

1 Friday, 4 May 2018

2 (10.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. Now we move to the next oral  
4 witness, I think; is that right, Mr MacAulay?

5 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, my Lady. Yes, the next oral  
6 witness is an applicant who wants to remain anonymous  
7 and she has chosen the name "Jennifer" for giving her  
8 evidence.

9 "JENNIFER" (sworn)

10 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable.

11 You probably just heard when the microphone came on;  
12 it's wonderfully sensitive so long as you stay  
13 reasonably close to it.

14 A. Right.

15 LADY SMITH: It's very easy to drift backwards and then  
16 we'll lose your voice if that happens, so try and make  
17 sure you're using it. Thank you.

18 Questions from MR MacAULAY

19 MR MacAULAY: Good morning, Jennifer.

20 A. Good morning.

21 Q. I don't need to have your date of birth, but to get  
22 a time frame I want to confirm with you the year of your  
23 birth. Can I confirm with you that you were born in  
24 1948?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. In the red folder in front of you you'll find your  
2 statement, the statement you've given to the inquiry.  
3 For the transcript I'm going to give the reference and  
4 that's WIT.001.001.4304. Could I ask you to turn to the  
5 last page of the statement? Can you confirm that  
6 you have signed the statement?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And if you look at the last paragraph, do you tell us:  
9 "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
10 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

11 Is that right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Do you also go on to say:

14 "I believe the facts stated in this witness  
15 statement are true"?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Let's go back to the beginning and to a time when  
18 you were in Nazareth House Cardonald; that's in Glasgow.  
19 You went into Nazareth House at a very young age;  
20 is that right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And you wouldn't have known at the time, but that's  
23 where you were because you were so young?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. But have you been given any information over the years

1 as to how it came to be that you came to Nazareth House?

2 A. Yes, I did.

3 Q. Can you perhaps give us some insight into that?

4 A. Apparently, we were taken to Kilmarnock and they said  
5 because we were long-stay children they couldn't take  
6 us.

7 LADY SMITH: When you say Kilmarnock, that was to  
8 Nazareth House in Kilmarnock?

9 A. Yes and -- what was it? We were taken then -- we were  
10 going to the Salvation Army because we weren't  
11 Catholics, and the collecting sisters that came from  
12 Cardonald must have got talking to my mother or someone  
13 and they then suggested that we could be baptised in the  
14 Sacred Heart in Bridgeton. This is what happened. Then  
15 they got us into Nazareth House.

16 And in one of the photographs we assumed we were  
17 three months old, but Sister Helena, who seemed to know  
18 quite a bit about it, said we were weeks old, but we  
19 couldn't verify that, we were too young.

20 MR MacAULAY: In giving that answer, you have used the word  
21 "we"; is it the case that you were a twin?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. So you and your twin sister were admitted to  
24 Nazareth House Cardonald?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Can I just put this to you: as you're probably aware the  
2 inquiry has recovered records from the Sisters of  
3 Nazareth, in particular the registers dealing with  
4 entries and departures. So far as the entry register is  
5 concerned, that has noted that you were admitted on  
6 [REDACTED] 1949. That would mean that you'd be months  
7 old rather than weeks old. Clearly, that's not -- that  
8 doesn't tie in what you've been told?

9 A. Exactly.

10 Q. But so far as leaving is concerned, the register has  
11 noted that you left on [REDACTED] 1965. So you'd be 16 or  
12 17 at that time. What about that? Do you think that's  
13 accurate?

14 A. It's wrong. They tried to foster me out to a couple in  
15 [REDACTED], Mr and Mrs [REDACTED]. At that age it wasn't feasible.  
16 There was no way I was going to go, purely because  
17 I knew what I wanted to do.

18 Q. What age was that?

19 A. I was 17 then, nearly. Well, I would have been in the  
20 [REDACTED], I would have been 17 then. They had a business  
21 and it was a novelty going to them at weekends or  
22 holidays, and I loved working in the shop, but that  
23 wasn't my idea of working in a shop for the rest of my  
24 life.

25 Q. No. Do you think you left Nazareth House in about 1965?

- 1 A. No. I was still there, I still had another year at  
2 school to do and it wouldn't have been feasible to move  
3 schools at that age.
- 4 Q. So when do you think you left, what year?
- 5 A. 1969. I was 21, I had my 21st birthday.
- 6 Q. But when you were there up until 21, were you working  
7 somewhere?
- 8 A. No, I was at college and I was also working with the KSC  
9 and that, two days.
- 10 Q. Your position there was a bit different to being a child  
11 in care?
- 12 A. Yes. I had my own room -- well, it was a curtain.
- 13 Q. And were you paying for your keep? How was that  
14 arranged?
- 15 A. Yes, I paid £1.50 a month.
- 16 Q. Perhaps we'll come back to your family background later  
17 on because I think you feel there is some uncertainty  
18 about that.
- 19 A. Uh-huh.
- 20 Q. But let's just look at your early recollections of  
21 Nazareth House. From what you've told us already, you  
22 would have been in what we understand to have been the  
23 nursery section.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Can you tell me, do you have recollections of being

1           there?

2           A.   Yes.  It was good, there was no problems.  The only  
3           thing that struck was when I fell into the fire at  
4           2 years of age.

5           Q.  You had an accident?

6           A.  Yes.

7           Q.  And that left scarring, I think?

8           A.  Yes, it did.

9           Q.  But leaving that aside, as I understand it from what  
10          you've said in your statement, that was a perfectly  
11          happy time?

12          A.  Yes, it was.  It was.

13          Q.  And you've provided the inquiry with photographs of  
14          yourself and your sister that were taken during the time  
15          that you were in the nursery section?

16          A.  Yes.

17          MR MacAULAY:  My Lady, these photographs are available  
18          in the two books behind me.  I think Jennifer would be  
19          quite happy for your Ladyship to have a quick look at  
20          the photographs, particularly those that have been  
21          marked showing her and her sister.

22          LADY SMITH:  That would be very helpful.  You have marked  
23          particular photographs that you think might be of  
24          assistance, have you?

25          A.  Yes.

1 LADY SMITH: Thank you. Let me have a look. (Handed)

2 (Pause)

3 You were identical twins, were you?

4 A. No, not really, although DNA at a later date, when  
5 we were doing research, twin research at [REDACTED],  
6 when we first went in, it was like, no way, youse are  
7 not twins, but they did DNA and they said, yes, we were,  
8 we had the same DNA.

9 LADY SMITH: Slightly different colouring?

10 A. Yes.

11 LADY SMITH: Oh yes, I see as you get older, the different  
12 hair colour is more marked than when you were babies.

13 A. Yes.

14 MR MacAULAY: I think we see in the photographs, as  
15 her Ladyship is looking at them, there's a particular  
16 photograph where it must have been a birthday party  
17 where you and your sister are sitting at a table.

18 A. Yes, in the grounds. That was at the front of the  
19 convent.

20 Q. All dressed up with a birthday cake, I think.

21 A. Yes, that's right.

22 Q. So birthdays were celebrated?

23 A. Uh-huh, we were well looked after in the nursery.

24 LADY SMITH: So if you arrived there in about 1949, these  
25 are the early 50s, some of the earlier photographs?

1 A. Yes.

2 LADY SMITH: And then we move on, as you get older. I can  
3 see that your first communion then comes up and so on.  
4 In the other book -- oh yes, I see you both in the same  
5 cot.

6 A. Yes. That was like -- weeks old we were.

7 LADY SMITH: Yes.

8 A. So that's where the dubiety comes in, what time when  
9 we were registered with the convent.

10 LADY SMITH: Right. And there are some repeat photographs  
11 in this album as well.

12 A. Yes, there is.

13 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much for sharing these. That  
14 was good of you to bring them along, Jennifer.

15 A. Okay, thank you.

16 MR MacAULAY: Perhaps if I can try and get some feel for the  
17 numbers of children at Nazareth House over the period  
18 that you were there, and I'll put this document on the  
19 screen for you. This is something that has been  
20 supplied to us on behalf of the Sisters of Nazareth.  
21 It's NAZ.001.001.0265.

22 LADY SMITH: This is something you won't have seen before,  
23 Jennifer, but it's a record of the statistics for  
24 children in all the Sisters of Nazareth homes.

25 A. Right.

- 1 MR MacAULAY: As you can read from the top, we've got  
2 Aberdeen, Kilmarnock, and then we come to Glasgow.  
3 If we run down the date column, let's just start at  
4 1949. Can we see that there were 152 girls at that time  
5 and 37 babies?
- 6 A. Uh-huh.
- 7 Q. And on any view, looking at what you've been telling us,  
8 you and your sister must have been one of the 37.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. We can run down with our fingers through the 1950s. Can  
11 we see that the numbers of girls start to dwindle a bit?
- 12 A. Mm-hm.
- 13 Q. And similarly, in the babies' section, the numbers  
14 decrease as well.
- 15 A. Uh-huh.
- 16 Q. Judging by what you said, leaving at the age of 21, you  
17 think in about 1969, can we see by then the number of  
18 girls is down to 57 from a starting point of 152, and  
19 there are still babies there, 27. Do you see that?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Can we see that by this time, boys have emerged, there  
22 are boys now?
- 23 A. Mm-hm.
- 24 Q. Whereas earlier on there were no boys there?
- 25 A. That's right.

1 Q. I think there were boys in the nursery, but not in the  
2 main part of the building.

3 A. Uh-huh.

4 LADY SMITH: The nursery was the children up to about age 5;  
5 is that correct?

6 A. Yes, sometimes if they didn't have a bed in the juniors  
7 section you would stay longer. Normally, we would go to  
8 school from the nursery and then we would get sent over  
9 to the junior section.

10 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

11 MR MacAULAY: We also have some photographs of Cardonald.

12 I'll put these on the screen for you as well. It's

13 NAZ.001.001.0262.

14 If you just orientate yourself, Jennifer, are we  
15 looking there, in the photographs we are focusing on, at  
16 the main building of Nazareth House?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Are you able to tell us, under reference to the  
19 photograph, where the nursery section would be?

20 A. Yes. That would have been on your right-hand side.  
21 When you came in, there were two parlours and then you  
22 were through another door and then to your right the  
23 nursery, and that was self-contained.

24 Q. That was then in the main building?

25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. As you have told us it was a self-contained building.
- 2 A. Yes that's right, within the bigger building.
- 3 Q. Did that mean really that you had little to do with the  
4 other children who were in the building?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. I think, as you explained to her Ladyship, at about the  
7 age of 5 you'd moved from the nursery section into  
8 another section?
- 9 A. To the juniors section, yes.
- 10 Q. What was the age range in the juniors section?
- 11 A. It went from 5 or 6 to, I think about 15 or  
12 16-year-olds.
- 13 Q. Was there a senior section?
- 14 A. No, not really, because now the groups -- there was  
15 green, red and blue group, and then at a later date  
16 there was the yellow group. It just went up from young  
17 to the top.
- 18 Q. Okay. Just to perhaps finish off with the time in the  
19 nursery, was there a sister or sisters in charge?
- 20 A. Yes, there was a sister in each group.
- 21 Q. In the nursery?
- 22 A. There was only the one, Sister LKJ, and then  
23 Sister Anthony came in after that, just when we were  
24 leaving.
- 25 Q. Did the sister in the nursery have any assistance from

1           lay staff?

2       A. Yes. I have -- in some of the photographs, you would  
3           see laypeople in them, yes.

4       Q. Can we move from the nursery into the juniors section  
5           and the early period of the junior section. Did you  
6           then go to one of the coloured groups you have  
7           mentioned?

8       A. Yes, we went to the green group.

9       Q. Can you tell me how many, do you think, were in that  
10          particular group?

11      A. I would say about 30.

12      Q. All girls, of course, at this time?

13      A. Yes, it was all girls.

14      Q. What about the age range of the girls?

15      A. Again, it was from 5 to about 15 or 16.

16      Q. Perhaps you can tell me, did your sister go with you?

17      A. Yes, she did.

18      Q. Did you get any sense as to the other -- whether the  
19          other children in that group were family members to each  
20          other or not?

21      A. Not really, because we were too young really to sort of  
22          take it on board, really, at that time.

23      Q. As time went on --

24      A. Yes, you would notice that people did have sisters,  
25          et cetera.

- 1 Q. Who was in charge of the green group?
- 2 A. It was Sister [REDACTED] LFH [REDACTED].
- 3 Q. And for how long did that remain the position?
- 4 A. We left when we were 8 and went to the red group because
- 5 there was a family of six came in, the [REDACTED] family,
- 6 and they had to make room for them. Sister [REDACTED] LFH [REDACTED] used
- 7 to choose who she wanted in her group basically and we
- 8 were sent to the red group and then two other ones were
- 9 sent to the blue group and then by this time
- 10 Miss [REDACTED] LGF [REDACTED] had appeared and she had a group, the
- 11 yellow group.
- 12 Q. She was a layperson?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. But she was in charge of one of the groups?
- 15 A. Yes, the yellow group.
- 16 Q. And if we focus then on the time you were with
- 17 Sister [REDACTED] LFH [REDACTED], was there someone there with her who
- 18 would help her?
- 19 A. I don't remember any help, no. She seemed to be always
- 20 on her own.
- 21 Q. When you moved from Sister [REDACTED] LFH [REDACTED]'s group, the green
- 22 group, to the red group, you thought you might have been
- 23 7 or 8?
- 24 A. Uh-huh.
- 25 Q. So you probably spent, what, two or three years with

- 1           Sister [LFH] ?
- 2           A. Yes.
- 3           Q. Who was in charge of the red group?
- 4           A. It was a Sister [LBG]. When we went and then
- 5           she got blamed -- two girls ran away and she got blamed
- 6           for helping them to run away, and she was sent back to
- 7           Hammersmith. And Sister [LFP] came to the red
- 8           group.
- 9           Q. Can I just understand this notion of
- 10          Sister [LBG] being blamed? What did you
- 11          understand to have been the position?
- 12          A. When she was leaving she was crying, she was going to
- 13          Hammersmith and she said she got blamed for helping the
- 14          two girls -- it was [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] --
- 15          helping them to run away and that and she got blamed for
- 16          it.
- 17          Q. Do you know how she helped them to run away?
- 18          A. I'm not really sure, but she seemed to get blamed for
- 19          it.
- 20          Q. So you were with her for -- was that for a short period
- 21          of time?
- 22          A. For a short period of time, yes.
- 23          Q. Did you say then sister --
- 24          A. [LFP] came.
- 25          Q. Did that change as well over the period you were there?

1 A. Yes. Sister LFS then came to the red group, but  
2 that was after about 1966, I would say, because the new  
3 act had come in, the Children's Act of 1964, and  
4 Sister LFS was much younger and she had to go out  
5 for college for child welfare, having to do that.

6 Q. So you were with Sister LFP then for quite some  
7 time?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What age would you have been by the time Sister LFS  
10 came on the scene?

11 A. I was about 16, really, I think. It was about 66,  
12 mm-hm.

13 Q. So far as each group was concerned, let's take your time  
14 in the green group, how self-contained were the groups?

15 A. Well, we had our own bedrooms and our own sort of -- we  
16 called them living rooms, the playroom. Then they had  
17 a big playroom down beside the refectory and we used to  
18 leave from that room to go to school. Everybody had to  
19 get ready in their own groups, then we congregated down  
20 in a playground -- the playroom and then we all went out  
21 to school together.

22 Q. Let's look at having your meals. Would you have your  
23 meals with the group only or with other --

24 A. When we first went over to the juniors section it was  
25 one big refectory, but then later on, they were trying

1 to make it more family orientated and they split it into  
2 the three groups: the green was the front, the blue was  
3 in the middle, and the red were at the end.

4 Q. Do I take it from what you're saying that the dining  
5 areas were separate at one time?

6 A. Yes. It was still in the one big refectory, but we all  
7 seen each other.

8 Q. One thing you say -- in your statement, you make mention  
9 of a Sister Angus, who was in charge of the blue group.

10 A. She came in at a later date certainly. I was a teenager  
11 by that time when she came. She was a lovely person,  
12 really. You could wind her up and everything.

13 Q. Can you give me some examples then of why she was such  
14 a lovely person?

15 A. Just because we could run rings round her, really.

16 Q. Okay. Just to jump ahead a bit to when you were aged  
17 16, I think you did notice that there were changes that  
18 were taking place in the mid-1960s.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Can you perhaps give me some insight into what you saw  
21 the changes to be?

22 A. Well, once Sister [REDACTED] LFP left, as I say, the younger  
23 nun, Sister [REDACTED] LFS came in. She had to go out to  
24 college. They weren't as strict as what the other nuns  
25 were. Sister [REDACTED] LFP was very strict, but she was

1 fair, but Sister [LFH], you know what I mean, was just  
2 unbelievable, really.

3 Q. We'll come and look at that shortly. But what you're  
4 saying is that the regime seemed to change, did it?

5 A. Oh completely different regime it was. Much more  
6 relaxed and everything. We could communicate with the  
7 nuns better, we weren't scared of them as much. They  
8 showed us love, really, to be quite honest, whereas that  
9 wasn't to be beforehand. They seemed to have a lot of  
10 time for us as well.

11 Q. Can I then go back a bit and look at the routine, as you  
12 recollect it, at Nazareth House. Let's deal with the  
13 position once you moved to the juniors section and you  
14 were under the charge of Sister [LFH]. Can you tell  
15 me -- let's take the morning, for example. When would  
16 you have to get up in the morning?

17 A. Well, we got up about 6.30 in the morning. We'd have to  
18 kneel down at the side of our bed and say the morning  
19 prayer. Then we would get up. We were still quite  
20 young so somebody else would be looking after us and  
21 would strip our bed and get us ready, get us washed, get  
22 us ready with our day clothes on first and then we would  
23 get us down to breakfast. Sometimes we had to go to  
24 Mass, but it was only maybe up to about 7 years. Once  
25 you had made your first communion then they expected you

- 1 to go to Mass every morning, but before that they  
2 didn't. Then we had to go down to breakfast.
- 3 Q. At that time, once you were in the juniors section, were  
4 you going to school?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. So after breakfast would you be --
- 7 A. We had to go up the stairs and sometimes they'd put two  
8 polishers under our feet and let us slide up and down  
9 the dormitory, to clean it, really. And then we would  
10 have to go out and get ready for school with our school  
11 uniform on.
- 12 Q. At that time in relation to the sleeping arrangements  
13 themselves, you have mentioned dormitories. Was there  
14 one dormitory or more than one dormitory for the group?
- 15 A. There was one dormitory at first, but again, when they  
16 changed for some unknown reason and they split it and it  
17 was like three rooms, with one with maybe eight, then  
18 six and eight.
- 19 Q. Was that the position even when you were in the green  
20 group before you went there?
- 21 A. Yes, in the green group it was one big dormitory and  
22 then that got split as well.
- 23 Q. When you went to the red group, when you thought you  
24 were maybe -- did you say 7 or 8?
- 25 A. About 8.

1 Q. Did you have to move dormitory or did you stay where you  
2 were?

3 A. No, we moved dormitory over to the red group.  
4 Everything went with us to the red group, whatever we  
5 had.

6 Q. And when you moved, was it into another dormitory?

7 A. No, by that time it was split.

8 Q. You mention something in your statement about there  
9 being a dog in the house.

10 A. Oh there was. Paddy. It was an Irish Setter.

11 Q. There was some job you had to do?

12 A. I know. Well, the red group were always first -- for  
13 some unknown reason, we were always first down to  
14 breakfast. When we would go in, the dog had been there  
15 all night and it was left. Now we had to -- the urine  
16 and everything, we had to clean it up before we could  
17 actually put the breakfast out. That happened every  
18 morning.

19 Q. That was when you were in the red group?

20 A. Uh-huh, when I was in the red group.

21 Q. Why didn't somebody else --

22 A. It was Sister LFH's dog. But it was just because --  
23 whoever was the first group was the group that had to  
24 clean up before anyone else came down.

25 Q. Was there not another member of staff who could have

1           done that?

2           A. No, they left us to do it.

3           LADY SMITH: You said the dog slept in the dining room?

4           A. Yes.

5           LADY SMITH: Right.

6           A. That was locked in at night. What time it would have

7           been -- I'm saying about 8 o'clock, because we had to be

8           in bed by 8 at that time.

9           LADY SMITH: And there would be dog mess and dog urine?

10          A. Yes, terrible. It was a pure mess every morning, right

11          down the three sections of the groups, the green, the

12          blue and the red. Sometimes its mattress was down in

13          the red section, sometimes it was down in the green,

14          whoever locked it in at night, that would be the one

15          that would put the mattress down.

16          LADY SMITH: Was this a male dog or a female dog?

17          A. I'm not really sure. I was too young --

18          LADY SMITH: It was called Paddy, it sounds like a male.

19          A. Yes, probably.

20          LADY SMITH: Could be Patricia.

21          A. Yes.

22          LADY SMITH: Thank you.

23          MR MacAULAY: You tell us that as you got older, you had to

24          help the younger ones; is that correct?

25          A. Yes.

1 Q. So there was a sort of pecking order, if you like?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Can you explain that to me?

4 A. Well, I'll say about 9, because if there was a lot of

5 young ones in that group, and if you showed any

6 initiative that you could organise or anything like

7 that, then you were assigned to maybe two or three

8 youngsters and you had to look after them, get them up

9 in the morning, make sure their bed was pulled back and

10 then we had to make the bed and then get them dressed,

11 get them washed, do their hair and get them down before

12 we could do anything ourselves.

13 Q. Was that the position for you when you were that age?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And similarly you took on a similar role when you were

16 a bit older?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. For the younger people in the group?

19 A. Yes. Sometimes -- when I did get older, sometimes you

20 were left with the whole group. There could be about 25

21 to 30 people and you had to make sure everything was

22 done. If the likes of Sister [REDACTED] LFP went on holiday,

23 then she would leave you a list of what had to be done.

24 If I was one of the eldest, maybe there was another girl

25 above me, then the two of us would have to make sure all

1           this was done, the likes of a bath on a Thursday night  
2           and hair washing on a Thursday night we had to do.

3           LADY SMITH: When you say "older", how old would you be when  
4           you were taking that responsibility for the whole group?

5           A. Maybe about 12 or 13.

6           LADY SMITH: Thank you.

7           MR MacAULAY: If we focus on the time for a moment or two on  
8           when you were in Sister [REDACTED] 's group, which was for  
9           two or three years, where did Sister [REDACTED] sleep?

10          A. She had a cell in the main bedroom of -- and she had  
11          a window that she could watch out. If anyone was  
12          misbehaving or anything like that, then they would be  
13          right in front of that cell and she could look out it  
14          any time to make sure they were still in their bed or  
15          whatever.

16          Q. We've heard this description, cell, before in evidence;  
17          was this a separate room of some kind?

18          A. Yes, it was just like something built into the room as  
19          such. It only had a bed, because we looked in one time,  
20          it only had a bed really, there wasn't a wardrobe or  
21          anything.

22          Q. Were you able to get up to go to the toilet at night  
23          when you were there?

24          A. Yes, I remember doing, but sometimes if you made a noise  
25          she would come out to find out why you were up and she

1           didn't really -- she frowned upon it. She felt that  
2           once you were in bed, that was you until morning. But  
3           that wasn't the case because sometimes maybe you could  
4           have an infection and you wouldn't know and you were up  
5           maybe two or three times that night. But if she caught  
6           you then you would get caned for doing that.

7           Q. For getting up?

8           A. For getting up out of your bed, yes, and sometimes if  
9           you had a cold, you would be coughing and she would come  
10          out and maybe rattle your knuckles and tell you to shut  
11          up, basically. What was it? We would put the sheet,  
12          the end of the sheet, down your mouth so it would stop  
13          you coughing, but then it would make you sick. So that  
14          would be another problem as well.

15          Q. One of the things you say in your statement is that the  
16          children were terrified to get up to the toilet.

17          A. Yes, they were, they were. And that's how they wet the  
18          bed, I would imagine.

19          Q. We'll come to look at that. Did you yourself get up to  
20          go to the toilet from time to time?

21          A. Yes, I did, uh-huh.

22          Q. Can I ask you about --

23          A. It was easier. See, if you were -- whatever section you  
24          were in in the dormitory, right, if you were in the end  
25          section, which I was, then you were nearer to get out

1           that door and into the toilet without her knowing,  
2           whereas if you were in her bit, then she would know  
3           exactly every movement anyone made and she would be up.

4   LADY SMITH: You said that Sister LFH would rattle your  
5           knuckles.

6   A. Yes.

7   LADY SMITH: Tell me what that is: what do you mean by that?

8   A. She would just take your hand out of the bed and now  
9           with a cane and knock.

10   LADY SMITH: She'd have her cane with her during the night?

11   A. She always had the cane. She kept it up her sleeve.  
12           She had a white, like a thermal thing she had on, and it  
13           had sleeves and cuffs on it, and the stick would be up  
14           there, and then during the day -- it was like  
15           a bell-bottom sleeve she had, and if you did anything,  
16           running in the passage, and she caught you, she would  
17           just pull the stick out and clatter you with it. If she  
18           didn't have it, you would get it maybe across the face.

19   LADY SMITH: Thank you.

20   MR MacAULAY: Can I ask you about the arrangements over  
21           washing.

22   A. Yes.

23   Q. What you tell us is that in the juniors section there  
24           was one big place where you got washed.

25   A. Yes, that's right.

- 1 Q. Was that for the whole group?
- 2 A. That was for the green group and the red group. By that  
3 time I was in the red group because when I was in the  
4 green group somebody was looking after me, so sometimes  
5 they would just have a facecloth and rub you done and  
6 you didn't really go into the wash hand basins, but when  
7 I went to the red group, we did and we had to line up.
- 8 Q. How were the washing arrangements supervised then?
- 9 A. It was the nuns that would supervise them. The green  
10 group had the one further away and the red group had the  
11 other side. The blue group, they had -- just at the top  
12 of the stairs, they had two wash hand basins and one  
13 bath and they used that mostly. They didn't come down  
14 to the communal one.
- 15 Q. So the communal one where you were, the green and the  
16 blue groups would go?
- 17 A. No, the green and the red.
- 18 Q. What about baths?
- 19 A. In the middle section there was two baths -- at one time  
20 there were three and they must have taken one out, maybe  
21 it was leaking or something -- although they may be took  
22 it out to put a washing machine in by that time, now  
23 there was a washing machine up there and there were two  
24 baths.
- 25 When Sister [REDACTED] LFP came, the older people -- she

1           objected to us having to wash when the young ones was  
2           there and she arranged for curtains to get put up.

3           Q. Round the baths?

4           A. Yes, round the baths.

5           Q. Before that, what was the arrangement?

6           A. They were just open to everyone really.

7           Q. How was it managed then if quite a number of girls  
8           would --

9           A. We would all have to line up and we would always just  
10          have our pants on and wait for the next person. One  
11          person would go into the bath, sometimes they would put  
12          two wee ones in because that was easier for them, got  
13          them bathed and out, and eventually you would have to  
14          get bathed. I was quite lucky, I was still young then,  
15          but when Sister [LFP] came, you were going into  
16          puberty and different things and she was aware of that,  
17          and she believed about the dignity, really, and that's  
18          when she put the screens round.

