

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

LBN

Support person present: Yes

1. My name is LBN My name as a child was My date of birth is 1948. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Nazareth House, Paisley Road West, Glasgow

2. I went into Nazareth House, Cardonald, Glasgow with my twin sister, LCC when I was three months old. I know very little about my family background. I had no birth certificate. I don't remember much about being a toddler.
3. Nazareth House was a great big building with huge corridors. It was built on large grounds. There were three levels. There were a lot of children there. The nursery was separate from the rest of the home. It was downstairs and we slept there as well. The home was run by the Poor Sisters of Nazareth. Sister LGE was the mother superior, in charge of the whole home. There would be a nun in charge and civilian staff looking after each group. It was all girls, but they did start to get a few boys in.
4. I don't remember much about being in the nursery, but I know the treatment there wasn't that bad. The first thing I remember is my sister falling into the fire when I was two or three. She still has scars to this day. I knew there was something wrong. I ran and put chairs out because I didn't want the ambulance people to take her. The nun dragged me away. I was screaming for my sister. I didn't know what was going to happen.

5. My sister and I were moved from the nursery to the green group of the junior section when we were five. We were split into groups, green, blue, red and yellow. The dormitories for the junior section were upstairs in the house. Each group had a dormitory and the dormitory was split into three parts, with eight children in one part, eight children in another and six children in the third part. Sister [LFH] was in charge of the green group.

Routine at Nazareth House

Mornings and bedtime

6. We slept in iron beds in the dormitories. Sister [LFH] slept in what we called a cell, but it was just a room off the dormitory. I wet the bed most nights. I was what they called a flooder. If you wet the bed, you were made to get up at 4.30 in the morning. Sister [LFH] would leave you in the corridor. I didn't have pyjamas or a night dress on, just a vest and knickers. Sometimes, it was cold and I wanted to go back to sleep. I'd curl up. She'd come and grab my head and tell me to keep awake and stand up. I would tell her I was tired and she would say, "You're not tired, you're staying up and you're going to do some jobs."
7. Sister [LFH] would make the bed wetters clean the church before everybody else was awake. I was frightened down there because there was a section of the home for elderly people and some of them would come into the church early. She'd lock me in the church and tell me to ask for God's forgiveness. At 8.00am, we'd go down for breakfast. After breakfast, I had to wash some of the dishes. We'd then be sent upstairs to start dressing the younger children.

Food

8. There was a big dining hall where all the children ate meals. We had porridge for breakfast. The food wasn't bad. The meals were prepared in the kitchen within the home. If you were bad, you were sent to the kitchen. I loved it. The nun in the kitchen

wore a habit and it was like a cover. I can't remember her name, but she was good to me. She'd tell me to get under the back of her habit and stand behind her. If Sister LFH came in, she'd tell me to hide there until she left. She gave me bars of chocolate and fruit. I had a box and I would save them up to take to the attic with my friends.

9. If we didn't eat our meals, we'd be left there until we ate it. We just had to sit there. Those who wet the bed had to stand up for every meal so people knew we were bed wetters. They called us the dandelions.

School

10. We went to Lourdes Primary School, which was just outside of Nazareth House. We walked to school. I loved school. I was happier there than anywhere because I knew I could enjoy myself. I did well at school.

Clothing

11. We were sent to school in big brown brogues and a big coat. When I was about ten, my school friend, ██████ told me she'd bring me a nice pair of shoes. I left my brogues behind the tree at the convent. I looked out the window of the school and saw Sister LFH find them. When I got home, it was only me she targeted. She told me to give her the shoes I'd been wearing at school. I said I'd been wearing the brogues. She told me to go back to school, so I went back to school and stayed there for a while. When I returned to the convent, Sister LFH told me to stand upstairs until she was ready to deal with me. The more she pushed me, the more I wondered why it was me. When I told ██████ what had happened, she brought me in another pair of shoes and left them in the locker at school.
12. When we came home from school, we'd change out of our uniform. When pointy toe shoes came out, Sister LFH made us queue up and try different shoes on. Mine were so pointed, I couldn't walk. They were killing me. She said, "You picked them,

so you're keeping them." I've got terrible bunions now and I suffer with them. I blame it on those shoes she gave me.

Leisure time

13. After school, I'd be made to stand in the corridor until tea time. I was segregated from everybody because I wet the bed. I didn't really get any leisure time. After tea, I'd be sent upstairs or into the kitchen. We didn't have any toys.
14. I used to go to Scottish and Irish dancing lessons in the convent. We had lessons in a big room with a stage in it. We'd go to competitions in the Kelvin Hall. They'd hire a bus to take us. I won a lot of medals for Irish dancing. I loved it.

