# **Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry**

Witness Statement of

LCY
Support person present: No
My full name is My date of birth is 1969. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.
Life before going into care
I grew up in the Dennistoun area of Glasgow but I went to Smyllum Park Orphanage in Lanark, then Nazareth House Childrens Home in Cardonald, where I was in care for about ten years. I now own and run  I've been here since  2003, it's my farm and we look after  I also work as a
As I say I grew up in Dennistoun, that's where our family home was. I have a sister, and a younger sister and brother, and who's 53 and who's 58. I have a step sister and brother, who's about 37 and who's 42 but I have little to do with them. I only knew of last year when she came to live with me for six months.
My dad worked digging out tunnels, he was always working away from home. He worked on the hydro-electric scheme and for many years he worked on the channel tunnel. My dad also bought in Dennistoun in about 1980, he ran that until about 1995. We had a big Victorian house with six or seven bedrooms and mum ran from the house.

5.	I know I lived in the family home until I was aged five, that's when I went into care with were only about when we went into care.
6.	I think the catalyst was possibly that mum was an alcoholic, she was getting drunk and leaving us. However, looking back as an adult, she probably suffered from post natal depression
7.	I've no real memory of being taken into care. There was social work involvement, because dad couldn't cope with all the kids and work at the same time and mum, in her condition, couldn't cope either.
	Smyllum Park Orphanage, Lanark
	General
8.	and I went to Smyllum Park and I think and initially went to a nursery home in Pollockshields, Glasgow. Mum was in and out of the family home and it was difficult in the family home with the relationship between mum and dad. My brother stayed in the family home and went into foster care in a home just round the corner. And were toddlers, maybe were toddlers, maybe they also came to Smyllum Park.
9.	What I would say about the nuns at Smyllum is that they didn't have any training and the children were just a nuisance. They were always quick to chastise you, we were like robots to them and they just wanted to control us to make it easier for them. They wanted to make it easy to manage. In my opinion they didn't want kids that had emotional needs they just wanted these little people, with no emotional needs that they could just train.
10.	Nuns are obviously good at that, they put all their emotions aside and devote themselves to religion and I think they just expected that same thing from the

children. They didn't want children crying and they didn't want to have to explain to the children that their parents were having problems. I don't think they wanted to deal with that. I think they just wanted to say "you're here, now get on with it".

11. The funny thing is that when the priests were about, the nuns would be scurrying all over the place, as if the king had walked in. They adored the priests, all of a sudden the nuns were the subservient ones running about looking up to them.

## **Routine at Smyllum Park**

on a daily basis. We were known as

	First day
12.	I was about five when we went to Smyllum. I've no memory of the road trip, to Smyllum, but and I were there until we were, when we left because it was closing down.
13.	I remember it was like a big castle, there were big statues, big stairs and big long corridors with rooms off them. It was a stunning place. There were about four beds in the rooms that were off the corridors and I remember bathrooms at the end of the corridors. I think I was always in the same room and I was always with my sister.
14.	It was such a horrible place and such a horrible time. I have nothing but bad memories of things. What I do remember is that I hated it for the nuns but I loved it for the open space, getting out and running about. There were trees and donkeys and lots of space, and I just love being outside, in the country with all that space.
15.	I can't remember if the boys and girls were separated but I do remember being there. I think and and were always together. I feel they were there together

so we were well known within the place.

because there were

## Mornings and bedtime

- 16. I'm not sure when we got up, but we got ready, had breakfast and went to school.

  The school was within the home but it closed so then we went to St. Mary's Primary School, Lanark. I remember baths and washing but I'm not sure how often we had them.
- 17. I remember that if you wet the bed you had to sleep in your own wet bed and say to the nuns in the morning that you'd had an accident. The nuns would shout and bawl at you and just humiliate you. You had to carry your wet sheets to the laundry or they would have you drag your wet sheets about with you. I don't think anyone was singled out, everyone was treated the same. The nuns just kept knocking you down to make you subservient.
- 18. The beds did have to be made a certain way or they would be ripped apart and you would have to do it all over again. That happened throughout the whole five years I was at Smyllum.