19          Q. What about Sister [LFH]?

20          A. She didn't bother actually. I remember I witnessed one  
21          of the girls, [REDACTED], she had a bra on and she  
22          was quite well developed and she actually ripped it off  
23          in front of us and the poor girl was trying to cover  
24          herself with her towel and she just pulled it away from  
25          her. And we were just all standing there looking. It

1           was only when you got older, you realised what it was,  
2           that she was developing.

3           LADY SMITH: What was the problem with her wearing a bra?

4           A. I don't know what the problem was, but she didn't allow  
5           it. She more or less asked her where he she got it from  
6           and she said she'd been out at her granny's and her  
7           granny felt she needed to wear it. Even the teachers  
8           used to come in, Ms Docherty and Mr Kelly, they did the  
9           Scottish and Irish dancing, and they pointed it out at  
10          one time about some of them being developed, they should  
11          have had bras on because it didn't look right when they  
12          were dancing, but they weren't allowed to wear them.

13          MR MacAULAY: Was that Sister [REDACTED] LFH ?

14          A. That was Sister [REDACTED] LFH , uh-huh. Again, I was quite  
15          lucky, you know what I mean, I didn't come into that  
16          category for a while because I didn't develop right  
17          away, and being a twin, there was similarities.

18          Q. Coming back to the baths arrangements then, you told us  
19          that there were two or three baths depending on when you  
20          were there.

21          A. Yes.

22          Q. But how many girls would require to be bathed at the  
23          time --

24          A. The group that I was in, there was about 30 of us, so we  
25          had to get bathed, just one after the other. When

1 Sister [LFH] was there, the water wasn't changed or  
2 anything, but when Sister [LFP] came, she was aware  
3 and after maybe every tenth person, then the water would  
4 get changed.

5 Q. So when Sister [LFH] was in charge, the water wasn't  
6 changed?

7 A. No, it wasn't changed and it would be really cold by the  
8 time you got in if you were one of the last. It just  
9 depended where you were in the queue.

10 Q. How was the queue managed?

11 A. We were terrified of Sister [LFH] so you daren't move,  
12 you just sat or stood until each person was bathed and  
13 dried and away. We only had one towel for each of us,  
14 so we had to use that towel now to wash our hair as  
15 well.

16 Q. When you say you had one towel each, not one towel for  
17 everybody?

18 A. No, one towel each, uh-huh.

19 Q. But as you've told us, matters did change when  
20 Sister [LFP] --

21 A. Came, uh-huh. She was more family orientated, I would  
22 say, really. That's what she wanted, and she tried to  
23 make changes, but Sister [LFH] would interfere all the  
24 time. We always witnessed the two of them didn't get  
25 on, they were always at loggerheads with each other, and

1 it was purely Sister [LFH]'s interference. Although  
2 she was in charge of the overall --

3 Q. Who was in charge?

4 A. Sister [LFH] was in charge of the overall children's  
5 section, no matter which group you were in, but then the  
6 nuns had their own section and they weren't really  
7 allowed to do what they wanted to do with the group.

8 Q. So just to understand that, Sister [LFH] was in charge  
9 of the green group?

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. But she had also overall --

12 A. Of the other two groups as well and she made it a point  
13 that she interfered.

14 Q. So even although you had moved to Sister [LFP]'s,  
15 you couldn't escape Sister [LFH]?

16 A. No. Although Sister [LFP] was quite protective, she  
17 would tell Sister [LFH] about different things that  
18 she wasn't happy with, but then she had to watch  
19 yourself because there could be repercussions.

20 Q. Can I ask you about the food. As far as the nursery was  
21 concerned, you had a separate dining area?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Can you remember what the food was like in the nursery?

24 A. In the nursery, again, we were too young maybe to sort  
25 of bother what you were eating. We might maybe have

1           thrown it out if we didn't like it or something like  
2           that, but I never remember anything untoward that they  
3           forced us in the nursery. It was only when I went to  
4           the green group, I noticed that.

5           It didn't happen to myself, but if you didn't --  
6           sometimes the staff -- by this time they were staff  
7           coming in, and if you didn't have your dinner they would  
8           put your pudding, because we always got puddings, and  
9           they would put your pudding in the dinner you hadn't  
10          eaten and mix it around. If you still didn't eat it,  
11          you would have that when you came home from school.  
12          It would lie and lie and eventually they would get fed  
13          up, somebody would get rid of it really.

14         Q. So I can understand that, if you didn't finish your main  
15          course then are you saying that the pudding --

16         A. Was put on.

17         Q. -- mixed with it?

18         A. Yes, and that would be staff that would do that. That  
19          wasn't the nuns.

20         Q. Were the nuns aware of that practice?

21         A. I'm not really sure. Although I remember one time  
22          Sister LFP noticed it and asked why that was done,  
23          and the girl says she was too slow in eating her dinner,  
24          they had to get everything back into the kitchen. They  
25          made an excuse that was the reason, but it wasn't; it

1           was because the person didn't want to eat it. Now, they  
2           didn't maybe like -- like myself, I don't like meat, so  
3           I always struggled with that, and one of the young ones,  
4           she was a year younger than me, she was sitting beside  
5           me at meals, she would eat my dinners and I would eat  
6           her puddings and that's how we balanced it out.

7           Q. You mentioned the milk and that it wasn't --

8           A. It was just lumpy and everything, sour, really bad.

9           Q. Why was that?

10          A. It was left. I don't know if they had refrigerators,  
11          I'm not really sure. But it used to stack up in the  
12          passageway and instead of maybe giving us it at  
13          mealtimes, it was left. When it turned sour, that seems  
14          to be when we got it.

15          Q. Did you have to drink it?

16          A. Yes, we had to drink it.

17          Q. Were you in any way forced to drink it?

18          A. Yes. We were forced, uh-huh.

19          Q. How would that happen?

20          A. Well, they would say -- well, if it was at Christmastime  
21          and there were parties, if you didn't drink it, we  
22          wouldn't be allowed to go to our party, and if you were  
23          going out with people, sort of benefactors that would  
24          come and take you out, then you wouldn't be allowed to  
25          go purely because of that. So you'd be thinking the

1           good part, and that's how it would make you drink it,  
2           but sometimes you would be sick and they would ask  
3           you -- now, you had to take that as well.

4       Q.    What, the sick?

5       A.    Uh-huh.

6       Q.    What you tell us in your statement, Jennifer, is that  
7           what you ate was recorded.

8       A.    Yes.

9       Q.    Can you help me with that?

10      A.    Yes, it was like a ledger book.  Everything we got from  
11           our breakfast to our dinner -- our supper at night, it  
12           was called, they had to log that, and when  
13           Sister LFP used to go on holiday, she would leave  
14           it for me to do.

15      Q.    So you yourself did that?

16      A.    Yes.

17      Q.    And do you know what happened to the book?

18      A.    People would come in sometimes and check it out.  They  
19           would have clipboards and would come round and sometimes  
20           they would ask you what you had and did you like it.  So  
21           you just said you liked it, whether you didn't ...

22      Q.    Can I now ask you a little bit about clothing.  You do  
23           tell us about that in your statement as well, and  
24           I think you tell us a lot of the clothes you had were  
25           donated to the home.

1 A. They were -- they would be second-hand clothes mostly.  
2 I remember I was given a jacket, which was far too big  
3 for me, it was like an old woman's jacket, but there was  
4 nothing else, I just had to wear it. Then short skirts  
5 were coming in for school. My skirt was nearly hitting  
6 my ankles, and everyone would call me [REDACTED] at  
7 school. It was hurtful, you were embarrassed, but you  
8 never had anything else to wear so you just had to wear  
9 it.

10 Q. One thing you do tell us is, when you were in the  
11 juniors section, you wore the same pair of pants all  
12 week.

13 A. Yes, we did.

14 Q. And there was some procedure whereby they were examined?

15 A. Every Friday night we had to queue up, because that was  
16 the day we had to take our whole uniform off for  
17 washing. So we had to stand up, take our pants off  
18 before we took the skirts off, and Sister [REDACTED] LFH would  
19 examine it. If there was any marks on the pants, she  
20 would throw them aside, throw you aside, put them on  
21 your head and you had to stand so that everyone knew  
22 that something had been found in your pants.

23 Q. How long would you have to stand?

24 A. A good while, a good while. Until she was ready,  
25 because she was doing it to everyone. A lot of the

1 other groups as well all had to line up and it was her  
2 that did this inspection every Friday night after  
3 school.

4 Q. If she was involved with every group, then that would  
5 take a little while?

6 A. It did take a while. And there would be quite a few  
7 people lined up with their pants on their head. Why she  
8 did this, God alone knows. I just can't fathom it out  
9 really. As you were getting older, especially into  
10 puberty, you got wise to it, so you actually would wash  
11 them on the Thursday night and you would put the pants  
12 through your bed sheeting, through the blankets, put  
13 them through there, and if they weren't dry the next  
14 morning you just had to put them on because you never  
15 had another pair to put on.

16 LADY SMITH: Because otherwise, once you had started your  
17 periods, it would be impossible not to have staining on  
18 your pants.

19 A. Exactly. This was it. Again, it didn't affect me. But  
20 it did affect other people.

21 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

22 MR MacAULAY: How did you feel when standing --

23 A. We were embarrassed, humiliated. That seemed to be how  
24 she worked, this nun, really. She humiliated every  
25 chance she could.

- 1 Q. You've been telling us about Sister [LFH] and this  
2 being her regime, really across the board. What about  
3 when Sister [LFP] came on the scene?
- 4 A. We used to change in the middle of the week,  
5 a Wednesday, and we had to put our pants -- she didn't  
6 look at them. She had a basket and we all had to put  
7 our pants in there and we'd get clean pants for the next  
8 morning.
- 9 Q. So what about Sister [LFH] --
- 10 A. She continued that for a good wee while anyway.
- 11 Q. One thing you say about Sister [LFP] -- and this is  
12 in paragraph 30 of your statement -- is she had  
13 everything spot on and she coordinated colours.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Can I just understand what you mean by that?
- 16 A. Well, the likes of -- we were the red group, so she made  
17 these skirts red, now, all in red. And then to balance  
18 them off, it'd maybe be a white blouse with it or  
19 a cream blouse with it. She would coordinate colours  
20 in the sense, even in the bedroom, we all had a wee mat  
21 beside our bed. She had made these out of old fur coats  
22 that had come in. And she would dye them. Now, the  
23 three sections, one was pink, one was green and one was  
24 blue, and that's what -- she would coordinate the  
25 colours to match each other.

1 Q. Do you think that improved -- generally she improved the  
2 quality of the --

3 A. Yes, very much so, yes.

4 Q. Can I then look next with you at the schooling set-up.  
5 Let's look at primary school first of all. Where did  
6 you go for primary school?

7 A. Over the road, it was Lourdes primary. We had to cross  
8 the road so the nuns would come with us over. By that  
9 time, later on it was, the lollipop man came and he  
10 would put us over.

11 Q. How was schooling?

12 A. Good. We enjoyed school.

13 Q. Were you different from the other girls at school?

14 A. Yes. We had pinafores and the blouses we wore and it  
15 was like a wee rose on it, blue spotted and that, so  
16 we were quite identifiable that we were the convent  
17 girls.

18 Q. One thing you say in your statement is if anything went  
19 wrong in the school the convent girls got the blame.

20 A. We did, very much so -- more so in the secondary school.  
21 The primary school wasn't as bad, but at the secondary  
22 school seemed to identify that the convent girls did  
23 everything. If anything went missing, they would blame  
24 us as well. I think I said Miss LGF used to take  
25 us for tennis on a Saturday morning and it was the

1 school she used. One time, we didn't go for all the  
2 balls sitting there, the gym had been broken into and  
3 all the tennis balls were stolen, and right away at  
4 assembly they got the convent girls to stand aside and  
5 they blamed us. I went home and I said to  
6 Sister [REDACTED] LFH , and she went out -- I was surprised she  
7 went out and told them straight that we hadn't been over  
8 there and no way, they would know if we had come in with  
9 a tennis ball and if we had stolen it and it wasn't  
10 ours.

11 Q. What you're saying is that Sister [REDACTED] LFH was standing  
12 up for you in effect?

13 A. She did, she stood up in that respect. But she was  
14 well-known to the school. The teachers, I think, were  
15 a bit scared because sometimes she would go over and  
16 I think she did the Riot Act with them.

17 Q. I'll look at this later with you, but there came a point  
18 in time when your sister left Nazareth House, and  
19 I think you were both aged about 11 or so at the time;  
20 is that correct?

21 A. Yes, that's right.

22 Q. That did have an impact on yourself?

23 A. Oh, it did, uh-huh. I was traumatised. I became quite  
24 rebellious, purely because when they put her away, they  
25 didn't say where she was and the school, they seen

1 a marked difference in me from a very quiet person to  
2 this monster, really. The phoned over and would say  
3 that I hadn't done my homework, which I would always  
4 normally do. And one of my form teachers, she offered  
5 to go over to the nuns and ask where my sister was and  
6 try and get the two of us put back together. They were  
7 absolutely shocked that they could do something like  
8 that.

9 But I said it would be no good, they wouldn't  
10 listen. They wouldn't listen to me where she was, they  
11 wouldn't tell me where she was or anything.

12 Q. But in relation to that, I think you tell us at  
13 paragraph 35 that Sister [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED] was of some  
14 assistance to you.

15 A. Yes. Well, Sister [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED], she was asking me to do  
16 things, she always relied on me a lot to help out with  
17 the children. When this happened, I refused, I wouldn't  
18 do anything for her, and I said, "That's your job", type  
19 of thing, I was sort of rude to her and everything. So  
20 finally she caught on, because it went on for months,  
21 really, and eventually she pulled me aside and said to  
22 me that if I didn't pipe down, she knew what I was up  
23 to -- I thought that I was going to get put to the place  
24 my sister was -- well, I wouldn't, I would get put  
25 somewhere else if I didn't do as I was told. And she

1 more or less said it was for LBN 's good that she was  
2 put away and she would look after me and help me out in  
3 every way and she said I could ask her anything and she  
4 would be willing to help me in any way.

5 And she did, actually, she encouraged me, especially  
6 in secondary school, to get my homework, to get my  
7 exams, and if I was first in class at school, they would  
8 take me out to Links House in Stockwell Street, it was  
9 a warehouse, and I could choose what I wanted, maybe if  
10 the nun suggested I needed a new hat, I could get a new  
11 hat or a new coat, and then one of the times it was  
12 a bathing suit, so that was encouraging for me.

13 LADY SMITH: Had you any idea where your sister had gone?

14 A. No, never.

15 LADY SMITH: Had you any idea why she had left?

16 A. I didn't until before that; I think we'll come to that.

17 She had been interfered with, with one of the  
18 benefactors, and she had told them, and they didn't  
19 believe her. They caned her -- oh, she was black and  
20 blue. I don't want to go into too much detail at the  
21 a moment. I think that's going to come --

22 LADY SMITH: You have since discovered that, but at the time  
23 you had no idea?

24 A. No idea.

25 LADY SMITH: And you were 11?

1 A. Yes.

2 LADY SMITH: And you had been with your sister since birth?

3 A. Yes.

4 LADY SMITH: And you were twins?

5 A. Yes.

6 MR MacAULAY: Just to round up what you're saying about

7 Sister [REDACTED] LFP, what you say in your statement is she

8 became your mentor; is that what you meant --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- and what you've just been telling us about?

11 A. Yes. I relied on her a lot and even -- I kept

12 continuity with her until she died, really. I could

13 phone her up, even when I was married, and speak to her

14 if maybe my husband and I had an argument or something

15 and she would listen. She would look on the holy side

16 of it rather than what I was looking for, really, but it

17 was good to even just talk to her.

18 Q. This then would have been after you were 11 --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- that this happened? How long do you think you were

21 in this sort of rebellious frame of mind?

22 A. It went on for months. Even my friends at school were

23 absolutely shocked that I was allowed to do this, even

24 at school. I started running around with one of the

25 girls that was a known -- to get into trouble a lot, and

1 I started running around with her, whereas before  
2 I would have kept my distance from her, really.

3 Q. In any event, you did well at school?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. In particular, you excelled in maths, and that's why  
6 I think you went down the accountancy route in due  
7 course.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Can I ask you about homework though? Did you have the  
10 opportunity to get on with your homework?

11 A. Yes. Maybe -- we used to -- now, in primary school,  
12 when we came in from school, we had to sit down in the  
13 playroom, there was big tables, and then obviously,  
14 after that, we would have to go and get our uniform  
15 changed, and get ready for supper. But I was still  
16 young at the time, so I could do that. But if you were  
17 older and you had wee ones to look after then it was  
18 more difficult, especially in secondary school. I had  
19 an awful lot of homework to do and sometimes I never got  
20 it done before I went to bed. So one of my friends at  
21 school give me a torch and if I only had to do reading,  
22 then I could do it under the covers so hopefully none of  
23 the nuns would notice. And other times if it was essays  
24 I had to write, I had to go into the toilet when  
25 everyone went to their bed and do it in the toilet.

1 Q. Let's look at leisure time and focus in particular on  
2 when you were in the juniors section. Did you have toys  
3 in the juniors section that you can remember?

4 A. I can't really remember, but I did remember, just after  
5 I came over from the juniors section, I had building  
6 blocks and I was trying to get them up in a line type of  
7 thing, I think it was, and I finally did it after quite  
8 a lot of attempts. I always remember shouting to  
9 Sister **LFH**, "Sister, sister, look, I've done it,  
10 I've done it", and she just came over, grabbed me,  
11 kicked the bricks down, and said she wasn't there to  
12 look after me in every movement that I was doing, and  
13 just pushed me aside. That sort of bothered me at that  
14 time and I never, ever made my attention known to her  
15 after that.

16 So we must have had some kind of toys, but not  
17 a lot.

18 Q. What about books, did you have books?

19 A. Yes, I was a bit of a bookworm, even when I was younger,  
20 and I could go and sit and sort of read a book without  
21 anyone bothering me. At one point they said I could  
22 read the cornflake box upside down, which I thought was  
23 quite funny, but that was their expression, really.

24 Q. Sister **LFH**, I think you tell us, was musical.

25 A. Yes, very musical.

1 Q. She encouraged you in music, did she?

2 A. She did, actually. She took the choir and that was on

3 a Wednesday night that we had the choir. We had to

4 learn Latin for the Latin Mass, to sing the Latin Mass.

5 And the hymns as well, a lot of them were in Latin at

6 that time. So she more or less taught us the Latin

7 really for the hymns and the Mass.

8 Q. But musical instruments --

9 A. Yes, the violin. She played the organ and the piano

10 type of thing. Mr Foley used to come in and I was lucky

11 to get the chance of learning the violin and then I used

12 to play the cello as well.

13 Q. How good did you become?

14 A. I excelled [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED].

16 Q. What about playing outside?

17 A. Yes, we used to go to orchestras -- oh, you mean leisure

18 time?

19 Q. Yes, leisure time.

20 A. Outside we had a yard and one time we were playing

21 heights, with a rope to jump over it. We must have been

22 making too much noise and Sister [REDACTED] LFH came and pulled

23 it all down and everything and told us to get back to

24 our own groups. Now, it was only one yard, so all the

25 children from the different groups would go in and

1           that's when we would meet with friends and that. Then  
2           sometimes if we had got a new hymn to learn, we would  
3           link arms and go round and we would be singing at the  
4           top of our voices this new hymn. But she seemed to  
5           accommodate that rather than she would with ordinary  
6           things like the sports.

7           Q. Okay. Again, I think you've told us she was musical,  
8           that was one of her things.

9           A. Yes. She was a good gardener as well.

10          Q. Television, you were able to watch television?

11          A. Yes, we did watch television. The Lone Ranger on  
12          a Saturday morning.

13          Q. And on a Saturday, I think you also tell us, that once  
14          you had done your work, you were able to go into the  
15          town?

16          A. Yes, but that was later on. We never got pocket money  
17          when I was younger. I was in my teens by that time.  
18          Again, it could have been the 1964 Child Act and that's  
19          when we got pocket money, but we didn't get it before  
20          that.

21          Q. So far as pocket money was concerned, can you say how  
22          much you got?

23          A. About sixpence.

24          Q. You do provide us with some details of the sort of work  
25          you had to do. You've already given us an insight into

1 that, in particular looking after the younger children.

2 I think you made your beds and that was an  
3 understandable thing --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- you thought. But you also had to brush and polish  
6 the bedroom; is that right?

7 A. Yes. That was a Saturday morning as well. And we had  
8 to have that done and the nun would come and check it  
9 out, that there was no dust or anything, not done  
10 properly. If there was, we didn't get our pocket money.  
11 But if everything was fine then we would get our packet  
12 money and go out for two hours.

13 Q. If it was Sister [LFH] who was doing the  
14 examination --

15 A. She always found something. She never left you alone.  
16 Always found something.

17 Q. And what would happen then?

18 A. Sometimes we would get caned and other times then she  
19 would find a fault in the passageway outside the  
20 bedrooms and we would have to sweep, wash and polish it,  
21 really, and you had to slide up and down to make the red  
22 tiles nice and bright.

23 Q. You have mentioned caning once or twice. So far as  
24 Sister [LFH] was concerned, how did she cane a child?

25 A. She would hit you on your hand -- anywhere, really, your

1 knuckles. At one time I remember I had done something  
2 and it was the back of my legs and it was the summertime  
3 and I had to wear wellingtons going to school and my  
4 teacher asked me what had happened and I wouldn't tell  
5 me and I just said I couldn't find my shoes and then,  
6 later on, we were doing something and she said to me,  
7 "Take off those wellingtons, they're far too hot for  
8 you", and I thought, I can't, because I had the welts on  
9 the back of my leg. So I finally relented and that's  
10 when she saw it and she asked what had happened and  
11 I said, "Because I was running along the corridor, I got  
12 the cane for it". And she went, "Running along the  
13 corridor?" She couldn't understand that. And I said,  
14 "We weren't allowed to run". But I said -- sometimes  
15 they would give you a message to go down to the kitchen  
16 and in your mind that was all you were interested in, to  
17 remember this message, to get what you had to get, and  
18 to get back as quickly as possible, so you did run.

19 Q. You had holidays and trips as well when you were there.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And Largs was one place you went to; is that right?

22 A. Yes, that was only for a day. We would go for a day  
23 trip and we would take sandwiches and everything down to  
24 the beach.

25 Q. But you also went to Nazareth House Aberdeen?

- 1 A. Yes, that was the holiday time we went.
- 2 Q. Was that in the summertime?
- 3 A. Yes, and they would come to our convent.
- 4 Q. So there was a sort of swapping over?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. How many of the groups would to Aberdeen at one time?
- 7 All of them?
- 8 A. Everyone would go to Aberdeen and then we all would go
- 9 back to Cardonald and the Aberdeen group would go. If
- 10 we were first to go up there, which is more than likely,
- 11 then the buses that took us up, they would take the
- 12 Aberdeen people down.
- 13 Q. And what did do you when you were in Aberdeen?
- 14 A. Well, we would go to the beach every day. Rain, hail or
- 15 snow, we were at the beach. Sometimes it could be quite
- 16 cold, but they had huts on the beach and the nuns would
- 17 sit in there. They would have the sandwiches, there'd
- 18 be sandwiches made, and they would be put in the hut.
- 19 Sometimes if it was really warm, then they would put
- 20 down in the sand, but by the time you'd get your
- 21 sandwich sometimes it was all full of sand and that, but
- 22 you still had to eat it. So that could be quite grubby.
- 23 Q. You also tell us about the arrangements with the taxi
- 24 companies who would come and take the children out for
- 25 the day.

1 A. Yes, that was in June, that was Teelay(?) Taxis.

2 Q. Did you go on these trips?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Would the taxi drivers give you anything at the end of

5 the --

6 A. Yes, at the end of the day we got a box full of sweets

7 and everything and when we got back to the convent they

8 would be taken off us. When I was in the green group

9 they were put in a cupboard and they were left to rot,

10 you never got them. But when we went to the red group,

11 all the boxes were split and it was in that box -- each

12 item, we had enough for each of us to get and every day

13 when we would go to school, Sister [REDACTED] LFP would give

14 us a packet of sweets or something and sometimes

15 we would swap it with a pal at school to get chewing gum

16 because we weren't allowed chewing gum.

17 Q. You tell us at the age of 10 that you went to stay in

18 the houses of what you refer to as benefactors.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And you went to a particular family; is that right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Was that once or more than once?

23 A. Well, the particular families, it would be just

24 a one-off type thing until the [REDACTED] came. I was about

25 13 at the time. They came round with the nuns and they

1 chose me. By that time LBN wasn't there. I was one  
2 of the tallest and they came over and were speaking to  
3 me and asked me how I liked school. You were just  
4 telling them exactly how you felt. Then afterwards, the  
5 nun came back and they said to me that they had chosen  
6 me to go on holiday with them when the summer came.  
7 I was quite pleased at this because the chap seemed to  
8 be a really nice guy. He was more outgoing than his  
9 wife.

10 She says, once you've finished school, you can go,  
11 and I went for two weeks, the first time, and then after  
12 that I would go for the month of July.

13 Q. Did that stay the position --

14 A. That stayed. I went with them every time then.

15 Q. Until what age?

16 A. Well, right up to I was 16 or 17, because I was 17 when  
17 they said that I went -- I was fostered but when I was  
18 about 13 or 14, they asked to foster me, but they  
19 realised I had a twin and they asked where she was and  
20 the nuns basically denied that I had a twin, and the guy  
21 said to me, "Are you fantasising that you've got this  
22 twin?" and I said, no, she was there. It was like, "Oh  
23 my gosh", and he says, "Well, sister said she wasn't  
24 there". Then my friend came in with her mother and her  
25 uncle and I said to her, "Haven't I got a twin?" and she

1           went, "Yeah", and he says to her, "Where is she?" and  
2           she says, "She was put away, we don't know where she  
3           is", and he was quite shocked by that. So that was then  
4           he said he wouldn't take me without the other.

5           Q. And that didn't happen?

6           A. That didn't happen.

7           Q. What about your birthdays when you were in the junior  
8           section? Were --

9           A. They weren't really celebrated or anything like that.  
10          Sometimes you would know it was your birthday, but that  
11          was it. And maybe at school, if your friends knew, they  
12          would give you something.

13                 But when we went to the red group, Sister LFP  
14          would maybe give you a wee packet of sweets or something  
15          to recognise that it was your birthday and you would  
16          maybe get a new ribbon in your hair or something like  
17          that.

18          Q. What about Christmas?

19          A. At Christmastime -- do you mean parties, et cetera?

20          Q. Yes, parties and presents.

21          A. Uh-huh, yes, we would get presents at the party.

22          Unfortunately, Sister LFH's writing was pretty bad,  
23          it was very, very big, but sometimes you found it  
24          difficult to read, and obviously sometimes they would --  
25          I always got a boy's present, like a model aeroplane or

1 something. And I remember one of the times at the  
2 Lewis' party, the person that was with me, she went up  
3 and she said, "She's not a boy", and they said, "They  
4 said it was Michael", and I said, "No, I'm not Michael".  
5 So they went away and they asked me what did I need and  
6 I said a pair of slippers. So that's what I got, a pair  
7 of slippers and I kept them.