Washing

15. We had baths every night after we came in from school. The children who didn't wet the bed had their baths first. When it came to the children who wet the bed, they put the Jay's fluid in the water.

Holidays

16. Every summer, we would go to Nazareth House in Aberdeen. The children there would come to stay in Nazareth House, Glasgow. I don't have any happy memories of those holidays. Not long before I was sent away, I was also sent to stay with one of the benefactors. They sent me to a family in Kirkintilloch where I was abused by the father.

Work

17. Because I wet the bed, I'd be sent to the scullery to do the dishes. When I'd finished, I'd have to stand with my knickers on my head and wash my sheets. There were no cleaners. We did it all ourselves. I used to enjoy cleaning the top corridor after school. My friends would come up and play. We'd swing off the beams. I used to try

and make it more fun for myself and put things under my shoes and slide along. Sister [LFH] wouldn't allow it. I got house maid's knee from kneeling on the floor, cleaning.

Birthdays and Christmas

18. The taxi companies ran parties for us at Christmas time. Sister [LFH] didn't let me go. I didn't get anything for my birthday or Christmas. Some children did, the children that didn't wet the bed or get into trouble. I was always in trouble. My life was spent standing in the corridor.

Religious instruction

19. We were made to go to Mass every day before school. We had to say the rosary all the time. When we were in the choir, Sister [LFH] would belt us if we coughed. I made my first communion. There was no choice when it came to that, we were just told what to do.
20. Sister [LFH] often told me to stand by the statue of Our Lady and ask for God's forgiveness. The letters I, H and S were on the statue, which stood for, "I have suffered." I said to Sister [LFH] "S, H, I. So have I." She said, "Don't you dare speak like that." I said, "You're saying I need to ask for God's forgiveness, but I haven't done anything." All I wanted to do was play and enjoy myself, but I wasn't allowed to.

Visits/Inspections

21. There were no social work visits. There were benefactors who would visit. Before their visits, Sister [LFH] would get us all dressed up in our best gear.

Healthcare

22. I never saw a doctor at Nazareth House. A nun called Sister Arthurson, who was a nurse, came to Nazareth House when I was about eight. At one time, I had a swollen leg because of all the cleaning I was having to do. Sister Arthurson noticed and took me down to the sick bay and put me to bed. Sister [LFH] took me out of the bed and made me stand in the corridor. Sister Arthurson saw me in the corridor and asked me what I was doing there. I told her Sister [LFH] had sent me there. She went mad. She said, "You go into bed and never mind her. If she comes again, just let me know." She said that I needed to stay in bed and rest until my leg was better. When it started to get better, I hit my leg with a brush so I could stay in bed. Sister Arthurson went after Sister [LFH] and they were fighting.

Abuse at Nazareth House

Sister [LFH]

23. When I got to the green group, I wasn't encouraged to have any contact with my sister. I was a child. I played and had fun. I would swing off the top of the dormitories. I was just enjoying myself but Sister [LFH] was depressing me all the time. As soon as she saw me enjoy myself, that was it. I used to climb the tree and get conkers for my mates. She looked out the window and said, [LBN], you get in here." I didn't want to go in because there was nothing to do inside, so I stayed outside. She came out and dragged me in by the head. [REDACTED] all the time. She told me I had the devil in me.
24. If Sister [LFH] wanted to hit you, she'd pick up anything. She'd strike you with the handle of a knife or belt you with a strap. She carried a cane. She hit other children as well as me, but she hated me. She would hit you if she didn't get her own way. I had a brain and I would answer back. She didn't want me there because I was a threat. She hit me every day. She just couldn't keep her hands off me. I used to be black and blue going into school. My hands were often bruised from the back of the

knife and I could hardly lift anything. I often had marks on the back of my legs from the cane. At that time, nobody questioned it. I was left to get on with it. It was just the way my life was. We all thought it was alright for people to hit us and do what they wanted with us. That was the sad thing about it.