Food

19. If you didn't eat your food it was kept until your next meal, then your next meal, then your next meal. Finally, if you didn't eat it, you'd have your nose held and the food would get rammed down your throat. That happened to me, it happened to everyone. I learned to stay under the radar and just took it, took the walloping. I just decided not to argue and to get on with it.

#### School/religion

20. I don't remember a lot about school, it was like an old Victorian school. I do remember 'Lanimers Day' at primary school, we made things with material and thread and I loved that. There was good and bad in Smyllum.

- 21. It was normal school hours, I think, nothing unusual. I think we were taught by a nun in primary school, but I can't remember. We had a school uniform at Smyllum and at St. Marys, but I can't remember it. We would get back from school, change out the uniform and get out to play, that's about all I remember. I've no specific memory of any leisure activities.
- 22. Religion was rammed down our throats at Smyllum. It was everything and they used it as a tool. If you didn't pray, god didn't like you, you were a sinner and all that. We had chapel every day and we did prayers at night, I remember it was constant, prayers and religion.

Work/chores

- 23. I remember having to bring in these big milk churns, big metal things with a lid on them. We would drag them in, and it was freezing cold. I can't remember if we filled them or what but I do remember that.
- 24. They also had this thing about making the beds, with special corners and folds. If it wasn't made the proper way it would be ripped off and you'd have to do it again. I can't remember any other chores, we were quite young.

Holidays

25. The nuns had a house in Girvan where we went every summer for a holiday. We would go in a group, maybe thirty of us, mixed ages and I was always with my sister

I also had the odd weekend at my dad's house,

Dennistoun, when I was a bit older.

Birthdays and Christmas

26. I think we celebrated birthdays and Christmas but I'm not sure. I do remember getting buses to parties.

#### Visits/Inspections

27.	My dad came to visit us every weekend or two. He was working on the channel
	tunnel so he would come and visit whenever he could get the time. He was an old
	man, he had dementia, and didn't interact well with us kids. He had a hard,
	tough background and religion was everything. He thought he was getting the best
	possible care for his children.

- 28. Dad would bring us things and he took us on trips into Lanark. We'd get sweets and share them out. The only other time we were in Lanark would be to go to the cinema now and again.
- 29. I also got reasonably regular visits from my brothers, Mum was in a local place but she was always pitching up drunk or trying to kill herself. She would be turned away by the nuns. We were in a bad place, had been ripped away from our family and got a lot of grief and a lot of hassle but not all of it was Smyllum's fault.
- 30. My mum sometimes used to come and steal us away when we were at Smyllum.

  She once took us away in a train to Ayr and I remember we were on this big area of grass and she was lying drunk. Somebody phoned the police, who came and got us and took us back.

#### Healthcare

- 31. I can't remember ever being sick in Smyllum so I'm not sure about seeing a doctor, I don't think I ever saw one.
- 32. I was taken to the dentist, I remember I always seemed to get a filling, I never understood how that could be. It seems to me it must have been either bad nutrition, a bad dentist or the dentists were at it. No one was accountable.

#### Abuse at Smyllum Park, Lanark

- 33. There was abuse every day. Nuns would give you a clout for something. It could be for not eating your food or many things. They treated us like we were a nuisance and they were so quick to chastise you, to be in control. They wanted these little people to do as they were told and not have to deal with any associated problems.
- 34. If you were bad, say you hadn't done what you were told, the nuns would sometimes make you stand out in the corridor all night, outside the rooms. If you got tired, because you'd been standing so long, and you took a wee seat, you'd get whacked with a stick by the nuns and told to stand up.
- 35. It was easier to take a walloping for something you hadn't done than stand there and argue about it and still get a walloping. The nuns would drag you by the pony tail or if you lied wash your mouth out with soap. That happened to me frequently.
- 36. Sister looked after us and, on the face of it, she was nice but she would hit you with her clog type shoes, her rosary beads or anything to hand. She would hit you anywhere on the body as you scurried past her. I remember once being hit by a nun and I was hitting back and lashing out. I was taken to Sister and she knocked seven shades of blue out of me with her clog.
- 37. I remember on Saturdays, the football scores coming up on television and we would all be in the TV room. There was no meal on a Saturday so we would gather there for soup and a pudding, and if you'd been bad, you'd be told to stand in the corner of the room. There was always someone standing in the corner of the room, facing into the corner, like a dunce, while everyone else was watching TV. If you turned round you'd get a whack.
- 38. I remember once I stood on a nail when I'd been down at the donkeys or something like that and I had this real bad poisonous foot, because I'd never told anybody.