8 Q. Can I ask you about visits. I think for those children  
9 who had parents, parents would come and visit?

10 A. Uh-huh.

11 Q. But you wouldn't have had visits from family members?

12 A. No.

13 Q. I think you tell us that the Knights of St Columba would  
14 come; is that correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Would you have the opportunity of speaking to them when  
17 they came?

18 A. Yes. It was every month, the visiting was. It was down  
19 in the playgroup; right? So one from each group, we had  
20 to stand and when the visitors came in, we would have to  
21 ask who they wanted to see and then we would have to go  
22 up and say to the nun in the group and they would get  
23 the child ready and would bring the child down to them.  
24 Then sometimes if you didn't -- now, the other two girls  
25 would have visitors, so I would be the one left and that

1           was when the Knights of St Columba asked me, "Did anyone  
2           come?" and I said no and they took us on then. Every  
3           time they came up, it was once a month again,  
4           a different person would come in and see you.

5       Q.    Would they take you out?

6       A.    Yes, sometimes they would take us out because one time  
7           I went to Whitley Bay with them.

8       Q.    I think you tell us in your statement that what we would  
9           refer to now as social workers weren't involved with  
10          you, certainly when you were younger, but did that  
11          change as time went on?

12      A.    No. That was the same all the time. We never had any  
13          social workers. I know other girls, even some of my  
14          friends in the convent, they had social workers coming  
15          to see them.

16      Q.    You do tell us about people who came round with  
17          a clipboard --

18      A.    Yes, that's right.

19      Q.    -- and asked questions?

20      A.    Uh-huh.

21      Q.    And indeed asked questions when the nuns weren't there;  
22          is that right?

23      A.    Yes, they came back. They were with the nuns and then  
24          I don't know where the nuns went and they came back and  
25          they were asking us information. Some of us were too

1           scared to say anything and it was maybe what we had for  
2           dinner or did we have enough toys to play with and that.  
3           Now, you were too scared to let them know really, but  
4           other ones were a bit more brazen and they would just  
5           say, "I'm just telling them straight", and they would  
6           tell them and they would write it down.

7           Q.   What would they tell them?

8           A.   That they didn't have enough toys or they didn't like  
9           the food, and it was written down.

10          Q.   You also tell us a little bit about healthcare in your  
11          statement.

12          A.   Yes.

13          Q.   You were quite a sickly child.

14          A.   I was, yes, for some unknown reason.  I remember one of  
15          the times I had a bad cold and I had a sore throat and  
16          Sister [REDACTED] LFP said to me to stay in bed.

17          Sister [REDACTED] LFH, she came in, took it upon herself to  
18          drag me out of the bed to get ready to go to school and  
19          to go to school.  And when I went to school, they  
20          realised I wasn't well, they sent me home.  This went on  
21          for nearly a week, every day.  That's the way she was,

22          Sister [REDACTED] LFP, she would say, "Just stay in your  
23          bed", and she would bring me something up for my

24          breakfast and Sister [REDACTED] LFH didn't like it.  She would  
25          drag me out of the bed and send me to school.

- 1 Q. How did that end up?
- 2 A. Well, it ended up -- obviously, she got her way,  
3 Sister **LFH**. Eventually I got better and that was  
4 it, really.
- 5 Q. You tell us a little bit about checking each other's  
6 hair for head lice.
- 7 A. That was a Saturday morning. Everything happened on  
8 a Saturday morning. We had to look at each other's head  
9 and if there was any nits you had to take it out and  
10 sometimes there was crawly things and then  
11 Sister **LFH** would have a look. If she found  
12 anything, nine times out of ten she would, you would get  
13 caned for not doing your job properly.
- 14 Q. Going back to the caning, can you help me with that?  
15 How would she cane you on these occasions?
- 16 A. Just on your shins, your legs and your arms and your  
17 hands. I can never remember ever putting out my hand to  
18 get the cane; it was just taken out and it was on your  
19 knuckles or on your legs, on whatever, whatever part of  
20 the body she wanted to cane you.
- 21 Q. What about dental treatment, was there a --
- 22 A. A Mr **LGG** came in. He had a practice in Bath Street  
23 and he would come in. He was quite brutal. Every one  
24 of us hated him, we were scared. But it wasn't always  
25 you went. You were chosen to go, it would be your turn

1 or something, they would say to go to the dentist and  
2 you went.

3 But when I started work, I was at [REDACTED]  
4 actually and I remember I went in to see him in  
5 [REDACTED] to get some dental work done and my friend  
6 came with me from work. When he was putting the seat  
7 back, he put his hands on my breast and I told him to  
8 get away, he was a dirty old man, and I said, probably  
9 you've been doing that in Nazareth House and got away  
10 with it.

11 Q. This episode you're telling us about was after you left?

12 A. That was after I had left, yes.

13 Q. What information, instruction did you get when you began  
14 to menstruate, have your periods?

15 A. I didn't take them until I was 18, so it didn't really  
16 affect me. By that time I knew exactly what it was all  
17 about and I could go and get my own stuff, really.

18 Can I correct you, Colin? When I went to him,  
19 Mr [REDACTED] LGG, the dentist, I was still living in the  
20 convent and I was out -- I was working two days a week  
21 there and I was at Stow College for the other.

22 Q. So this is before you were 21 then?

23 A. Yes, that's before I was 21.

24 Q. Can I now look at aspects of discipline and treatment in  
25 general and how you were treated. In the nursery,

1 do you have any recollection of what discipline  
2 involved?

3 A. Well, if we did anything, I think they would just slap  
4 us on the bum rather than anything else. But I can't  
5 remember ever, ever being disciplined to the extent that  
6 we were when we went to the juniors section. Nothing  
7 pops out untowards.

8 Q. Can you remember then what happened when you first went  
9 into the juniors section?

10 A. Yes. When we went over that night, it was just at  
11 suppertime and Sister LFH was sort of waiting for us  
12 and it was like as though we were the pets in the  
13 nursery, we were allowed to run riot, as she put it.  
14 And she says, but now that she was in charge of us, she  
15 would make sure we would do as we're told.

16 She separated my sister down to the other end of the  
17 dining room and I was up at the front. And she told me  
18 to join my hands to say the grace. While I was doing  
19 it, something happened and I happened to turn round and  
20 she slapped me across the face and then she pulled my  
21 hair because I cried out. And more or less: you won't  
22 do that again in a hurry.

23 Q. In the nursery were you quite well-known as the twins?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Did she focus on this in any way when --

1 A. She did. She had it out for us, basically, you know  
2 what I mean, really. We were sort of an icon there in  
3 the nursery. People used to come in to speak to the  
4 twins and to see the twins for some unknown reason.  
5 I felt [LFH] was jealous about this, really. We  
6 didn't have any jurisdiction on it. Now, we were  
7 getting brought up, we didn't know how we were getting  
8 brought up, and it was up to the people that were  
9 looking after us what they wanted to do. But we paid  
10 a heavy price for that, really, and my sister especially  
11 purely because she was a bit of a tomboy and she would  
12 get up to mischief, but it was harmless mischief she  
13 would get up to, and Sister [LFH] would get a hold of  
14 her and really smack her and cane her for no reason  
15 sometimes, really.

16 Q. You say that Sister [LFH] ruled with an iron fist.

17 A. She did.

18 Q. And she kept her cane up her long sleeve as you told us  
19 before?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. What would she do with the cane if she was going to  
22 punish you with the cane?

23 A. She just pulled it out. Whatever part of the body was  
24 the nearest, that's how she would do it. Sometimes it  
25 was harder than other times.

1 Q. For what reason would you be getting the cane?

2 A. Really -- you would get it for running along the  
3 passageway. Sometimes a group of us used to be quite  
4 friendly and we would start giggling and different  
5 things. You would get excited, so the giggling would be  
6 quiet loud and she would come out and she would choose  
7 who she wanted. All of us wouldn't get the cane, it was  
8 just whoever she chose.

9 Then if we were in a group, we would all be talking  
10 together and of course it would get quite loud because  
11 we were excited, really, about whatever we were saying  
12 or doing.

13 Q. Do you know why a particular child would be selected as  
14 the person who --

15 A. I felt it was people that didn't have anyone to complain  
16 to. She seemed to treat us differently from the other  
17 people, especially families that came in and the parents  
18 were noted to maybe come in every week to see them.  
19 Because -- although it was a monthly visiting time, but  
20 some parents had access to their children more than  
21 others.

22 Q. You've already told us about the welts that were on your  
23 legs. Were you left with other marks because of what  
24 happened?

25 A. Yes, we would have bruising. One of the times, for no

1 reason that I got the cane, and I was just there at the  
2 wrong time because she was a frustrated woman, I felt.  
3 It was the knuckles and I couldn't hold my pen at  
4 school. The teacher asked me what had happened and  
5 I told her and she said, "But you must have been doing  
6 something to get it", and I went, "No, I was doing  
7 nothing". She couldn't understand this. She was quite  
8 new because in primary school you had a different  
9 teacher maybe every year when you were going up in the  
10 classes, so she would be quite new to you and maybe  
11 didn't have a convent girl in the previous class she  
12 came from. In my primary school there was four of us  
13 in the class, so we were quite well known, with coming  
14 into school with marks.

15 Q. Did anyone ever do anything about it so far as you're  
16 aware?

17 A. I don't think so, you know what I mean. I told you  
18 Sister LFH would come in sometimes to the school and  
19 I know the teachers realised what type of person she  
20 was. She didn't mince her words with the teachers or  
21 the headmaster. Because when we went to secondary  
22 school, when I didn't do my homework, I remember I was  
23 sent down to Miss McClusky, she was the deputy head, and  
24 she said to -- she threatened me actually about not  
25 doing my homework and she was going to phone over to

1           Sister [LFH], and I said, "Don't, don't, she'll cane  
2           me", and she says, "Well, that's what you need", because  
3           I didn't do my homework. I tried to explain why  
4           sometimes we didn't do our homework, although I always  
5           managed, but when my sister was taken away from me,  
6           I thought by doing that that would encourage them to put  
7           me away as well.

8           Q. You have mentioned the cane. Did Sister [LFH] use any  
9           other implements?

10          A. Yes, sometimes -- she had a big belt round her waist and  
11          sometimes she would -- if it was easy enough to come off  
12          and she didn't have the cane, which was very rarely,  
13          then she would strap you, and that strap was worse than  
14          the cane sometimes. It was a big thick black strap.

15          Q. Where would she strap you?

16          A. Again, on the body, legs, arms.

17          Q. You mention in your statement the back of a knife.

18          A. Yes. Mostly my sister got that, mostly. I never got it  
19          on my knuckles, but yeah, my sister did and I witnessed  
20          it.

21          Q. I was going to ask you that. Did you witness your  
22          sister being caned or struck by Sister [LFH] in  
23          particular?

24          A. Yes, we did. What I would say was that the children  
25          witnessed each other being disciplined. The nuns were

1 never there. The other nuns in the groups would be  
2 doing their own thing. It was only Sister [LFH] and  
3 she was the most person that would be giving this  
4 discipline for no reason. It was severe punishment,  
5 unnecessary.

6 Q. But you've mentioned Sister [LFP]; would she know?

7 A. Uh-huh, yes, I reckon she did, she did know, really,  
8 because she would shake her head sometimes and I think  
9 she had words with Sister [LFH] for doing it to her  
10 group, really, because when Sister [LFP] was  
11 displeased with something you did, she would take you by  
12 the arm, she would nip you underneath to let you know  
13 that she was unhappy with what you had done and then  
14 sometimes she would take you by the ear and pull you  
15 along the corridor or the room and say, "I'm not happy  
16 with what you've done, you'll just sit there and  
17 meditate on what you have done so you won't do it  
18 again".

19 Q. So that was the way she --

20 A. She never, ever hurt us, ever.

21 Q. I think we may have touched on this, but you have  
22 mentioned Sister [LFH] was musical and she, I think,  
23 took the choir?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Did any issues arise when she was in charge of the

- 1           choir?
- 2       A.   Yes.  When we would have to sing the High Mass, that  
3           would be early in the morning and it would be maybe  
4           Easter time or Christmastime, type of thing.  If you  
5           didn't reach the high note at the blessing, she would  
6           come round with the cane and slap your knuckles with it.  
7           And of course, if you cried out you would get another  
8           dose of it.  That was in the church she would do this  
9           just because you didn't reach the high note.  But  
10          it would be difficult because we hadn't eaten or had any  
11          tea or anything before we went to church, so to try and  
12          sing after being in bed all night, it was quite  
13          difficult.
- 14       Q.  I think one thing you do say is that at least in the  
15          music context, she could be a different person.
- 16       A.  She was, she was in her element and everything.  You  
17          seen a different person.  I don't know whether we could  
18          approach her, but we could see her smiling and now sort  
19          of tapping her feet with the music and everything like  
20          that.  She did encourage us to do well in the music  
21          because she would arrange with Mr **LKN** about us going  
22          to sessions, et cetera, and then St Thomas Aquinas had  
23          a good orchestra and some of us would go there to play  
24          in the orchestra.
- 25       Q.  You tell us about an incident where someone gave you

1 a yo-yo.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What age were you then?

4 A. I was about maybe 12 -- no, even maybe about 11. It was  
5 one of the girls at school, they had just come out and  
6 she'd given me a yo-yo and we were sitting watching the  
7 Lone Ranger, and I had the yo-yo and I was birling it  
8 round all the time and eventually the string snapped and  
9 the yo-yo hit the screen of the television.

10 Well, I was grabbed behind from my chair and put  
11 into the corner and got the cane because I did that, but  
12 I didn't break the screen or anything, it just happened,  
13 it was an accident.

14 Q. Who did that to you?

15 A. Sister LFH.

16 Q. How long were you in the corner for?

17 A. All day. Because in the afternoon, after you would have  
18 your -- the Lone Ranger, that would be morning  
19 sometimes, we seen that. Then we would have to go to  
20 dinner. If you were in the corner, you didn't get your  
21 dinner because she would forget that you were in the  
22 corner, but you weren't allowed to leave until she told  
23 you.

24 Q. Was the corner treatment quite a regular form of  
25 treatment?

1 A. It was in a sense because, see, if you wet the bed, then  
2 they would put the sheet over their heads and they would  
3 stand you in a corner. They could be there all day.

4 Q. I'll just come to that in a moment.

5 LADY SMITH: Sorry, just going back to your Lone Ranger and  
6 television incident, I think you said earlier that's  
7 something you'd watch on a Saturday morning.

8 A. Yes.

9 LADY SMITH: Is that correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 LADY SMITH: And your memory is that after that incident  
12 with the yo-yo, you were left in the corner right  
13 through to the evening?

14 A. Yes.

15 LADY SMITH: Is that right?

16 A. Uh-huh, yes. Because she would forget about you. To  
17 me, I don't think she had the best of memory.

18 LADY SMITH: Why didn't you just take yourself off?

19 A. See, if you did, sometimes she would remember, so this  
20 is what you had to sort of play up -- or sometimes, see  
21 the staff -- the staff could be quite -- they would try  
22 and keep in with the nuns, so then they would do what  
23 the nuns would think -- think they would be happy with  
24 by doing that. So then they would interfere.

25 LADY SMITH: Okay.

1 MR MacAULAY: You've told us already about going out to stay  
2 with benefactors.

3 A. Uh-huh.

4 Q. I think your sister and a friend also went to stay with  
5 the same benefactors; is that correct?

6 A. Yes, that was the [REDACTED] LGH/SPO in Kirkintilloch.

7 Q. Did something happen that you heard about?

8 A. Yes. While we were there -- it was [REDACTED] and I, one of  
9 the other girls --

10 Q. That's when you were out with the [REDACTED] LGH/SPO ?

11 A. Yes, we went for a fortnight with them. When we were  
12 there, [REDACTED] wakened up during the night and the man  
13 was in between us. She asked what he was doing and he  
14 said he'd come in for a heat, so I was sleeping so  
15 I didn't see this. It was only in the morning when  
16 [REDACTED] said to me and I thought it was summertime, it's  
17 not cold, but we never thought anything of it.

18 Q. What age were you at that time?

19 A. We would be about 9 maybe. About 9, maybe going on to  
20 10 really. So then she phoned and they asked could they  
21 keep us because two we used to take the wee girl out.

22 Q. Is she Mrs [REDACTED] ?

23 A. Yes. Say when you went out to work, because she used to  
24 bring other men into the house and told us not to say  
25 anything to him. She would send us out to the park, it

1 didn't matter whether it was wet or not, with a piece  
2 and jam, and we would have to look after the wee girl,  
3 who was about 2 years of age, [REDACTED] her name was, and  
4 then we discovered Mrs [REDACTED]'s sister was the  
5 manageress in [REDACTED] in Kirkintilloch, so when it was  
6 really wet, we would go down to see her and take us into  
7 her office, and maybe give us sweets and juice and that.

8 One time Mrs [REDACTED] bought strawberry tarts and  
9 this was for her man friend. She sent us out to the  
10 park, we took the strawberry tarts with us, and when we  
11 came back -- she didn't hit us or anything, but let us  
12 know how mad she was at what we had done, and I said,  
13 well, they were there and we just thought they were for  
14 us, but they weren't.

15 Q. But you were there for two weeks on that occasion?

16 A. Yes, two weeks.

17 Q. And you've mentioned the episode that [REDACTED] told you  
18 about. Did anything else happen so far as you remember?

19 A. This was, like two days before we were going away, so  
20 I felt when my sister and [REDACTED] went with  
21 her -- he left off to start where he left it off with  
22 us. I think that's what happened there because my  
23 sister wakened up and her pyjamas were down and he was  
24 interfering with her.

25 Q. Can I just put that to one side for the moment. When

1           you got back from the [REDACTED] LGH/SPO [REDACTED] to the home did you  
2           meet Sister [REDACTED] LFH [REDACTED] ?

3           A.   Yes.  Sister [REDACTED] LFH [REDACTED], she sent us to our bed because we  
4           had been crying that Mrs [REDACTED] says we didn't want  
5           to come back and we said we did want to come back, it  
6           was them that wanted to keep us.  It was purely because  
7           she could do what she liked and she knew she could rely  
8           on us going to the park and us coming home at  
9           a reasonable time.  So she was really using us to her  
10          advantage and that.

11          Q.  Did you at that point or subsequently you with your  
12          friend [REDACTED] mention what [REDACTED] had experienced.

13          A.  No, we didn't mention it at that particular time.  It  
14          was when it happened to my sister and [REDACTED].  
15          They wouldn't stay and they phoned back to say that they  
16          didn't want the two of them and they were sending them  
17          back, and I met [REDACTED] LJX [REDACTED] -- that was one of the  
18          older staff -- and she said to me, "Your sister's in for  
19          a walloping", more or less, "She's getting sent back".  
20          And I went, "why?" "Because they were misbehaving", and  
21          she said, "I don't understand why they two were put  
22          together", that was [REDACTED], because the two of  
23          them were quite friendly and did get into trouble in the  
24          convent.  So it was a bit crazy to put the two of them  
25          together, but that's what happened.

1           So before my sister and [REDACTED] came back with  
2           LJX -- because [REDACTED] LJX went for us. She  
3           had to go to Buchanan Street bus station and collect us  
4           and left my sister and [REDACTED] with Mrs [REDACTED] and  
5           she took them home. Then she was going to  
6           Buchanan Street bus station to collect them and before  
7           they came in, Sister LFH and Mother LGE sent for  
8           [REDACTED] and I. They asked us how we found the  
9           LGH/SPO. I said I didn't like the man, he was  
10          always wanting to kiss you and sit you on his lap and  
11          I said I didn't like that at all, I didn't want near him  
12          really. He was smarmy, something like that. And [REDACTED]  
13          mentioned him being in the bed and Sister LFH  
14          slapped her across the face and said she was lying. And  
15          of course I couldn't back that up because I didn't see  
16          it. But I said I would believe that she was telling the  
17          truth.

18          Then, just then, my sister came in with [REDACTED] and  
19          also LJX, and [REDACTED] LJX was saying to me  
20          -- and we were standing there and Sister LFH had the  
21          cane ready for them and the two of them were absolutely  
22          black and blue. And I started screaming just for her to  
23          stop, that they were going to kill her, really, and  
24          Mother LGE came over and threw the two of us out of  
25          the room and told us to get to our beds.



- 1 Q. What did they say?
- 2 A. They turned round and she said that she wakened up and  
3 he was in the bed with them and her pyjama bottoms were  
4 down and he was fondling.
- 5 Q. Who was --
- 6 A. Mr [REDACTED] LGH .
- 7 Q. Who is talking there, who's saying that?
- 8 A. My sister, and [REDACTED] said the same thing, that it had  
9 happened to her on two occasions before it happened to  
10 my sister.
- 11 Q. Was this episode quite close to when your sister left?
- 12 A. Yes, it was, actually. Purely because when -- she came  
13 back and she was warned not to say anything to anyone,  
14 but she did say at school to some of her friends and  
15 they said she should go to the police, but she was too  
16 scared, and so would I have been too scared, because we  
17 didn't really know much about the facts of life.
- 18 A couple of months after this happened, [REDACTED]  
19 disappeared and none of us knew where she was. I would  
20 say about a month later, that's when they put my sister  
21 away.
- 22 Q. I'll come to that in a moment. Was there a point this  
23 time when Sister [REDACTED] LFH left the convent?
- 24 A. Yes, she took a heart attack and left, and that was  
25 about 1962.

1 Q. What age were you then?

2 A. 13 or 12.

3 Q. Did that change then in relation --

4 A. The regime changed completely. Sister [REDACTED] LFL came  
5 and she was good.

6 Q. I want to ask you now about bed-wetting and that's  
7 something you do tell us about in your statement.

8 One thing you tell us is that you were told by the  
9 nuns that cleanliness was next to godliness; is that  
10 what they used to say to you?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Can you let me know what happened if a child wet the  
13 bed?

14 A. I never wet the bed, so nothing happened to myself, but  
15 my sister constantly wet the bed every night. She would  
16 come in sometimes about early 4.30 in the morning --

17 Q. Who would, sorry?

18 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFH . She would drag her out of the bed with  
19 her hair and put her out in the passageway and the sheet  
20 was put over her head. We all would see it when we got  
21 up in the morning, but she would be standing there for  
22 about two hours before we would even get up.

23 Instead of the nuns really finding out why she was  
24 wetting the bed, they didn't bother their shirt. They  
25 exasperated the situation by not allowing them to get up

1           during the night. The bed-wetters weren't allowed to  
2           have any drinks after about 4.30 in the day, so they  
3           would go to the toilets and the water you flush with,  
4           that's what they were using to use as a drink.

5           Q. You're talking about your sister, but did you see that  
6           happen to other children?

7           A. Yes, I seen that happening to other girls as well.

8           Q. Do you know if they had to have a bath?

9           A. Yes. They would get put into a disinfectant, Jeyes  
10          fluid, and one time my sister, they must have put too  
11          much in the water and she had a lot of blisters on her  
12          bum.

13          Q. You're talking about Sister [LFH] 's practice, but what  
14          about Sister [LFP] ?

15          A. I didn't really see Sister [LFP] pull her out of the  
16          bed, but she did keep up the same regime, purely because  
17          Sister [LFH] was in charge. I remember there was  
18          three [ ] children, their parents lived along the road  
19          from the convent, and one morning I wakened and [ ]  
20          was outside Sister [LFP] 's room and I seen  
21          Sister [LFP] changing the sheets, the wee one had  
22          wet her bed, she changed her sheets, and that was it,  
23          there was nothing said.

24                 I remember later on, after I had left really, and  
25          I was still in contact with Sister [LFP] , and I did

1 say to her why was my sister treated differently wetting  
2 the bed when other ones weren't. She said that's a long  
3 time ago, that was -- Sister [LFH] implemented that,  
4 not me, type of thing. I said, but you allowed it, you  
5 didn't do anything when Sister [LFH] came in at half  
6 four in the morning and dragged her out of bed. She  
7 said, let that be gone, just let it go. And that was  
8 it.

9 Q. This practice of making bed-wetters put the sheets over  
10 their heads didn't just take place in your group --

11 A. No.

12 Q. -- it also happened in other groups?

13 A. It definitely happened in the green group, but this time  
14 we were in the red group by that point, and it was still  
15 going on. But not everyone, you know what I mean; it  
16 was certain people. There was a like and a disliking  
17 in the convent -- and you do find that maybe in works as  
18 well. If you were disliked you got a hard time. That's  
19 the way I look at it.

20 Q. I think you tell us that even the layperson who looked  
21 after a group, she also followed this practice.

22 A. She did. It was [LGI]. She came from the  
23 Good Shepherd convent, which was an approved school, and  
24 we got staff from there sometimes, and they were like  
25 bullies to us. I remember [REDACTED], she had to look

1 after her or something, I don't really know what it was,  
2 but she started banging her head against a wall and  
3 Sister [REDACTED] LFP came in and she was horrified when she  
4 seen it. And she asked me had it happened before and  
5 I said, "It happens all the time when you go to church  
6 and that, this girl, if you've ever done something  
7 wrong, she's hitting us".

8 Q. Were these girls older girls who had been at the  
9 Good Shepherd in Bishopton?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. So why were they in Cardonald?

12 A. I don't know why. They came from there to be staff in  
13 the convent and that might have been cheap labour,  
14 whatever, I don't know.

15 Q. What you're saying is that they behaved, the way you put  
16 it, in quite a vicious way?

17 A. Yes, they did.

18 Q. Did they have permission to behave like that?

19 A. No, not really. In a sense, when Sister [REDACTED] LFP  
20 discovered it and asked had this happened before, and  
21 I said yes, then a few days later that girl was away.

22 Q. Can I just look with you at your relationship with your  
23 sister.

24 We understand, as you've told us, she was your twin  
25 sister, you'd been together in the nursery, and as you

1 put it, you were looked upon as something of an icon, if  
2 you like.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Things changed, as you told us, when you went into the  
5 juniors section, and in particular when you were being  
6 in the charge of Sister LFH .

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. I think you told us already that even at the beginning  
9 there was a degree of separation.

10 A. Yes, right away.

11 Q. Did that persist?

12 A. It did.

13 Q. Can you explain how that happened?

14 A. How it happened? I'm not really sure why, but  
15 Sister LFH especially took a dislike to my sister  
16 for some unknown reason. She was more outgoing and  
17 I was -- well, I was terrified of Sister LFH , so  
18 I made sure I didn't bring myself to her fore, really,  
19 that anything should happen. But the likes of my  
20 sister, she was a tomboy and she seemed to get into  
21 spats that I didn't and Sister LFH would cane her --  
22 for nothing, sometimes nothing, she hadn't done  
23 anything, but she would just pull her hair and cane her  
24 whenever she felt like or use the belt on her and that.

25 Q. The day then that your sister was sent away, did you, on

1           that day, go to school as normal?