25. Sister [LFH] caught me playing with my friends when I was cleaning the upstairs corridor. She shouted, "What are you doing, [LBN]?" I said, "Nothing, I'm only doing the floor." I got down and put the two dusters on my knees. She said, "No you don't. I'll tell you what you're going to do." She pulled me up by my hair. She really belted me because I'd answered her back. I felt I had to because she was going to extremes with me. I had nothing.
26. Other than go to school, I spent most of my life standing in the corridors in my knickers and vest. I couldn't understand it at all because I hadn't done anything wrong. It made my life rotten. I decided to give her as good as I got. I'd be made to stand in the corridors for hours. I'd be put next to a statue of Our Lady and told to ask for God's forgiveness. I didn't know what I was supposed to be forgiven for.
27. Before she put me in the bath, she poured Jay's fluid in the water because I wet the bed. It would nip my bum. It was really sore. The water was freezing cold. Then I'd be made to stand out in the corridor. Because the Jay's fluid burnt my skin, I had big blisters on my bum. I told Sister [LFH]. She said, "Go away, you brazen thing." I said, "Why am I brazen? I've got big spots on me." She wouldn't have any of it. She just dragged me by the head and put me in the corridor. You couldn't question her. I think they got rid of me because I had a brain and she felt threatened. I was clever at school.
28. At the time when I had a swollen leg from doing all the cleaning, Sister [LFH] wanted me to stand out in the corridor, but Sister Arthurson, the nurse, had sent me to bed. Sister [LFH] and Sister Arthurson had a fight about it. When Sister [LFH] knew that she wasn't getting her own way, she pushed my head forward and smashed my head against the iron bed. My tooth broke. I'll never forget that pain. The pain was terrible. She then left me standing in the corridor. I never got to see a

dentist or anything. When Sister Arthurson came back, I told her that Sister [LFH] had broken my tooth. She made sure I got to stay in my bed. To this day, I thank her for that. She had mercy for me. Sister [LFH] had nothing at all for me.

29. When we were on holiday in Aberdeen, we went down to the beach at about ten o'clock in the morning. I was made to stand on the beach with my sheets on my head along with the other bed wetters. I stood there all day. I was given a bottle of milk, but it was all lumpy and sour. If you didn't drink it, Sister [LFH] made you drink it. I didn't get anything else to eat.

30. When I was about eight, I put rags in my hair to curl it. The next morning, Sister [LFH] came to get me up at 4.30am. A couple of hours later, she said, "You think you're going out with them, do you?" She grabbed my hair and cut it all off with a pair of scissors. I cried my eyes out. My hair was my pride and joy. I looked like a convict. I told her I wouldn't go to school like that. She said, "You're going to school because I'll make sure you go to school." She walked me to school. I met one of my friends and we went on the boat for the day. I couldn't have anything at the convent, not even my hair. There was nothing I could enjoy there.

Sister [LFP]

31. Sister [LFP] was in charge of us when we were moved from the green group to the red group. She hated me as well. She used to pinch me under my arms and drag me by my ears.

Mr [LGH]

32. When I was about eleven, I went on holiday to the home of one of the benefactors, Mr [LGH] and his family. They lived in Kirkintilloch. I was supposed to be there for two weeks along with another girl from the home, [REDACTED]. The man was in bed with me every day. I woke up and I couldn't work out why I was undressed. I thought I must be undressing myself in my sleep. One afternoon, I woke

up and the man was there fondling his private parts. I was very young but I knew it wasn't right.

33. I ran back to the convent. I told my friends and it got back to Sister [LFH]. I was beaten and told not to tell lies about the [LGH/SPO] family. I think that was another reason that they wanted me out of there, because I had all this knowledge and they didn't want anybody to hear it. One of the other girls from the convent who went there fell pregnant to Mr [LGH]

Leaving Nazareth House

34. The day I was taken away, I went upstairs to get a tie. I was locked in the dormitory. I didn't know I was leaving. I wasn't given any explanation. I could see my sister going off to school. I was banging on the window to try and get her attention. I was then put in a room with no lights. I was screaming, but nobody came. When it was time for me to go, they brought me out of the room and dragged me by the hair down the stairs. Every time I screamed, Sister [LFH] would smack me in the face and tell me to shut up. Sister [LGE] was hitting me too.
35. Sister [LGE] and Sister [LFH] took me on a bus. They gave my bus fare to the conductor for me to get to the train station. When I got on the bus, the conductor gave me the fare back and told me to buy a bar of chocolate. She could tell I'd been crying. As soon as the bus started to move, Sister [LFH] took the money back off me. I went on the train to Liverpool by myself. I didn't have a bit to eat or anything. I was told I was going to Liverpool and two nuns would meet me there. Anything could have happened to me. All I had was an old fashioned case with men's brogues and a great big coat. I was on the train for a long time. Before that, I'd only been to Aberdeen and Kirkintilloch.

