**
7 **didn't realise we had a sister until we came to Dalton,**
8 **so we didn't, until the Welfare told us about it, and**
9 **then after that there we did get in contact with her and**
10 **that was it.**

11 Q. There's reference -- it is not something we talked about
12 beforehand, HIA91 -- there's reference in the material
13 to even though you had had a bad experience with -- for
14 some of the behaviour that happened in the foster
15 placement, some of the children who lived there of that
16 family you did get on with and I think particularly more
17 your brother was keen to see again, and the Welfare
18 officers did facilitate a visit back to that foster
19 placement where you had spent three years in fairness.

20 Do you remember that taking place?

21 **A. Oh, aye.**

22 Q. You remember going back?

23 **A. Oh, aye, I do indeed.**

24 Q. That, Members of the Panel, is at 44490, 44492 and
25 44495.

1 You have set out in your witness statement, and the
2 Panel has already had the opportunity to read that,
3 HIA91, and look at some of the material that you and I
4 have talked about this morning, but, as I said to you
5 earlier, there is two questions that we ask anyone
6 towards the end of their evidence, and that is at the
7 end of the Panel's work it has to consider what
8 recommendations it might make to the Northern Ireland
9 Executive, the Government, about generally three areas,
10 whether some form of apology in some way, some form of
11 memorial, or some other means of redress, and we ask
12 each witness whether there's anything they want to say
13 about that. Your brother earlier was talking about
14 better means of getting and understanding information
15 about your history. Is there anything you want to say
16 to help the Panel in their thinking about
17 recommendations?

18 **A. Well, more information would be nice, you know, if I was**
19 **given it. You know, if I was given information I was**
20 **looking for years ago, if it had been, but there today**
21 **I have only just found out something I never knew, you**
22 **know.**

23 **Q.** I was explaining to you earlier the vagaries of the Data
24 Protection Act makes it very difficult. As I said to
25 you earlier, I am not justifying the public authorities,

1 but it makes it difficult for you to get material, and
2 bits of it are redacted out because it relates to other
3 people. Sometimes they don't find the right file at the
4 right time they are dealing with the request, but
5 certainly for you better understanding of what took
6 place for you during your childhood --

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. -- like your brother, would be something you would find
9 helpful?

10 **A. Yes.**

11 Q. The last question that we ask each witness is whether
12 there's anything else -- for us we are looking at
13 Nazareth Lodge at the moment -- whether there's anything
14 else about their time in Nazareth Lodge that they can --
15 maybe it is something I haven't covered or I haven't
16 covered properly. In your case you are slightly
17 different in that you don't really remember --

18 **A. No.**

19 Q. -- your time there, but maybe there's -- perhaps there
20 is nothing else. I have covered most of the --

21 **A. Most of it.**

22 Q. -- the issues. Well, HIA91, just bear with me for
23 a short while. The Panel Members may want to ask you
24 something. I am not going to ask you any more
25 questions. So just bear with me for a short time.

1 CHAIRMAN: HIA91, I am sure you might be relieved to hear we
2 don't, in fact, have any more questions for you.

3 **A. Right.**

4 Q. We have heard what you have to say and we have all these
5 documents we have already had the chance to look at, but
6 thank you very much indeed for coming to speak to us,
7 you and your brother. It has been very helpful. Thank
8 you.

9 **A. Thank you very much.**

10 **(Witness withdrew)**

11 MR AIKEN: Chairman, Members of the Panel, Ms Smith is
12 taking the next witness, but I notice the time. It may
13 be ...

14 CHAIRMAN: Well, we will say we will not start before
15 2 o'clock at the earliest.

16 (1.05 pm)

17 (Lunch break)

18 (3.00 pm)

19 WITNESS HIA41 (called)

20 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY

21 MS SMITH: Chairman, Panel Members, the last witness this
22 afternoon is HIA41. HIA41 is "HIA41". He was sworn in
23 when he gave evidence on the last module, and HIA41 is
24 aware that, although there was anonymity afforded to him
25 by the Inquiry, he did waive that after he gave evidence

1 on the last occasion.

2 A number of documents relating to HIA41. His
3 statement can be found at SNB-435 to 463.

4 There are four response statements from the
5 congregation. There is a statement from SR30, which can
6 be found at SNB-2161. There is also a statement from
7 SR46 -- there are two statements, in fact, from her.
8 One is at 1585 and the second one is at 2134 to 2135.
9 There is also a statement from SR156 at SNB-1575 to
10 156 -- sorry -- 76. There's a statement from SR208 at
11 SNB-1869, and there is a statement from Sister Brenda on
12 behalf of the congregation at SNB-2164.

13 We have also received a statement from a NL52.

14 I can't remember what the designation is, Chairman. It
15 is at SNB-80063.

16 MR O'NEILL: Mr Chairman, I appear --

17 CHAIRMAN: You are content to give your appearance if it is
18 convenient to do it now?

19 MR O'NEILL: Yes. Mr Chairman, I appear for NL52,
20 instructed by O'Neill solicitors.

21 CHAIRMAN: Yes. Thank you.

22 MR O'NEILL: Thank you.

23 MS SMITH: There is also a statement on behalf of NL5, NL5
24 -- it's at SNB-80065 -- dealing with the allegations
25 made by HIA41.

1 There's a Health & Social Care Board response at
2 SNB-5588 to 5619, which includes exhibits, and
3 I specifically refer to 5599, which is a Place of Safety
4 Order that was made on 6th June 1973, and 5601, which is
5 a Fit Person Order, which was made on 5th July 1973.

6 There are a number of social work papers from
7 SNB-43001 to 43199, and the report relating to the
8 making of a Fit Person Order can be found at 43002 to
9 43004. That's dated 22nd June 1973.

10 There's other social work material which can be
11 found at 4 -- sorry -- 32134 to 32136. There are --
12 sorry. There is other relevant social work material at
13 30562 to 30688.

14 There are civil claim papers at 70412 to 70434.

15 There is also police material, which can be found at
16 61000 to 61016 and at 60482 to 60486, 60489 to 60490 and
17 67038 to 67050.

18 The most relevant police statement in relation to
19 HIA41's complaints about Nazareth Lodge is dated 10th
20 September 2010. That can be found at 61000 to 61012.

21 Finally, there are extracts from the transcript of
22 his evidence on the last occasion, which can be found at
23 SNB-90067 to 90080.

24 Now, HIA41, this is the witness statement that you
25 provided for the Inquiry, which we looked at on the last

1 occasion. You were unhappy with the witness statement
2 that the Inquiry legal team prepared for you and so this
3 statement is largely your own work. I know when you
4 read over it in preparation for coming today, you
5 identified a couple of errors which were in it, which we
6 can look at when we come to that section.

7 Paragraphs 1 to 15 sets out the details of your life
8 before you came to be in Nazareth Lodge. Now I know you
9 wanted to be assured and I have assured you that the
10 Panel are fully aware of the background that you set out
11 in these paragraphs, and certainly some of the materials
12 that I have just referred the Inquiry to also relate
13 some of the details of how you came to be taken into
14 care and your life then before you went into Nazareth
15 Lodge.

16 We know that from paragraphs 1 and 2 here that you
17 spent time in Nazareth Lodge between 1968 and 1973.
18 That's you and your brothers and sisters. In each of
19 those occasions you were separated in Nazareth Lodge.
20 We can see that from a number of documents which we can
21 just look at briefly.

22 4306, please. Now these are -- these are extracts
23 from the discharge book from Nazareth Lodge, Bethlehem
24 Nursery. You see there that on 17th January '71 you and
25 your brothers and sister were discharged from the home,

1 and again if we scroll down to the next page, 307, again
2 in October '72 again you were discharged and again this
3 is into the care of your mother. 4308, in December 1972
4 you were discharged to the Belfast Welfare Department
5 and it says where you went to. Those are just examples
6 of the times that you spent in Nazareth Lodge before you
7 actually went there on foot of the Fit Person Order in
8 1973.

9 If I could just look at SNB-5606, you talk about
10 being separated from your sister and brothers, and this
11 is perhaps not the clearest example. We can maybe see
12 a better example at 41761. Again this is
13 a three-monthly review. Can we just scroll down,
14 please? This is in March '73 before you went in on
15 a more permanent basis.

16 "These children are all very demanding and
17 boisterous and the Sisters felt it was necessary to put
18 them into separate groups in order to exercise some
19 control over them. They have now settled quite well and
20 appear intelligent in school, despite frequent previous
21 non-attendance. HIA41 has been well health-wise since
22 he was admitted to care."

23 Now from talking to you, HIA41, you would accept
24 before you were taken into Nazareth Lodge you and your
25 brothers and sisters were effectively wild children.

1 You were running wild. Would that be fair comment?

2 **A. Yes. We didn't have any parents, you know. So we were**
3 **on the streets. We were quite wild.**

4 Q. Now in paragraphs 1 and 2 of your statement you talk
5 about the fact that you and your brothers were
6 separated. In paragraphs 16 through to 31 you talk
7 about your time in Nazareth Lodge. There is -- just for
8 the sake of completeness there is another example of you
9 being taken in temporarily. I don't think we need to
10 call it up, but it is at 30573.

11 Now in your statement you talk about before you
12 actually went to the placement in Nazareth Lodge you
13 spent some time in the Convent of Mercy in Newry. You
14 talk about that in detail in your statement. Again
15 I can assure you the Inquiry have the details of what
16 you say about your time there. That's at paragraph 16.

17 But you were in Nazareth Lodge from 1973. Again, as
18 you say, you were split up, but the reason given for
19 that certainly in the documentation would seem to be
20 that the Sisters were finding it hard to control. You
21 were such boisterous children.

22 In paragraph 16, if we could go to that, please,
23 which is at SNB--- I have lost the page number -- I'm
24 sorry. I have actually got the wrong numbered version
25 of the statement here, but it's -- the statement can be

1 found at 435, SNB-435, and if we could move through to
2 paragraph 16, please.

3 CHAIRMAN: 438.

4 MS SMITH: That's 438. Thank you. If we could just scroll
5 on down, you talk there about a social worker in 1973
6 called NL 186 . We are going to look at some of
7 the notes she has made, but you do remember her and you
8 remember her as someone involved in your care.

9 **A. Very well.**

10 Q. You remember her coming to visit you when you were in
11 Nazareth Lodge.

12 **A. Yes.**

13 Q. Now again if we just scroll on down through this
14 paragraph, please -- it is another long paragraph -- and
15 if we go over to the next page, which is 439, you say
16 there that you were taken to the top floor and there was
17 a nun -- excuse me. Sorry. I beg your pardon. You
18 were taken to the top floor. There was a nun called
19 or SR47. You can't remember exactly the
20 name. You say:

21 "She left Nazareth Lodge and was replaced by SR153,
22 who went to . She was replaced by SR30 from
23 ."

24 Again I am using names that are not to be used
25 outside this chamber.

1 "She was strict and very religious."

2 You talk about an incident there about -- you talk
3 in detail about things that you did -- that she did to
4 you. You talk about:

5 "I laughed at another boy who made faces and she
6 sent us to our bedroom and put me to bed with no food.
7 I remember on one occasion she slapped me on the face
8 from behind, knocking me into the wardrobe. She had
9 slapped me from behind. This was for no reason at all.
10 A bad-tempered woman. Another time she gave me a
11 beating for swapping an altar duty with another boy",
12 whom you name there, and I will just use his first name,
13 which is DL 55. "He told me to do it, and his brother,
14 DL 31, were two boys who were supposed to do it. She
15 beat me with her hands and cut my hair to humiliate me.
16 I had chores to do every morning, which progressed on to
17 me doing the front door parlour."

18 I am going to come on to that, but just to be clear
19 that SR30 has made a statement to the Inquiry. She says
20 it is possible you may have been sent to your room, but
21 that that does not mean you would have missed out on
22 meals or been kept there for the rest of the day or
23 night.

24 What she says about the incident where you say that
25 she slapped you, at paragraph 4 of her statement she

1 says:

2 "I do not accept that I slapped him from behind.
3 I am not and would not describe myself as being
4 a bad-tempered woman, nor have I been so described by
5 others. HIA41 said in the course of conversation with
6 me that I had hit him once, to which I replied that
7 I had no recollection of doing so."