2           A. I went to school as normal.

3           Q. Did you know that anything was going to happen that day?

4           A. No, never. We didn't know at all. It was only when  
5           I was at school the teacher asked me where I was and  
6           I said to her I didn't know where she was. She thought,  
7           well, did she not come out to school with you. And  
8           I went, no, she didn't, they kept her back. So she went  
9           out and I would reckon she would go to the deputy head  
10          to say that my sister hasn't turned up, I didn't know  
11          where she was, and for them to maybe phone the convent.  
12          I can't answer that, I don't know if they did phone her,  
13          but I couldn't wait for dinnertime, because we used to  
14          go home to the convent for our dinner, and I went up to  
15          the back stairs and the bedroom and I noticed all her  
16          stuff was away.

17          I came down and asked Sister **LFH** where she was  
18          and she says, "I don't know where she is", I said, "You  
19          must know where she is, she's never come to school and  
20          all her stuff's away", and then Sister **LFP**  
21          appeared and asked the same thing and she says, "Just  
22          leave it," and I said, "No, I won't leave it", and  
23          I wouldn't eat my dinner and they kept me off school in  
24          the afternoon.

25          I always know it was a Thursday that she went away

1 purely because the next day was a Friday and I refused  
2 to go to school, and it was really because I didn't know  
3 where she was, I couldn't tell my friends at school,  
4 really, and I was embarrassed about that, me not knowing  
5 where she was.

6 Q. Did anyone tell you in the following days where she was?

7 A. No. They refused point blank. If I asked where she  
8 was, they would just ignore me or say, "You don't want  
9 to know that", and then one of the times  
10 Sister [REDACTED] LFP said, "It was for her own good", and  
11 that was it. And when Sister [REDACTED] LFL came, I was  
12 maybe about 17 then, and I said to her, "I think it's  
13 about time I should know where my sister is", and she  
14 says, "Do you not?" She wasn't there at the time when  
15 she was put away, so it was difficult for her and she  
16 led me to believe that she didn't hear anything, but  
17 I would have been surprised, I would imagine one of the  
18 nuns would have brought it up in recreation even, you  
19 know what I mean.

20 Q. Seventeen is several years down the line. I think  
21 you're telling us that this happened when you were about  
22 11 years of age.

23 A. Yes, I still didn't know where she was.

24 Q. Over the following years did you make enquiries?

25 A. Uh-huh, and I kept asking the nuns and everything. That

1 was even when Mr [REDACTED] came and said about me having  
2 a twin and they denied all fact that I had a twin.

3 Q. At that time when Mr [REDACTED] was on the scene, was  
4 Sister [REDACTED] LFH still there?

5 A. No, it was [REDACTED] LFL.

6 Q. Who denied that you had a twin? Was it [REDACTED] LFL?

7 A. It was [REDACTED] LFL.

8 Q. Did she know you had a twin?

9 A. Yes, she did, uh-huh.

10 Q. I think you told us it was the [REDACTED] family that  
11 considered fostering you.

12 A. Yes, that was about 13 I was, and again it was  
13 actually -- well, I think they've got this entrance  
14 in the 1965, Sister Martel was the welfare nun then,  
15 right? And she said to me, "How would you like to go  
16 and stay with the [REDACTED] for good?" and I said, "No,  
17 I don't want to stay, I'm 17, I've got another year at  
18 school to do and I know what I want to do", and she  
19 said, "But do you not like going to them?" I said,  
20 "Yes, it's a novelty going at the weekend, sometimes  
21 no one else is going out and I'm working at the shop,  
22 but I don't want to do that all my time". She said,  
23 "But it would help you to know the outside world", and  
24 I said, "No, I've had words with Mrs [REDACTED]", purely  
25 because when I was there, [REDACTED], the daughter, did

1 nothing but I had to do all the cleaning and everything,  
2 even down in the shop. Although I served the customers,  
3 and as he said, I was bringing custom in because a lot  
4 of the girls got used to me and I used to go out with  
5 them and be friendly with them. They would come into  
6 the shop when they wouldn't normally because it was only  
7 a small grocery shop, but there was a Co-Op at the end  
8 of the village, so that was their attraction really and  
9 I used to do the books for them as well because I was  
10 learning bookkeeping at the time at school.

11 Q. Just to come back to your sister, had you had any  
12 correspondence with your sister over the years?

13 A. No, apparently -- no. But apparently when I did meet my  
14 sister, she said that she'd been writing to me and they  
15 didn't give me the letters at all until I was 18/19,  
16 I think it was, Sister [REDACTED] LFL said that a letter had  
17 come and that my sister was wanting to visit, but she  
18 says, "She won't be allowed to stay here", I said why,  
19 I've got a room of my own, the two of us can sleep in  
20 the same bed. And she said, "No, she can't, she was put  
21 away from her and she can't come back".

22 Q. I think that led up to meeting up with your sister after  
23 so many years.

24 A. Yes, that's right.

25 Q. What happened what that meeting took place?

1           A.  When it took place, we just stood and looked at each  
2           other, we didn't even hug or embrace or nothing.  We  
3           just stood and it was like we were blaming each other  
4           for getting separated.

5                        Then the sister said again to her that she couldn't  
6           stay there, but [REDACTED] L J X [REDACTED] -- we met [REDACTED] L J X [REDACTED]  
7           and she said she could have put her in the laundry but  
8           the nuns would have known and that.  Anyway, we went out  
9           to the bus stop -- they said she had to go to  
10          Galashiels, that's where the order that she was with had  
11          a place in Galashiels.

12          Q.  I think we will find out that she went --

13         LADY SMITH:  Jennifer, I'm sorry to interrupt, but I have  
14          now heard, on two or three occasions, a phone.  It may  
15          be the person who's left that taken it, but could I just  
16          ask everybody to check that their phones are switched  
17          off, please?  Could that phone now be switched off or  
18          I'll have to ask the person whose phone it is to leave  
19          the public area as well.

20                        I will not have this witness interrupted in this  
21          way.  Please leave.

22                        Jennifer, I'm sorry about that.  You don't need that  
23          distraction.

24                        Mr MacAulay.

25         MR MacAULAY:  The order that you were about to tell us

1           about, I think, was an order known as the Poor Sisters  
2           of the Mother of God.

3           A. Yes.

4           Q. Did you find out that your sister had been sent to an  
5           establishment that was being run by that order?

6           A. Uh-huh, yes. Well, finally, you know what I mean. It  
7           came from my sister; it wasn't the nuns that told me.

8           Q. When you met your sister, did she give you some  
9           information as to --

10          A. She gave me very sporadic type information because she  
11          was still a bit traumatised by the whole thing and that  
12          was when the nun said that they had a place in  
13          Galashiels. So when we left the convent and we went out  
14          the gate, we met a policeman and we asked him how far it  
15          was to Galashiels. We thought we were running away from  
16          the convent at first. He says, what do you want to go  
17          to Galashiels for. I said that's where we've to go from  
18          the convent. He said, are you running away, I said, no,  
19          and then I tried to explain to the police. He went, you  
20          won't get to Galashiels tonight for that time. So then  
21          we crossed over and I met a friend of mine from school  
22          and I told her what had happened and she had a friend in  
23          the [REDACTED] Hotel in [REDACTED], and she gave us some  
24          money and she said, just tell her what's happened and  
25          you've come from us and they'll give it you cheaper, so

- 1           that's what we did.
- 2           LADY SMITH: How old were you by this time?
- 3           A. By this time we were 18.
- 4           LADY SMITH: Thank you.
- 5           MR MacAULAY: We can perhaps move on a little bit. After
- 6           that night with your sister, did your sister go back
- 7           to --
- 8           A. Uh-huh, she went her way and I went my way. I went back
- 9           to the convent and she went to the train station --
- 10          because I didn't know where the train station was even
- 11          at that time.
- 12          Q. I think she was going back to Liverpool?
- 13          A. Yes, that's right.
- 14          Q. Indeed, that's where she had been?
- 15          A. Yes, because she had started her nursing by then.
- 16          Q. That was the position, she went to train as a nurse?
- 17          A. Yes.
- 18          Q. And became a state registered nurse?
- 19          A. Yes.
- 20          Q. We'll look at that later. Coming back to your own
- 21          position then, did you at any stage report anything that
- 22          had been going on in the convent?
- 23          A. To anyone? I had never, except for the 1973 letter that
- 24          I wrote to Sister LFH.
- 25          Q. And I'll look at that in a moment.

1           I think you told us that teachers at school would  
2           have been aware that you had injuries for example.

3       A.   Oh, they were very aware of what was happening at this  
4           school, but I don't think anything was ever done,  
5           really.

6       Q.   There was a newspaper article, I think you tell us in  
7           your statement, in 1997 about the Sisters of Nazareth;  
8           is that correct?

9       A.   Oh, the Nazareth House, uh-huh, that was the News of the  
10          World.

11      Q.   By that time, Nazareth House Cardonald was behind you,  
12          obviously, you had moved on from there.  But so far as  
13          the newspaper article in 1997 was concerned, did you  
14          have any contact with any nuns in connection with that  
15          article?

16      A.   I did actually.  We didn't have the News of the World in  
17          our house type of thing, it was Sister LNE rang me  
18          and said to me, had I seen the papers this morning, and  
19          I went no.  I said, "What's wrong?"  She says, "It's  
20          in the News of the World about Nazareth House", and  
21          I said, "What about Nazareth House?" and she said,  
22          "Abuse".  I went, "Oh right", and she says, "I suggest  
23          you get a copy of it and then phone me back later".

24                 So I got a copy, but I got a few copies, so I could  
25                 send them to my sister and so forth.  And I read it, and

1 I must have read it about three times before it sunk in.  
2 I thought to myself, some of that's true, but a lot of  
3 it is out of context here. And I thought, oh my gosh,  
4 and I was embarrassed and humiliated this had come out  
5 in the papers.

6 So I waited and I waited, by the end of the day, and  
7 I knew after about 8 o'clock the night the nuns would be  
8 at recreation. So I phoned Sister [REDACTED] LNE and I said  
9 I'd read it. I said, I'm horrified about it, but things  
10 did happen, some of it's true, but other stuff has been  
11 taken out of context. So when I said that, she says to  
12 me, "Could you write to the papers and maybe say that?"  
13 I said, "It would be difficult for me to write to the  
14 papers because I don't know where they got the  
15 information from and from me to syphon what has been  
16 taken out of context, it would be difficult". I says,  
17 "But I could phone Cameron Fyfe", and she says, "Will  
18 you do that?" and I said, "Yeah". So I phoned  
19 Cameron Fyfe the next morning.

20 Q. What was Sister [REDACTED] LNE asking you to do?

21 A. To write to the papers, more or less, to say it was all  
22 fabricated, really.

23 Q. But was it?

24 A. It wasn't; part of it was true.

25 Q. Who was Sister [REDACTED] LNE ?

1 A. Sister [REDACTED] LNE had come -- she was the superior, they  
2 called it, it wasn't the Reverend Mother any more, it  
3 was the superior of the house.

4 Q. Where was she based?

5 A. Cardonald. She came from Nottingham.

6 Q. You also tell us about discussions you had with  
7 a Sister [REDACTED] LVA. Was that about what happened  
8 in Cardonald?

9 A. The papers, uh-huh. Sister [REDACTED] LNE had left. I think  
10 I said to you that any time I would phone to visit  
11 Sister [REDACTED] LFP, because Sister [REDACTED] LFP was there,  
12 but she was ailing in health and that, so any time  
13 I phoned to speak to ask if I could come and see her,  
14 there was always an excuse that I couldn't.

15 But then out of the blue, when she was getting  
16 transferred to Glasgow, Sister [REDACTED] LNE phoned and she  
17 said to me, why don't you come down this weekend to see  
18 sister, she's quite poorly. I was quite surprised  
19 getting this phone call to ask us to come down. I said  
20 to my husband, oh, there's something suspicious about  
21 this.

22 So then when we went down, my husband and I, we've  
23 got a Land Rover or a Range Rover, and that's what  
24 I think she was thinking about, and when we went down,  
25 she asked us to bring our three cases back to Cardonald,

1 when we were going back on the Monday. I said, right,  
2 okay. That's when we realised that she was the nun to  
3 replace Mother Mary, but when we were in Nottingham --  
4 a lot of the staff and even the groundsmen warned us  
5 about this nun. She could be quite a bulldog type  
6 person.

7 Q. Who was this?

8 A. Sister [REDACTED] LNE . Sister [REDACTED] LVA comes after that,  
9 right? Sister [REDACTED] LNE came up to Glasgow, got our  
10 cases, but after that she didn't really want to know us,  
11 because I was doing the accounts there for nothing.

12 Q. Sister [REDACTED] LNE was the nun who had suggested to you that  
13 you contact the News of the World and suggested --

14 A. Yes, but that was in 1997, now just after she had come.

15 Q. What I was moving on to ask you about was what contact  
16 you had with Sister [REDACTED] LVA .

17 A. Sister [REDACTED] LVA took Sister [REDACTED] LNE ' place;  
18 right? I had phoned and said I would like to come and  
19 visit Sister [REDACTED] LFP , and she said, fine, no problem,  
20 why don't you come down soon. She reminded us that she  
21 had been in Glasgow and she knew us as children.

22 Q. Sister [REDACTED] LVA ?

23 A. Yes. And I said, "I met you in Birmingham, the last  
24 time I was in Birmingham when Sister [REDACTED] LFP there".  
25 So when we went, she started speaking to me about the

- 1 abuse.
- 2 Q. Could I ask you about that, focus on that? What did you  
3 say to her about what the position had been in Glasgow  
4 when you were there?
- 5 A. I said to her about it and she says she had been in the  
6 nunnery or the novitiate with Sister [LFH] and she  
7 said she was a bully there and we were all terrified of  
8 her. That's the nuns that were together. She said that  
9 they were terrified of Sister [LFH] and she said she  
10 wasn't surprised that her name came up. I said, she  
11 was, she bullied us, she intimidated us, she humiliated  
12 us, and she was agreeing with that.
- 13 Q. Did she tell you something about Sister [LFH]'s  
14 background?
- 15 A. She said that she was in a boys' hostel. That's where  
16 she came from before she went to Glasgow and obviously  
17 she must have forgotten that it wasn't boys that she was  
18 bringing up.
- 19 Q. Can I ask you very briefly about life after you left  
20 Nazareth House. I think it's clear to us from what  
21 you have said already that you went into accountancy.
- 22 A. Yes. It was actually -- when I got my results, I could  
23 go to university and I was going to Aberdeen University.  
24 One of my friends was going there as well, so I thought  
25 that would be ideal. I had to go up and register and

1 Mother **LKG**, when I had said to her about it, she  
2 said, yeah, that'll be right, we'll arrange it, you can  
3 stay in Nazareth House in Aberdeen during the week and  
4 then I could come down to Glasgow at the weekends.  
5 I thought, fine.

6 I went up to register in Aberdeen and then when  
7 I came down, the Sunday, I was at Mass, I fainted, and  
8 ended up with peritonitis, and I couldn't take the place  
9 up at the university --

10 Q. To cut through it, if I may, because you've set it out  
11 for us in your statement, you did qualify as an  
12 accountant --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- and you worked as an accountant.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. You and your husband have been involved with looking  
17 after children in a fostering sense; is that correct?

18 A. No, we put in for fostering, but when we first got  
19 married, when we used to be going maybe away for the  
20 day, we'd go into the convent and take some of children  
21 out.

22 Q. Is that the convent at Cardonald?

23 A. Yes, Cardonald.

24 Q. So you have kept a connection?

25 A. Yes, a continuity with the convent.

1 Q. Until they stopped taking children in?

2 A. Yes. Uh-huh.

3 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about what you see the impact  
4 of being in care has been on you, Jennifer? Can you  
5 help me with that?

6 A. Yes. Well, I was lucky. I've had a successful  
7 marriage, really, and I've been married 44 years. But  
8 my health took its turn, purely because I was in denial  
9 that anything really had happened with the  
10 Nazareth House and I sort of bottled it up. So I had  
11 digestive problems, I've had some of my stomach taken  
12 away, I have bowel problems, I've now got a bag and so  
13 forth, so it has been now pretty hard going, really.

14 Q. One thing that you do tell us about more recent things  
15 is what happened in 2000 and what Bishop Conti had to  
16 say.

17 A. Yes, he said we were all delinquents.

18 Q. What did you think about that?

19 A. I was horrified in a sense, even for somebody to  
20 prejudge what had happened instead of finding the facts.  
21 I phoned the archdiocese and it was the housekeeper and  
22 I left a message with her because I couldn't get to  
23 speak to Mario Conti. She said she would pass it on,  
24 but I don't think she ever did because nothing came back  
25 about it.

1           But I told him that we weren't delinquents and at  
2           three months old going into the convent, surely it was  
3           the nuns then that would make us delinquents, not anyone  
4           from outside. I said we were reared with the nuns and  
5           that's the end of the story.

6           Q. You did mention earlier about a letter you wrote and  
7           that was a letter to Sister [REDACTED] LFH .

8           A. Yes.

9           Q. I'll put that on the screen for you because I think  
10          you have given us a copy of that letter.

11          A. Yes.

12          Q. That's at WIT.003.001.2309. There are bits blanked out  
13          to protect your identity but can we see that it's dated  
14          [REDACTED] 1973.

15          A. Uh-huh.

16          Q. So this is quite a number of years before any press  
17          coverage came out --

18          A. Yes.

19          Q. -- about the Sisters of Nazareth; is that right?

20          A. That's right.

21          Q. You begin the letter by saying:

22                 "Dear Sister [REDACTED] LFH . Thank you for your card  
23                 inviting yourself to my wedding."

24                 And the date is there; is that correct? So she had  
25                 sent you a card?

1 A. She sent me a Christmas card, which she did quite often,  
2 but I would just put it in the bin. Half the times  
3 I didn't even open the mail that came from her because  
4 I just didn't like the woman. On this occasion, I did  
5 open it and I was horrified to even think that she was  
6 wanting to come to my wedding, especially my sister  
7 being the bridesmaid. I thought there would be sparks  
8 and everything, because by that time my sister had  
9 mental health issues cropping up and she was quite  
10 volatile at one point. I thought no way is she going to  
11 come to my wedding. So that's really how this letter  
12 appeared and I wrote to her.

13 Q. Can we look at the next paragraph where you say:

14 "I can never, ever forgive you and Mother **LGE**  
15 for the trauma you put me through when you separated my  
16 sister and I, knowing we only had each other. You  
17 terrorised me and the other children but knew what you  
18 were doing. The ones that had family you treated  
19 differently, but myself and others, we were only there  
20 to be used and abused by yourself."

21 A. Uh-huh.

22 Q. I think you've been telling us that's the sort of  
23 message you've given to the inquiry as well, but this is  
24 the message you gave to Sister **LFH**, way back in  
25 1973?

- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. You provide some detail as how you were beaten, that  
3 other nuns were also terrified of Sister [REDACTED] LFH .
- 4 A. Yes, and that's what Sister [REDACTED] LVA could tell  
5 me.
- 6 Q. You provide quite a bit of detail and we can read it for  
7 ourselves. In many ways, you have told us about some of  
8 this material in the evidence you've given today. We  
9 end up, if we turn to the second page, 2310, in the last  
10 paragraph, I'll just read this out:  
11 "I close this letter, giving you food for thought,  
12 but probably you will never know the heartache you  
13 bestowed on so many of the children you looked after,  
14 who did not ask to be born. I also ask you never to  
15 write or contact me again. I have found love and hope  
16 to have a family of my own, but will make sure I show  
17 them love not fear."
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Was it fear that she showed you?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And, do you think, others as well within the convent?
- 22 A. Oh yes.
- 23 LADY SMITH: Have I worked this out correctly, you must have  
24 been about 24 when you wrote that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 LADY SMITH: Thank you.
- 2 MR MacAULAY: I want you to look at a photograph that I'm  
3 going to put on the screen. Again, I think it's  
4 a photograph you've given to us; that's at  
5 WIT.003.001.3041. This is a photograph that you  
6 provided to the inquiry. Can you tell me, if you can,  
7 when this photograph was taken?
- 8 A. Well, it would be in the nursery and I reckon we'd be  
9 about 3 years of age.
- 10 Q. We can see that the inquiry has blanked out a number of  
11 the children that are in the photograph, but the two  
12 children who are not blanked out, that's you and your  
13 sister; is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. But when you provided the inquiry with the photograph  
16 of course, we could see the faces of all of the  
17 children.
- 18 A. Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. The original photograph has all the children's faces.  
20 Can we see that there is a headless woman in the  
21 photograph?
- 22 A. Uh-huh.
- 23 Q. And that's the way the photograph was provided to the  
24 inquiry; was that the way you obtained the photograph?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Who gave you the photograph?

2 A. Mother [REDACTED] LKP [REDACTED] .

3 Q. What was her intention in giving you the photograph?

4 A. I don't really know. I just know that Sister [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED]

5 used to try everything possible to find out where we

6 came from and who was our mother, that type of thing,

7 and what was it -- she obtained some information about

8 Mother [REDACTED] LKP [REDACTED] , she phoned me and asked me to come

9 through and she would take me to Cheltenham and we would

10 go and see Mother [REDACTED] LKP [REDACTED] and she was hoping then

11 that Mother [REDACTED] LKP [REDACTED] would fill in the blanks,

12 really, that we were looking for.

13 But unfortunately, she was -- I thought on her

14 deathbed and she just gave me a bag, a white plastic bag

15 full of these photographs that I've shown today.

16 Q. But this particular photograph --

17 A. And that was with it.

18 Q. You say it was Sister [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED] who took you there?

19 A. Yes, it was Sister [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED] who took me there to

20 Cheltenham.

21 Q. What age are you then?

22 A. I was about -- in the 80s ... I'd be in my 30s.

23 Q. Okay.

24 LADY SMITH: So these were photographs they had that showed

25 you and your sister but you'd never seen them before?

1 A. Never had seen them before, no. There's two photographs  
2 with a hole in them.

3 MR MacAULAY: If we can on to the next page then, 3042 and  
4 3043. I think that was the back of the photograph.  
5 We have again yourself and your sister. The other three  
6 children the inquiry has blacked out their faces, but  
7 again we have the headless woman --

8 A. Yes, uh-huh.

9 Q. -- in the background of the photograph --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- surrounded by the children, in particular yourself  
12 and your sister. Were you ever told who that was?

13 A. We weren't. I know when we went through them,  
14 Sister [REDACTED] LFP was with me and she was horrified to  
15 see that and she said, "I can only say that's been your  
16 mother". I said, "But what proof do we have? We have  
17 no proof".

18 Q. But were you given any explanation as to why the lady  
19 had become headless for the purposes of --

20 A. No, nothing.

21 Q. -- giving you the photograph?

22 A. Nothing, there was hardly anything said. She just said  
23 about doing well and everything like that and getting on  
24 with my life and so forth.

25 Q. Can I also ask you to look at this document that I'll

1 put on the screen. This is at NAZ.001.003.5022.

2 Can I tell you, this is an application form that  
3 would have formed part of your records that were kept by  
4 the Sisters of Nazareth at Cardonald. It's from this  
5 document, for example, not on this page, but on another  
6 page that we can see that the date of admission is  
7 suggested to be [REDACTED] 1949.

8 But if we look at the body of the document on the  
9 screen -- and this is dealing with yourself, your name  
10 has been blanked out --

11 A. Right.

12 Q. -- so your identity will not be revealed here -- can you  
13 see under the heading "Progress of the children", we can  
14 read:

15 "Visits by parents or relatives. 1963."

16 Do you see that?

17 A. Yes. I see 1963.

18 Q. "[REDACTED] visited regularly by friends and goes for  
19 holidays. Her mother visits about three times yearly."

20 Then in 1964:

21 "[REDACTED] missed her mother's visit as she was in  
22 [REDACTED] for her holidays."

23 The suggestion there is that a lady, who was your  
24 mother, was visiting you in certainly 1963 when you'd  
25 be -- what age in 1963?

- 1 A. About 15.
- 2 Q. Did that happen?
- 3 A. No. Definitely not. I definitely don't know any  
4 mysterious woman coming to visit me. Anyone that  
5 visited me, I would know them, but I didn't know this at  
6 all. Definitely not.
- 7 Q. I think this is something that's been revealed to you  
8 quite recently --
- 9 A. It has, yes.
- 10 Q. -- by the inquiry team.
- 11 A. Mm-hm.
- 12 Q. And you are quite concerned about it?
- 13 A. I am very concerned about it. To keep that from us,  
14 I think it's terrible, really. It was quite devastating  
15 when you said the other day to me about it and it's had  
16 quite an effect on my sister too.
- 17 Q. The suggestion here is that there was a woman who was  
18 said to be your mother was visiting, but you're saying  
19 that if that was the case, you never saw her?
- 20 A. No, no. The thing is, everyone was your aunt and uncle,  
21 so if she was in there, she would be introduced as "aunt  
22 something" rather than our mother.
- 23 Q. Can I take you to that part of your statement where you  
24 provide us with some final thoughts, Jennifer. That's  
25 in paragraph 153. Here what you're doing here is

1 providing some thoughts that might be of assistance to  
2 the inquiry. Are there any final thoughts you want to  
3 leave us with? For example, you talk about rules and  
4 regulations and children being unique.

5 A. Uh-huh. Well, they are unique. We're all different,  
6 quite different. This is what we found at  
7 Nazareth House, you know what I mean? I now think there  
8 wasn't trained staff there, so that was the problem, but  
9 anyone going into care for the children should be  
10 qualified for every eventuality because of the  
11 uniqueness the children have.

12 Q. You have, I think, some criticism to make of the way in  
13 which the News of the World story was handled,  
14 particularly by the lawyers.

15 A. Yes. I felt that was -- you know what I mean? The  
16 media seemed to have an awful lot -- because I did  
17 follow it for a wee bit and then I just got fed up with  
18 it. The only ones that I felt that made out of it were  
19 the lawyers and I think that was proved at a later stage  
20 in that one of the lawyers got struck off. Maybe they  
21 felt they were doing the right thing at the time, but  
22 I personally don't think so, especially segregated  
23 people got criminal injuries whereas other people  
24 didn't, then other people were getting debt collectors  
25 running after them to pay for the lawyer's fees. Again,

1           that should never have been allowed.

2       Q.   Going back to paragraph 153, you mention this business

3           of when the nuns knew there was to be a visit --

4       A.   Yes, that's right.

5       Q.   -- and you would be dressed up to the hilt.

6       A.   Yes.

7       Q.   And what then would happen?

8       A.   Well, the minute the people left, the clothes would be

9           taken from you and put away and you wouldn't see them

10          again, because we were growing all the time, so

11          obviously what fitted us maybe in six months wouldn't

12          fit you the next six months.  So it seemed crazy that

13          this stuff was put away purely for the visits of anyone

14          coming.

15      Q.   I think the point you're making is that places like that

16          should not --

17      A.   Have access to visits, when the visits are going to

18          happen; they should come unexpectedly.

19      Q.   I think that's the point you're making, isn't it?

20      A.   Yes.

21      LADY SMITH:  You mean people visiting should see children on

22          an ordinary day --

23      A.   Yes.

24      LADY SMITH:  -- wearing the ordinary clothes they would

25          ordinarily wear?