Rosemont Convent, Edge Lane, Liverpool

36. When I got to Liverpool, two nuns, Sister Romanus and Sister Vincentia, were waiting at the train station. They asked me if I'd had anything to eat. I told them I'd had nothing all day. Sister Romanus was lovely. She and Sister Vincentia used to play with me because I was the youngest.
37. Rosemont was run by the Poor Servants of the Mother of God. Sister Romanus was in charge. Rosemont was for adults who were mentally deficient. They were mainly elderly people. I was the only child. It was all females. I was frightened because I'd never seen people with Down's syndrome before. Everybody was a lot older than me. The place seemed dark all the time. I didn't know what I was doing there. I felt like I needed to get out of there, but I had nowhere to go. I lost my voice for three months after arriving at Rosemont. It was because of all the trauma at Nazareth House. Sister Romanus brought a doctor in. He didn't think I was going to get my voice back. Eventually, I did get it back.

School

38. Mrs Joy, a teacher came in to visit and realised that I was different from the other people at Rosemont. She helped me get into a mainstream school, St. Agnes' Secondary School. Mrs Joy said she thought I'd be happy there. She used to come and see me every day and check how I was getting on. Going to school was the proudest moment for me.
39. Mrs Joy really was a joy. The school had a trip to Lourdes. She told me to ask the nuns if I could go. I said I couldn't do that because I was frightened, but the nuns at Rosemont were nothing like the nuns at Nazareth House. They got me clothes and things to take to Lourdes. When we were on the trip, Mrs Joy told me to go to sleep and enjoy my sleep and not to worry if I wet the bed, she would sort it out. I was wet every day and she said it was alright, took the sheets and got it seen to. She was like an angel to me. I'd never known anybody like that. I went back to visit her after I left school.

40. Mrs Joy suggested I do nursing. I told her I was frightened, but she put me down for the pre-nursing course at school. I didn't want to go but she persuaded me to give it a try. It was the best thing for me. I knew I was able to help people. Sometimes, I'd take the nursing home with me and cry. Mrs Joy said she was glad she had put me onto nursing because I was a lovely, caring person. I said, "Me?" And she said, "Yes, you."
41. When I got home from school, I helped at the laundry in the convent. That was nothing to me because I wasn't getting belted and I could laugh if I wanted to. It was entirely different from Nazareth House. I was well looked after.

Healthcare

42. Mrs Joy got a doctor in to the school to see if I could get help for wetting the bed. They started me on some medication. It was a powder and was to do with diuretics. It was quite good at first, but then it all fell apart.
43. Sister Romanus would get the doctor in if I needed him. I had mouth abscesses and boils because I'd never seen a dentist at Nazareth House. Sister Romanus gave me raw egg to drink and it cleared the abscesses and boils away.

Contact with twin sister

44. A while after I got there, Sister Romanus told me that my sister was coming to stay. I was so excited, but then she came back and told me she wasn't coming. I said, "Can't you do anything about it?" She said, "LBN I can't do anything, my hands are tied."
45. When I was in Rosemont, I wrote to my sister. The nuns there posted my letters for me. I didn't realise that the sisters at Nazareth House weren't allowing my sister to have my letters. It was really upsetting because I thought she didn't want to know me. When I was nursing, a girl came in and asked me if I was one of the [REDACTED] twins. She said her name was [REDACTED] and she'd been in Nazareth House. I

asked her if she knew where my sister was and she gave me her phone number. I phoned, but I couldn't do anything for crying. All my emotions were mixed up and I didn't really know what to make of it. It was very confusing because we'd been so far apart.

46. The only thing I regret is that I didn't go back when Sister [LFH] was still there. I wish I could've told her what I thought of her and what I was capable of. I was able to keep a job and I was able to help people, not like her. I didn't really want to go back to Glasgow again.

Leaving Rosemont Convent

47. When I was eighteen, I started my nursing training. I went to college in Liverpool. I moved into the nurses' home. I still went down to see the sisters at Rosemont because they were really good to me. I was a bit anxious about college at first. After a while, I started to feel quite happy. I wanted to do something with my life. I had to do a spell in different hospitals.

Reporting of abuse at Nazareth House

48. There was nobody I could speak to. I was sexually abused when I went to stay in the home of one of the benefactors. When I got back to Nazareth House, I told my friends. It got back to Sister [LFH] and she beat me and told me not to tell lies. We didn't really trust anybody because they wouldn't believe us. They'd just think we were fabricating all of it.
49. I never reported the abuse to the police when I was older. I was frightened. I thought there would be consequences. I didn't speak to my husband or anybody else about the abuse. I didn't want people to know because I felt that I was a bad person.