8 I am just going to pause there, HIA41. You did meet
9 with this nun in later years in 2009 on two occasions.
10 Isn't that right?

11 **A. In the context of that it was dinner time on a Saturday**
12 **and the home had been renovated in our group, SR30's**
13 **group. There were a couple or three bedrooms -- three**
14 **three-bedroom rooms and some single rooms. She came up**
15 **into the group, and I don't know what the issue was, but**
16 **she sent everybody to their bed to stand beside their**
17 **bed. This was like 12.30 when we get our dinner on**
18 **a Saturday. There was three beds. Mine was the first,**
19 **DL 55 and DL20. So we were standing at the bed.**
20 **He was making faces at me and I laughed, but I didn't**
21 **know she was standing there at the door. So she just**
22 **came in behind me, which is ten times worse than getting**
23 **a punch in the face from somebody in front of you, and**
24 **she knocked me into the wardrobe. She then put me to**
25 **bed and she left me there for the day. She put the rest**

1 of the children back to the canteen and gave them their
2 dinner. That's exactly what happened.

3 Q. Well, what she says is that:

4 "HIA41 said in the course of the conversation with
5 me that I had hit him once, to which I replied that
6 I had no recollection of doing so, but I apologised if
7 it had happened. He said that he was glad to hear
8 that."

9 She goes on to say that your original version of the
10 episode --

11 **A. So she is not totally denying it.**

12 Q. Well, she said that you told her that she had done this
13 --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- and that she apologised to your face. Is that
16 correct?

17 **A. Yes. So she's not denying it.**

18 Q. But she said -- what she said is:

19 "I had no recollection of doing so, but I apologised
20 if it had happened."

21 **A. Yes. So it is not 100% denial.**

22 Q. Well, she said -- she goes on to say:

23 "He said that he was glad to hear that. His
24 original version of the episode was that he and three or
25 four other boys were messing around in the bathroom

1 while I was chastising them. He burst out laughing and
2 I slapped him across the face. He said he was laughing
3 at another boy and that I thought he was laughing at me.
4 The same incident has been reported in other media with
5 the narrative changing and taking on a more aggressive
6 portrayal of the incident on each occasion. I have
7 absolutely no recollection of ever having done so."

8 So that's what she says about that.

9 **A. Uh-huh.**

10 **Q.** You talk about being beaten for swapping altar duty.

11 You also go on to talk about her -- having your hair --

12 "... cut my hair to humiliate me."

13 What she says about that is that that didn't happen.

14 Sisters have said there were barbers who came to the
15 home to cut hairs.

16 **A. No, never. I was walking down the back stairs to go out**
17 **to play football after school and the first floor was**
18 **the chapel floor. DL 55 and DL 31 were standing**
19 **there. DL 55 was a very intelligent fella, who**
20 **deliberately failed his 11 Plus, so he wouldn't be split**
21 **up with us. The priest was in the chapel talking to the**
22 **nuns. So I didn't know what was going on. They were**
23 **standing out at the stairs. DL 55 convinced me to get**
24 **the altar gear on and he would head on out to football.**
25 **So when I went out on to -- the priest came out to get**

1 them. The priest was obviously talking to them about
2 something, the nuns. This was about 3.30 or so in the
3 day, 3.45. When I changed into the altar clothes with
4 DL 31, went on in and done the mass, I could see from her
5 face, you know, and I knew what was coming. So that's
6 exactly what happened. She pulled me up the stairs.
7 She beat the crap out of me and she cut my hair in the
8 bathroom, and I will take a lie detector test on
9 anything that I have had to say here, you know, but she
10 wouldn't stand here and deny it in front of me.

11 Q. Well, just to be clear, the Sisters of Nazareth through
12 Sister Brenda -- the congregation that is through Sister
13 Brenda would say that they would accept SR30's account
14 of what took place.

15 A. They probably would, like, you know, because it is all
16 going to the same place in the end.

17 Q. Well, paragraph 16, back at this same lengthy paragraph,
18 you talk about working at the front door. You said:

19 "You had chores to do every morning, which
20 progressed on to me doing the front door parlour.
21 I worked full time out of school."

22 Now that is a mistake, isn't it, HIA41? You didn't
23 actually work full time.

24 A. Outside of school.

25 Q. So it wasn't full time job?

1 **A. I thought you said in there I didn't go to school.**

2 Q. No, no. So what -- maybe --

3 **A. Full time outside of school from -- so 4 o'clock to**
4 **10 o'clock at night.**

5 Q. You are not trying to say there that it was a full time
6 job and that you didn't go to school. Is that right?

7 **A. No, after school.**

8 Q. Okay, and you say:

9 "This involved contacting the nuns when someone
10 called at the door or someone rang, brushing the
11 grounds, feeding beggars, seeing to priests and much
12 more until 10 o'clock every night, when I locked the
13 gates. I did this for around a couple of years."

14 Now they -- SR30 in paragraph 6 of her statement
15 does not accept that you would have done this as you
16 describe. What she says is that it is factually
17 incorrect. She said:

18 "The children did help out around the unit."

19 That's you and the other children who were in her
20 group.

21 **A. Which unit are you talking about?**

22 Q. She is referring to her unit, the group that she had
23 charge of.

24 **A. So she is not talking about the front parlour, the door?**

25 Q. No, she is talking about the unit that --

1 **A. Right.**

2 Q. -- she had charge of.

3 **A. Right.**

4 Q. She said:

5 "The children did help out around the unit with
6 duties such as helping with the dishes, tidying tables,
7 dusting, polishing and chores such as this."

8 Can you say are those the kind of things that you
9 did do as well?

10 **A. Yes. Emptied the bins, cleaned the budgie cages, done
11 things like that. Quite happy with that, you know.**

12 Q. She said:

13 "Janitorial duties around the outside of the house
14 would have been carried out by adult staff. HIA41 did
15 help with tasks such as answering the door, phone and
16 handing out sandwiches through a hatch to poor people
17 between 4.00 and 6.00 pm, activities which were normal
18 and which he appeared to enjoy."

19 So she is saying you did these things, but only
20 between 4 and 6 o'clock. You say it was longer than
21 that.

22 **A. No. Well, you see, the nuns would have been away having
23 their meetings and prayers. They all left the groups,
24 say, from around 4 o'clock to 7 o'clock. So if anyone
25 in this room came to Nazareth Lodge, you spoke to me**

1 first. I designated you to a room and then went and got
2 the person you came to see. So they then had their
3 dinner and whatever up in that quarters. There was
4 a black phone which had a buzzer on it, which would have
5 buzzed the quarters. If I didn't get an answer, I would
6 have run up the stairs and rang the bell and waited till
7 one of them came out. So it was that and at 10 o'clock
8 I put a chain and a lock around the gates and left the
9 key in a right-hand side small drawer where the entry
10 books of children going in and out of Nazareth Lodge was
11 also kept.

12 Q. Well, Sister Brenda in her statement would say in
13 paragraph 10:

14 "The Sisters do not accept that HIA41 was required
15 to carry out all of the duties he describes or that he
16 acted in some way as a personal secretary to SR30 or, in
17 fact, any other Sister. He would have been very young
18 at the time ..."

19 A. Just SR30.

20 Q. They say you would have been very young at the time.
21 That wouldn't have been appropriate.

22 I know you talk in paragraph 22 to 25 -- maybe we
23 should just go to that at this stage, please.

24 Paragraph 22 is on --

25 CHAIRMAN: 444.

1 MS SMITH: --- page 444. Thank you, Chairman. You say
2 there that your duties included brushing the front
3 grotto garden and the nuns' graveyard, as the wet leaves
4 stuck to the tarmac.

5 You say this particular nun was around at that time.

6 "I made tea for beggars who rang the bell and went
7 round the side to a hut. I served them through a hatch
8 with meat sandwiches. I had my own meals there as the
9 trolley passed with the kids from my group getting the
10 dinner from the main kitchen to take in the lift to our
11 group."

12 You describe the nun who cooked and was a kind nun.

13 **A. Yes, SR155.**

14 Q. You say:

15 "There were committee meetings that went on till 11
16 o'clock at night. I was there at that time. I showed
17 social workers to a parlour and got the family they came
18 to see. People came to leave toys, etc, at the front
19 hall. I did my homework there. I took over this job
20 from", a girl whom you name, "NL55, who was in my group
21 with a sister called "--

22 **A. NL58.**

23 Q. You say you locked the main gates at 10 o'clock every
24 night on your own -- on your own and that was 300 metres
25 away and put the key in a drawer to the right inside the

1 door. The register of who were in the home was in that
2 drawer.

3 Excuse me. As I say, just to be clear, the
4 congregation say you would have been too young to carry
5 out this level of responsibility essentially.

6 **A. No. Probably just slightly before the age of 10,**
7 **slightly before the age of 13.**

8 Q. Well, you left to go to Rubane, though, at the age of
9 12.

10 **A. I was just over -- no, I wasn't. I was over 13. March,**
11 **April, May. I was 13 years old and 2 months, not 12.**

12 Q. So this was the last two years of your time in Nazareth
13 Lodge that you would have been carrying out these
14 duties?

15 **A. No, from 10, the age of 10.**

16 Q. Okay.

17 **A. From ever SR30 came, which -- I think SR153 left in the**
18 **middle of '73. So whenever she left, which it is shown**
19 **in the records there the exact month.**

20 Q. Yes.

21 **A. So then Sister thing came. So ...**

22 Q. They also say you wouldn't have eaten your meals at the
23 front door as you describe in paragraph 22.

24 **A. Well, what happened in all of the groups, there was six**
25 **children's homes in Nazareth Lodge completely**

1 independent run by each nun, and so two kids would have
2 got a trolley, came down into the lift and went along
3 that long corridor to the hatch. SR155 served the food.
4 It was brought back up. So I got my food on a plate and
5 I ate it there. Sure you couldn't leave the front
6 parlour. There was nobody there to look after it. So
7 I got my dinner there. If I wanted any other food,
8 I went down to SR155 and I had my own kitchen there. So
9 that's a total lie by the Sisters.

10 Q. Going back to paragraph 16 at 438, you talk in this
11 paragraph about meeting Father Brendan Smyth when you
12 were about 10 and a half at that stage. Page 438,
13 please. Just scroll on down, please. Sorry. I have got
14 the wrong number obviously. 440, please. Thank you.
15 About halfway down the page -- no. Halfway down
16 page 440 you say there:

17 "It was here ..."

18 Just please stop:

19 "It was here that I first met Father Brendan Smyth.
20 I was about 10 and a half years old at this time.
21 Within five minutes he abused me. I remember him coming
22 to the door. I carried some items from his car. When
23 he opened the boot of his car, I could see sweets and
24 money, both paper and coins in a pile stacked. I took
25 items for him into his bedroom and he had given me

1 a pile of sweets. As I was eating the sweets, he
2 proceeded to be affectionate to me. He stood behind me
3 and put his hands on my backside and my bum and privates
4 when he played with me. He had his hands inside my
5 clothing. This type of abuse took place on several
6 visits from Brendan Smyth. Father Brendan Smyth was
7 like a Santa Claus figure. It was the first time I had
8 been shown any affection from a priest. He was not
9 violent in any way. All the kids liked him. He gave us
10 money and sweets. The abuse from Brendan Smyth
11 progressed. On other occasions he took his penis out
12 and had me fondle him. He done the same to me. This
13 was at the front door and in his bedroom."

14 Can I just ask where was the bedroom that he stayed
15 in?

16 **A. You walk in through the front doors of Nazareth Lodge
17 and the room immediately to the right. So those were
18 like two alcoves and the doors there. He slept in that
19 bedroom to the right.**

20 Q. So it was adjacent to the front door really?

21 **A. Yes, it was in the front door parlour area.**

22 Q. You say:

23 "This happened many times up until I was 13 years
24 old. He made me sit down in between his knees. He
25 always wore a priest's suit and his priest's collar and

1 I wore just ordinary clothes."

2 You say:

3 "The door area was separate to the rest of the Lodge
4 in that you could hear people walking down the marble
5 steps from Nazareth Lodge towards the carpeted area of
6 the door area."