1 A. Yes. And they would get a truer picture of what was  
2 going on.

3 MR MacAULAY: If we look then at paragraph 158, which is the  
4 second last paragraph in your statement, Jennifer, you  
5 begin by saying:

6 "I hope that the Sisters of Nazareth listen to what  
7 everyone has said and not continue with the propaganda  
8 that has been going on for years and then nothing gets  
9 done. I feel sorry for the nuns that have been left to  
10 carry the can."

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What are you trying to convey to us there?

13 A. The majority of the nuns wouldn't have known what was  
14 happening because they weren't with the children. It  
15 was actually the children ourselves that were witnessing  
16 each other being abused and humiliated, like the wet  
17 beds with the sheet over their heads and that. So a lot  
18 of the nuns would not have known what was happening, but  
19 some of them would have and they would have had to have  
20 turned a blind eye. They wouldn't interfere purely  
21 because there could be repercussions for themselves.

22 Q. Do you go on to say that you want some acknowledgement  
23 of?

24 A. Yes, we did want some acknowledgement that it happened,  
25 the hope that it would never happen again, and we never

1           asked to be born, and never asked to be put into a home,  
2           the majority of us, but they did, and it should have  
3           been much happier than what we experienced.

4       MR MacAULAY: Well, thank you, Jennifer. I think I have  
5           asked all the questions that have been submitted to me  
6           to be asked; we can perhaps confirm that. But I also  
7           think, once that has been confirmed, Jennifer, that  
8           you'd like to read a statement, that you've  
9           pre-prepared, out to the inquiry; is that right?

10       A. Yes.

11       LADY SMITH: Jennifer, let me make a check first. Are there  
12           any outstanding applications for questions of this  
13           witness? No. (Pause). There are no more questions for  
14           you.

15           Jennifer, before you concentrate on reading this,  
16           there's something I want to say to make sure everybody  
17           here notices and before I forget. In the course of your  
18           evidence, and under reference to records, another name  
19           has been used for you. I want to assure you, and remind  
20           everybody else, that any other names must not be  
21           repeated outside this room and the only name by which  
22           you can be referred to as a witness in this inquiry is  
23           the name "Jennifer". I understand that's the name that  
24           you've chosen to use and that must be respected. So  
25           I hope that reassures you.

1 A. Yes.

2 LADY SMITH: You have something you have prepared. I've got  
3 a copy of it in front of me; thank you for providing  
4 that. I understand that you would like to read it.

5 A. Yes.

6 LADY SMITH: When you're ready, please do.

7 A. "If I may, there are just a few more words I would like  
8 to say to you. For most of my adult life I have been in  
9 denial about the abuse and cruelty I witnessed and was  
10 forced to endure at Nazareth House. I realise now how  
11 damaging this has been, but it was the only way I knew  
12 of trying to build some kind of normal life for myself.

13 "Since becoming involved with this inquiry, I have  
14 suffered from overwhelming levels of emotion, pain and  
15 mental turmoil. I thought the cruelty and abuse from  
16 Nazareth House was over and that these nuns couldn't  
17 hurt me any more. However, in only this last week  
18 I have been struck a further crushing blow at their  
19 hands.

20 "Firstly, I was informed that there is no record of  
21 my sister being so cruelly and suddenly sent to an  
22 institute in England. If it wasn't for the photographic  
23 evidence that I have provided, her years at  
24 Nazareth House are all but being denied. Also, I have  
25 been told that old records from Nazareth House indicated

1           that my mother visited me and my sister about three  
2           times a year. I am absolutely devastated. This has  
3           never been disclosed to me, not back then and not ever  
4           since.

5           "I understand that the authenticity of this record  
6           may be in question. If it turns out not to be true and  
7           has been falsely added to records, this would be such  
8           a self-serving act, a dishonest act, and an act devoid  
9           of any empathy or sense of a duty of care. If this  
10          turns out to be a true record then this must surely let  
11          everyone see the depraved disregard some nuns had for us  
12          as children.

13          "I am 67 years old and have longed all of my life to  
14          know something, anything of my parents, and to have had  
15          a woman visit me as a child and not to know she was my  
16          mum surely must be recognised as an act of despicable  
17          and heartless cruelty perpetrated on me and my sister,  
18          innocent children."

19          LADY SMITH: Jennifer, thank you very much for taking the  
20          trouble to put that in writing. It can't have been easy  
21          for you at this very difficult time, but it's of great  
22          assistance to me to hear directly from you about your  
23          current thoughts in addition to having heard everything  
24          that you have told us about your memories of being in  
25          care for such a very long time.



1           we will have the lunch break. But we can get started  
2           with your evidence just now, if that is all right with  
3           you.

4           A. Thanks very much.

5           LADY SMITH: Very well.

6                     Mr MacAulay.

7                             Questions from MR MacAULAY

8           MR MacAULAY: Hello, Trisha.

9           A. Hello.

10          Q. As her Ladyship has just said, I will be asking you the  
11          questions.

12                     Can I begin by asking you or confirming with you the  
13          year of your birth -- not the date, I just want the  
14          year -- and can I confirm that you were born in 1948?

15          A. Yes, that's right.

16          Q. In the red folder in front of you, you'll find your  
17          statement, the statement you provided to the inquiry.  
18                     I'm going to give the number of that to the  
19          transcribers, for the reference, it's WIT.001.001.4286.  
20          Could I ask you to turn to the very last page. Can you  
21          confirm to me that you have signed the statement?

22          A. Yes, I have signed the statement.

23          Q. If you look at the last paragraph, do you tell us there:

24                     "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
25          published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

- 1 A. What do you mean?
- 2 Q. You have no objection to the statement being made  
3 public?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Do you also tell us that you believe the facts in this  
6 witness statement are true?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. You can close the folder up for the moment. If I ask  
9 you to look at any part of the statement, I'll put it on  
10 that screen for you and you'll be able to see it from  
11 there.
- 12 We know that when you were very, very young, you  
13 were admitted to Nazareth House in Cardonald.
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. At that time you went there with your twin sister?
- 16 A. Yes, that's right.
- 17 Q. You obviously won't remember when that was, but I think  
18 it's understood by you and your sister that that was  
19 when you were just a baby; is that right?
- 20 A. Yes, that's right.
- 21 Q. When you were there to begin with, do you have any  
22 recollection of being in the nursery section?
- 23 A. I don't remember that to be honest with you.
- 24 Q. One thing I think you do remember was that your sister  
25 had quite a nasty accident.

1 A. Yes, she did.

2 Q. Can you tell me about that?

3 A. The two of us were dancing and there was an electric  
4 fire and her dress caught fire. Then, when the  
5 ambulance came, I didn't want my sister to go, so they  
6 shoved me out of the way and got her to hospital. She  
7 had treatment there obviously for the burns.

8 Q. She came back after that?

9 A. Oh yes.

10 Q. We've seen photographs, we needn't look at them, of  
11 yourself and your sister in the nursery and, on the face  
12 of it, you seemed to be quite happy when you were there.

13 A. That's right.

14 Q. Do you have a fairly happy memory of the nursery?

15 A. That's all I can remember about my sister, burning  
16 herself.

17 Q. Okay. After the nursery, did you then move into the  
18 juniors section?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Can you remember doing that? Do you remember moving  
21 from the nursery to the juniors section?

22 A. Not really.

23 Q. Our understanding is that you'd be about 5 --

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. -- when that would happen.

1 A. Possibly, yes.

2 Q. When you moved to the junior section was there  
3 a particular nun or sister in charge of you?

4 A. Yes, there was.

5 Q. Who was that?

6 A. Sister **LFH**.

7 Q. When you went to the junior section, were you put into  
8 a particular group?

9 A. Yes, we were.

10 Q. Did your group have a name?

11 A. It was the green group.

12 Q. Was your sister with you in the green group?

13 A. I think she was.

14 Q. Did you move to another group that you can remember  
15 during your time there?

16 A. I think the red group. Because I remember my sister  
17 being separated altogether from me, even though we were  
18 in the house together, but I was segregated. You know,  
19 I was wetting the bed and that.

20 Q. What do you remember about the dormitories and where you  
21 slept? Do you remember much about that?

22 A. The dormitories were quite big and then they got them  
23 partitioned, so my sister was at one end and I was up  
24 at the other -- I'm sorry.

25 LADY SMITH: Don't worry, you'll get used to using the

1 microphone.

2 MR MacAULAY: I think you're telling us that for a while,  
3 the dormitory was an open space with you at one end and  
4 your sister at the other.

5 A. That's right.

6 Q. But there was a time they were partitioned up?

7 A. That's right. She was up that end and I was up at that  
8 end.

9 Q. Do you know why you were at different ends and because  
10 you were twins and you might have thought you'd be  
11 together.

12 A. I just didn't realise. They should have let me go with  
13 my sister. So why they had to separate me all the time,  
14 I don't know.

15 Q. When the partitions were up, how many were in the  
16 section where you were?

17 A. Six of us. There were six of us in that.

18 Q. And that would be all girls?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. When you began in the juniors section, you'd be about 5  
21 or so, but as you got older then you would learn more  
22 about what was going on?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Can I ask you about the food, your recollection of the  
25 food at Nazareth House?

1 A. I didn't really mind the food. If you were getting  
2 a stew or something, it was just lumps of fat, and then  
3 the wet-beds were made to stand anyway for the meals,  
4 you couldn't sit down.

5 Q. You had to stand?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And I think that's because you used to wet the bed;  
8 is that right?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. I'll ask you about that, but just focusing on the food  
11 itself, you talked about there being fat; did you eat  
12 that?

13 A. Well, they tell you were going to eat it, or if you  
14 didn't eat it -- I don't think they said that to  
15 everybody, but they would tell me that anyway: if you  
16 don't eat it, it'll be there for your next meal.

17 Q. Did that happen to you?

18 A. It did, yes.

19 Q. And what would then happen if it was there for the next  
20 meal?

21 A. Well, the same, if you didn't eat it, they'd leave it  
22 there for you.

23 Q. And what would happen? Would you have to eat it at some  
24 point or would it be taken away?

25 A. You'd have to try and eat a bit, you know. Because if

1 not, they'd slap you anyway until you did.

2 Q. Who would slap you?

3 A. Sister [LFH].

4 Q. Was it Sister [LFH] really that was dealing with you?

5 A. She was the main person in the home and then they got  
6 another nun in, Sister [LFP].

7 Q. Yes.

8 A. And she used to drag me out of the bed as well of  
9 a morning because it was wet.

10 Q. I'll look at that with you in a minute or two.

11 But was there something that you were called because  
12 you had to stand when you were eating your food?

13 A. Yes. "Bed wetters" and "flooders".

14 Q. The other word I think you tell us in your statement is  
15 "dandelion".

16 A. Yes. That's right.

17 Q. Who called you that?

18 A. [LFH] did, but then the children picked it up, because  
19 she did things right in front of the children, like  
20 hitting you and all that, and you didn't know any  
21 different, because that was just life. I just wanted to  
22 enjoy myself.

23 LADY SMITH: Why dandelions?

24 A. Because they say that the dandelions make you wet. But  
25 you shouldn't have a drink after half past four.

1 MR MacAULAY: Was that the rule with children who wet the  
2 bed?  
3 A. Yes.  
4 Q. Did you then not have a drink after 4.30?  
5 A. Well, I did sometimes. I put my head under the tap  
6 because I was so dry.  
7 Q. As far as the school was concerned, we understand that  
8 the primary school was close to the home.  
9 A. That's right.  
10 Q. Was that Lourdes primary school?  
11 A. Yes.  
12 Q. Was that the school you went to?  
13 A. Yes.  
14 Q. How did you get on at school?  
15 A. Fine.  
16 Q. Did you enjoy school?  
17 A. I did. I wanted to stay in school all the time.  
18 Q. Why was that?  
19 A. Because I enjoyed being with my friends, you know, and  
20 I wasn't allowed to play in the convent anyway.  
21 Q. Who stopped you from playing?  
22 A. LFH .  
23 Q. We'll look later at when you came to leave the convent  
24 and go elsewhere, but was Sister LFH there when you  
25 left the convent?

1 A. Yes, her and Mother [REDACTED] LGE were the two that dragged me  
2 down the stair by the head, and every time that  
3 I shouted for my sister they would clout me and tell me  
4 to shut up.

5 MR MacAULAY: I will ask you about that.

6 My Lady, I think it's just coming on to 1 o'clock.

7 It might just be a good point --

8 LADY SMITH: If that would be a sensible place to break.

9 We'll stop now for the lunch break and we'll start  
10 again at 2 o'clock.

11 A. Thanks very much.

12 (1.00 pm)

13 (The lunch adjournment)

14 (2.00 pm)

15 LADY SMITH: Good afternoon.

16 Are you okay, Trisha? Are you ready to start again?

17 A. Yes, thank you.

18 MR MacAULAY: Hello again, Trisha.

19 Before lunch, I was asking you about certain aspects  
20 of your life in care at Cardonald. Can I ask you now  
21 about clothing and what the situation was with regard to  
22 the clothes that you had to wear. What can you tell me  
23 about that?

24 A. Well, we had a school uniform and then we changed that,  
25 but you didn't really -- when people were coming into

1 the home, they put pretty new clothes on us and then,  
2 after they had been, they just took them off you again.

3 Q. Would you see them again or what would happen?

4 A. If something came up again, you'd wear new stuff.

5 Q. What about shoes? Was there particular types of shoes  
6 you had to wear?

7 A. Yes, it was men's brogues we used to have to wear.

8 Q. Was there an occasion when a friend of yours got you  
9 nicer shoes to wear?

10 A. Yes, that's right.

11 Q. What happened?

12 A. [REDACTED] was my friend and she knew I hated them big  
13 brogues because they knew the convent girls by them.

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. After I had come out of the convent dressed for school  
16 I used to put the shoes off and put them under the tree.  
17 One day when I was in the science class, I seen [REDACTED] LFH  
18 out there taking all the shoes in, so I thought I've had  
19 it now, I won't have any proper shoes.

20 So when I came in, she said it me, "You never had  
21 them shoes on at school, did you?" I said yes and she  
22 said, "No, you never because I found the shoes outside".

23 So anyway, I told [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] just said to me,  
24 don't worry, because everyone's used to the convent  
25 girls in them anyway, so don't worry about it. She

1           said, I won't bring anything else in at the moment,  
2           shall we see how things go --

3       Q. Do I understand that you had left the brogues and  
4           changed into nicer shoes?

5       A. Yes, that's right, nicer shoes.

6       Q. And Sister LFH found out?

7       A. Yes.

8       Q. And what did she do?

9       A. She took them off me.

10      Q. Did she do anything to on you that occasion?

11      A. She smacked me and pushed me over.

12      Q. In relation to leisure time and free time, did you have  
13           much free time or leisure time when you were in the  
14           convent?

15      A. No. I used to be upstairs all the time and sometimes  
16           she'd put me by this big statue of our Lord and tell me,  
17           "Ask the Lord for forgiveness for what you've done".

18      Q. What were you asking forgiveness for?

19      A. I didn't know what I was asking forgiveness for. Only  
20           wetting the bed. That was the thing.

21      Q. And when you were standing upstairs, was that because  
22           you had wet the bed?

23      A. Yes.

24      Q. I'll come and look at that in a moment.

25           One thing you do tell us is you were quite good at

- 1 dancing because you won medals for dancing --
- 2 A. That's right.
- 3 Q. -- because that was something you did when you were  
4 there?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Can I ask you about washing and having baths.
- 7 A. We used to have washing petticoats on. Everybody would  
8 have their baths before the wet-beds and we'd get in  
9 after and it was the Jeyes fluid and I used to have  
10 blisters on my bum from the stuff. I said to her about  
11 it but she just threw me away sort of thing. She  
12 wouldn't see to you, you'd just have to go on with it  
13 your own way.
- 14 Q. For holidays did you, in the summer, go to  
15 Nazareth House in Aberdeen?
- 16 A. That's right, yes.
- 17 Q. And what happened when you got there?
- 18 A. Yes. When we got there, all the wet-beds used to have  
19 to stand with their sheets over their head and then, if  
20 you wet your pants, you'd have to put them over as well.
- 21 Q. So that was something that also happened to you in  
22 Aberdeen?
- 23 A. That's right --
- 24 Q. Was Sister LFH --
- 25 A. -- and we were supposed to be on holiday there.

- 1 Q. Was Sister LFH with you when that happened?
- 2 A. Oh yes.
- 3 Q. Was it really Sister LFH who was responsible for
- 4 you?
- 5 A. She was responsible for the whole house, but there
- 6 weren't very many nuns that knew what she was doing --
- 7 because wherever you were -- or whenever she seen me,
- 8 she would just snap at me or she'd hit me and sent me
- 9 upstairs to scrub the great big long corridors.
- 10 Q. You also tell us a little bit about birthdays and
- 11 Christmas. So far as your birthday was concerned, was
- 12 your birthday celebrated?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. What about Christmas? Because I think there were trips
- 15 organised for Christmas.
- 16 A. All the wet-beds, we never went.
- 17 Q. Did you ever get on a trip?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Did you ever have a visit from what we might call
- 20 nowadays a social worker?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. What about healthcare? I think you tell us that at one
- 23 time when you were in Nazareth House you had a swollen
- 24 knee.
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. What was the cause of that?
- 2 A. Kneeling on the floors all the time, because it was  
3 great big long corridors and then you'd have to go down  
4 and do the church out.
- 5 Q. Was that when you were cleaning?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Did you on one occasion at least have to go to bed  
8 because of your knee?
- 9 A. Yes, I did.
- 10 Q. What happened?
- 11 A. It was that swollen that I could hardly walk. I was put  
12 into bed. They put me to bed and I was so made up  
13 because I never had my bed, so I sat there with my knee  
14 up all the time and then I said to my sister, "I can't  
15 believe that I'm staying in bed", because I was never in  
16 bed, I used to be going to bed all hours, but when she  
17 decided to send me, it was 3 or 4 o'clock in the  
18 morning, and then they'd get me out of the bed at 4.30  
19 by the hair or by my ear and tell me to go and stand in  
20 the corridor because the bed was wet.
- 21 Q. On this occasion when your knee was swollen then you  
22 were able to stay on the bed?
- 23 A. That's right. I got a brush thinking it might keep it  
24 bad for longer because I was in the bed, you know what  
25 I mean. And that was only sort of like a bit of peace.

- 1 Q. What did you do?
- 2 A. I just stayed in bed.
- 3 Q. On that occasion did Sister [REDACTED] LFH come and take you  
4 out of the bed?
- 5 A. Yes, she dragged us out and said, "You're not staying  
6 in that bed because you're not wetting the bed up here".
- 7 Q. Were you allowed to go back to bed?
- 8 A. Only in the night.
- 9 Q. You tell us something about hitting your leg with  
10 a brush.
- 11 A. Yes. That's right.
- 12 Q. Why did do you that?
- 13 A. Because, as I said, I was that pleased at having to stay  
14 in bed, I thought I'll have a good rest up here.
- 15 Q. You thought what, sorry?
- 16 A. I'd have a good rest up here. So that was the reason  
17 why I did that. Obviously it didn't make it any worse,  
18 you know.
- 19 Q. Can I ask you a little bit more about things that  
20 happened to you when you were in Nazareth House. You've  
21 already mentioned, Trisha, that you did wet the bed when  
22 you were there.
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Can I just understand what would happen then? Let's say  
25 you have wet the bed. What would happen to you?

1 A. They would drag me out of bed in the morning, half  
2 past 4.

3 Q. Who would do that?

4 A. LFH or LFP .

5 Q. So did she also do the same?

6 A. LFP , yes, she dragged me out. Anyway, I'd have to  
7 stand on the corridor until they came back from church.  
8 And then she would send me down to breakfast and then  
9 come back up and get ready for school. So I was never  
10 allowed to play or move or anything because I was just  
11 tied up in that.

12 But I used to play on the beams that were up there,  
13 because I couldn't play or anything, so I used to do  
14 that, jump off the beams with a couple of the other  
15 girls who wet the bed.

16 Q. When you were woken up at 4.30 in the morning, are you  
17 saying you had to stand in a corridor somewhere?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. What about the sheets? Did you have to do something  
20 with the sheets?

21 A. Oh, you had to wash them.

22 Q. But when you were in the corridor, would you have the  
23 sheets with you or would you --

24 A. Yes, over my head until they dried.

25 Q. Would you fall asleep there?

- 1 A. Yes. I used to be so tired that I'd fall asleep in  
2 school as well.
- 3 Q. During your time at Nazareth House, were you a regular  
4 bed-wetter?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And was this a regular thing that happened to you?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. What about other children? Did you see this happening  
9 to other children?
- 10 A. Yes, I did, people that wet the bed.
- 11 Q. And you have already told us if you wet the bed, for  
12 example you had to stand, I think, when you were having  
13 your dinner; is that right?
- 14 A. That's right. You'd stand up for your meal so everybody  
15 knew who the bed-wetters were, the flooders. They  
16 called us all different names.
- 17 Q. You mentioned dandelions already.
- 18 A. That's right.
- 19 Q. You've told us about playing upstairs, I think.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Did Sister LFH get involved in that at all? Did she  
22 say anything to you about that?
- 23 A. About us playing up there?
- 24 Q. Yes.
- 25 A. Oh yes, she wasn't happy.

1 Q. What would happen?

2 A. She said, "What did I tell you? I told you to go and  
3 stand up on the corridor, not to be playing".

4 Q. What about outside? On occasions did you play outside?

5 A. No.

6 Q. One thing you say in your statement is that you used to  
7 climb a tree to get conkers; do you remember that?

8 A. Yes, that's right, on my way to school.

9 Q. I think Sister LFH saw you on one occasion.

10 A. Yes, she did.

11 Q. What happened on that occasion?

12 A. She was shouting me all the time and I thought, well,  
13 I'm staying here for a bit because I can't play anyway,  
14 so I might as well do something wrong rather than her  
15 giving me the cane for nothing.

16 Q. Did you get caned?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. When you got caned, can you explain to us how you would  
19 be caned? What did she do to you?

20 A. She would have a stick and you'd have to hold your hand  
21 out and she'd whack it. But also she used a knife, the  
22 handle of the knife sometimes, if she didn't have  
23 anything quick to smack you with. It used to be that.  
24 I used to go to school with bruises all over my knuckles  
25 and nobody said anything.

- 1 Q. Do you remember if she said things to you about you?  
2 Did she say anything to you about who you were and what  
3 you were?  
4 A. Well, she used to call me a demon and say that the devil  
5 was in me and that I wouldn't do any good in my life.  
6 That's why I went on to prove her wrong because, you  
7 know, I did do nursing, learned about the welfare state  
8 and social services, and that woke me up then because  
9 I didn't realise there was so much in life.  
10 Q. [REDACTED]  
11 [REDACTED]  
12 A. [REDACTED]  
13 Q. [REDACTED]  
14 A. [REDACTED]  
15 Q. Can you say how often it was that you were hit by  
16 Sister [REDACTED] LFH ?  
17 A. Every day. Sometimes it was twice a day. Because if  
18 she seen me on the corridor, wherever I was, she would  
19 have to do something to me, pull me by the head or do  
20 something and say, "Where are you going?", "I'm going up  
21 to play", "No, you're going up to the top, go and scrub  
22 the corridors up there".  
23 Q. You have told us about being hit on the hands and the  
24 knuckles.  
25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Were you hit on any other parts of your body?
- 2 A. The back of the knee sometimes, yes. That was very  
3 hurtful, with it being in the bend of the knee.
- 4 Q. You told us about your swollen leg already --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- and having to be on the bed or in the bed. Was the  
7 nurse at the time Sister Arthurson?
- 8 A. That's right, Sister Arthurson, she came.
- 9 Q. Was she quite happy that you rest so your knee would get  
10 better?
- 11 A. Yes, she wanted me to stay in bed but [LFH] pulled me  
12 out the bed, "You're not going to be wetting the bed  
13 now", but when Sister Arthurson came up and she seen me  
14 on the corridor, she said, "You can go to bed", "No, I  
15 can't", and she said, "No, you can go to bed now, I'll  
16 go and see Sister [LFH]".
- 17 Q. What happened after that, do you know?
- 18 A. Sister Arthurson put me back on the bed and she came  
19 back up and said, "I have told you, you stay out there".
- 20 Q. When you say she, that's Sister [LFH] ?
- 21 A. Yes. And I said to her that the other nun has told me  
22 I've got to stay in bed. She said, "I've told you,  
23 haven't I? You don't go to bed, you stay here because  
24 I'm not having you flooding the bed again".
- 25 Q. So what happened then?

- 1 A. Sister Arthurson came up and she told me. She said,  
2 "You don't get out of the bed at all". She said, "I'll  
3 go and find Sister [LFH] and I'll tell you you've got  
4 to stay in bed".
- 5 Q. You do describe some incident at about this time when  
6 Sister [LFH] pushed your head forward.
- 7 A. Yes, she did. She pushed me on the bed, it was the iron  
8 bedsteads and she broke my tooth, you know, with the  
9 nerve being exposed. I was like this (indicating) and  
10 she came up and just whacked my hands away.
- 11 Q. Was it one tooth or more than one?
- 12 A. One tooth, the front tooth.
- 13 Q. Were you in quite severe pain?
- 14 A. Yes, it was very painful. That's why I kept putting my  
15 hand over.
- 16 Q. Did you get some dental treatment for that?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. You've already mentioned being on holiday in Aberdeen.  
19 Did you go to the beach when you were in Aberdeen?
- 20 A. We'd have to go down to the beach, yes, and put your wet  
21 clothes on your head while you were standing there.
- 22 Q. Did you have to take your wet clothes with you to the  
23 beach?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. When you say wet clothes, are these clothes that were

- 1           wet because you had wet the bed?
- 2       A.   Yes.
- 3       Q.   You also tell us about an incident when you were about 8
- 4           or so when you put rags in your hair to curl it; do you
- 5           remember that?
- 6       A.   Yes.
- 7       Q.   What happened that occasion?
- 8       A.   When I came down to breakfast and she seen me with the
- 9           ringlets in, she just cut the whole lot off.  So my hair
- 10          was neither use nor -- it was like a state convict, if
- 11          you could call it that.
- 12       Q.   Do you know why she did that?  Why did she do that?  Why
- 13          did she cut your hair off?
- 14       A.   She didn't want me to have anything, I don't think.  And
- 15          my hair was my best thing, you know, I was pleased with
- 16          my hair because it was right down here (indicating).
- 17       Q.   You're pointing down to your waist.
- 18       A.   Yes.
- 19       Q.   You've also mentioned Sister [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED]; how did you get
- 20          on with her?
- 21       A.   Well, she was another one, but I think that [REDACTED] LFH [REDACTED] was
- 22          telling them what to do because [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED] would come in
- 23          in the morning at 4.30, drag me out the bed, and leave
- 24          me standing out on the corridor until they came back up.
- 25       Q.   Are you saying she did something similar to what

- 1           Sister **LFH** ?
- 2           A. Yes, she did.
- 3           Q. What about hitting you or anything of that sort?
- 4           A. She used to nip you (indicating).
- 5           Q. And you're pointing to you elbow --
- 6           A. Nip your arm or pull your ear or your hair, whichever
- 7           she could get hold of first.
- 8           Q. Did she ever cane you?
- 9           A. No.
- 10          Q. I think I may have touched upon this, but so far as the
- 11          food was concerned, how did you find the food?
- 12          A. I didn't find it that much wrong to be honest with you.
- 13          It was just the fat. You would get tripe but I couldn't
- 14          eat the tripe neither.
- 15          Q. Generally speaking then, you thought the food was
- 16          acceptable, did you?
- 17          A. Yes.
- 18          Q. I think one thing you do tell us also is that there was
- 19          a nun in the kitchen who was good to you.
- 20          A. Yes, she was.
- 21          Q. In what way was that?
- 22          A. If I was sent to the kitchen for a punishment -- the
- 23          thing that they have over the habit, like I don't know
- 24          what you would call it, they have it over the uniform.
- 25          Q. Part of their habit?