50. In 1996 or 1997, an article was published in the News of the World. A girl from Nazareth House had gone to the paper with her story. The BBC became involved and organised a reunion for girls from Nazareth House. [REDACTED] LCC [REDACTED] phoned me to tell me about it and I went to see Cameron Fyfe, the lawyer. I was frightened. I didn't really understand everything that was going on. I was worried that they might come back to me. Cameron Fyfe asked me to write down what had happened to me. I sent it to my sister in order that she could type it out. She was heartbroken. I have provided a copy of what I wrote at that time and my typed precognition, prepared at the lawyers' office. Cameron Fyfe said mine was the worst case of abuse he had ever seen. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Life after being in care

51. As part of my training, I worked at [REDACTED] The children there had Down's syndrome and other mental disabilities. Their parents were doctors and lawyers, but they never came in to visit the children. The sister in charge [REDACTED] [REDACTED] didn't like me because I'd come from a home. She always had it in for me. I spoke to Sister Romanus about it. She came to see the woman with me. She said, "This little girl that you're bullying is a good girl. Just because she came from a convent home, it doesn't mean she's not a good person." That woman never really bothered me again. Sister Romanus was like a mother to me. She and Sister Vincenzia were so nice to me.
52. I looked after a little girl who used to bang her head off the bed. I used to buy her things for her birthday and Christmas. I couldn't understand the parents. They could afford to get their babies looked after and what were they doing? They didn't even come to see them. It broke my heart. I couldn't bear to see that.
53. When I was about eighteen, I went to Glasgow to visit my sister, [REDACTED] LCC [REDACTED] It was the first time I'd seen [REDACTED] LCC [REDACTED] since I left Nazareth House. I had to stay in the Mullberry

Hotel in Shawlands because the nuns wouldn't let me stay in the convent. When I went home, we were both crying. I got the train back to Liverpool. When I was on the train, I felt like I was finished with Glasgow. I didn't know how I was going to see my sister. I did want to see my sister, but I was reluctant to go to Glasgow. I couldn't face all the things that had happened to me at Nazareth House and why they hated me so much, they wouldn't even let me stay.

54. I finished college when I was twenty. I worked at a hospital in Fazakerley, Liverpool and then I worked [REDACTED]. The matron there took a bit of shine to me. She'd check if I was okay. I wondered if she knew that I'd been in a home. I went to see a doctor there about the bed wetting. The treatment I got worked for a while, but then I started to be wet during the day. I needed to have treatment when I was younger.
55. I married my husband in 1975. I couldn't settle when I met my husband. I was scared. Because he showed me a little bit of love, I stayed with him. It didn't work out. He would drink and he used to belt me around the place. I thought, "Here we go again." I couldn't trust him to look after my baby, so I had to give my job up. I went to work for social services because I could do nights there. A lady next door offered to look after the baby so I could go back to work. I was reluctant to let anybody else look after my son, but she did help me. My husband's family were horrible to me. I think they were jealous because I was out working.
56. My husband used to throw me out in the street at three o'clock in the morning. After I'd had the baby, he'd say, "Take your bastard with you." I used to be walking the streets at all hours of the night. I felt like I had to get away. I'd had Nazareth House, then school, then the sister at [REDACTED] and then my husband. I thought maybe I wasn't meant to be in this life. I couldn't stand life anymore. If that was what life was all about, I didn't want to know. When I was having my baby, I was frightened because of my husband. I couldn't move anywhere. If I came home a minute late from work, he'd throw his dinner off the wall and say, "Where have you been, you slut." I was terrified of him. I couldn't hold a cup of tea because my hands would

shake so much. My nerves were gone. I couldn't tell anybody because I was so ashamed. I needed to get away.

57. I had the marriage annulled in 1979. I couldn't take any more. When I divorced him, he was still in the house. I couldn't get him out. The police told me I would need to get an injunction, but I didn't have the money to do that. One night, he bashed the door in. I locked the door and told him he couldn't come in. He went round to the back door, slashed it and came in.
58. Around that time, I went to see my doctor and I was prescribed valium. I was taken off valium because people were getting addicted to it. I started seeing a psychiatrist in 1988. He told me I needed something strong because of the life I'd had. He wanted to give me electroconvulsive therapy. I didn't want that because I'd seen some of the patients in the hospital who'd had that and they didn't know what day it was.
59. My son is forty now. He lives locally and comes to see me every day. He looks after me. I have four grandchildren. I fell and broke my back in 1994. I couldn't go back to nursing after that. I went back for a while, but they wouldn't allow me to stay because I couldn't do any lifting. It broke my heart. I didn't know what else I could do. I didn't have any other experience.