7 He made you fondle him. You now understand this to
8 be masturbation. He always ejaculated after getting you
9 to masturbate him. Then you go on to say:

10 "When he penetrated me, he would normally bend me
11 over his bed face down, take his own trousers down, take
12 my shorts down. Each time he penetrated me it was like
13 the shock feeling you get when you walk into the sea."

14 You go on to describe him ejaculating. You say:

15 "He was never aggressive in any way towards me. He
16 was always very pleasant. He was persuasive in a nice
17 manner."

18 It always ended when you sat on his knee on his bed
19 and you would then be made to masturbate him, or he
20 would anally penetrate you. He sometimes put fingers
21 into your back passage; sometimes made you perform oral
22 sex on him and make you take his penis in your mouth.
23 He would never say anything that offended you. He would
24 tell you what a good boy you were."

25 Just pausing there, HIA41, you know, and we have

1 discussed this, that you also talk about being sexually
2 abused by him at paragraph 21, which is page 443. You
3 just say:

4 "This is how I met Brendan Smyth. He slept in the
5 bedroom to the right as you enter Nazareth Lodge."

6 **A. Uh-huh.**

7 Q. Now going back up to paragraph 16, if I may, though, on
8 page 441, you know that you made a statement to the
9 police in January 1995, which is at SNB-60482, and you
10 also in the same year you spoke to ,
11 a psychiatrist, for the purposes of the civil claim.

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. In both your police statement in '95 and in both -- and
14 to in 1995, you told them that he just fondled
15 you and that he never took his penis out at any stage.

16 **A. Uh-huh.**

17 Q. Yet in 2010, when you spoke to the police, you said that
18 he raped you, although from talking to you you were told
19 by the police that what you were describing to them was
20 rape. Isn't that correct?

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. You repeated that in your statement in 2011. I am not
23 going to call them up, but they can be found at -- the
24 police statement in 1995 is at 60482 and the report of
25 Dr Bones is at 70421. The police statement in 2010 is

1 at SNB-61002 and that's repeated at 67040 in 2011.

2 Now we know, and to be absolutely clear about this,
3 because I know, HIA41, that you were confused about what
4 I was saying about Father Brendan Smyth on the last
5 occasion, but he pleaded guilty to two sample counts of
6 indecently assaulting you on 2...-- not on 2... -- he
7 pleaded guilty on 22nd September 1995. Those were
8 sample counts, one relating to Nazareth Lodge and one
9 relating to Rubane. That was a result of a direction
10 from the Public Prosecution Service issued in July 1995.
11 So, to be absolutely clear, there is nobody suggesting
12 other than this man was convicted of abusing you --

13 **A. Right.**

14 Q. -- but he pleaded guilty to indecent assault. Certainly
15 in 1995 that's all you were complaining to police about.
16 Isn't that correct?

17 **A. (Nods.)**

18 Q. You have subsequently said that the abuse went beyond
19 fondling --

20 **A. Yes.**

21 Q. -- and became --

22 **A. I mean, the context of that is an RUC detective that**
23 **turned up, and I had two bad experiences in the home and**
24 **just when I got out of the home over abuse, and**
25 **Detective McCrumlish turned up at my door in 1995. He**

1 was a very charismatic, likeable guy, a brilliant guy,
2 and only I got on so well with him, and he told me he
3 was leaving the police and that his own family had been
4 in Kircubbin, and so I came first in everything. I came
5 before his wife, his children, the Chief Constable or
6 any courts, and I would say whatever I wanted to say and
7 was pressed to say no more, but Paul knew that there was
8 more.

9 I also when I went to speak to him about other
10 incidents of abuse, he advised me not to say that,
11 because it was too difficult. He was seen -- known as
12 an experienced detective. As I explained to you, the
13 abuse of going to somebody's house, which the nuns sent
14 children everywhere behind the backs of the Social
15 Services, and none of this is ever recorded, where there
16 was an attempt of sexual abuse on me, and when
17 I explained this to Paul, Paul would say, "I would leave
18 that out". So Paul at all times put me first. I was
19 offered to go to hotels, have a drink or stay anywhere,
20 but I chose the safest place for them in 1995 to meet me
21 at my house, and I eventually made a statement in the
22 police station next to Knockbracken.

23 Q. That was the statement you made in 1995, but if I move
24 on to 2010 --

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- which is a good fifteen years later, by that stage --
2 and correct me if I -- I don't mean to put words in your
3 mouth, but what you were saying to me was you had bad
4 experiences with the police after Paul McCrumlish and it
5 took quite a while and in particular Detective
6 McClelland to build up trust with you again so that you
7 would speak to the police again in 2010. Isn't that
8 correct?

9 A. In 2010 the police came to my house and they asked me to
10 be part of their police team. They explained how they
11 convicted Willy McGrath in Kincora such as through DNA
12 and blood testing. They said that this DNA would be
13 down in Nazareth -- De La Salle and would I be prepared
14 to go down with them, show them the layout and show how
15 things happened. I did provide the Inquiry with lots of
16 photographs --

17 Q. Uh-huh.

18 A. -- where -- which would have showed this, but for some
19 reason you didn't put any of them on the screen, which
20 would have made it abundantly clear, such as these white
21 lies and lines you weren't allowed to walk over.

22 Q. Yes, we do have those photographs.

23 A. But I never seen them to get explaining to you, such as
24 the place where got his leg broke, where
25 the white lines were and so forth. I had shown him

1 a scar where DL 6 struck a chisel in me.

2 Q. Again, HIA41, I don't mean to interrupt you --

3 A. I know it's a Rubane thing him.

4 Q. -- but we're trying to deal with Nazareth Lodge.

5 A. Right.

6 Q. What I'm trying to get from you --

7 A. It is a police statement, you know, so --

8 Q. You gave a very full statement in 2010 and in that
9 statement you said that it was the first time that you
10 told the whole story of what happened to you. Isn't
11 that correct?

12 A. On condition that he brought someone else, that he
13 brought a female detective with him. She confirmed that
14 they were going to take the Catholic Church on and some
15 high profile people and the Brothers were definitely
16 going to face a trial, and my shoulder was to get
17 examined and my fingers and the scars and maybe a scar
18 on the back of my head, and this relationship lasted for
19 fifteen, eighteen months. So my total police interviews
20 are 150 and that gave seven or eight statements. Paul
21 McCrumlish has statements which are three or four. That
22 was just part of his process of how he worked.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. So ...

25 Q. I think what I am trying to get at, HIA41, is for the

1 first time in 2010 you were telling police that you had
2 been raped by Father Brendan Smyth --

3 **A. Yes.**

4 Q. -- and why was it --

5 **A. You don't be in a three year relationship with Father
6 Brendan Smyth and just be touched.**

7 Q. But what was it that allowed you to say for the first
8 time in 2010 that you had been raped when previously you
9 had only been complaining about him touching you?

10 **A. Well, I mean, the early '90s I took a lot of drink and
11 stuff and I had been on medication. I'd talked to the
12 doctor about it. I had been for psychiatric help on
13 in Belfast. I gave that up because
14 the woman, the doctor, was falling asleep. Her name was
15 . She was a big heavy woman. So that is why
16 I gave that up, but in 2010 my own doctor, who is more
17 like a psychologist, has worked with me for five years,
18 sent me to specialists and for therapy and for
19 counselling and really educated me about life and really
20 educated me that I wasn't mentally ill, but suffered
21 from, you know, post-traumatic stress. You needed
22 medication. You needed sleeping tablets as it is all
23 stated in the '95 that I could never sleep or do
24 anything right. So through all of that process and that
25 help. So if I want to speak to my doctor today, I will**

1 ring her and she will ring me back. So I don't have to
2 make an appointment or anything like that.

3 Q. So as a result of all the help that you got between '95
4 and 2010 --

5 A. .

6 Q. -- that allowed you to open up and say exactly what --

7 A. That allowed me to speak as I can speak today.

8 Q. Well, you say here in paragraph 16 at page 441 that
9 Father Brendan Smyth sexually abused other children in
10 the presence of SR62, that she was knitting there. If
11 I just -- yes.

12 "I remember sometimes I went to another group and
13 saw Brendan Smyth with his hands in children's underwear
14 while SR62 was knitting. I had to get her for a message
15 at the front parlour as arranged, and several of the
16 children referred to Brendan Smyth as 'the funny priest
17 who felt your bum and willy for sweets'."

18 You remember going to secondary school there, but
19 I will come back to that in a moment.

20 So you also talk in the same paragraph about going
21 out. You were persuaded by SR30 to go out to -- in
22 place of another boy whom you name there to stay with
23 another family.

24 A. An hour before they arrived.

25 Q. To collect him, because he didn't want to go, and --

1 A. Yes. I showed you a photograph of the boy --

2 Q. Yes, you did.

3 A. -- who was treated as the Baby Jesus. He wore

4 . I think SR153 brought him to Nazareth Lodge
5 from Nazareth House, and that's my understanding of
6 that.

7 Q. Uh-huh.

8 A. I would have dressed him and put his and
9 helped him in the morning, get him down for breakfast.
10 That was another one of my chores before school.

11 Q. This is a boy who was supposed to go out --

12 A. He did go out with this family. There was a man and a
13 woman --

14 Q. On previous occasions.

15 A. There was a man and woman and two daughters round my
16 age.

17 Q. They took you to .

18 A. They took me to a house in Belfast for the first night
19 and then on to . The house was on the left-hand
20 side of the road and you couldn't drive on the road
21 because there was army bollards, but you could walk
22 between them. It was like a cottage place in the
23 country and there was donkeys in the field.

24 Q. You talk here at SNB-442 about how that man proceeded to
25 come up behind you. You didn't know he was there. You

1 were shocked and frightened. He came and stood in front
2 of you and tried to get you to take your clothes off.
3 You didn't do it. You were shocked. He then began to
4 talk of sexual things. He mentioned being in the water,
5 having an erection and sexual things with his daughters
6 and you felt sick and afraid and couldn't move. After
7 a while he left you alone, but you had to spend the
8 week-end there, and you remember going out for a drive
9 with him in the car. He put his hands on you, touched
10 you outside of your clothes.

11 **A. I was driving the car on a public road.**

12 Q. You remember his wife as being distant. You say when
13 you got back to Nazareth Lodge, you told SR30 that you
14 wouldn't go back with these people again --

15 **A. That is correct.**

16 Q. -- but you didn't, in fact, tell her why.

17 **A. She wasn't interested.**

18 Q. You also talk in the same paragraph here about lay
19 staff, a member called -- there were two members whom
20 you name there, NL50 and NL51, who were .
21 They looked after your group and worked alongside SR30
22 and you talk about NL50. I will just call her by her
23 first name, which is NL50. You say that she came to you
24 in the TV room where the room with the TV was. She was
25 wearing denim jeans and a broad brown belt. She opened

1 her belt and trousers and asked you to put your hands
2 down her trousers as she lay on the floor. You remember
3 that as being humiliating, but you didn't touch her.
4 That was the height of what she asked you to do.

5 **A. Yes, that is correct.**

6 Q. You think you were about 11 years old at that time.

7 **A. Yes.**

8 Q. You think that they were paid by the nuns to help look
9 after you. You go on to say that there was another
10 member of staff and you give her name.

11 **A. They were only there temporarily, maybe five months.**

12 Q. They were, the two ladies?

13 **A. Yes, those two .**

14 Q. You talk about a physical assault by another member of
15 staff, NL 52 (sic), and you describe her as wearing black
16 handkerchiefs. I am just going to use -- NL52 is the
17 first name.

18 "She wore black handkerchiefs on her head and she
19 was very pale. She was very violent towards us and
20 nobody liked her. One day I called her a country yokel
21 and she flipped. She ran after me along the corridor
22 and I ran into one of the bedrooms, where she cornered
23 me. She bent me down over the bed and twisted my arm
24 and I heard a wrench. She was screaming for me to
25 apologise. The wrench was like a muscle tearing in my

1 upper arm and it seemed like she was going to break my
2 arm. I had no choice but to say sorry to her, and to
3 this day my left arm has been physically affected by
4 this. I still find it painful lifting my left arm."