1 A. Yes. That's right. She used to hide me there if  
2 Sister [LFH] came and she'd give me a bar of  
3 chocolate, so I used to save it up then. So all my  
4 friends, the wet-beds, I used to give them chocolate or  
5 fruit, whatever she gave me.

6 Q. Can I ask you now, Trisha, about your experience when  
7 you went on holiday with one of the benefactors to the  
8 convent.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. I think you tell us in your statement that you might  
11 have been about 11 at that time; is that correct?

12 A. No, it was before. Probably 8 or 9 or something like  
13 that.

14 Q. Can you tell me what happened?

15 A. They sent me there supposedly to be having a rest  
16 because I'd had pneumonia.

17 Q. Were you with another girl?

18 A. Yes I was with another girl from Nazareth House, so the  
19 two of us were there.

20 Q. How long were you going to be there for?

21 A. We were supposed to be there for two weeks.

22 Q. And can you tell us what happened?

23 A. I woke up -- every day when I woke up, my pyjama pants  
24 were off, and I thought I must be getting undressed when  
25 I'm asleep. And then I woke up this day and this man

1 was in the bed and he was, you know, touching us down  
2 there. So I jumped up and I said, I'm not staying here.  
3 Even though I was young but I knew what he was doing was  
4 wrong. I said to him, I'm not saying here, I'm going  
5 back to the convent. He said, no, you're staying here.  
6 So I said, you'd better phone the convent and tell them  
7 because I am not staying here.

8 Q. Was he doing anything to himself when he was touching  
9 you?

10 A. No.

11 Q. In any event, you knew that what he was doing to you was  
12 not right?

13 A. That's right. You know when you got that sense and you  
14 think, that's not normal, that. Of course, I'd never  
15 seen a man anyway.

16 Q. What happened then?

17 A. So they, in the end, sent [REDACTED] L J X -- she was one  
18 the people who worked there -- to pick us up. We got  
19 off at -- I think it was -- is it ... the bus station  
20 there, is it Buchanan Street? We got off there and then  
21 we got the other bus down to the convent.

22 Q. When you got to the convent, did anything happen?

23 A. Oh yes. Well, when I got there, I was telling them what  
24 had happened to me; right?

25 Q. Who were you telling?

1 A. I was telling all my friends that were sitting round us.

2 Q. Did you speak to Sister [LFH] ?

3 A. Yes, I told her and she just dragged me, smacked me on  
4 the face, grabbed me by the hair and said, "Get  
5 upstairs".

6 It wasn't long after that that she -- I think that's  
7 why she got rid of me. She asked another girl that was  
8 there, my sister, and she asked my sister, "Was anything  
9 bad at the place that you went to, that home?" My  
10 sister said no, but she said, "The girl I was with found  
11 the man in the bed with her", so [LFH] asked her and  
12 she said this man was fiddling around and apparently --  
13 my sister was telling me -- apparently Sister [LFH]  
14 said to her, "You're a liar, you're a liar". So she  
15 said, "No, I am not, I'm telling you what happened".

16 Q. What about yourself when you told Sister [LFH], did  
17 you tell Sister [LFH], just to be clear, what you say  
18 the man had done to you?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. What did Sister [LFH] do?

21 A. She hit me and put me in front of the statue of Our Lady  
22 and told me to ask her for forgiveness for the things  
23 that I'd done. As I said, that's the bed-wetting and  
24 that man.

25 Q. Did Sister [LFH] believe what you said to her as far

- 1 as you know?
- 2 A. No, she didn't.
- 3 Q. And what did she -- physically, what did she do to you
- 4 at this time? You say she hit you.
- 5 A. Yes, that's right and told me to get upstairs. They put
- 6 me by a statue of Our Lady and that was for me to ask
- 7 forgiveness from God for what I'd said about this man.
- 8 And I said to her, it was the truth, that man did do
- 9 that, but she didn't want to listen anyway.
- 10 Q. Did you hear afterwards if anything else had happened to
- 11 any other girls who --
- 12 A. Yes, there was a couple of them that had been already
- 13 in that home and that happened to them. I don't know
- 14 why the nuns didn't get on to that and still sent people
- 15 there.
- 16 Q. How did you know? How did you hear that other girls
- 17 had --
- 18 A. The girls told us that that happened, and this one in
- 19 particular, she called her a liar and said it didn't
- 20 happen. But like I said to [REDACTED], she knows it
- 21 happened because I've told her.
- 22 Q. There came a day you were taken away from the convent;
- 23 is that right?
- 24 A. Yes, that's right.
- 25 Q. Can you help me about that and tell me the background to

- 1           that?
- 2       A.   What they did was they sent me into the dormitory to get  
3           a tie for one of the little ones and I shouted, "No,  
4           I've got a tie, I've put it on her" --
- 5       Q.   Who was the they?   Who told you?
- 6       A.   Sister [REDACTED] LFP .   So when I come to get out, I could  
7           see my sister going to school and I was banging on the  
8           window because I got a fright when I realised the dorm  
9           was locked and I couldn't get out.   When all the kids  
10          had gone to school, she grabbed me and put me in this  
11          room, there wasn't a light in it or anything.   It was as  
12          dark as anything.
- 13      Q.   Who grabbed you?
- 14      A.   [REDACTED] LFP   and [REDACTED] LFH .   So when they were ready then to  
15          take me -- they didn't tell me I was going away or  
16          anything, there was just nothing said.   So when they  
17          were pulling me down the stairs by the head, I was  
18          shouting for my sister and every time that I opened my  
19          mouth, she'd smack me right in the mouth.
- 20      Q.   Who would smack you?
- 21      A.   [REDACTED] LFH .
- 22      Q.   Who else would smack you?
- 23      A.   [REDACTED] LFH   and [REDACTED] LGE .   [REDACTED] LGE   was with [REDACTED] LFH   the day I  
24          was going.
- 25      Q.   That's Mother [REDACTED] LGE .   I think?

- 1 A. That's right.
- 2 Q. So she was involved in this process as well?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Can you tell me what happened after that, when you were  
5 taken down the stairs?
- 6 A. When they got me down, we went out to get the bus to the  
7 station, and the bus conductress said to me, "Get  
8 yourself a bar of chocolate", because she obviously knew  
9 I'd been crying.
- 10 When the bus went, **LFH** took the money off us --
- 11 Q. Had the bus conductress given you money for the  
12 chocolate?
- 13 A. Yes, half a crown and said to me, get a bar of  
14 chocolate.
- 15 Anyway when the bus went **LFH** took the half crown  
16 and that was the end of that.
- 17 Q. So far as the bus, was the bus going to take you to the  
18 station?
- 19 A. Yes, that's right.
- 20 Q. Was there a nun with you on the bus?
- 21 A. **LFH** and, what's her name, **LGE**, those two were on  
22 the bus with me, just to the station.
- 23 Q. And at the bus station, were you put on the train?
- 24 A. I was put on the train then by myself and I'd never had  
25 a cup of tea or anything to eat, nothing.

- 1 Q. Were you told where you were going?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. How did you know where to go?
- 4 A. What happened, when I got to Liverpool, I was to meet
- 5 these two nuns. They weren't the Sisters of Nazareth.
- 6 LADY SMITH: So you knew you had to go to Liverpool?
- 7 A. No. No.
- 8 LADY SMITH: How did you know when to get off?
- 9 A. Sorry, they did. I had to go to Liverpool, that's
- 10 right, and get off at Liverpool. I'd never heard of
- 11 Liverpool because I'd never been out of the door.
- 12 LADY SMITH: And had you been told that somebody would meet
- 13 you there?
- 14 A. Yes, to meet these two nuns. But I thought they were
- 15 going to be Sisters of Nazareth, but they weren't; they
- 16 were the Poor Servants of the Mother of God.
- 17 LADY SMITH: The poor Servants of the Mother of God?
- 18 A. Yes. Them two nuns brought me home to where I was
- 19 going.
- 20 MR MacAULAY: Before we come to that then, you were on the
- 21 train on your own though?
- 22 A. That's right.
- 23 Q. How old are you at that time?
- 24 A. 11.
- 25 Q. And you're saying you knew or realised you had to get

1           off the train if it was not going to finish at  
2           Liverpool, at Liverpool, is that right?

3       A.   That's right.

4       Q.   And when you got off the train at Liverpool were you met  
5           by two nuns?

6       A.   That's right.

7       Q.   But that was a different order to the Sisters of  
8           Nazareth?

9       A.   Yes.   That's right.

10      Q.   And where were you taken?

11      A.   To this institution -- because it was all people with  
12           learning difficulties and there was Down's syndrome and  
13           there was old people.

14      Q.   Were there any children there?

15      A.   No --

16      LADY SMITH:   Trisha, had you been on a train before?

17      A.   No.

18      LADY SMITH:   So that was your first time on a train?

19      A.   Yes.

20      LADY SMITH:   You were going to Liverpool but you didn't know  
21           where Liverpool was?

22      A.   That's right.

23      LADY SMITH:   Did you know how long the journey was going to  
24           take?

25      A.   No.

1 MR MacAULAY: Did you then spend a number of years in that  
2 institution?

3 A. Yes, until I left school.

4 Q. You in fact went to a normal school, if I can put it  
5 that way.

6 A. That's right, I did.

7 Q. Were you given any explanation as to why you were there?

8 A. No. That was the thing. I just don't know why they did  
9 it because they didn't tell me anything.

10 Q. And you've indicated that the other residents at this  
11 place -- and I think it was known as Rosemont convent?

12 A. That's right, it was.

13 Q. That was in Edge Lane in Liverpool.

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. These were people who had learning difficulties --

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. -- and were older?

18 A. Yes. And there was Down syndromes as well.

19 When I walked in, everything looked dark to me, so  
20 I lost my voice, I couldn't speak for about  
21 three months. But the doctor didn't know whether I was  
22 going to get my voice back, but thank God, it did come  
23 back.

24 Q. Can you describe the place? Was it large?

25 A. Yes, it was quite a big place -- sorry.

1 LADY SMITH: Trisha, there's nothing to apologise for at  
2 all. Really, there's nothing to say sorry for. It's  
3 quite understandable if you're finding this tough.  
4 A. Thank you.  
5 LADY SMITH: Help me with one other thing: you've said there  
6 were people at Rosemont convent who had Down's syndrome.  
7 A. Yes.  
8 LADY SMITH: Of course we know they look a bit different  
9 from other people.  
10 A. That's right.  
11 LADY SMITH: Had you come across people with Down's syndrome  
12 before?  
13 A. No. I'd never been with old ladies or anything, just  
14 in the convent.  
15 LADY SMITH: Thank you.  
16 MR MacAULAY: You've been telling us that you lost your  
17 voice.  
18 A. Yes.  
19 Q. And I think you associate that with --  
20 A. I think it was the shock.  
21 Q. But your voice came back?  
22 A. Yes.  
23 Q. Insofar as the sisters were concerned, were you well  
24 looked after by the sisters?  
25 A. Yes. Them nuns were lovely.

- 1 Q. Were you able to compare them to the Sisters of  
2 Nazareth?
- 3 A. Oh aye. They were so nice and the other ones were so  
4 bad.
- 5 Q. Did you have your own room when you were there?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. I think, if we run ahead a bit, you went to normal  
8 school and I think you did well in school; is that  
9 right?
- 10 A. That's right, yes.
- 11 Q. Of course, over the years you were at school, you were  
12 separated from your sister.
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Did you try to make contact with your sister?
- 15 A. I used to write to my sister every week, but she never  
16 got the letters, and I used to think that she didn't  
17 want me near her.
- 18 Q. Did you understand that the nuns that were looking after  
19 you posted your letters?
- 20 A. I knew that the nuns I was with in Rosemont, they sent  
21 the letters, but my sister never got them.
- 22 Q. Is that something your sister has told you?
- 23 A. Yes, I asked her, that was the first thing I asked her  
24 when I met her, about that.
- 25 Q. We'll come in a few moments to when you actually met

1           your sister again. Before that, you're at school and  
2           I think there's a particular lady who helped you when  
3           you were at school; is that right?

4           A. Yes. That's right.

5           Q. And it was her that suggested you go into nursing?

6           A. Yes.

7           Q. That's something you did?

8           A. Yes.

9           Q. And I think it is the case that you qualified as a state  
10          registered nurse; is that right?

11          A. Yes.

12          Q. And you had a career in nursing?

13          A. Yes.

14          Q. And indeed, I think it was because you hurt your back,  
15          broke your back, in 1994, that it really brought that  
16          career to an end?

17          A. Yes.

18          Q. Can I then go back a little bit from there to when you  
19          actually met your sister again, and I think that did  
20          happen.

21          A. Yes.

22          Q. Can you tell me how that happened?

23          A. Well, it was my first job, and I saved the money to come  
24          and see my sister. So I phoned her and she said, "Yeah,  
25          come down". When we got to the convent, they wouldn't

1           let me stay there, so we stayed in a bed and breakfast  
2           place.

3           Q. Before we come to that, what was it like seeing your  
4           sister after so many years?

5           A. It was hard because we'd grown so much apart, you know,  
6           and I'm very different to my sister, but my sister says  
7           we don't get on, but we do. I work hard at that to try  
8           and make it work because we had different opinions on  
9           everything and it was really hard to keep up with her.

10          Q. One of the things you said was because you hadn't had  
11          any reply to the letters you sent --

12          A. That's right.

13          Q. -- you thought your sister just didn't want to be  
14          involved with you.

15          A. Yes. I felt that she didn't want to know me then, but  
16          it wasn't her, which I found out later.

17          Q. Do you know why you weren't allowed to stay at  
18          Nazareth House when you went back --

19          A. No.

20          Q. -- and went to see your sister?

21          A. No, because I said to my sister, "What do I do that was  
22          so bad that they wouldn't let me stay here with her?"

23          Q. Do you think you did anything that justified you being  
24          sent away?

25          A. No. What would you know? They just didn't believe me

- 1           about this man and I think I was punished more after  
2           that.
- 3       Q.   Again, you provide us with quite a bit of information,  
4           Trisha, about life after care and your personal  
5           circumstances. We can read that for ourselves in your  
6           statement. But, if I can cut to it quickly, you have  
7           four grandchildren, for example.
- 8       A.   That's right. My son was the best thing that could have  
9           happened to me.
- 10      Q.   And you're in contact with him on a daily basis?
- 11      A.   Yes.
- 12      Q.   Looking at the impact your life in Nazareth House has  
13           had on you, can I just ask you a little bit about that.  
14           I won't dwell on it too much but you've told us about  
15           the injury to your tooth.
- 16      A.   Yes.
- 17      Q.   That's something, that's a physical thing that happened.
- 18      A.   That's right.
- 19      Q.   Did you have to get that sorted?
- 20      A.   Well, we didn't have a dentist coming in then, you know,  
21           and they wouldn't let me go to an outside place. They  
22           just wanted that left the way it was.
- 23      Q.   What about your mental health? Do you think your  
24           experience there had an impact?
- 25      A.   Yes, I do.

1 Q. If we look at paragraph 62, one thing you say there is:  
2 "My head's been upside down all my life. It's down  
3 to the nuns. I don't know why they did that to me."  
4 A. Yes.  
5 Q. "They weren't people of God; they were demons."  
6 A. Yes.  
7 Q. Is that your view?  
8 A. That's the way I feel about them because of what they  
9 said -- and also the fact that they said my mother was  
10 coming. My mother, I don't think, would have enjoyed  
11 taking one of us without the other. I only found out  
12 about my mother on -- I think it was last Monday.  
13 Q. I think what's happened is that the inquiry has  
14 recovered documents which tends to suggest that a lady  
15 who was described as your mother visited.  
16 A. Yes.  
17 Q. I think your position is, well, you never saw such  
18 a person --  
19 A. No.  
20 Q. -- if you were there at that time.  
21 A. No.  
22 Q. The other thing I want to ask you just now, Trisha,  
23 is -- I want you to look at a document which is  
24 a handwritten statement. I just want you to identify it  
25 for me. I'll put it on the screen. It's at

- 1 WIT.003.001.2298. You can see this is a handwritten  
2 document. Is this in your handwriting?
- 3 A. That is.
- 4 Q. Was this something you wrote out when there was a court  
5 action raised?
- 6 A. [REDACTED]
- 7 I wrote that for the solicitor, Cameron Fyfe.
- 8 Q. Have you set out in this quite detailed and lengthy  
9 document an account of life for you at Cardonald?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And does this document contain the truth?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. I'm not going to go through it with you, but at the  
14 beginning, for example, it begins by saying:
- 15 "I was a flooder, a dandelion, dirty, wet-bed,  
16 smelly, humiliated all the time ..."
- 17 And so on, because you wet the bed?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And you've told us about that.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. If I can then take you to the last page of your  
22 statement, Trisha. If you just bear with me a minute or  
23 two longer.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. If we go to the last page of your statement -- it'll

1           come on the screen.

2           A. Yes.

3           Q. What you say there, under the heading "Hopes for the  
4           inquiry", is that:

5                     "The nuns had all the power, so they could do what  
6           they wanted. They knew they wouldn't be questioned."

7           A. That's right.

8           Q. "They need to choose the right people to look after  
9           children."

10                    Is that your view, you have to have the right  
11           people?

12           A. Yes.

13           MR MacAULAY: That's all the questions I have for you,  
14           Trisha. Subject to something I'm going to say in  
15           a moment, I think I've asked all the questions I have  
16           been asked to put to you as well.

17                    My Lady, unless there are any further questions.  
18           The only thing that remains for me to do is to read out  
19           a statement that Trisha would like me to read out.

20           LADY SMITH: Let me check first if there are any other  
21           questions. Ms MacLeod, if you could indicate if anybody  
22           is making application.

23                    There are no applications for further questions,  
24           Trisha, so you would now like Mr MacAulay to read out  
25           the statement that you've written --

1 A. Yes.

2 LADY SMITH: -- to be put into evidence today?

3 A. That's right.

4 LADY SMITH: I will invite him to do that now.

5 Mr MacAulay.

6 MR MacAULAY: "My abuser stole my childhood, destroyed my  
7 mental health and stripped me of the chance of  
8 happiness. I suffer from severe depression and I find  
9 it hard to form relationships. I lost precious years  
10 with my sister and friends. Being in Nazareth House is  
11 like a stigma that stays with you. It would be nice to  
12 be able to let go, but there's so much there, you're  
13 frightened to do it. If anybody got too close to me,  
14 I had to push them away."

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. "I am absolutely devastated with the news I received on  
17 Monday this week, indicating my mother visited me and my  
18 sister about three times a year and we were not aware of  
19 her."

20 A. That's right.

21 Q. "I always felt like I didn't belong to anybody when  
22 I was a child."

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. "When I reached the age of 16, I really wanted a mum but  
25 I think the nuns deprived me of seeing my mother and



1 MR MacAULAY: That is the case, my Lady, although I can say  
2 we are carrying out some further enquiries and have  
3 asked the order to provide us with what information they  
4 can in addition to what we've received, whether that be  
5 from other sisters who might have a knowledge of that or  
6 whatever. So that is something that is being looked at  
7 because it's a -- on the face of it, the removal of this  
8 witness from Cardonald at the time seems a very, very  
9 strange thing to do, particularly when the removal seems  
10 to have been to an institution which was not in any way  
11 shape or form suitable for her.

12 LADY SMITH: It also strikes me that in comparison to just  
13 about every other applicant witness we have, these are  
14 the only two witnesses who cannot offer anything by way  
15 of knowledge of their own family background before they  
16 went into care. We don't always air that in the course  
17 of the hearing, but we have it in the written statements  
18 in a number of cases and I don't think we've had anybody  
19 else come forward who just knows absolutely nothing  
20 about their family circumstances.

21 I think Ms MacLeod is remembering something she  
22 wants to tell you.

23 (Pause)

24 MR MacAULAY: There is a record of the parents' names, but  
25 what we have here is the conundrum that suggests that

1           somebody who bore to be the mother of the children was  
2           a visitor and yet was never seen, on the face of it, by  
3           the witnesses.

4           LADY SMITH: And that record is a 1960s record?

5           MR MacAULAY: It is.

6           LADY SMITH: So the twins would be 11 or 12 years -- more  
7           than 11 or 12 years old, going into teenage years by  
8           then, so if somebody was visiting them they knew was  
9           their mother, it would be reasonable to expect that they  
10          remembered that now.

11          MR MacAULAY: Certainly the first witness, because by the  
12          time of that record, this witness had been removed.

13          LADY SMITH: But the first witness --

14          MR MacAULAY: Would be into her teens.

15          LADY SMITH: These continuing inquiries are important and  
16          it is to be hoped that if there is any shred of  
17          information, that it's made available to us sooner  
18          rather than later.

19          MR MacAULAY: Of course. No doubt those representing the  
20          order will take note of that.

21          LADY SMITH: Thank you.

22                    I'll rise now for a few minutes and we'll get the  
23          screens organised and the hearing loop checked.

24          (2.45 pm)

25                                   (A short break)

1 (3.00 pm)

2 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay, I understand that in fact the next  
3 witness is going to give evidence from behind screens as  
4 well, so we didn't need to do that, and I'm told the  
5 hearing loop is fine; is that right?

6 MR MacAULAY: That's what I understand. The next witness is  
7 an applicant who wants to remain anonymous and she wants  
8 to use the name "Maureen" in giving her evidence.

9 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

10 "MAUREEN" (sworn)

11 LADY SMITH: Please sit down and make yourself comfortable.

12 Let's see if you're comfortable with the way the  
13 hearing loop is working; is it all right?

14 A. Yes, I can hear that fine, thanks.

15 LADY SMITH: Please tell us if there are any glitches at any  
16 time and we'll sort it out. You have already noticed  
17 that the red file has your statement in it; Mr MacAulay  
18 will be telling you about that in a moment. I'm sure  
19 you appreciate that keeping in the right position for  
20 the microphone is important, both for you and for us to  
21 hear you, and for the stenographers to pick up  
22 everything you're saying.

23 A. Okay.

24 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

25 Mr MacAulay.

1 Questions from MR MacAULAY

2 MR MacAULAY: Hello, Maureen.

3 A. Hi.

4 Q. I'll be asking you questions and the first thing I want  
5 you to confirm with me, not the date of your birth, but  
6 just the year of your birth. Were you born in 1953?

7 A. In Edinburgh.

8 Q. And was the year of your birth 1953; is that correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. In the red folder you'll find your statement. I'll give  
11 the reference to the transcribers, and that is  
12 WIT.001.001.3775. Could I ask you to go to the last  
13 page of the statement. Can you confirm for me that  
14 you have signed the statement?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. If we look at the last paragraph, do you say there:

17 "I have no objection to my witness statement being  
18 published as part of the evidence to the inquiry"?

19 Is that correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Do you also say:

22 "I believe the facts stated in this witness  
23 statement are true"?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. You said a moment ago, Maureen, that you were born in

1           Edinburgh; is that correct?

2           A.  It is.

3           Q.  I think you tell us, and we needn't look at the detail,  
4           that you had a fairly unhappy family background.

5           A.  I did.

6           Q.  You, I think, had two brothers and one sister; is that  
7           right?

8           A.  Yes.

9           Q.  And your sister, in particular, if we focus on her, she  
10          was 18 months younger than you?

11          A.  Yes.

12          Q.  Because of the family background, were you and your  
13          sister taken to Nazareth House in Cardonald?

14          A.  We were.

15          Q.  So far as your brothers are concerned -- and they were  
16          younger as well, I think.

17          A.  They were.

18          Q.  Do you know where they went?

19          A.  Yes, they went to Nazareth House in Penicuik, Lasswade.

20          Q.  And just to jump ahead a little bit, did you have much  
21          to do with them over the years that you were at  
22          Cardonald?

23          A.  No.  They visited twice -- or once.

24          Q.  Just looking to when you were at Cardonald, according to  
25          the records that we've seen -- and they may not

1 necessarily be correct -- you were admitted on  
2 [REDACTED] 1962; is that about right?  
3 A. Yes.  
4 Q. You'd be aged about 9 at the time?  
5 A. Eight.  
6 Q. And you left, according to the records, on  
7 [REDACTED] 1970; is that about correct?  
8 A. It is.  
9 Q. Aged about 16?  
10 A. Yes.  
11 Q. When you went to Cardonald, were you taken there by  
12 a social worker?  
13 A. Yes.  
14 Q. And can you remember much of the first day there?  
15 A. Yes.  
16 Q. Can you tell us about it?  
17 A. Yes. When we first arrived, one of the nuns was there  
18 and she went away with the social worker. I don't know  
19 what happened there, but my sister and I were in the  
20 parlour and then we were taken upstairs by a girl and  
21 we were told to -- she deloused my head and that's ...  
22 I became very frightened then because I didn't know  
23 what was going on and I just wanted my mum.  
24 LADY SMITH: Maureen, can you get just slightly closer to  
25 the microphone.

1 A. Sorry.

2 LADY SMITH: It's okay. It can sometimes take a little  
3 while to adjust to the right position -- and, of course,  
4 if you get too close it becomes all fuzzy. Try now.

5 MR MacAULAY: So you were telling us that you were taken  
6 upstairs by a girl; is that right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What did you say after that, I didn't quite catch it.

9 A. My head was deloused by her.

10 Q. And your sister as well?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. I think you said you were rather worried at that  
13 point --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- because you wanted your mother?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did you then, after the social worker had left, meet up  
18 with a particular nun?

19 A. Not until about three days afterwards, the nun that was  
20 in charge of our group, who was Sister [REDACTED] LFP .

21 Q. Before that, had you met a Sister [REDACTED] LFH ?

22 A. Yes. She was the one that the social worker was talking  
23 to.

24 Q. So far as Sister [REDACTED] LFH was concerned, did you have any  
25 dealings with her before Sister [REDACTED] LFP came on the

1 scene?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Did she tell you, for example, that you'd be in  
4 a particular group?

5 A. Yes, she told me I'd be in the red group.

6 Q. What about your sister?

7 A. The same group.

8 Q. Did you understand, though, that Sister **LFP** would  
9 be in charge of the red group?

10 A. Well, I was told that the nun that was in charge of the  
11 red group was on a retreat, so I didn't see her for,  
12 I think, two or three days.