  Eventually, when the nuns found out, I got leathered because I'd been somewhere I shouldn't have been and because I hadn't told anyone.

- 39. The nuns ruled by fear and strictness, it wasn't corporal punishment, we didn't get that. Corporal punishment, to me, is if you're bad you get the punishment. Not comparing kids and saying they're not as good as others, not humiliating kids or telling them they're rubbish at something. The nuns would compare me to my sister and vice versa, it's like they were trying to break you down and control you.
- 40. We had been ripped away from our families and the nuns frequently told us "your parents don't want you" or "your mum doesn't want you". There was never encouragement. They just chipped away at the fibre that makes you a person. It's quite sad that.
- 41. I feel as if I'm not giving you specifics but we were abused at Smyllum. I wasn't privy to any kind of sexual abuse but me and my sisters were all abused.

## Leaving Smyllum Park, Lanark

42. Smyllum was closing and dad wanted us to go to a religious nun led place, rather than a local authority place, because of his strong beliefs. I've no recollection of any local authority reviews, any social services involvement or any visits at Smyllum. I feel there must have been but I can't remember.

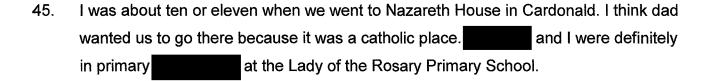
#### Reporting of abuse at Smyllum Park, Lanark

- 43. There was never an opportunity to speak to my dad, not about abuse, and I never spoke to him like that anyway, so I didn't speak to anybody. I think we just thought that's what happened and you learned to accept it. It was horrible, I hated the place.
- 44. I've never discussed being hit, not with another kid and certainly not with a nun. That was just the way I saw it. It happened, you accepted it and you never told anyone.

That was certainly my perception. I didn't know what happened to my sister and she didn't know what happened to me. Even now we don't speak about it.

#### Nazareth House Children's Home, Cardonald

General



- 46. I don't remember any other kids, it just seemed to be us, and it just seemed to happen, we were dispatched and that was it.
- 47. We called Nazareth House, 'The Nazi'. The nuns were old hags with no training in looking after children. To me, in my opinion, nuns have deliberately removed themselves from society so how can they have the skills to interact with children and teach children about society. I just don't think they have the skills and especially with vulnerable children. They just let everybody down.
- 48. One of the nuns that was there was an old bag. We called her unfortunately I called her that once to her face and I got leathered. I think her name was Sister Then there was another called Sister The who was okay. They should never have been looking after children. Sister was old and will be dead now but Sister the was an old bag. We called her that once to her face and I got leathered. I think her name was Sister that once to her face and I got leathered. I think her name was okay.

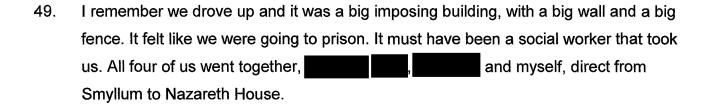
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#### Routine at Nazareth House, Cardonald

First day



- 50. We didn't go to the main building, we went round the back and into a little building called St. Basil's. Eventually we were moved into a bungalow that was purpose built. There was about thirty of us in the little building and we were there first of all, for about a year and a half. I was at Nazareth House for four or five years.
- The little house was two storeys with rooms that were divided into cubicles. The cubicles had a doorway but no door and were divided by wooden partitions, so we had our own wee space. All four of us were together but and shared a room as they were only little.
- The nun in charge of the little house was Sister and the nun in charge of the bungalow was Sister There were no other nuns that were responsible for us.