5 You think you were about 11 or 12.

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. Now that person has given a statement to the Inquiry and
8 she sets out -- in 8063 in the first paragraph she sets
9 out her background and her training and illnesses that
10 she suffered from. She was posted to Nazareth Lodge,
11 and she was there for less than two years before she
12 moved into Nazareth House and in Nazareth House she
13 looked after the elderly, but she was certainly there
14 between '76 and '78, which was the time that you were
15 there also.

16 She says that she doesn't remember any child called
17 HIA41.

18 "I never wore a black handkerchief on my head.
19 I never wore a black veil or any head clothing. I do
20 remember wearing a white nylon coat. Whilst I might
21 have been pale during my time -- any time I was ill, my
22 colouring was dark. I have brown hair and a sallow
23 complexion."

24 She says:

25 "I do not remember any child calling me a country

1 yokel, and even if they had, I do not see any reason why
2 I would have been upset by that. I loved the children
3 and usually any reprimand would have been to tell them
4 to behave. I certainly never chased any child or bent
5 them over a bed and twisted or wrenched their arm."

6 Now we know she was interviewed by police in
7 response to your statement that you had given in 2011.
8 She was interviewed in November 2012. Excuse me. That
9 police statement is at SNB-61014. I don't need to call
10 it up, but basically she said to the police at that time
11 in November 2012 that she did know you. She described
12 you as hyperactive. She denied wrenching your arm and
13 said that on one occasion she slapped you lightly for
14 splashing another child in the bath, but in
15 paragraphs -- in her Inquiry statement she goes on to
16 say:

17 "I remember a few years ago the police contacted me
18 at my fold asking if I would meet them to answer some
19 questions. They told me I could have someone with me
20 and a social worker attended. I remember taking
21 a blackout the night before. I fell and broke a bone in
22 my shoulder, but I still met the police the next
23 morning. When the police asked me did I know a boy
24 called HIA41 that was in Nazareth Lodge, I said yes, as
25 I thought I did. Naturally since meeting the police

1 I have thought many times about the questions they asked
2 me. I could not understand how any child would know
3 I was from to call me a country yokel. My
4 brother then reminded me of a time that SR30 and I took
5 the children on a minibus down to visit my
6 in ."

7 Can I just pause there? You do remember going down
8 there, HIA41.

9 **A. First of all, I was never in any bath with any child.**
10 **Two boys would have got bathed together, either myself**
11 **or DL 55 , DL20, . We were 12 and**
12 **13 years of age. We had the sexual knowledge of**
13 **a 5-year-old. We had no knowledge of any moral**
14 **education like that. It was pure pumped in religion.**

15 The first thing that I'd say, you know, she starts
16 off denying that she knew me. Now she has to admit,
17 because SR30 and all of us were down at at
18 . So she has now retracted and covering for
19 herself the fact there were probably twenty people at
20 and she has remembered this --

21 Q. Can I --

22 **A. -- but she knows full well that that was -- and that was**
23 **an offensive thing to say to somebody from .**

24 Q. Well, HIA41, just to be fair to this lady, she has said
25 that when police asked her did she know you, she told

1 them that she did, but having thought about it over the
2 years since she was interviewed by the police, she now
3 realises that the person she was actually remembering
4 when she was speaking to the police was another boy and
5 she names him. In her statement she said:

6 "The child I thought of when the police visited me
7 was called . He was hyperactive and I had to look
8 after him. He was an innocent boy who had always fun
9 hiding my keys. He was a mischievous child, but you
10 could not help be fond of him. I remember him as
11 a 6-year-old during my time there. I remember having to
12 slap when I was bathing him, because I was also
13 having to bath another young child who had a plaster
14 cast on his leg or hip, because he'd a dislocated hip."

15 She said:

16 "The statement of HIA41 has been read to me.
17 I understand he was 12 -- 11 or 12 years old when
18 I would have been at Nazareth Lodge and I would not have
19 been bathing an 11 or 12-year-old boy."

20 So what she is saying is, "Look, I told police I did
21 know HIA41, but, in fact, when I think about it now,
22 I got HIA41 mixed up with another boy and I remember
23 I slapped that other boy, but I have no memory of
24 HIA41".

25 **A. It certainly wouldn't win a court case for her, would**

1 it?

2 Q. Sorry?

3 A. It certainly wouldn't win a court case for her.

4 Q. Well, that's what --

5 A. She is saying one thing and then she is saying another
6 thing.

7 Q. Well, that's what she is saying in response to the
8 allegation you make about her.

9 A. So really, like, she has thought about how she's been
10 trapped and how we have all been out at and
11 that she was a country yokel. She made this thing up
12 about splashing a boy in a bath. Load of nonsense. She
13 realised that she never bathed -- no-one was ever near
14 the bathroom except the two boys who went and got a bath
15 once a week. So that's just -- she has just covered her
16 lie. She had already entrapped herself and hung
17 herself. So that's clearly my response to her.

18 Q. That's your --

19 A. A born liar and evil woman that was hated, and she wore
20 black handkerchiefs on her head trying to imitate the
21 nuns, and she wore the triangular part here and she put
22 hairclips in it and she went about like that. I have
23 also described her earlier as -- if you want to describe
24 what I described about the Only Fools and Horses
25 programme.

1 Q. Yes. You described she reminded you of someone from
2 an episode of Only Fools and Horses.

3 **A. Yes. The day that they all get their bus burnt and then**
4 **Delboy and Rodney goes to a house, that's exactly what**
5 **she looked like and behaved like, you know.**

6 Q. Some people may remember that episode and may know what
7 you are talking about then, HIA41.

8 **A. That's what she reminded me of.**

9 Q. Well, coming back to your statement here at
10 paragraph 17, you talk about SR30 and you said:

11 "When she came to the Lodge, she was one of the
12 youngest nuns there, approximately 35."

13 You say:

14 "We got on well. So did a few other girls in my
15 group on the top floor. Her word was law."

16 You say:

17 "She was like Julie Andrews in The Sound of Music
18 except she'd a vicious temper and punished menial things
19 with prolonged punishment."

20 You say that she had you look after -- she had you
21 looking after the front parlour door from when you were
22 just over 10. You were smart and practical and full of
23 life, and this trusted job included anyone who came to
24 Nazareth Lodge that went through you by phone or ringing
25 the bell at the front door, and that was anyone. You go

1 on to describe being four parlour rooms there and a
2 kitchen. There was boring times, but you did everything
3 to please this particular nun.

4 You say:

5 "She installed an intercom system which went to the
6 top floor. This was particularly to see that when
7 a priest phoned" -- that's her brother; her brother was
8 a priest -- "he could be contact... -- she could be
9 contacted as soon as possible. I went for meals in
10 hotels when he came with both of them. There was
11 a Nazareth Lodge phone. It had an exchange button to
12 buzz the nuns'" -- sorry -- could you just scroll back
13 down a bit -- "the nuns' eating quarters on the first
14 floor."

15 You contacted -- now this is something that is not
16 clear from your statement and we need to get what you
17 are talking about here. You say that you:

18 "... contacted NL5, who had a group of children she
19 abused on the ground floor, and she was very friendly
20 with Brendan Smyth, who abused some of the kids. Two
21 I have come to know were ...", and you give a surname
22 there, "in her group."

23 Now when you say you contacted her, what exactly did
24 you mean by that, HIA41?

25 **A. Well, some organisations would have called maybe and**

1 left toys. If there was something that she could have
2 dealt with whilst the nuns didn't want to be disturbed,
3 if it wasn't particularly looking for a particular nun,
4 and it would need to be important before you would go up
5 to disturb them over that -- if it had been SR30's
6 brother who was a priest, I certainly would have been up
7 -- but, you know, maybe if a social worker come, they
8 were all sent into the parlour, led into like a 200
9 metre corridor. So I would have went down. That's how
10 I contacted NL5. Her children were in the old school
11 canteen. So if there was something to be done -- people
12 did come up and leave things. So she came up and dealt
13 with it, but she took the stuff, which I now realise
14 that she put in the very top of the building. I don't
15 know if that was ever -- to us it was just a big attic
16 place. We slept in it while they renovated our group,
17 but -- so that is what I mean by contacted her.

18 Q. So --

19 A. At times when I did contact her, I saw that the children
20 were being abused, smacked about and made to swallow raw
21 eggs. As I was sitting on the chairs looking down the
22 corridor, their bathroom was down there and, you know,
23 I am at a loss as to know -- they were all boys that
24 were in that group, and I understand when HIA104 says he
25 had a better time in De La Salle boys home, because they

1 were treated horrendous. I don't know why the sisters
2 allowed that, but she was a brutal, evil woman, and most
3 of the children would have had contact with her coming
4 down the stairs to go through the passage and out the
5 back. So they were always shouting at her and she was
6 always out giving off to them. She wasn't a nice
7 person. I have no complaint to make about her, but as
8 an eye witness that's what I witnessed, and many a time
9 she asked me to move from the two chairs into the
10 parlour and I wouldn't. So the children would stand
11 there, skinny, wearing the underpants of what an old
12 grandfather would have worn. She lined them up in
13 humiliation and took them in one at a time to the
14 bathroom. So I am a witness to that, not that I was in
15 her group, but that's the contact I had with her --

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. -- and she was hated by everyone.

18 Q. She has given a statement to the Inquiry in respect of
19 what you say about her and that's at SNB-80065. At
20 paragraph 5 she said:

21 "This boy was not in my group and by his statement
22 he indicates he was in SR30's group. I would have had
23 very little to do with him",

24 which you would accept, that you would have had
25 very little to do with her.

1 **A. Contact was at the front parlour.**

2 Q. Okay. She says she hasn't met you since you left
3 Nazareth, but she says in her opinion your description
4 of your time is pure fantasy.

5 "No child ever answered the phone or the door or was
6 in charge of the parlour. This was my job. If I was on
7 the ground floor at the time he describes with ...", the
8 children whom you name there, "then I think SR30 had
9 already left. SR30's group were on the top floor and it
10 is even less likely they would have been around to
11 answer the door. To be honest, I can't ever remember
12 seeing this boy in the parlour."

13 She says:

14 "In fact, I recall only one child spending much time
15 at all in the parlour",

16 and she names her as NL 150

17 "She sometimes did" --

18 **A. That's not true. It was NL 55 .**

19 Q. Well, she said:

20 "She sometimes did her homework there."

21 **A. NL 55 .**

22 Q. "SR173 was very fond of NL 150. She was
23 child. She had a sister, NL 55 ."

24 **A. Sister -- NL 150 was not child. NL 150 was**
25 **a member of staff, ex-Rubane -- ex-Nazareth Lodge**

1 resident herself. She did not -- and she ended up
2 which has been mentioned here manys
3 a time, NL14. So she wasn't child.
4 That is a total lie, fabrication, and she also stayed on
5 and cared for us as staff in our group. So -- and her
6 bedroom was next to the kitchen -- sorry -- our dining
7 room. I believe that was her bedroom. So that is all
8 total absolute fantasy, lies.

9 Her sister, NL 55 , was a big hefty girl, and one
10 of the things I recall, she used to write about living
11 with and their family, and she was obsessed
12 with . When she wrote all those
13 things, she used to leave them down the parlour for me
14 to read. So I would have got her to do that if I was
15 going to football or doing something, but NL 150
16 was not girl. She was a member of staff
17 on the top floor and that's a total lie, fabrication.

18 Q. Well, she said that:

19 NL 150 had a sister, NL 55 , in another home and
20 wanted her to come to Nazareth, which did happen later."

21 She says she absolutely denies that she was brutal
22 or that she abused any child in her care. She says that
23 you mention this family of children and she is still in
24 contact with both girls, and NL 50 .

25 "I would not believe they would describe me in the

1 way this man does."

2 In fact, she says she was approached by NL 50 a
3 number of years ago. She didn't immediately recognise
4 her and wondered how she recognised her. She said it
5 was her voice.