13 Q. You also tell us about a girl that you met called  
14 **LCC**; is that right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Was that early on when you were there at the very  
17 beginning?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. How did you find her?

20 A. She was really nice.

21 Q. Did she give you some advice?

22 A. Yes. She told me to just keep my mouth shut and don't  
23 say anything and I'd get on okay.

24 Q. When you did meet Sister **LFP**, did anything happen?

25 A. Yes. She looked at me as if I was a piece of dirt and

1 she grabbed me by the hair. I had a fringe and she dug  
2 some Kirby grips into it, into my head, which started to  
3 bleed.

4 Q. Did she say anything to you?

5 A. She said I was a filthy brat.

6 Q. Had you done anything or said anything to her before  
7 this happened?

8 A. No, I was too scared. I was just trying to get my  
9 bearings about, you know, what was going on. I was too  
10 scared to say anything to her; she was extremely  
11 frightening.

12 Q. Did she say what she was going to do at that point?

13 A. Not that I can remember.

14 Q. What about any suggestion that you may have had lice or  
15 nits?

16 A. Oh yes, yes. She said about that, she said I was filthy  
17 and that my head was covered in lice.

18 Q. And what happened?

19 A. Well, **LCC** deloused my head.

20 Q. Was it **LCC** who did it or was it the nun?

21 A. It was **LCC**.

22 Q. And how was that? Was it a painful experience?

23 A. It was very painful, yes.

24 Q. At that time did you have long hair?

25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Was it cut?
- 2 A. It was chopped up to my ears.
- 3 Q. Who did that?
- 4 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFP .
- 5 Q. Can I then, against that background, look with you at
- 6 the routine that you had to follow at Cardonald. So far
- 7 as the morning was concerned, when would you have to get
- 8 up in the morning?
- 9 A. About 6 o'clock.
- 10 Q. What then happened?
- 11 A. At that time I didn't have to make the bed; it wasn't
- 12 until I was older you had to make the younger children's
- 13 beds. You just made your bed and you got ready for
- 14 Mass.
- 15 Q. Was it daily Mass at that time?
- 16 A. I'm a bit unsure. I think it was every now and again.
- 17 I can't remember if it was like daily.
- 18 Q. Okay. But in any event, when you come to mealtimes --
- 19 can you help me with mealtimes, what was the food like?
- 20 A. Well, coming from a home that -- where food was scarce.
- 21 It was -- to me, it was okay. There was a couple of
- 22 things that I didn't like.
- 23 Q. In your statement you mention sago.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. You say that was like frogspawn; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes, frogs' eggs, yes, spawn.
- 2 Q. Well, what reaction would you have if you had to eat the  
3 sago?
- 4 A. Well, there used to be lumps in it, it made me really  
5 sick, and I would say it was one of the few things, that  
6 and porridge. It used to stick in my throat and I just  
7 couldn't swallow it. I kept bringing it back up and  
8 Sister LFP came round and she was trying to force  
9 it down my throat and I was crying, you know, and saying  
10 I couldn't eat it, but as she was putting it down my  
11 throat, I was bringing it back up again, so she would  
12 just spoon it back into my mouth, and it became like  
13 water.
- 14 Q. Was this just on one occasion this happened?
- 15 A. With sago, I probably put down one occasion, but it  
16 happened with porridge as well. Even though I hadn't  
17 said that, but it did work with porridge. She was  
18 immensely cruel.
- 19 Q. Were you able to arrange that others could eat some food  
20 for you?
- 21 A. Yes. Everybody did that -- well, most people did it.
- 22 Q. So --
- 23 A. We all ate -- some people liked the food that I didn't  
24 like and I liked some of the food that they didn't like,  
25 so that's what we did.

1 Q. Did you tell us -- you may have done and I've  
2 forgotten -- that the group you were in had a particular  
3 colour?

4 A. Red, yes.

5 Q. Were there other groups though with other colours like  
6 green and blue?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. How many were in your group that you can remember?

9 A. I can't remember, but probably about maybe 14.

10 Q. So that sounds quite a small group then.

11 A. Yes. It might have been 14 or 16. I honestly can't  
12 remember the exact amount, but there must have been  
13 more.

14 Q. Just looking to the age range within the group, were  
15 there different ages within the group?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So when you went in at the age of about 8 or 9, would  
18 you be one of the younger ones in the group?

19 A. There was children that was younger than me, but  
20 I probably was one of the younger ones. But there was  
21 still a few that were younger than me and there was  
22 quite a few that were older.

23 Q. Did I understand you to say before that older children  
24 would have some duties in connection with the younger  
25 children? Bed-making, for example?

- 1 A. Yes. The older ones used to have to make the little  
2 ones' beds.
- 3 Q. When you got older did you have to do that?
- 4 A. I did, yes.
- 5 Q. Your sister, you told us, was in the same group as you.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. What about the sleeping arrangements? Were you kept  
8 together?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. What happened?
- 11 A. Well, they didn't think that my sister should be  
12 anywhere near me, you know.
- 13 Q. So what happened? You said they didn't think your  
14 sister should be near you. Can you tell me what was the  
15 position then?
- 16 A. They didn't think that she should be near me because it  
17 was as if I would contaminate my sister. She was  
18 a dainty little thing -- you know, blue eyes, blonde  
19 hair -- and I spoke up for myself whereas [REDACTED] was  
20 different, what she did was put down her head and did  
21 what she was told, but that's probably because that's  
22 her nature anyway.
- 23 Q. You have told us then that you were not in the same  
24 bedroom.
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. How many beds were in the room that you were in?
- 2 A. There would be about, maybe about eight in the big  
3 bedroom, and in the middle bedroom there would be about  
4 maybe four, five. In the last dormitory -- there was  
5 boys in the last dormitory.
- 6 Q. Were there boys in the group?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. So by now then we have a mixed group of girls and boys?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Can I ask you about bedtimes, Maureen. Was there  
11 something you -- a particular way you had to be in your  
12 bed when you went to bed?
- 13 A. Yes. When we went to sleep, Sister **LFP** had said  
14 about -- you had your thumb and you put INRI across your  
15 forehead and it was to remind us that we killed Jesus.
- 16 Q. So she told you that early on; is that right?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Was that something then you'd have to do every night?
- 19 A. I did it all the time. I still did it when I left  
20 Nazareth House.
- 21 Q. What about how you lay in the bed?
- 22 A. You had to lie with the covers here (indicating) and  
23 your hands crossed.
- 24 Q. You're indicating across your chest.
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. If you didn't do that, did anything happen?

2 A. Yes, she would bash you. She would pull your hair.

3 Q. And you say she, is that --

4 A. LFP, yes, Sister LFP.

5 Q. Did you wet the bed?

6 A. Once.

7 Q. Was that early on in your time there?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did something happen?

10 A. Yes, I was horrified when I woke up, you know, and

11 I realised that the bed was wet. I was terrified. So

12 I just -- I covered it up, you know, I just made the

13 bed, but I don't know how she found out, I don't know

14 how she knew, but she found out, and she battered me.

15 Q. How did she batter you?

16 A. Dragged me by the hair, threw me on the floor, kicked

17 me, said I was a filthy brat, and I never wet the bed

18 again.

19 Q. Did she do anything with the sheet?

20 A. She rubbed -- what she did was she put the sheet over my

21 head and I was made to stand in the corridor, the sheet

22 over my head, and she got the other children to call me

23 names like "smelly" and "wet the bed". I was so

24 terrified, I couldn't sleep after that. I could never

25 sleep properly because I was always terrified of wetting

- 1 the bed again.
- 2 Q. And you didn't?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. Were there other children who wet the bed?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Did you see what happened to them?
- 7 A. The same thing -- some of them, not all of them, but
- 8 some of them.
- 9 Q. When you say some of them, were there some who didn't
- 10 have this treatment?
- 11 A. To be honest, I wasn't always there, you know. I could
- 12 be doing a chore or something, so there are some things
- 13 that I didn't see.
- 14 Q. You tell us in your statement, Maureen, that you were
- 15 moved from that dormitory to another dormitory and
- 16 another sister took over from Sister [REDACTED] LFP ; is that
- 17 right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. How long do you think was Sister [REDACTED] LFP in charge of
- 20 you?
- 21 A. It's really hard to remember. Maybe about three years,
- 22 four years.
- 23 Q. So quite some time?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And over that period how did you get on with

- 1           Sister [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED] ?
- 2           A. I didn't. I didn't. She didn't get on with me. She
- 3           hated me anyway. You know, she would clout me and bash
- 4           me at any opportunity. She just didn't like me.
- 5           Q. What about other children? Did she behave that way
- 6           towards other children?
- 7           A. Yes. There was a little boy there and she was like that
- 8           with him. I can't remember his name. But she would hit
- 9           him as well, you know. So there was boys that got hit
- 10          just the same as me.
- 11          Q. The sister that took over from her you tell us was
- 12          Sister [REDACTED] LFS [REDACTED] ; is that right?
- 13          A. [REDACTED] LFS [REDACTED] .
- 14          Q. What was she like?
- 15          A. When I first seen her, I thought she was absolutely
- 16          lovely, compared to Sister [REDACTED] LFP [REDACTED] , because she was so
- 17          stern, but this one looked quite young and I thought she
- 18          was really, really nice. So I had really good hopes
- 19          that we would get on.
- 20          Q. But what happened?
- 21          A. We didn't get on. She had -- I went up to her and I
- 22          said, "Hello, my name's [REDACTED] ", and she said,
- 23          "I know who you are and I'll be keeping my eye on you",
- 24          so I just shut down. I shut myself down, as far as she
- 25          was concerned, because I thought she's never going to

1           accept me. I probably didn't think of it in those terms  
2           at the time because I was a child, but I just thought  
3           there was no point.

4       Q. From what you said about timescales, although I know  
5           this isn't absolutely accurate, you'd be about 11 or so  
6           when this --

7       A. Yes, I'd be about 11.

8       Q. Well, can I just look at other aspects of the routine  
9           and look at washing and bathing. Can you help me with  
10          that? What were the arrangements for washing and  
11          bathing?

12      A. Well, the youngest ones got bathed first and by the time  
13          it came to me, the water was grey and it had like a lot  
14          of scum round it. And I used to -- they didn't  
15          physically force me into it, but I had to go into it.  
16          She would be standing outside the -- there was a screen,  
17          so she was standing outside that. They kept that for,  
18          apparently, the older ones.

19      Q. Can I just be clear: how many baths were there, so far  
20          as you can remember?

21      A. One --

22      Q. So far as --

23      A. -- for each group, probably, one for each group.

24      Q. For your group would all those in your group have that  
25          same bath?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. What about the boys, because you told me there were  
3 boys?
- 4 A. Everybody used that one bath and I was last.
- 5 Q. Why were you last?
- 6 A. I don't know. They just -- I honestly don't know.  
7 Probably because she didn't like me and just wanted me  
8 to -- I don't know. Punish me or something. I really  
9 don't know.
- 10 Q. The she you're talking about here, which of the nuns are  
11 you talking about?
- 12 A. LFS .
- 13 Q. You do tell us that you had some leisure time and you  
14 could watch television.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And you had books to read as well; is that right?
- 17 A. Well, I had one book, which was David Copperfield  
18 that -- I had been asking and asking -- I would be  
19 12ish, maybe 13, going on 13 and I kept asking and  
20 asking constantly for a book to read and eventually she  
21 opened the door and threw it at me.
- 22 Q. Who was she here?
- 23 A. LFS .
- 24 Q. Looking at chores then, did you have chores to do?
- 25 A. Yes. Lots. Lots.

1 Q. Can you give me some idea as to what sort of chores you  
2 had to do?

3 A. Yes. Wax the corridors, wax the wooden floors in the  
4 dormitories, and then you had to put rags on the bottom  
5 of your shoes and then tie them with another separate  
6 piece of rag. It was really hard work to begin with  
7 until your managed to get the floor -- a shine on the  
8 floor and then it was like -- we would pretend we were  
9 skating.

10 Q. How time-consuming was the work you had to do?

11 A. Very. Very time-consuming. I think it was too much for  
12 children, a small child.

13 Q. Were there other people there, like cleaners for  
14 example?

15 A. No, we did it.

16 Q. Were there any cleaners so far as you can remember?

17 A. No.

18 Q. If we look at the toilets, who cleaned the toilets?

19 A. We would.

20 Q. What about making beds and dishes?

21 A. Yes, we would and we would wash dishes as well.

22 Q. One thing you do tell us in paragraph 26 -- and that's  
23 on the screen -- is that one of your jobs was also  
24 cleaning the shoes for all the children.

25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. What number of shoes are we talking about there?
- 2 A. However many was in the group at the time.
- 3 Q. So if there were 14 children, there's 14 pairs of shoes?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And there's one particular episode I think you tell us  
6 about; can you help me with that?
- 7 A. Yes. I had done them and I took great pride in doing  
8 them, actually. It became quite therapeutic at the end,  
9 but also very tiring. When I had finished I was really  
10 pleased with myself because I thought, well, she can't  
11 say anything about that, but she did. She said they  
12 weren't done properly and threw a shoe right at my head  
13 and said to me, "Get them done again".
- 14 Q. And the she here, is this --
- 15 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFS . Sorry, I am talking about  
16 Sister [REDACTED] LFS . Sorry.
- 17 Q. That's fine. We like to be absolutely clear. From now  
18 on I'll assume you are talking about --
- 19 A. Yes, sorry about that.
- 20 Q. Did you go on trips and holidays?
- 21 A. No, I got on holidays. I went on two holidays that  
22 I can remember.
- 23 Q. What about trips? Because we have heard already about  
24 the taxi trip.
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did you get on that trip?

2 A. Well, I never got on the taxi trip until one time and it  
3 was just a fluke. I was standing waving the children,  
4 the rest of the children, off and a taxi driver came  
5 over and he was asking me my name and why wasn't I in  
6 a party dress and I said, "I'm not going, I am not  
7 allowed". He said, "There's plenty of room in my taxi".  
8 One of the nuns came over -- I can't remember her name,  
9 but she came over and I don't know whether it was  
10 [REDACTED] LFS , I'm not sure, I don't want to blame her for  
11 something she didn't do, but one of them did it. She  
12 said, "Oh no, she's not going on the trip". He said,  
13 "I've got plenty of room in my taxi", and I'm mournfully  
14 looking at him like, just take me, you know, and he did.  
15 And he bundled me into the taxi and it was one of the  
16 best days, but in the back of my mind I always thought,  
17 I'm going to get it when I go back.

18 Q. Did you?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. What happened?

21 A. I got bashed.

22 Q. By whom?

23 A. Sister [REDACTED] LFS or Sister [REDACTED] LFP . It was one of the  
24 two, but I think it must have been [REDACTED] LFS . I think it  
25 was.

1 Q. That's the one trip then you were able to go on during  
2 your whole time there, is it?

3 A. There was one trip when I arrived. I wasn't in  
4 Nazareth House long when I went to -- and I'd forgotten  
5 about this one. This was in John Lewis, in Lewis', it  
6 was called at the time, and I went on that one, and  
7 I remember the people that were there had us singing  
8 a Beatles song that was just out.

9 Q. What about holidays then? Did you go on holiday when  
10 you were there?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Any particular locations?

13 A. Sorry, what do you mean, occasions?

14 Q. Places. Where did you go?

15 A. Oh, sorry. I went to Bonnybridge with Mrs Ballantine  
16 and her husband and their daughter, but she used to --  
17 every time she was out, she would tell everybody I was  
18 a little girl from the orphanage and I used to say, "I'm  
19 not an orphan, I've got a mum and dad", you know. She  
20 went back and told the nun and -- well, I didn't care  
21 because I didn't want to go back to her.

22 Q. So you just went the once to that family?

23 A. No, sorry, I went a couple of times because I went  
24 another time with another girl.

25 Q. Could I ask you a little bit about schooling then. The

1 local school was Our Lady of Lourdes; is that right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. When you went there, you'd go to the primary school;

4 is that correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. But then once you got to secondary school age, you'd go

7 to the secondary school?

8 A. 12.

9 Q. When you were 12?

10 A. Yes. Excuse me, could I just say that I'd actually went

11 on holiday as well with one of the Knights of

12 St Columba.

13 Q. I think that's something -- did something happen when

14 that happened?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. I will come back to that then --

17 A. Okay.

18 Q. -- if you don't mind me doing that.

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. So far as schooling is concerned, did you enjoy school?

21 A. I enjoyed primary school because I had a lovely teacher.

22 Q. Did you find the teachers were kind in the main?

23 A. Miss Wilson was very kind. She was very, very kind to

24 me, and she used to keep me behind sometimes and give

25 me, it was like two digestive biscuits -- and now I know

1           it to be malt that was in it. I didn't know what it was  
2           at the time, but they were in foil and she would tell me  
3           to sit in the classroom and eat them. Then one of the  
4           other girls told on me and I was told that I was to tell  
5           Miss Wilson not to -- I wasn't allowed to take anything;  
6           if I was getting fed it would be in Nazareth House.

7           Q. When you were told on, did anything happen to you?

8           A. No, she just -- I can't remember. I don't think so, but  
9           she just shouted at me and said, "You tell them from now  
10          on that you get fed at home".

11          Q. One example you give is that Mrs Wilson gave you  
12          a medal.

13          A. She did, yes.

14          Q. Was that for doing well in religious knowledge?

15          A. Yes.

16          Q. What happened in connection with the medal?

17          A. It was ripped from my neck when I was getting my hair  
18          washed. I'd forgotten to take it off. I used to hide  
19          it so that the nun wouldn't see it. She saw it once and  
20          she dragged it off my neck.

21          Q. Was that Sister **LFS** ?

22          A. It was Sister **LFP** .

23          Q. What happened to the medal?

24          A. She put it -- it was like a great big white sink and it  
25          had -- it was like a big ... I don't know how to put

1           it. Like an opening, and she put it down, she put it  
2           down the opening.

3       Q. Down the sink?

4       A. Yes. And I was heartbroken, absolutely heartbroken. It  
5           was the only thing that I had that was mine.

6       Q. This was a religious medal; is that correct?

7       A. Yes, uh-huh.

8       Q. Do you know why she did that?

9       A. No.

10      Q. One thing you tell us in your statement -- and this no  
11         doubt would be when you were in secondary school --  
12         is that you developed your periods; is that right?

13      A. Yes.

14      Q. And did you speak to Sister LFS about that?

15      A. I tried to tell her and she told me to get away from  
16         her.

17      Q. Were you given any help as to how to manage your  
18         periods?

19      A. Well, when I went to the dormitory, there was a packet  
20         of pads on my bed. It was a thing called a sanitary  
21         belt at the time. I didn't know what to do. One of the  
22         older girls came and showed me what to do.

23      Q. You also tell us in your statement that when your report  
24         card came in -- and presumably it would come into the  
25         convent -- you were never allowed to look at it; is that

1 correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Were you told why that was?

4 A. Not at the time, no. I used to have to stand with it

5 sometimes on my head, you know, to let everybody know

6 how stupid I was. And I was -- I daren't have looked at

7 it really.

8 Q. Can I just understand that? So far as the report card

9 coming into the convent would be concerned, would it be

10 sent there or would you take it in?

11 A. I would take it.

12 Q. And who would you give it to?

13 A. Whatever nun there was at the time.

14 Q. This business of standing on your head, I don't quite

15 understand that. What happened?

16 A. I used to have to stand in front of the statue of

17 Our Lady and just keep it on my head. It kept falling

18 off.

19 Q. So you put the report card on your head; is that right?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Who told you to do that?

22 A. One of the nuns.

23 Q. Were you told anything about what was in the report

24 card?

25 A. No, no; I was told I was stupid.

1 Q. For how long would you have to stand in front of the  
2 statue?

3 A. As a child, it seemed like ages so I'm not really  
4 100 per cent sure.

5 Q. Did you see this happen to any other children?

6 A. No.

7 LADY SMITH: So you're saying you were never allowed to read  
8 your own school reports; is that right?

9 A. No, I wasn't allowed my report card, which made me,  
10 throughout my life, always believe that I was pretty  
11 dense.

12 MR MacAULAY: But in fact, later on, did you not discover  
13 something about your report cards?

14 A. Yes, but that was like years and years ago. I was doing  
15 a sign language -- a course in sign language, and one of  
16 the -- the tutor had said, did I have any  
17 qualifications, and I said no. And he said, "Did you  
18 not get anything from school?" and I said, no, I wasn't  
19 allowed my report card so I don't know. He said to me,  
20 "Well, do you want me to send away?" I said, "You won't  
21 get it because I asked the nuns for it and they said  
22 I couldn't have it". I said, it's probably long gone  
23 now.

24 But when I got the sheet of paper back with my  
25 report card and I was quite surprised that I wasn't

1           stupid like they said I was.

2       Q.   Yes.  I think what you discovered actually is that it

3           turned out that you were pretty clever in fact.

4       A.   Yes.

5       Q.   Even although that was what was reported, you were told

6           that you were stupid?

7       A.   Yes.

8       Q.   You also say, I think, that you were being worn down by

9           being constantly told that you couldn't do anything.

10      A.   Yes.

11      Q.   Who was doing that to you?

12      A.   Well, Sister [REDACTED] LFS .

13      Q.   What would she say?

14      A.   I was thick and stupid, I'd never amount to anything.

15      Q.   How did you react to that?

16      A.   I started answering back by then because I thought, you

17           get bashed if you don't say anything, so I may as well

18           say something and get bashed as well, and then it got it

19           out of my system.  I didn't think in those terms then,

20           I was a child, but I just thought I'm going to get

21           bashed anyway, so I may as well answer back, and

22           I started answering back.

23      Q.   Would that sort of present you as a cheeky child?

24           Looking back, what do you think?

25      A.   I think I was spirited, but they would see me as being

1 a brat.

2 Q. Okay. But this was at a point in time when you had been  
3 treated in a particular way, that you decided this  
4 was --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Did you have something you wanted to be at that time?

7 A. I wanted to be a nurse.

8 Q. Did the fact that you were being told that you were  
9 stupid and so on, did that impact upon that ambition?

10 A. It did because I asked -- there was a pet there, I don't  
11 want to say her name, but she got to go to -- I think it  
12 was Langside College, and I wanted to be a nurse, the  
13 same as her, and I wasn't allowed because they said  
14 I was thick and stupid, so there would be no point in me  
15 going, and in no uncertain terms was I going.

16 Q. I'll come back to one or two things in connection with  
17 that in a moment.

18 So far as healthcare was concerned, can you tell me  
19 a little bit how that was being managed within the home?  
20 If there was something wrong with you and you needed  
21 a doctor, would a doctor be called?

22 A. Yes. I had rheumatic fever when I was about -- I was  
23 still in primary school. I'd be about 11 because  
24 Sister LFS was there. I was taken home by a teacher  
25 and the nuns went mad -- well, Sister LFS went mad,

1           how dare the teacher bring me back, I should have stayed  
2           in school. They just said -- she said there was nothing  
3           wrong with me, but I could hardly walk. My legs just  
4           seemed to seize up and I was in the playground and  
5           I just couldn't walk. One of the teachers half carried,  
6           half lifted me into the school, took me home, and from  
7           there on, you know, the doctor was called. He showed  
8           Sister LFS how to make poultices. She used to make  
9           them so hot I would be screaming because they were  
10          absolutely roasting and my skin was all burnt.

11         Q. What about dental treatment? Did you require some  
12          dental treatment when you were in the home?

13         A. Yes, we all did.

14         Q. Did the dentist come into the home?

15         A. He came in, yes.

16         Q. Was there something that happened in connection with  
17          him?

18         A. Yes.

19         Q. Do you want to tell us what happened? You don't have to  
20          if you don't want to. We have it in your statement.

21         A. Oh right, because I feel really uncomfortable about it,  
22          I feel embarrassed.

23         Q. Okay. But can I ask you this: did this happen on more  
24          than one occasion?

25         A. I think I remember one occasion, but most times we had

1 gas and air, so -- yeah, gas, so I wouldn't have known  
2 then what was going on.

3 Q. Right. Did you discuss what happened with other girls?

4 A. Yes, the other girls said that, you know, things  
5 happened to them that seemed worse than what happened to  
6 me.

7 Q. Without going into the detail, these are sexual matters?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did you tell any of the nuns what had happened?

10 A. No. They wouldn't have believed us anyway, there was no  
11 point.

12 Q. Can I just ask you about visits and look, first of all,  
13 at family visits. Did you have visits from members of  
14 your family?

15 A. My dad came up a couple of times and -- we were allowed  
16 to walk round the grounds and one day we were walking  
17 round with my dad and he said, "Come towards the gate".  
18 At the gate there was a lady standing there and when  
19 I got closer, I realised it was my mum. I was so happy  
20 to see her, you know. She said to me, "Come to mum,  
21 [REDACTED]", which -- I was nearly, you know, getting  
22 a hug from her when there was the sound of harsh  
23 clapping and it was Sister [REDACTED] LFH saying I was to go  
24 back in and my dad was to go as well.

25 So he went into one parlour, we were in somewhere --

1 he went into one room, we were in another room and, to  
2 cut it short, I never saw my dad or mum again and what's  
3 what they said, "You will never see your parents again",  
4 and I was really devastated about that. Even though  
5 they were our family, life was bad, I felt life in there  
6 was equally bad.

7 LADY SMITH: Have you any idea why that was her reaction?

8 A. No. Because I was young, I didn't understand why they  
9 were sent away, so no. No, I didn't, sorry.

10 LADY SMITH: No, that's all right.

11 It was made clear to you that the nuns weren't  
12 prepared to deal with your parents at all and that was  
13 going to be an end of it; is that really what you're  
14 saying?

15 A. Yes. I was never allowed to -- what had happened was  
16 they kept saying to me, "Who was the woman at the gate?"  
17 and of course my dad had said on the way up there not to  
18 say that it was my mum that was at the gate, I needed to  
19 protect her, you know. So I kept saying I didn't know  
20 who it was.

21 LADY SMITH: Does that mean that they did know that your dad  
22 was there visiting you?

23 A. Yes. Because my dad had already been in to see them and  
24 then he asked if he could take us round the grounds so  
25 we could just have a little wander round, then that's

1           when he said there's someone here to see you, and he  
2           said, "It's your ma".

3       MR MacAULAY: I'll come back to in that a moment. I think  
4           what you're saying is your father told you not to say  
5           who it was.

6       A. Yes, he said, "Don't say who it is".

7       Q. You did not tell when you were asked who it was?

8       A. I kept saying, "I don't know, it's just a lady", and  
9           they kept on and on and on until ... Well, what had  
10          happened was as well, before that, my mum had said to  
11          me, "Come to mum, [REDACTED]", and that was when I went  
12          to go to her, and Sister [REDACTED] LFH -- she watched  
13          everything, she watched absolutely everything. She had  
14          ears like a hawk and she could see everything, so you  
15          were constantly on tenterhooks. I didn't know why I was  
16          lying, saying I didn't know who it was, because she was  
17          always going to find out.