  I remember Sister LHW stayed with us in the bungalow. She was there and was a presence, it was like it was her role, trying to rule with an iron rod.
- 53. We were split into groups with a member of staff looking after each group. The routine was much the same between the little house and then the bungalow. The staff at Nazareth House were a mix of ages, I think there was one male and the rest were female. There were about four or five of them, for about thirty kids at the little house. Then there was about sixteen of us at the bungalow and less staff.

#### Mornings and bedtime

- 54. There wasn't anything really like what happened at Smyllum with bedwetting. In the house, in the mornings you'd get up, washed and dressed, have breakfast then the staff would walk you round to the school.
- 55. There was a big wall round Nazareth House and we would walk round the building and out a side door. It was a public school. We would go to school, come back at lunch then go back to school and come back after. We mixed with the local kids at the local primary.

#### Food

- 56. The food was pretty much the same as Smyllum. There was a central kitchen that made it all and it came over in these big trollies. We always had our meals in the little house, never in the big building. It was much the same in the bungalow.
- 57. We had things like mutton and we had fish every Friday, so it was probably nutritionally good but who wants to eat food like that. We got food, so I suppose we should be grateful but when you're a kid you don't want food like that. Things like cabbage and brussels sprouts, you should be allowed to say you don't like it and not forced to eat it.
- 58. I have an allergy to oranges that was diagnosed when I was a very wee girl, even the smell of them turns my stomach. One of the nuns once made me drink this orange drink, I was held down and forced to drink it and sure enough I had this reaction and a doctor had to be called out. I was about thirteen at the time and I told the doctor I'd told the nuns I was allergic to oranges and that they'd held me down. The nuns told the doctor I was such a liar and that was why the kids were in care because the just lie and don't tell the truth. They'd just about killed me for something I'd warned them about but they chose to disbelieve me. That was so wrong.

#### School and religion

59.	Fortunately, for and I, we were both quite clever and we were always in the	he
	op classes. I think that's down to our makeup rather than anything else.	
	and I did okay at school but we finished up after fourth year. That was at Our Lady	of
	ourdes High School in Cardonald. I remember we were told to do homework but	
	here was never anyone there to help or to encourage you.	

60. We were always in church, religion was drummed into you. Confess your sins and all that was rammed down your throat on a daily basis. I think they tried to rule you with fear, saying things like "you'll burn in hell" and "you'll have a horrible death". It was constant at both Smyllum and Nazareth House.

#### Leisure

- 61. It was easier at Nazareth House as you were in the middle of the city. You could go to guides or whatever, you could just go and do that. I went to dancing classes and I went horse-riding, but that wasn't encouraged by them, that was me, I did that for myself.
- 62. We also ran about a lot outside, we'd play tennis and scoot about or whatever. Just daft kids things and stuff. We didn't really do group things it was all things you did for yourself.
- 63. I don't think they encouraged free spirit but if you had a hobby you just had to go and do it yourself. The nuns didn't know and weren't interested. When I was fifteen I started helping the wee girls and I was teaching them how to dance.

**Visits** 

64. We were allowed home every other weekend and I got to see my brothers then. My dad sometimes came to see us on the other weekend. He would give me pocket

money and we were allowed to keep that, although I don't know if the nuns even knew we had it.

65. My brother had tried to keep us when we went into care, he fought to keep us when he was only about fifteen or sixteen but the social work wouldn't allow it because of his age.

Holidays

- 66. We went to the same house in Girvan as we went to when we were at Smyllum. A nice big house right, like a row of old Victorian houses and they were right at the waterfront with some grass in front of them. It must have been the church that owned it. I remember being there together with
- 67. I remember for school holidays our names got put in a ballot and once got to go on a trip but I didn't. Graham Boyd, our social worker, said to me that as got to go on one I could go on one too and he said he would organise a horse riding trip for me. However, the nuns said no and that just because got to go didn't mean I would and that was that. At the end of the day the nuns had all the control.

Chores

68. I remember we had to take all the food down to the pigs bins at Nazareth House and that was gross. We also had to keep our rooms tidy, but there weren't many other chores, just normal cleaning and things like that.

Birthdays and Christmas

69. I remember parties at St. Vincent de Paul and John Lewis in Glasgow. We went in buses and we got presents. There was also a thing at the STV (Scottish Television Studio) studios, a party we went to. People were good to us at those.