6 "She was very complimentary about her time in
7 Nazareth and we have stayed in touch. She has been to
8 my home for dinner. I know I was strict about manners
9 and was fussy about cleanliness, but NL 50 said
10 specifically to me, 'NL5, you never raised your voice to
11 us'."

12 She goes on to say:

13 "There was no intercom installed and SR30 would not
14 have been in a position to have installed any such
15 thing. There was a telephone used to contact upstairs."

16 Is there anything you want to say about the
17 intercom?

18 **A. Yes. First of all, I was contacted by a boy and a girl**
19 **called , who said they were in Sister -- NL5's**
20 **group. They live in . The girl had told me**
21 **she was kind of doing a bit of education and that they**
22 **had both been sexually abused by Brendan Smyth. So --**
23 **and that their brother was a chronic alcoholic and she**
24 **couldn't really be bothered with him, because it was**
25 **just grief and stress. So those are the . It was**

1 a boy and a girl and they live in .

2 Q. That's a different family to what --

3 A. That's two girls that she is talking about. I don't

4 know, but it is not --

5 Q. The same family.

6 A. They live in and they contacted me because

7 of stories I done in the Down Recorder, which I always

8 put my phone number in.

9 What was the second point you made there?

10 Q. Sorry. Just I was asking you about the intercom. She's

11 saying that SR30 wouldn't have been --

12 A. No. SR30 was probably one of the most religious Roman

13 Catholics on the planet and we had many discussions

14 about God and all of these things. You know, one

15 incident when I asked her about heaven and hell, she

16 said in hell the people would have spoons strapped to

17 their arm and they would have food, but they didn't have

18 the -- God didn't let them know that they could -- so

19 they couldn't eat it --

20 Q. I was asking --

21 A. -- and in heaven the same thing happened, but that God

22 would let the people know to feed each other over the

23 table. So this was the type of tripe, unbiblical

24 man-made nonsense that she came out with.

25 Q. Well, just never mind that. I'm just trying to get

1 about the intercom.

2 A. The intercom system -- the intercom system was put on
3 the top floor. So if any of the boys -- as the
4 corridors were maybe 100 metres long, she might have
5 been down in the kitchen. She might have been in the
6 wee canteen. She could have been anywhere in the group.
7 The intercom was fitted into the sitting room. So there
8 would always have been children in the sitting room. It
9 was a small grey thing. You pressed a button and you
10 could speak. It was basically like a walkie-talkie but
11 it was flat. It just sat like that.

12 The purpose of that was her obsession that her
13 brother could have been anywhere round the world, and
14 she wanted contacted immediately, within seconds,
15 because sometimes I would have went up and looked for
16 her and this and that and then her Brother was gone on
17 the phone. That was the purpose of fitting this
18 intercom system. You can't make these things up, you
19 know. I didn't invent this thing. I didn't invent her
20 priest brother, you know. That clearly was fitted with
21 the phone which had an extension -- it was a black phone
22 with extension buttons on it, but she fitted that and
23 put it -- so basically, like, it was like
24 a walkie-talkie, a wee flat one that sat on the desk and
25 it was grey in colour.

1 Q. Okay. Well, just coming back to NL5's statement, she
2 said that she met -- she said -- first of all, she says
3 she is not a friend of Father Brendan Smyth:

4 "... and I am and was unaware of any abuse of any
5 child in Nazareth by him or anyone."

6 She said she met him a handful of times. She said:

7 "SR30 had met him when she was doing vocation work
8 and suggested he might be a good priest to do a retreat
9 at Nazareth. So he came for three days. I would have
10 looked after him as any visitor, making his teas, etc.
11 I thought he was based in Kildare somewhere. So when he
12 called a few times round 6 o'clock to the Lodge and
13 would stay over, I asked him how he was able to be in
14 Belfast at that time, and he said he had come -- he had
15 to come to Belfast for his tablets, and I accepted this
16 explanation. Apart from these few times the only other
17 contact I ever had was when I received a 'thank you'
18 card from him for looking after him on these visits, and
19 he asked me to pray for him and that he needed prayers."

20 She said:

21 "I thought he was thinking of leaving the priesthood
22 or something and was shocked to learn the truth when the
23 story came out about him. I had not even heard the word
24 'paedophile' before."

25 She goes on to say that she didn't follow the story.

1 She then says she doesn't understand why you would say
2 he abused these other children in her group, but we know
3 there seems to be a misunderstanding as to which
4 children of the same surname you were talking about.

5 A. No, I didn't say that I saw him abusing any children in
6 her group. I knew that she was very, very friendly with
7 him. I knew that he was down in her group. You know,
8 NL5 took nothing to do with the front door whatsoever.
9 How could NL5 run the front door and look after sixteen
10 children? So she is a born liar and, you know, Father
11 Brendan Smyth had no role in Nazareth Lodge. When
12 Cardinal Sean Brady in 1975 knew of the abuse and
13 everything that Brendan Smyth was doing, he didn't even
14 warn the children's families where he abused. So he was
15 still coming in '75, '76 and '77 whilst I was still
16 there and sexually abusing children, two years after
17 Cardinal Sean Brady held a Canon Court about it. So NL5
18 never was in the front parlour or had anything to do
19 with it.

20 It was -- it was dirty jobs too at times. I mean,
21 some of the old people that came used to urinate in the
22 place where they got their sandwiches and I had to clean
23 it. As I say, SR 188 was the Mother, a stout
24 woman with red rosy cheeks.

25 Another job that was -- I didn't like was with the

1 witch's broom. You couldn't brush the wet leaves. You
2 had to dig them off the tarmac in the grotto and in the
3 nuns' graveyard. So that's a total fabrication that she
4 looked after sixteen children and did all of this. The
5 only time she came to the parlour was when I went and
6 got her.

7 Q. Okay, HIA41. It is possible -- and I am just putting
8 this out here for your consideration -- you were only at
9 the front door after school. It is possible she may
10 have had that job during school hours.

11 A. Possibly.

12 Q. Well, coming back to your own statement at paragraph 26,
13 you describe being allowed out to school friends on
14 Saturdays and so forth. You were allowed by SR30 to
15 stay after school to judo classes, go to friends' home
16 for the week-end, friends from school, go out on
17 Saturdays to shop, go to -- attend parties at Christmas,
18 army clubs, events, etc. You say you had no limit to
19 the toys and presents since you were her assistant, and
20 you say a few of the other girls in the group got on
21 well with her, and you name them, but you go on to say:

22 "She was like Michael Corleone in the Godfather
23 temper-wise: no mercy. I stayed behind when the group
24 went for three weeks to Ballyhornan and went for one
25 week -- just us two lived in the group. I was her

1 personal secretary in Nazareth Lodge."

2 You go on to describe a girl who was smoking who was
3 in the bedroom next to you. SR30 made her smoke the
4 whole packet and you could hear it all and it was
5 described as dreadful.

6 **A. That was in Ballyhornan.**

7 Q. That was in Ballyhornan, the smoking incident?

8 **A. (Nods.)**

9 Q. You say:

10 "When she first came, there were two large dorms,
11 one for boys and one for girls, and she had a three-door
12 room between two. If the boys were talking, she came in
13 and said, 'Turn over' and took the pyjamas down and
14 scalped our backsides one by one. I got a few beatings
15 for absolutely nothing. I've described them. Yet
16 I felt bad I had disappointed her. I was 100% innocent
17 on these two occasions. She left the group and was
18 a school teacher who wanted the principal's job. She
19 went to ... where she went to study and got that when
20 I left."

21 You say:

22 "She dumped her group of children and two bad nuns
23 who came tortured and beat me until I was conned into
24 going to De La Salle Boys Home."

25 I will come back to the other two nuns that you

1 complain about, but in respect of SR30, in her statement
2 she does say that, first of all, she accepted that you
3 would -- you did go out with families. She said she
4 told you -- you told her about 2009, that on one
5 occasion you had asked him to go in the place of another
6 child to the couple she says who lived in , but
7 they lived in Belfast and took you to .

8 "I cannot recall the names of this couple."

9 You told her what happened there. She said she
10 never knew about that until you told her in 2009, in
11 late 2009, and she said had you -- had you told her
12 earlier, she would immediately have reported to the
13 appropriate authorities, both police and Social
14 Services.

15 In paragraph 9 of her statement --

16 **A. Would she hell.**

17 Q. In paragraph 9 she goes on:

18 "Children would have gone to clubs and sports events
19 after school. The fact that I would have let HIA41 go
20 to judo classes after school would be in keeping with
21 activities that children would have attended, and so
22 I can accept that he may well have been a member of
23 a judo club. I cannot remember the specific clubs which
24 each child would have attended, but in general children
25 took part in swimming, dancing, music classes, scouts

1 and other activities. They would also have gone
2 shopping on Saturdays when they were older and would
3 have enjoyed parties at Christmas time organised by
4 benefactors and staff from various businesses."

5 She goes on:

6 "I have not seen The Godfather, but being likened to
7 such a character doesn't sound too complimentary and is
8 personally hurtful. I loved the children for whom
9 I cared and defended them against unjust blame or
10 ridicule on every occasion. We had many happy times
11 together, and at night we sat around watching television
12 or talking while I and some of the older girls took the
13 smaller children on our lap. I tried to make the unit
14 as homely as possible to the best of my ability. I am
15 disappointed that HIA41 recalls ever having been beaten,
16 as this would not have happened. Yes, children were
17 disciplined in the home, but they would not have been
18 beaten. I note with some sadness that HIA41 recalls
19 that he was disciplined or punished when he was innocent
20 of any wrongdoing. This would not have happened under
21 my watch."

22 Now --

23 **A. She was the only one that done it, and there was no sort**
24 **of all this clubs and activities. It was just us boys**
25 **going out shopping on a Saturday, you know, buying**

1 sweets. Starsky & Hutch, Match of the Day was the order
2 of the day. That was the centre of your life and
3 playing football 24/7.

4 The judo, it was in St. Augustine's who
5 took a judo class. I just asked her could I go and stay
6 at it. I went out whenever I suited myself to go out up
7 to the in St. Jude's Parade. I just said to her
8 I wanted to go and I went. Those were the people that
9 renovated the Nazareth Lodge group.

10 Q. Well, what she has said -- also you talk about at
11 paragraph -- I will come back to SR156 and SR46, but at
12 paragraph 30 you say that SR156 -- I am sorry -- SR30
13 contacted you a couple of years ago. You say you know
14 she lied to police:

15 "... but did not -- but did know of the abuse of
16 Father Brendan Smyth, as she told the staff never to
17 allow anyone into our group. She told me she disliked
18 him. She sent children out to anyone's homes who wanted
19 them for any reason unvetted and was warned by Social
20 Services never to do that. Most of what I speak of are
21 on my Social Service record, which I had a mountain to
22 climb to get them."

23 She said -- you say she flogged a boy naked, that he
24 had pulled his pyjamas down, and she flogged him with
25 a stick.

1 "I saw it and all the boys in the bedroom."

2 You say it was witnessed by NL54.

3 Now just coming back to her statement, I just want
4 to be clear. This is the nun who, despite what you say
5 about her in this, HIA41, you have a lot of time for
6 this woman.

7 A. Yes. I mean, this was the first sort of mother that
8 I had and I had a very close relationship. There was no
9 part of her day that I wasn't involved in, and anything
10 that needed done, I done it. I took DL 31 from
11 primary school during the day and walked him to the
12 clinic at the bottom, way down past Paisley's church.
13 So I was given the responsibility to go to his class in
14 primary school, because I could be trusted to do that,
15 and take him to the clinic appointment and bring him
16 back home. So you can check that out. Was there a DL 31
17 DL 31 went to an ear clinic away down the bottom? So
18 that was the way it was. There was no need -- there was
19 no violence in the home amongst the boys. There was no
20 sexual talk. There was no -- there was no such a thing
21 as bullying. They were all family, brothers and sisters
22 that lived in the group, and all of that was great, was
23 pleasant, and it was renovated to hotel standard.