18       Q. Did you eventually tell her who it was?

19       A. Yes, I did.

20       Q. And what happened?

21       A. She said, "You'll never see either of your parents  
22          again", and I didn't.

23       Q. Did she do anything to you at that time?

24       A. I think I got clouted or something. I can't remember --  
25          sorry, it's so intense, I just can't -- I can't remember

1 everything.

2 Q. It's okay.

3 A. I'm sorry.

4 LADY SMITH: Don't worry. If you want to take a moment,  
5 because we're asking you to think about a lot of things  
6 in rapid succession, it's okay if you want to take a bit  
7 of time. Do you want a break --

8 A. Yes, please, just even a couple of minutes.

9 LADY SMITH: -- to sort out what's going on in your head?  
10 Let's have a few minutes' break.

11 A. Thank you very much.

12 (3.47 pm)

13 (A short break)

14 (4.00 pm)

15 LADY SMITH: Maureen, do you feel ready to continue?

16 A. Yes, thank you.

17 LADY SMITH: Very well.

18 A. Thank you.

19 MR MacAULAY: Before the break, Maureen, you'd been telling  
20 us about the visit that you had from your mother and  
21 your father.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And you eventually, I think, told Sister **LFH** that it  
24 was your mother who had visited you.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did anything happen to you at that time? I think that's  
2 what I asked you. Were you hit?

3 A. I was hit, hit with a cane.

4 Q. By Sister [REDACTED] LFH ?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And can you just describe then how she would cane  
7 someone like yourself in that situation?

8 A. She would cane you over the knuckles with a thin cane  
9 and the thick cane she would do on the palms of your  
10 hands. If you tried to get away you would get it on  
11 your back.

12 Q. On that occasion can you remember what happened?

13 A. That's what happened.

14 Q. You got --

15 A. I was trying to get away, yes.

16 Q. So you got caned on the back?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. You say on your statement that you did speak to your  
19 mother years later, is that correct --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- about this visit?

22 A. Mm-hm.

23 Q. Did she say to you that she couldn't have come back,  
24 that she had tried but the nuns had told --

25 A. They wouldn't let her in, no.

1 Q. I think also, years later, your brother said something  
2 to you about what your mother may have done when she  
3 visited him; is that right?

4 A. Yes. It was what the nuns had said, that she had gone  
5 into the chapel and she had stolen some candlesticks.

6 Q. That was in the home that he was in?

7 A. That was in Lasswade in Penicuik, yes.

8 Q. In relation to visits from other people, you tell us  
9 about a particular couple that took you to a particular  
10 area of Glasgow, and they gave you a gift.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. That was a book and a jigsaw; is that right?

13 A. Yes, it was Black Beauty, the book.

14 Q. Were you allowed to keep these gifts?

15 A. From a certain amount of time I was allowed to keep  
16 them, but then, after a while, they took it from me and  
17 said I was far too old for them.

18 Q. You also tell us about a couple who were very nice to  
19 you -- you give us their names, I won't mention them,  
20 but you tell us about them in paragraph 48. Is that  
21 right? So there was a couple that took you out and were  
22 nice to you.

23 A. Yes, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

24 Q. Sister [REDACTED] LFL [REDACTED] that you mention there, you say that  
25 she could be both kind and brutal.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Can you explain that?
- 3 A. She was. She was really nice. I think sometimes -- it  
4 just depended on her mood. You could say some things to  
5 her and she would be okay and then maybe you would say  
6 the same thing the next day, and she would go mad.
- 7 Q. What would she do?
- 8 A. Scream and spit -- well, not spit at you, but when she  
9 was shouting she would spit.
- 10 Q. Would she hit you?
- 11 A. I used to run away so that she couldn't get me, but the  
12 odd occasion she managed to get hold of me, but I was  
13 never really that scared of her.
- 14 Q. What was her role in the convent?
- 15 A. She had taken over from Sister [REDACTED] LFH .
- 16 Q. So Sister [REDACTED] LFH has gone by this time then?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. What age do you think you were when that happened?
- 19 A. When [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] came up, about ... maybe about 10.
- 20 Q. Okay. You also say that there were inspections and in  
21 preparation for inspections you had to get ready;  
22 is that right?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. What would you do?
- 25 A. We had our Sunday clothes laid out on the bed and toys

1           were brought out from the cupboards and it was just  
2           a really unreal situation because we weren't sure what  
3           to do. Well, a lot of the children weren't sure. You  
4           know, it only happened when we were getting visitors,  
5           really. You would get books every now and again, but  
6           toys, I don't remember for the little ones.

7           Q. What you say is that as soon as the inspectors or  
8           visitors had left --

9           A. They were straight away again.

10          Q. They were away?

11          A. Yes.

12          Q. And you'd change into your usual clothes?

13          A. Yes.

14          Q. So far as your siblings are concerned, you have told us  
15          about your sister who was in the home with you. My  
16          understanding is that at the time there you didn't  
17          really have much to do with her; is that right?

18          A. No. Because the nuns separated us all the time and  
19          I actually grew to hate her. I started to hate my own  
20          sister because there was times when she got me into  
21          trouble and then I'd get bashed because of something  
22          that she had said about me.

23          Q. I think in more recent times you've managed to build  
24          bridges.

25          A. Yes.

1 Q. Okay. And your brothers, who were taken into care at  
2 the same time as yourself, but to Lasswade, did you make  
3 contact with them afterwards?

4 A. It wasn't until I went to live in [REDACTED] so I never  
5 seen anyone -- any of my family really for a long time.

6 [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED] I seen him a few  
8 times, but not a lot.

9 Q. Did your brothers ever tell you how life had been for  
10 them?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What message did you receive from them?

13 A. They were raped.

14 Q. At Lasswade?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Did they say who by?

17 A. They didn't. [REDACTED] got so upset when he was talking  
18 about it, you know, that I thought it best not to ask  
19 him any questions.

20 Q. So was that all the information you got then?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Can I ask you about what you say in paragraph 63. It's  
23 to do with when I think you were about 12 and there was  
24 a group photograph being taken.

25 A. I meant to bring that and I forgot.

1 Q. That's all right; you can send it in to us.

2 A. I will.

3 Q. You say that you were all photographed together. Was

4 that the whole --

5 A. That was our group.

6 Q. Your group.

7 A. Uh-huh, the red group.

8 Q. You all wore nice clothes and nice ribbons?

9 A. Sunday clothes to get photographed so that we'd be

10 in the paper and everybody would look happy.

11 Q. Were you told to smile?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Once the photograph had been taken, what happened?

14 A. I never saw the photograph up until -- sorry, right. We

15 had to go upstairs and take the clothes back off.

16 Q. Can I focus for a moment or two then on things that

17 happened to you in the way you were treated. You've

18 already told us about, for example, that time when you

19 wet the bed and other things that happened as well. But

20 if you were to be punished by Sister **LFH**, what was

21 the arrangement if she wanted to punish you?

22 A. It was always the cane.

23 Q. Would she tell you to go somewhere to be punished?

24 A. You had to be outside her cell door and you could wait

25 there for hours before she came up to go to her bed.

- 1 Q. So you'd be waiting there knowing that you were to be  
2 punished?
- 3 A. Yes, and it was really scary: the longer you waited, the  
4 more frightened you got.
- 5 Q. That sort of caning by Sister [REDACTED] LFH in those  
6 circumstances, how would she do it?
- 7 A. She would cane -- it depended on how she felt. If --  
8 she did it on the knuckles sometimes and sometimes she  
9 did it on the palms of your hands. It just depended.  
10 You just didn't know what was coming.
- 11 Q. You mention in paragraph 67 the name of another girl;  
12 I think you refer to her as [REDACTED]. She was a girl who  
13 was there at the same time as you were there. Was she  
14 the same age as you?
- 15 A. Roughly, yes.
- 16 Q. Was she a friend of yours?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Things happened to you together, is that right, if you  
19 were to be punished? How were you punished?
- 20 A. Well, a couple of times the nun would grab -- we had to  
21 close our eyes and she would grab one side of my hair  
22 and she'd grab the other of [REDACTED]'s and you'd be like  
23 that, probably only maybe seconds, but it seemed like  
24 ages when you're a child. She would then bang our heads  
25 together and honestly -- see the pain from that, it was

1           horrific. It was awful. I used to scream because it  
2           was like just so painful.

3           Q. Who did this?

4           A. Sister [REDACTED] LFP . And Sister [REDACTED] LFS said that she was  
5           going to stop it, you know, when she came. She said  
6           that wouldn't be happening again.

7           Q. And did she?

8           A. She just chose a different way. She didn't do it -- not  
9           that I can remember.

10          Q. How often had it happened?

11          A. I can't remember, really, to be honest. It was quite --  
12          not lots and lots, but it did happen on several  
13          occasions.

14          Q. Would you be standing or kneeling when this --

15          A. Standing.

16          Q. Would the heads be banged together once or more than  
17          once?

18          A. Once.

19          Q. Did she say things to you when that happened about  
20          Scottish people?

21          A. Sister [REDACTED] LFP said that the Scots were a filthy race.  
22          She said -- I always remember her saying, "You're  
23          a filthy race, you Scots". She was from Plymouth and  
24          she said to say in Plymouth it was so clean you could  
25          eat your meals off the streets.

1 Q. You also tell us about an incident when you were trying  
2 to get involved in a group talk -- do you remember  
3 that? -- and Sister [REDACTED] LFS [REDACTED] intervened. If you look at  
4 paragraph 69 of your statement.

5 A. Oh yes. I understand what you're saying. Yes. They  
6 were standing in the corridor -- I don't want to give  
7 the girl's names.

8 Q. They won't be published.

9 LADY SMITH: You don't have to. But don't worry if you do,  
10 because they'll be kept private within this hearing room  
11 at this stage.

12 A. Okay. Thank you. What were we saying, sorry?

13 LADY SMITH: You were trying to get involved in a group  
14 talk.

15 A. Oh yes. Sister [REDACTED] LFS [REDACTED] was friendly with one of the  
16 older girls, [REDACTED], and they were always sort of  
17 whispering together. So there was her and then another  
18 girl, I can't remember her name. But they were hovering  
19 about and they were talking about stuff and I sort of  
20 went up and thought, maybe I can get involved in this,  
21 and I went up, and [REDACTED] LFS [REDACTED] told me to get away.

22 MR MacAULAY: And what happened? Did something happen?

23 A. She got hold of my hair and she swung me round and she  
24 threw me and I hit my head off the radiator.

25 Q. Clearly, that would be painful.

1 A. It was very painful. I don't even know if I knocked  
2 myself out -- sorry, I keep turning away from this --  
3 yes, it was really, really painful. I think she seemed  
4 to quite enjoy the power that she had. I'm thinking  
5 that now, not as a child.

6 Q. Then can I ask you about a more delicate subject, and  
7 that's your involvement with a person who you knew as  
8 Uncle [REDACTED] LFU . You tell us about that in your statement.  
9 Was this again a benefactor who would take you out to  
10 his home?

11 A. He was from [REDACTED] .

12 Q. Were you taken to his home?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. How long would you spend there?

15 A. A week.

16 Q. And what happened there? Are you able to tell us?

17 A. He would just come into my room at night and abuse me --  
18 I would rather not go into details.

19 Q. That will do. You've told us enough. Did he also come  
20 to visit the convent?

21 A. He did, yes, and he used to take me round the back and  
22 put his hand down my trousers -- my skirt. He would  
23 touch me up here (indicating).

24 Q. Okay. Essentially, in short, he sexually abused you in  
25 his home and he sexually abused you at the convent?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Did you tell Sister [REDACTED] LFS about this?
- 3 A. Yes, I did -- I tried to tell her. I said he had
- 4 touched me here and I said he had put his hands down
- 5 here and she said to me, "Get away from me, you filthy
- 6 brat, and stop telling lies".
- 7 Q. Did you stop seeing Uncle [REDACTED] LFU ?
- 8 A. I can't remember. I don't think so. I think --
- 9 I honestly can't remember.
- 10 Q. Okay. So far as you're aware, did you only stay with
- 11 him the once?
- 12 A. I stayed with him, yes, once.
- 13 Q. When I say with him, of course it wasn't just him,
- 14 because he also had a sister.
- 15 A. Yes, she was nice, [REDACTED].
- 16 Q. Do you think she knew what was going on?
- 17 A. She knew something was going on because she used to
- 18 shout at him, "Get out of that girl's room".
- 19 Q. What age were you at that time?
- 20 A. I would be 12, 12 or 13.
- 21 Q. You tell us in your statement -- and I'll look at this
- 22 shortly -- that you later on met Cardinal Winning.
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. And he in fact -- you told him about Uncle [REDACTED] LFU ?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And he was able to track him down?
- 2 A. He tried to get him, but he managed to get somebody  
3 different with the same name, but he found out that he  
4 had died.
- 5 Q. But he was a member of the Knights of St Columba?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Can I come then to when you came to leave  
8 Nazareth House, Maureen. Can you tell me what age you  
9 were when you left?
- 10 A. Yes, I was 16.
- 11 Q. What you tell us in paragraph 77 is that your case was  
12 packed by Sister LFS
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And she walked with you to the gate of the convent?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. What then?
- 17 A. She told me to cross the road, get a bus into Glasgow  
18 and then get the 61 to Maryhill. Of course, I was  
19 terrified because I hadn't done anything like that on my  
20 own, you know, so it was quite scary.
- 21 Q. But that's what you did?
- 22 A. Uh-huh.
- 23 Q. And did you go to a hostel in Maryhill --
- 24 A. I did.
- 25 Q. -- that was run by the Daughters of Charity, I think?

1 A. Yes. And Sister Anne was absolutely wonderful. She was  
2 so different from what I had expected, you know, because  
3 she used to get annoyed with me, though, because every  
4 time she would do something, I would put my hand up to  
5 save myself being hit and she never ever hit me. But it  
6 was just a reaction from trying to save myself when  
7 I was in Nazareth House. But she was lovely, really  
8 lovely.

9 Q. I've already raised with you, Maureen, the fact that you  
10 had some dealings with Cardinal Winning, and that is the  
11 case, isn't it?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can I ask you to look at a document? This is a letter  
14 that you wrote. It'll come on the screen, so just bear  
15 with me. It's BSC.001.001.0085.

16 Can you identify this as a letter that you wrote to  
17 Cardinal Winning?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. We don't see a date on the letter, but if we look at  
20 another document, BSC.001.001.0084 -- and that'll come  
21 on the screen -- can we see that this is a reply to your  
22 letter dated [REDACTED] 1997?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. So your letter would have been some time around that  
25 time; is that correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. What was your intention in writing to Cardinal Winning?
- 3 A. To try and get him to believe me.
- 4 Q. Do you set out in the letter some of the detail about  
5 what you've been telling the inquiry today as to how  
6 things were for you --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- in the convent? And I think you mention the sisters  
9 that had some involvement with you; is that correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. I don't propose to dwell on the letter, but if we go  
12 back to the response -- and can I just ask you this: is  
13 what you set out in this letter the truth?
- 14 A. Yes. Yes. Before God.
- 15 Q. The reply then on [REDACTED], can we go on to that. That's  
16 BSC.001.001.0084. You'll see here that it begins:
- 17 "Dear [your name is given]. Cardinal Winning has  
18 asked me to contact you regarding your recent letter to  
19 him. It seems that the recent publicity has awakened  
20 some painful memories for you."
- 21 And he talks about being "happy to arrange  
22 a meeting". Was it after this that you did have more  
23 than one meeting with Cardinal Winning?
- 24 A. Yes, I had three.
- 25 Q. Where did the meetings take place?

1 A. At the archdiocese.

2 Q. Was that somewhere within Glasgow then?

3 A. Yes, Strathclyde.

4 Q. So far as these meetings were concerned, let's look at  
5 the first meeting, what happened in the course of the  
6 first meeting? What did you discuss with  
7 Cardinal Winning?

8 A. Really he wanted to discuss -- first of all, he  
9 telephoned me at my house to see that he wanted to meet  
10 with me because of the letters. He said that when he  
11 had received the letter, he only had the chance to read  
12 a small amount of it because he was going to say Mass.  
13 But he said when he opened the Bible for the sermon, it  
14 was "Let the little children come to me" and he said it  
15 really struck a chord in him. As soon as he got back,  
16 he called me and he asked if I would like to go and talk  
17 with him.

18 Q. And that's what you did?

19 A. I did.

20 Q. So far as that first meeting is concerned, what did you  
21 talk about?

22 A. Just really what was in the letter, about what had  
23 happened to me, really, in Nazareth House. I told him  
24 about [REDACTED] LFU and he said that he would try and  
25 find out -- in fact, he said there's no time like the

1 present, so he started ringing around and he got a  
2 [REDACTED] LFU but it was the wrong one.

3 Q. It was through this investigation by him that he was  
4 able to find out that he had died?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What else was said at that meeting by the cardinal?

7 A. About the -- sorry, there's just so much. He said that  
8 because the families were from a lot of -- a lot of the  
9 nuns were Irish, so because they had bigger families, he  
10 said that some of them would go into the nunnery and  
11 some would go into the priesthood, and it wasn't because  
12 they wanted to do that, it was because they had to, so  
13 there was a lot of resentment and so they probably took  
14 their resentment out on us.

15 Q. He said that to you, did he?

16 A. He said today we would try and keep families together.

17 Q. So was that essentially what happened at that first  
18 meeting?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. How long after that did you meet him again?

21 A. I think I met him three times.

22 Q. Yes. Was it three times in 1997?

23 A. Yes. It was all at the same period of time.

24 Q. The second meeting then, did that take place in the same  
25 place?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Were the three meetings in the same place?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And what was the purpose of the second meeting?
- 5 A. It was just to go over things. He wanted to know if
- 6 I would like to meet up with a nun. You know, he wanted
- 7 to get me some help and I met up with a nun who was --
- 8 she was one of the Mothers from the houses and she was
- 9 lovely. She was really, really nice to me and I went
- 10 back to Nazareth House. Cardinal Winning came back to
- 11 Nazareth House with me.
- 12 Q. When you met the nun?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. I think you discuss this in paragraph 90 of your
- 15 statement, where you say that you told her what had
- 16 happened, you told her what had happened to you; is that
- 17 right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. You were told that anybody who returned to the home
- 20 spoke only of having good times there; is that right?
- 21 A. No, that wasn't -- sorry, maybe that's the way I've
- 22 written it. That wasn't Sister Conleth that said that,
- 23 that was -- I went back several times on my own and one
- 24 time when I went back there was three of them.
- 25 Q. So that's not when Cardinal Winning went back with you?

- 1 A. No, this was another time.
- 2 Q. Just while we're looking at this then, you said to them  
3 that that had nothing to do with beating kids. You  
4 mentioned that children had been beaten?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Let's then go to the time that you went with  
7 Cardinal Winning to Nazareth House; who did you meet on  
8 that occasion when you got there?
- 9 A. Sister Conleth.
- 10 Q. What did you discuss with her?
- 11 A. Not a lot really. You know it was just sort of  
12 superficial chat at the time. She arranged to meet me  
13 the following week and we had lunch together and she  
14 didn't say whether she believed me or disbelieved me.
- 15 Q. Did you tell her what had happened to you?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. The third time you met with Cardinal Winning, was that  
18 again at the main building for the archdiocese in  
19 Glasgow?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. On this occasion -- and we've got the paragraph on the  
22 screen -- I think it was known that there was a court  
23 case and you were involved in the court case; is that  
24 right?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did Cardinal Winning say anything to you about the court  
2 case?

3 A. Yes, at the time he asked me if I would -- would I be  
4 prepared to drop what I'd said if -- how much money  
5 would it take for me to drop the case. Because by then  
6 I had consulted a lawyer. He just said, "How much money  
7 would it take?" I don't believe that that was from him;  
8 I think that must have been from someone higher up.

9 Q. What was your reaction to that?

10 A. I was shocked, I was really taken aback, because it sort  
11 of made me lose a bit of faith in him because I thought  
12 I've told him all this personal stuff about myself and  
13 then he's asking me if I want money. And I said, no,  
14 no, I would never take money. I said it would be a real  
15 betrayal to everybody that had gone through suffering in  
16 Nazareth House.

17 LADY SMITH: Did he mention a figure?

18 A. No. There was no figure mentioned. He just said, "How  
19 much would it take?"

20 MR MacAULAY: I think, as you say in your statement, you  
21 consider that by saying that he had broken your trust in  
22 him.

23 A. Yes. Yes.

24 Q. Did Cardinal Winning apologise to you for what had  
25 happened to you?

1 A. He did of sorts. He just said at that time people -- it  
2 was just the way the nuns and some of the priests were  
3 at that time. They were resentful of being in  
4 a position, probably, that they didn't want to be in and  
5 they took their resentment out on us. He said it  
6 wouldn't happen in this day and age, but I think abuse  
7 happens all the time, all over.

8 Q. Can I then leave that chapter aside and just touch  
9 briefly on what you think the impact of having been in  
10 care may have had on you. Are you able to help me on  
11 that?

12 A. Yes. I wrote it down because I thought that I would  
13 probably forget. Can I read it out?

14 Q. Yes, please do.

15 (Pause)

16 I think you wanted to read out a statement that  
17 you've prepared.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Just take it in your own time.

20 A. How it affected me was I had no relationship with my  
21 mother, which was really sad, and even when my mum died  
22 I didn't feel anything, which is awful, but I didn't.  
23 I've had low self-esteem for most of my life.  
24 I underachieved because they were always undermining me  
25 and I would consider myself to be emotionally vulnerable

1 as well. I'm mistrustful of people, which affects my  
2 relationships.

3 It affected my confidence and I became defensive as  
4 I always felt I had to fight my corner -- even when I  
5 didn't, but I was living my life in the past, really,  
6 and being angry at all the wrong people. That's about  
7 it.

8 That's about it. (Pause). Will I leave something  
9 to the end?

10 Q. Please do. We'll cover that. You'll be pleased to hear  
11 we are coming near the end.

12 A. Oh, thank you.

13 Q. I know it has been a long day for you. If I can take  
14 you to the final paragraphs, the last couple of  
15 paragraphs of your statement, 107 and 108.

16 At 107 what you say is, I'll put this to you:

17 "I'm sure there are some who look back at their time  
18 at Nazareth House and say that they had been happy, but  
19 they were the pets, the favourites. That wasn't my  
20 recollection of the place."

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Is that right?

23 A. Yes, and everybody can only speak for what happened to  
24 themselves.

25 Q. But you say:

1           "The abuse I suffered there has stayed with me for  
2           the rest of my life."

3           A. Yes.

4           Q. But you also go on to say this, in that last sentence of  
5           that paragraph:

6           " They haven't won because they haven't broken me."

7           A. They probably did, but I think that's the little bit of  
8           me that is trying to just say that they're not going to  
9           break me and they didn't, but I think they did to  
10          a point.

11          Q. You also go on to say, rather pessimistically:

12          "I don't have much hope for the inquiry because the  
13          nuns are never going to apologise."

14          But you go on to say more optimistically:

15          "It's good that the inquiry will hopefully change  
16          things but abuse will still go on behind closed doors.  
17          It's good that the inquiry is trying to do something and  
18          to help it learn about people."

19          So that's your hope for the inquiry?

20          A. Yes.

21          Q. And you've already made the point about  
22          Cardinal Winning, that they should have given social  
23          work services to the families to try and keep them  
24          together. That's what you would rather see, families  
25          kept together?

1 A. Yes, but my worry is what goes on behind closed doors  
2 and there are families where, you know, children are  
3 always going to be abused and, sadly, you know, it's not  
4 going to ever be brought to light until maybe they're  
5 adults, and then you just want people to believe them --  
6 when they tell what's happened to them, that they would  
7 be believed.

8 Q. I think you've said that more than once and your message  
9 is that it's important that children are believed?

10 A. Yes. Very.

11 MR MacAULAY: Maureen, those are all the questions that  
12 I have for you. I don't know if there are to be any  
13 questions from anyone else before Maureen reads out what  
14 she has to say.

15 LADY SMITH: Are there any outstanding applications for  
16 questions of this witness? No. Ms MacLeod is shaking  
17 her head.

18 Maureen, there are no more questions for you, but  
19 I understand that there's something you finally want to  
20 say, reading from a note you've got in front of you;  
21 is that right?

22 A. Yes, please.

23 LADY SMITH: When you're ready, please go ahead and do that.

24 A. The biggest disappointment for me is that an institution  
25 that was supposed to demonstrate the love of God has

1           allowed this cruelty to go unchallenged until now. In  
2           fact, what compounds this wrongdoing is that the  
3           Catholic Church continues to deny it ever happened and  
4           I find that incredibly damaging, to keep denying it.  
5           They're denying themselves peace.

6           Thank you very much, Lady Smith. Thank you.

7           LADY SMITH: Thank you, Maureen, thank you for -- have you  
8           been reminded of something else?

9           A. Sorry.

10          LADY SMITH: Absolutely, we're putting you under unusual  
11          pressure, I'm sure, as compared to your normal life.  
12          There's nothing to apologise for. Please go ahead.

13          A. It's just a few lines.

14          No matter what happens here on earth, I personally  
15          believe they will have to give an account for their  
16          cruelty to vulnerable children, and that will be to God.

17          LADY SMITH: Thank you for that, Maureen, and those final  
18          thoughts, which are very powerful, if I may say.  
19          Thank you also for coming along today and for having  
20          given the statement that you gave in such detail before  
21          today -- last year I think it was, you actually gave  
22          your statement. I'm now glad to say that I'm able to  
23          let you go and hope you're able to go and get some rest  
24          for the rest of Friday.

25          A. Thank you. Can I say thank you for doing this. I think

1 we all really appreciate it.

2 LADY SMITH: Well, thank you for that.

3 A. Thanks, and thank you, Colin -- and thank you to  
4 everybody for doing this.

5 (The witness withdrew)

6 LADY SMITH: Just before I check with Mr MacAulay where  
7 we're going to be going next week, can I mention, in  
8 case anybody didn't notice, this witness's name for the  
9 purposes of her evidence is "Maureen" and that is the  
10 only name that may be used to refer to her outside this  
11 hearing room. Another name did crop up at times, indeed  
12 from her herself, but it that doesn't mean it's  
13 available for use outside the hearing room. She chose  
14 to use the name Maureen. It is her right to do so and  
15 that right must be respected.

16 Mr MacAulay, next week?

17 MR MacAULAY: That's all the evidence for today, my Lady.

18 LADY SMITH: I think we're all allowed to assume that at  
19 this time on a Friday!

20 MR MacAULAY: Next Tuesday we have three witnesses to give  
21 oral testimony and I think next week we're just sitting  
22 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

23 LADY SMITH: Yes.

24 MR MacAULAY: There are witnesses pencilled in for each of  
25 these days.

1 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much for that.

2 I'll rise now until Tuesday morning and wish you all

3 a good weekend. Thank you.

4 (4.38 pm)

5 (The hearing adjourned until Tuesday, 8 May at 10.00 am)

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"JENNIFER" (sworn) .....1

Questions from MR MacAULAY .....1

"TRISHA" (sworn) .....104

Questions from MR MacAULAY .....105

"MAUREEN" (sworn) .....149

Questions from MR MacAULAY .....150

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