Impact

60. My front teeth are missing because Sister [LFH] slammed my head off the bed. I still get pain in my knees. I have terrible arthritis and I'm sure it's because of all the cleaning I had to do. I have spondylitis in my neck. I've been treated for that for a while. I think it stems from Sister [LFH] pulling me by the hair so frequently. I have a shortening of my legs, which they think is contributing to me falling all of the time.
61. Being in Nazareth House affected my mental health. My head was tormented. I couldn't understand why I was in this life and getting all that treatment. I thought

surely to God there must be something better than this? My nerves used to play on me. I became terrified to move anywhere. I just used to shake all the time. I was frightened to do anything because I was constantly frightened that people were going to torment me. If the phone went, I wouldn't answer it because I was frightened. I didn't know who it was going to be and whether they would hurt me. I haven't been out since about 1988. That was when I was first started on tablets for depression. The only place I go to is the hospital for appointments. The hospital sends a taxi for me and calls me the day before to remind me.

62. My head's been upside down all my life. It's down to the nuns. I don't know why they did that to me. They weren't people of God. They were demons. They were treating us however they wanted. They didn't know how to treat children. I've been on the defensive all of my life. If I feel like somebody's getting at me, I just kick off. My mental health has settled down since leaving my husband.
63. My general practitioner keeps in touch with me on a monthly basis. I'm prescribed tablets for depression. I received cognitive behavioural therapy about ten years ago, but I couldn't sort my head out. Because the nuns were so wicked, I always feel people have got it in for me. It's always in my head. I don't like mixing or bringing anybody into my home. I've got friends but they don't come down because they know what I'm like. I don't make any arrangements because I don't know how I'm going to feel.
64. I've never been able to form a relationship. It all stems from being in Nazareth House. What happened with Mr [REDACTED] LGH put me off relationships altogether. I was overcome by it all. I hadn't been in a relationship before I met my husband. Because he was kind to me at the beginning, I stayed with my husband. As time went on, it changed. I was with him for all the wrong reasons. I couldn't handle sex. I have issues trusting people. I don't bring anybody into my house because I'm frightened things will go wrong. I like to be by myself, just with my animals. They follow me around the house. To me, animals are better than people. They're always with me.

65. My house is always spotless. I was trained to clean at Nazareth House. I got bored of it because I wasn't getting out to play. Sister [LFH] had told me I had the devil in me and I would do no good in life. She was always saying that. I wish I could have shown her what I was capable of. I never went back to the convent. I had lived my life thinking I was a bad person. My friends told me I was a good person and that everybody loved me, but Sister [LFH] had made me feel worthless. Sister [LFH] had told me I wouldn't amount to anything, but I was determined to prove her wrong and show her what I was capable of.
66. In 2004, one of my friends phoned me to tell me that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] There was an article about abuse at Nazareth House. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I hadn't been involved in the article and didn't know it was being published. I was upset because I didn't want my son or anybody else finding out what had happened to me. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I never mentioned anything to my son or my friends about the abuse. Because I'd been put away in the convent, I thought I must have been a bad person.
67. Being separated from my sister changed our relationship. My way of thinking is very different from her because of the length of time we were apart and our different experiences.
68. I've made sure nobody touches my child. I make sure that he's happy. No matter how old he is, he's always my baby. When I had a social worker because of my mental health problems, I told him not to get it into his head that anybody would be taking my son away from me. He's mine and nobody else was going to get him.

Records

69. I phoned up Nazareth House to try and get my birth certificate. They told me I wasn't registered there. I told them I was there with my sister for eleven years. I didn't understand how they could deny that.

Hopes for the Inquiry

70. The nuns had all the power so they could do what they wanted. They knew they wouldn't be questioned. They need to choose the right people to look after children. If they don't look into that, things go astray. There should be stringent laws for people looking after children to follow. If they don't follow those guidelines, they should go to prison. Otherwise, they're putting unnecessary suffering onto people.

71. I have no objection to my witness statement being published as part of the evidence to the Inquiry. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed.....
 LBN

Dated..... 17 1 18