24 Now I think she said somewhere that I got a single
25 room, but I was in two three-bedroom rooms first, which

1 is where NL7, I would have dressed him and put his
2 on. Then I was in another room with DL20 and
3 DL 55 , which -- I have a photograph here of us
4 in the bedroom, which she gave me in 2009. Then I got
5 a single room.

6 So, no, I suppose I can only look at it that it was
7 just too good to be true. There was that schizophrenic
8 side to her and there was no let-up or no mercy when she
9 decided to punish. She flew into rages like
10 schizophrenic. She didn't go about beating the kids or
11 doing anything like that. She was quite -- as I say,
12 she was a Julie Andrews character. She would have had
13 -- done wee plays in the sitting room with us. She
14 would have played football with us.

15 Then one time I remember we were at the beach and we
16 didn't want to play football with the girls. So she got
17 out a big bag of Easter eggs and she said, "Well ..."
18 She got me and DL 55 to pick teams of girls and
19 boys. So she was very, very clever, and the winner got
20 the bag of Easter eggs, but we didn't know that there
21 was Easter eggs for everybody, you know. So there was
22 that side to her. I would say 80% of her was fantastic,
23 but I am not going to sit here and tell lies, because
24 most of my abuse led to the deception that -- that she
25 played a major role in in just dumping the children and

1 MS SMITH: HIA41, just while the Chairman is having a look
2 at that --

3 **A. The point I was making about the interaction between the**
4 **two was that even in '78 I spoke to SR30 in Nazareth**
5 **Lodge. So she didn't leave in 1977.**

6 Q. Well, she is actually saying she didn't leave until
7 1980.

8 **A. Well, it says there 1977.**

9 Q. That is what that document shows you, but in her
10 statement to the Inquiry she says she didn't leave until
11 1980.

12 **A. That's the Hammersmith head who you are referring to.**

13 Q. Yes.

14 **A. So ...**

15 Q. Just coming back to the fact that you met up with her in
16 later years and you wrote to her, and we looked at this
17 earlier, and I am just going to look at these, because
18 I think it is indicative of how you felt towards her.

19 At SNB-32556 this is a letter that you wrote to her
20 in and around 2009, HIA41. It says:

21 "Hi, Sister,

22 It was great to see and hear you. I know I went
23 from A to Z, but I had so much to say to you. It is
24 probably hard for you to understand where I'm coming
25 from, but you know my background and you are the first

1 human being I loved, and you know how it went, but, as
2 I said, the time that has passed means no less to me, no
3 change or memory. Everyone I know spoke of you with
4 great joy at the unique, fun person you are as a teacher
5 and principal, as yourself, from on
6 the Ormeau Road. I really mean that and I love you as a
7 mother/son relationship. There is nothing I can do to
8 change that. That's just the truth. I have tried lots
9 of things to get over your leaving the group and it has
10 just grown into what it is."

11 You go on to talk about your wife and say:

12 "The only other thing I want to say about the past
13 is that the person who you had a gut feeling about when
14 I answered -- when I worked on the door attempted the
15 things I talked to you about, the house, and he
16 pursued me to the place I went to when I left, but
17 I never had anything happen to me in that regard.
18 I think you had fought me more than I realised, but
19 please forget about anything or what you think you could
20 have changed. As Jesus Christ is my witness, that's the
21 truth. You and I know the story.

22 I have been shown how talking and dealing with
23 things is the way to deal with them and I hope we can
24 talk more anyway. That is really all I wanted to write
25 about me and you. I can say anything and -- but if you

1 want to stay in touch, please do. I'd love to. I'd
2 like you to meet my family. So that's an invite."

3 Then you go on for the rest of that letter, HIA41,
4 to basically quote from the bible and try to persuade --

5 A. Well, I was counteracting all of the decades of the
6 rosary and getting us out of bed and kneeling and all of
7 this stuff, and I explained to her that none of this was
8 in the bible, because she made you clearly understand
9 how to write a sentence and how to write a word. So it
10 was fascinating for me to say, 'This doesn't say this
11 here', you know.

12 Q. Uh-huh.

13 A. That was the conversation. She always talked about
14 religion and she always had us doing decades of the
15 rosary and things like that. She was very, very Roman
16 Catholic in her way. So that was tied to that.

17 The part where you say "to meet my wife", my wife
18 .

19 Q. Uh-huh.

20 A. I did not know this when I met my wife. I met her at
21 a dance over at Queen's University. A lot of country
22 girls came in the '80s and
23 that's where I met her. So she knew SR30 and SR208
24 quite well and was telling me of their antics and their
25 carrying on and the sort of -- you know, they dressed up

1 as witches at Hallowe'en and all of this sort of thing,
2 but when she came to my house and met my wife, she
3 denied knowing my wife.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. My wife . So that was the context
6 of that.

7 Q. Okay. Well, I am not going to go through the rest of
8 the letter, just to the last page of it at 32566.

9 A. That came about -- could I just simply say I found out
10 there was records in Glenmona Resource Centre that the
11 De La Salle Order dumped there, and I found a piece of
12 paper in my record which said SR121 had taken a copy of
13 these, and it showed you in 1999. So that led me to go
14 to Nazareth Lodge Care Village and ask for records,
15 which -- they said they had none. So we talked and she
16 said, "When were you here and that?" and I told her of
17 SR30. That was the end of it, but maybe six months
18 later my mobile rang and it was SR30. So it was quite
19 shocking and quite -- although I wanted to deal with the
20 issues and the horrendous life that her actions led to,
21 which led to a whole complete con system eight months
22 before I left, and I didn't want to upset or get
23 aggressive or anything, you know. I went to the Care
24 Village on the day.

25 Q. HIA41, can I just -- sorry -- interrupt you? You know,

1 you are talking there, and I just want to be clear
2 I have got what you are trying to say to us correct.
3 You had a lot of time for SR30. You cared about her
4 greatly. About 20% of the time she -- you describe how
5 she treated you and how she behaved --

6 **A. Uh-huh.**

7 Q. -- which you don't accept --

8 **A. I would also like to say -- I would also like to say --**

9 CHAIRMAN: Just listen to what Ms Smith is saying to you
10 first, please.

11 MS SMITH: Sorry, HIA41. I'm just trying to get -- you are
12 saying that by her giving you this responsibility and
13 this job that you appreciated at the time basically led
14 you into the clutches of Father Brendan Smyth, if I can
15 put it that way.

16 **A. Yes.**

17 Q. That's when you say that her responsibility for what
18 happened to you -- that's really what you are talking
19 about?

20 **A. Yes, and also being conned into going to --**

21 Q. This is because she was moving from the group and there
22 were two other nuns who came in, and I am coming to look
23 at that shortly.

24 **A. But the three of them were there.**

25 Q. The three of them were there at the same time --

1 **A. Yes.**

2 Q. -- but whenever SR46 took over after SR30 left, that
3 would seem to have been after you left to go to Rubane,
4 and the three of them would have had some responsibility
5 for looking after you in around 1976/1977.

6 **A. Well --**

7 CHAIRMAN: Just before we leave that, can we go back to the
8 beginning of this letter, please?

9 MS SMITH: Yes. It is page 32556.

10 CHAIRMAN: Scroll back, please. Yes. I see it is not
11 dated.

12 MS SMITH: No, but you would accept you wrote this around
13 2009, HIA41, which was the year you met twice with SR30?

14 **A. I met her because of --**

15 CHAIRMAN: You are being asked, "When did you write the
16 letter?", HIA41, is what I want to know.

17 **A. Well, I am trying to explain that. I haven't got
18 a date.**

19 CHAIRMAN: I beg your pardon?

20 **A. I don't have a date.**

21 MS SMITH: Well, basically SR30 in her statement says that
22 she met you in 2009 and you have no reason to argue with
23 that date, do you, or you can't say for sure?

24 **A. I met her the second time eight months later and then
25 after that I wrote the letter.**

1 Q. So it might have been in 2009/2010?

2 **A. Yes.**

3 Q. Just going to the last page -- I don't know if we need
4 to go back to it -- but you say at the end:

5 "I wait to hear from you. May God bless and save
6 you for time and eternity.

7 From HIA41.

8 PS. Do you have any photos of me -- of me and you
9 in the past? I'd love to get a copy.

10 PS. 66% of counselling was and is about you and
11 what stemmed from that whole scenario. I tell the
12 counsellor about you only.

13 I hope we can talk more.

14 'Bye for now.'

15 Now there is another e-mail, which seems to have
16 been sent in 2011, according to the note that SR30 has
17 put on it, "11/4/2011".

18 **A. This was after the second meeting.**

19 Q. After the second meeting. It is at SNB-32567. I don't
20 want to read this out, HIA41.

21 **A. Yes.**

22 Q. I have read it to you and the Inquiry Panel can look at
23 it --

24 **A. Yes.**

25 Q. -- but what you said to me is that you sent this when

1 you were her personal assistant. She said you would
2 only have been 10 or 11.

3 "I hope this memory is based on fact that he had
4 a good relationship with me and he felt safe in my
5 company, thus enabling him to classify himself as
6 a personal assistant."

7 She doesn't accept that she lied to the police when
8 they spoke to her.

9 Now -- I should say that was about paragraph 30 of
10 your statement, where you say she knew he was abusing
11 you and that she had flogged a boy for pulling down his
12 pyjamas. You say -- she says that she didn't know and
13 Sister Brenda says certainly the Order didn't know this
14 man was carrying out the type of abuse in their home.
15 In respect of that the Sisters openly apologise to any
16 child who suffered sexual abuse at the hands of Brendan
17 Smyth or any other abuser. They were not aware of his
18 activities at the time when he was a visitor to Nazareth
19 House or Nazareth Lodge.

20 Now the --

21 **A. Well, I totally reject any of their apologies.**

22 Q. HAI41, coming on to what you say about the other two
23 nuns, SR46 and SR156, if we go back to your statement at
24 paragraph 22 -- sorry. That's at page SNB-445 -- 444.

25 CHAIRMAN: Yes. Paragraph 29.

1 MS SMITH: Paragraph 29.

2 CHAIRMAN: SR46.

3 MS SMITH: Yes. I think you mention them before that at
4 paragraph -- yes. Sorry. Paragraph 29 there it says:

5 "SR46 and SR156" -- you talk about these two nuns --
6 "were their names. Horrible! Hell awaited me in De La
7 Salle Boys Home."

8 Before that you were talking about these two nuns
9 and talking about running away, and you say in
10 paragraph 28 you ran away twice, once to Bangor and the
11 other with two boys whom you name there.

12 "When SR30 moved downstairs out the group, life was
13 hell there with SR46 and SR156. This boy suggested we
14 could go to a relative who was a policeman and lived in
15 . We got there by thumbing lifts and stayed
16 with each other in an old flat he knew and then went
17 round to his relatives, who gave us a meal and then
18 phoned her husband, who came round, took us to the
19 police station, beat the crap out of me and threatened
20 us never to run away again. The Social Services took us
21 back to the home and SR30, SR46 and SR156 gave us
22 another hiding in the front parlour."

23 Now each of these nuns have given statements to the
24 Inquiry. If I can deal, first of all, with SR156's at
25 1575, and at paragraph 4 -- sorry. I should say at

1 paragraph 32 of your statement you say something more
2 about her, but she said:

3 "I do not accept that HIA41 was deceived or coerced
4 into going to De La Salle by SR46."

5 I will come back to that, HIA41.

6 "I vaguely remember the runaways and HIA41 would not
7 have been the first",

8 but she said:

9 "This incident would never have resulted in the
10 relocation of a child."

11 She said -- she doesn't -- she describes that she is
12 shocked by the content and negativity of your statement:

13 "... and sincerely hope he is not allowed to make
14 such false allegations."

15 SR46 --

16 **A. Well, I did make them.**

17 Q. Sorry?

18 **A. I did make them.**

19 Q. Yes. She said -- sorry. SR46 then in her statement at
20 1585 says:

21 "I remember HIA41 as a quiet but serious child. At
22 his own request he went to De La Salle, Kircubbin",

23 and SR156 remembered you as "a charming, talented
24 young man".

25 SR46 gave a second statement at SNB-2134:

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

5 She said:

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

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

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

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

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

22 Q. Yes, of course.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 There is an entry at 30620 about you going to Cultra
2 with your brother in May 1974. Do you remember that,
3 HIA41?

4 **A. I probably do, yes. NL 186 was quite a nice**
5 **social worker.**

6 Q. Just scroll on down, please.

7 **A. She would have brought you sweets and she was a kind**
8 **sort of a woman, but at the end of the day the Social**
9 **Services act as the Stasi of the State. We were told we**
10 **were going on a holiday and left in a girls' home in**
11 **Newry and were never released until we were over 16. So**
12 **that's another side of her kindness and goodness.**

13 Q. Well, these initials down the side looks like "^{NL 186}",
14 **NL 186** . She says that on 6th May she took you
15 and your brother to the Folk Museum at Cultra:

16 "... and they enjoyed this a lot."

17 At 30621 to 22 it is recorded that you missed SR153.
18 I am just going to scroll down through that. If we can
19 just go to that, please, somewhere. Scroll on down,
20 please. Yes.

21 "Visit three other children in Nazareth. **NL 57** says
22 she misses **DL 87** . **HIA 41** appears to be missing SR153,
23 who has been transferred to . All four children
24 appear well and **NL 56** chesty cold has got better."

25 It is recorded at 30622 that your mother was

1 visiting regularly and frequently and that you all
2 enjoyed your mother's visits, but it is quite clear this
3 is a new social worker who came in at this time in --

4 **A. Well, SR15302 records that the HIA 41 family had never**
5 **any visitors. SR153 was an excellent nun, but she does**
6 **record that.**

7 Q. There is another entry, HIA41. I am not going to call
8 it up, and we looked at this, where it shows that --
9 SNB-41762 -- that you were positively disinterested in
10 your mother's visits.

11 **A. Yes.**

12 Q. That accords with what you have told the Inquiry.

13 **A. Uh-huh.**

14 Q. Now just coming to say -- you have said in your
15 statement that -- you said that the Social Services'
16 records show that SR46 was pressurising the social
17 worker to take you away. In their response statement
18 they say that they have no such records, but we know
19 from your social worker records what did happen, and
20 I am going to look at some of those now.

21 There is a whole series of three-monthly reviews,
22 and I am not going to call them up. I will just tell
23 the Panel what dates they are. SNB-41762 is January
24 '74; 41763 is April '74; 41765 is September '74;
25 4176... --

1 CHAIRMAN: Go a bit more slowly.

2 MS SMITH: Sorry. I beg your pardon.

3 CHAIRMAN: ...763 is April?

4 MS SMITH: Yes, April '74.

5 CHAIRMAN: ...7...?

6 MS SMITH: ...65 is September of '74; ...766 is January of
7 '75.

8 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

9 MS SMITH: ...764 is April of '75. There is an entry at
10 ...773, which may be, but it is undated, and it may have
11 been September of '75; and 41767 is December of '75.
12 Then 41768 is April '76, but I am going to look now at
13 October '76, HIA41, which is 41769.

14 You will see here this is an example of these
15 three-monthly reviews that were carried out. It
16 indicates the reasons for you being taken into care and
17 the period of time in Convent of Mercy and Nazareth
18 Lodge. The dates of visit to the child are August and
19 October '76. Interviews with your parents there are
20 also recorded and it said:

21 "HIA41, who is in a different group at Nazareth,
22 than his brother and sister, spent the month of August
23 at Ballyhornan. He also enjoyed this holiday.

24 It was suggested to HIA41 that he could spend some
25 weekends at Kircubbin with his brother **DL 87** , but the

1 two boys do not have a close relationship and HIA41 was
2 not keen to do this.

3 HIA41 is still rather reluctant to go home on
4 Sundays to his mother, but prefers to stay at Nazareth,
5 where he receives a small amount of pocket money for
6 acting as doorman and answering the telephone."

7 Now it is clearly recorded here that you did have
8 this responsibility as doorman and answering the
9 telephone.

10 **A. That is correct, 100% correct.**

11 Q. You are reluctant to go home to your mother. It is also
12 being suggested you go to Kircubbin to visit your
13 brother, but you didn't want to do that.

14 **A. No.**

15 Q. You and your brother didn't hit it off.

16 **A. No. Well, I mean, when I went into Nazareth Lodge,
17 I was -- there was only four of us, and when -- since
18 1975 and the work that I done I discovered there is nine
19 of us. This was one of the reasons that DL 503 hid
20 the Social Services' files, because right through it it
21 shows that, births and things.**

22 Q. HIA41, I don't mean to interrupt you, but --

23 **A. It also says there dates of interviews with parents.
24 Whose parents?**

25 Q. I think that is a typed pro forma. So that would have

1 been your mother presumably that they were talking to at
2 that time, but in any event you say that this
3 demonstrates the start of a conspiracy to move you to De
4 La Salle --

5 **A. Yes.**

6 Q. -- because they are suggesting that you should spend
7 weekends at Kircubbin with your brother.

8 **A. Yes.**

9 Q. You don't accept that this may just have been an attempt
10 to maintain a relationship between you and your brother?

11 **A. No. Sure we hated one another.**

12 Q. Well, then if I can move on to look at -- and these are
13 kind of in reverse order. So the first one we have to
14 go to is 30664, and these are the entries that were made
15 in around the time that you actually moved to Kircubbin.
16 You will see here it is 11th March '77.

17 "SR156 phoned to say that HIA41 had been mitching
18 school for the past few days. Was found in Bangor
19 yesterday by police after having stolen some chewing gum
20 along with two other boys from Nazareth. says
21 that the police are unlikely to prosecute. Spoke to
22 HIA41 about this. He seems to be rather ashamed of
23 having mitched and agreed that it was a stupid thing to
24 do. Then he said that he wants to be moved to
25 Kircubbin, that he feels he is too old for Nazareth now.

1 (He is one of the oldest boys there and most of the
2 children in his group are much younger than him.) Said
3 that he had mitched school hoping that he would be sent
4 to Kircubbin as a punishment. Spoke to SR156 about
5 this. She said that HIA41's housemother, SR30, had
6 recently taken up a full-time teaching post, and HIA41
7 rarely sees her now. He had a very close relationship
8 with her and missed her very much. He doesn't have
9 a particularly good relationship with either her or
10 SR46, who are now in charge of his group. She and SR46
11 had been discussing his going to Kircubbin and they felt
12 that that -- that this may be an appropriate time."

13 Then if I can look then at the next page, ...662,
14 30662. That was on 11th March '77. On 29th April
15 '77 -- sorry. 30662. They are unfortunately not in
16 chronological order in the bundle, but if you could
17 scroll down there to 29th April '77, we see:

18 "Phone call from SR46, Nazareth Lodge, re HIA41.
19 Said he had been mitching school during the past few
20 weeks. Missed five days this week. On the third day he
21 and two other boys were found by the police in Bangor,
22 having stolen some sweets. Police are going to formally
23 caution them. SR46 said that the nuns are finding
24 difficulty in controlling HIA41. Said that he is now
25 starting to influence the younger children in his group.

1 In fact, seems to be more ..."

2 If we can scroll down to the next -- it is actually
3 back up -- sorry -- to 30661, SNB-30661. This is the
4 continuation of the entry of 29th April, where it says:

5 "He seems to have more influence other them than
6 they do. She wondered if this might not be a good time
7 to move HIA41 to Kircubbin. I agreed to call at the
8 beginning of the week and talk to HIA41 about this."

9 Somehow it jumps to 28th, backwards, but if we go on
10 down then to 2nd May '77 there:

11 "SR46 phoned to say that HIA41 and two other boys
12 had mitched off school today. St. Augustine's phoned to
13 tell them at 5.00 pm. The boys had still not returned."

14 Then the next entry is on the preceding page, which
15 is 30660. You will see that you hadn't returned.

16 CHAIRMAN: Can we just go back a page, please?

17 MS SMITH: Sorry. It's ...661. If we could scroll down.

18 CHAIRMAN: Just a moment. Just a moment. please.

19 MS SMITH: We can get to the bottom of it this way,

20 Chairman, to the bottom of 661. On 3rd you had stayed
21 out overnight this time. This is when you went to

22 , HIA41. Is that right?

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. "Phoned SR46. Boys had still not returned. Reported
25 them to police as being missing."

1 She called to tell your mother, but nobody had any
2 idea where you were and they were all very concerned at
3 that time.

4 **A. I'm sure they were.**

5 CHAIRMAN: Yes. The last three lines:

6 "UUUC strike is on" --

7 MS SMITH: "... at present ..."

8 CHAIRMAN: -- "at present and could be dangerous for 3
9 Catholic boys to be roaming the streets."

10 This was another one of the major disturbances that
11 there were at that time.

12 MS SMITH: Can we just go back then?

13 CHAIRMAN: Yes.

14 MS SMITH: The continuation of this then is at 30660. We
15 will be going backwards I think from now on. There
16 just at the top of that:

17 "Phoned SR46. Boys have still not returned.

18 Visited ..." your mother. "She was at home with

19 (he wasn't able to get to work because of the
20 strike). She was very concerned to hear about HIA41 and
21 obviously very worried about him. Told her that I had
22 informed the police. She had no idea where HIA41 would
23 be."

24 Then the next day:

25 "SR46 phones to say that HIA41 and two friends had

1 returned. They had been in . One of the
2 boys has relatives there."

3 Then if we can go on down, it says:

4 "Agreed to come up to Nazareth to speak to HIA41
5 this afternoon.

6 Phoned BR2 and discussed the possibility of HIA41
7 being transferred to Kircubbin. He said that SR 200

8 SR 200 , the Mother Superior of Nazareth, had spoken to
9 him about HIA41 at the beginning of the week. Said that
10 he does have a place for him and would take him.

11 However, said that he isn't altogether happy with
12 circumstances of transfer. Sees it as HIA41 being

13 branded as a bad boy and being transferred as

14 a punishment rather than a natural progression, as it

15 should be, but as SR 200 wants the transfer" --

16 and we need to go back to 30659, please -- "he said that

17 he would go along with it. Arranged to take HIA41 to

18 Kircubbin tomorrow, if he is in agreement.

19 4.30 pm. Called at Nazareth and talked to HIA41.

20 He told me that he had started running away and mitching

21 school because he doesn't like Nazareth and he thought

22 that by misbehaving he would get out -- he could get

23 sent to Kircubbin. Asked him why he didn't like

24 Nazareth and he thought" -- sorry. "Asked him why he

25 didn't like Nazareth. He said that the nuns treat him

1 like a child. They don't make any difference between
2 him and the youngest members of the group. For example,
3 they make him go to bed at 9.00 pm. Doesn't get on well
4 with the nuns who run his group. The nun he did get on
5 well with, SR30, is now teaching full-time and he very
6 rarely sees her.

7 Warned HIA41 that he would have to behave himself at
8 Kircubbin, otherwise he would end up at St. Patrick's
9 Training School. Told him that there is a place at
10 Kircubbin for him and that I could move him tomorrow, if
11 he wanted. He was delighted by this and said he would
12 far rather be at Kircubbin. Arranged to collect him the
13 following morning.

14 HIA41 wasn't very forthcoming about what he had done
15 during the last few days. Said that he and his friends
16 had stayed in a flat with an old man."

17 If we can just scroll up, yes, to the proceeding
18 page:

19 "Asked him what they did for food. He said the old
20 man had fed them, but I would presume that they stole
21 some things. Told HIA41 how worried we had all been
22 about them and how much trouble they had given everyone
23 and he promised he wouldn't do it again. Feel that the
24 nuns are just not able to cope with HIA41 now and he is
25 certainly at an age when he needs a man's touch. Called

1 to tell that HIA41 had turned up again. She
2 had phoned Nazareth earlier and knew about it. Told her
3 that he -- we propose transferring HIA41 to Kircubbin
4 tomorrow. I discussed the possibility of his going
5 there with her before. She agreed that he would be
6 better there and that he would be -- he would prefer to
7 be there himself. Said that she'd no objections to
8 this. Asked her about HIA41 coming home at the
9 weekends. Pointed out that he would want to go home if
10 DL 87 was. She said she wouldn't be able to
11 accommodate both boys",

12 and then it goes on. Then if we go back to the
13 preceding page, which is 30657, at the top of that on
14 6th May:

15 "Transferred HIA41 to Kircubbin. He was quite upset
16 at leaving -- at leaving Nazareth and cried quite openly
17 in the end. However, he cheered up somewhat on the way
18 to Kircubbin."

19 Now, HIA41, those are the documents that are in the
20 social work papers that relate to your transfer to
21 Kircubbin. I know that you feel that this is all part
22 of a conspiracy to move you from Nazareth Lodge to here.

23 **A. There are also written documents there from NL 187**
24 **totally opposing the Sisters of Nazareth sending me to**
25 **Nazareth -- to Kircubbin. As I explained to you**

1 earlier, I never knew that Social Services ever knew or
2 spoke with the Sisters of Nazareth or the De La Salle
3 Order. That was something that I have only learned
4 three or four years ago from reading these. I never
5 knew that ever existed. So when they were having
6 conversations and meetings, it was -- it was a three-way
7 system. So they were talking, and then NL 187 would
8 say something to me, or SR30, or SR156, or SR46, but at
9 no time -- but there are records which I have here where
10 they oppose the nuns attempting, because I had lived in
11 the Ormeau Road all my life. So what was the sense of
12 sending me thirty miles away to Kircubbin? So that's --
13 those are there for you to be copied if you don't have
14 them, but this conspiracy seemed to start long before
15 running away. I was a deeply traumatised child, been
16 sexually abused by a priest, and, you know, one of the
17 boys suggested going to the police, which we did in
18 . So those are the contexts of all of those
19 things, but, you know, it led to what it led to and that
20 was it, but I think the social worker should have give
21 me some good advice and told me to behave myself and to
22 not get upset about it and deal with the things, but
23 I had that and I had Brendan Smyth to deal with, and
24 SR30 was now gone, but she always worked as a teacher
25 and our housemother. So that's sort of the context and

1 the deep trauma and upset in which I was moved, but it's
2 a clear scheme and plan long before I mitched ever. My
3 records are exemplary from the Sisters of Nazareth
4 before this happened --

5 Q. Uh-huh.

6 A. -- but that's the way it is, and the same people that
7 I'm giving evidence about have abused children. Here
8 today witnesses have spoken of it, and that's it and it
9 happened, you know.

10 Q. Well, HIA41 --

11 CHAIRMAN: Just a moment. Do we have the documents from
12 NL 187 ?

13 MS SMITH: HIA41 has -- one of the documents that he has
14 shown to me is the document I have shown the typed
15 version of to the Inquiry, but, HIA41, can you just --

16 A. **She is going to copy them all, Catherine.**

17 Q. If you can just show them to the Panel.

18 CHAIRMAN: If you wouldn't mind, give them to us now and we
19 will copy them and give them back to you.

20 MS SMITH: You have written extracts from them. Isn't that
21 right?

22 A. **Yes, I have highlighted some of them.**

23 CHAIRMAN: What we want, HIA41, are original documents.

24 MS SMITH: Yes, there are some originals there --

25 A. **There are.**

1 CHAIRMAN: Give us the original documents.

2 MS SMITH: -- that you have highlighted, HIA41.

3 CHAIRMAN: Just a moment, please. We will get them copied
4 and give them back to you. HIA41, just sort through the
5 original documents and give those to us, please.

6 MS SMITH: I think that's them in the red folder, Chairman.
7 The difficulty was that the dates are not clear.

8 CHAIRMAN: Just a moment, please. We will have all these
9 copied and they will be given back to you as soon as
10 possible.

11 **A. Yes, that's fine.**

12 MS SMITH: HIA41, just going back to your own statement at
13 paragraph 62 I think it was -- sorry -- 63, you say that
14 in 1982 you met SR30 and you thought it was a **SR 208**
15 SR 208 who was with her on the Ormeau Road. You say that
16 SR30 offered you a job in Nazareth House at that time.
17 This is when you were about 19 or so.

18 **A. 17.**

19 Q. 17, after you had left Rubane. She offered you a job in
20 Nazareth House, odd job in gardening, but you said you
21 never went, as she dumped you in 1977m and you went to
22 Rubane.

23 Now, just to be clear, **SR 208** did make
24 a statement as well and she has said that she didn't
25 ever go to the bank or ever know you or meet you with

1 SR30, but you are not saying it was definitely that nun.

2 That was the name that you thought it was.

3 **A. I thought it was. They were two that were very close**
4 **and very friendly.**

5 Q. I think her statement -- I can't put my finger on it at
6 the moment, but it is in the bundle. I think I outlined
7 where it was earlier. Sorry. It is at 1869, and she
8 says that while she was in Nazareth Lodge between '65
9 and '66 and she was in the Convent from '75 to '83, she
10 worked in St. Joseph's Home in the grounds and had no
11 contact whatever with the Lodge children. Would be
12 aware of their existence but no involvement whatsoever
13 in their care and any decision making in their regard,
14 and she said that quite sure that it did not happen that
15 she met you in 1982. The only time she ever went to the
16 bank was in connection with St. Joseph's Home and SR30
17 had no involvement there.

18 Now on the last day and we talked about this earlier
19 you received settlement of your civil claim monies in
20 settlement of your civil claim against both the
21 Norbertine Order and the Sisters of Nazareth. Isn't
22 that correct?

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. You were --

25 **A. Not a settlement that I agreed with. I left due to what**

1 **was taking place, and the solicitor has three pages of**
2 **complaint from my own solicitor as to what took place.**
3 **I said I wouldn't be going back to the law courts, but**
4 **she ended up settling it and that was the end of it.**

5 Q. Well, you spoke on the last day and in your statement
6 that -- your life after care is set out there, and we
7 spoke about this, and you know from what I have told you
8 today that what you say about what happened to you after
9 you left Rubane, the Inquiry has paid attention to all
10 of that and they know all about it, but we don't need to
11 go into the detail, because what we are looking at is
12 what actually happened to you in the institution, but
13 the reason we ask for people to tell us about their life
14 after care is to show the effect that what happened to
15 you in the institutions had on your life later, and just
16 to assure you, HIA41, that we are well aware of the
17 difficulties that you had in later life.

18 But can I now ask you if there's anything else you
19 feel we haven't covered about your time in Nazareth
20 Lodge specifically, we haven't dealt with in these
21 papers or in the papers that you have handed to the
22 Inquiry today that you want to say? Now is your
23 opportunity to do so.

24 **A. Well, in one of the letters there from the Sisters of**
25 **Nazareth at Hammersmith Road they have no knowledge of**

1 Father Brendan Smyth or any evidence of this, but
2 clearly he was there. My understanding that I can prove
3 he was there for at least ten years, you know. So
4 I think that the State of Northern Ireland was the hand
5 that worked the puppet of the Catholic Church. You
6 know, they paid the Catholic Church, although the
7 Sisters are liable and bear responsibility for not
8 seeing that proper things were done, not educating the
9 children in a sexual manner, allowing the fields to be
10 used by Breda Football Club, and anyone entering the
11 home at any time, you know, as one volunteer who came
12 and abused children that was here through the De La
13 Salle writing out good reports and getting a job as
14 a to sexually abuse children. I think in
15 all of that aspect. They should have give the children
16 a better education. They just should have prepared them
17 for life, explained to him they were going to be
18 leaving. I mean, I was over 13. At no time was there
19 a vision or a thought in my head that I would ever be
20 leaving Nazareth Lodge, you know, but clearly the State
21 was going to get rid of you at 16 or so.

22 So the children were let down and all of that aspect
23 and, you know, although I do believe, you know, that
24 SR30 was obsessed with the religion, but I think the
25 cleanliness and all of that sort of thing and the

1 non-education of anything sexual, but she could have
2 taught the children that no-one else was allowed to
3 touch them, I think that's sort of something that they
4 failed.

5 As regards the Inquiry, the Inquiry will do what it
6 has got to do in the end, but at the end of the day, you
7 know, if we lived in Boston, we would get \$5 million for
8 our abuse. If we lived in the South of Ireland, we
9 would get 300,000 to 500,000. It has just been pitiful.
10 Once you come against the Catholic Church it splits into
11 a million parts. "Brendan Smyth was from the South of
12 Ireland. He had nothing to do with Nazareth Lodge. You
13 will have to see the trustees. We don't know this and
14 we don't know that." It just splits like oil in the
15 sea. The victims are left without nothing, you know, so
16 ...

17 I mean, we don't even have advice as to how to deal
18 with all of this here, and you have to be -- it is up to
19 your own intelligence to come here and answer, but
20 I knew SR30 as being one of the cleverest people in the
21 world, and I knew, you know -- I had raised those
22 concerns in an Executive meeting. The minutes of the
23 meeting are there. So I predicted what was going to
24 happen five years ago with Jonathan Bell and Martina
25 Anderson and it has turned out that way, but the

1 victims -- the State should do what the South of Ireland
2 done and compensate and put the thing to bed, you know,
3 once and for all. I don't want any apologies from the
4 State or any religious orders.

5 Q. Well, HIA41, thank you very much. I have nothing
6 further that I want to ask you about.

7 **A. Thank you.**

8 Q. I will just hand you over to the Panel in case they have
9 some questions for you.

10 Questions from THE PANEL

11 MR LANE: I would just like to be clear about the building.
12 When you were doing your work on the front door, that
13 presumably is at the ground level?

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. Then the Sisters were on the next floor up?

16 **A. No, the chapel was right along there.**

17 Q. The chapel, was it?

18 **A. The Sisters would have been in each group. You would**
19 **have had a nun over each group, five individual homes in**
20 **Nazareth Lodge, which was a massive, 10-acre site.**

21 Q. I thought you also referred to the Sisters' quarters,
22 though.

23 **A. Yes, their dining quarters --**

24 Q. Right.

25 **A. -- but there was another hallway where the Sisters would**

1 have slept, but if a Sister was over a group, she slept
2 in the group.

3 Q. That's right, and the groups were on the top floor.
4 Isn't that right?

5 A. The groups were on -- the ground floor was the ground
6 floor, the chapel. Then the first floor was Sister --
7 the second floor was SR184's. The top floor was SR30.
8 The far floor across was SR62's group. The next one was
9 SR29's, and then here was NL5's --

10 Q. Right.

11 A. -- which SR34 had a bit of interaction with, you know.

12 Q. Uh-huh.

13 A. So if a nun hadn't got sixteen or eighteen children to
14 look after -- but SR30 did, was our sole -- she did have
15 cleaning staff coming in who did clean, and some of them
16 were very good, and became an integral part of going on
17 the holidays to Ballyhornan and things, you know, but if
18 a nun hadn't, then she -- she hadn't a group -- there
19 was a blind nun who would have had a room on the first
20 floor, but certainly other nuns would have had sleeping
21 quarters and staff rooms. So the staff didn't sleep in
22 the groups. They went down on to the first floor where
23 there was a line of rooms where they would have slept
24 also.

25 Q. Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN: Well, HIA41, I am sure you will be relieved we
2 don't have any more questions. Thank you very much for
3 coming back to speak to us a second time. Mr Butler
4 will see that you get your original documents that you
5 gave us a few minutes ago back just when they've been
6 photocopied.

7 **A. I have just explained a few things to Catherine that**
8 **she'll maybe explain to the Panel later regarding those**
9 **issues.**

10 MS SMITH: Yes.

11 **A. Okay.**

12 CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

13 **A. Thank you very much.**

14 (Witness withdrew)

15 (5.05 pm)

16 (Hearing adjourned until 10.00 am
17 on Wednesday, 28th January 2015)

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I N D E X

WITNESS HIA297 (called)2
 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY3
 Questions from THE PANEL32

WITNESS HIA5 (called)34
 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY35

WITNESS HIA91 (called)77
 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY77

WITNESS HIA41 (called)96
 Questions from COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY96
 Questions from THE PANEL181