70. We did have some personal possession but within reason, because if you had any nice things they would get broken or stolen. Unfortunately, in Nazareth House, you didn't just have children who were there through no fault of their own, you had children who were bad eggs, were stealing and had just gone off the rails.

#### Discipline

- 71. The nuns and staff both disciplined the children. It was usually just whacks from the nuns. The staff were just young girls, probably their first jobs and they weren't much older than some of the kids, they wouldn't lift a hand to us. They would check beds were made, check homework was done and help at bath time with washing.
- 72. There was lots of uproar, shouting, bawling, fighting and pulling kids off one another. It was definitely more volatile than Smyllum, it was a horrible environment. Kids didn't want to be there and would be partially at fault but the staff just weren't trained in how to deal with kids like that. There was no support provided.
- 73. I don't think you get bad kids, I think you just get kids that have come from bad situations. If a kid is stealing you have to ask why, is there something wrong at home, or if a kids' hitting others, why, have they been getting hit at home? That needed to be managed and it wasn't.

#### Abuse at Nazareth House, Cardonald

- 74. We would get whacks across the head all the time, just with whatever they had.

  Sister would hit you with her clogs, a toy, her rosary beads, just whatever she had to hand. It was just like at Smyllum and there was that incident with the orange drink that I've told you about.
- 75. There was also an incident when someone in school got caught smoking and they'd said they were me. I got leathered by the nuns and locked in my room for that and I've never smoked in my life. I was angry they were punishing me for something I

never done so I put a chair up against the door, put the taps on and flooded the place. I got leathered by Sister LHW for that. I know I was totally out of order for that but I hated getting punished for something I hadn't done.

- 76. My problem was sexual abuse as opposed to physical. You did see physical, I remember LHM, a member of staff, once threw a fork across a room and it stuck in my little brother arm. Who would do that to anyone, let alone a wee child?
- 77. There was random hitting by the nuns but I kept my head down and I knew the rules. It was a strange place and you just kept yourself to yourself. Kids would be brought in through the night by the police, who'd been abused by parents or been in dangerous situations. Some of the kids that were coming in, that had been abused, were angry and would lash out. They would be the ones that got the beatings, they didn't know to keep under the radar.
- 78. It was horrible, those kids would tell you their stories, then they would go away, then they would come back. They would run away then the police would bring them back.

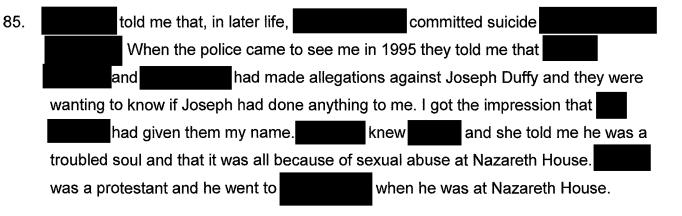
  and me, we'd been in the care system for so long and were screwed on.

  We kept our heads down and didn't get involved.
- 79. Staff would be dragging fighting kids out the bungalow, it was always a volatile environment, just waiting for something to spark off. The kids that were there, didn't want to be there and were there against their will.
- 80. I don't think the staff dealt with it in an appropriate manner, I don't think they were even trained. The kids that were there needed support and the fact they didn't get it was why there was all the explosions.

Joseph Duffy

- 81. Joe Duffy was a volunteer helper at Nazareth House. He had been with another group in the main building and I remember he went out with Anne Ward, who worked there, so perhaps that's how he became involved as a helper.
- 82. Initially he would come over to the bungalow and make food or watch movies.

  Nazareth House had a minibus, that had been donated by the Variety Club of Great Britain and Joe would take us all swimming on Friday nights. We went to Eastwood Swimming Baths, that's the only swimming pool I can recall him taking us to and as far as I remember it was always Joe that took us.
- 83. Joe Duffy was clever, he became friends with the staff and children. I'm not sure exactly when but the group he was working with shut down, and he moved in to help with our group in the bungalow. Joe was allowed to stay there, I don't know why, he slept in a room off the main group of beds. At one point he shared that room with who was another kid at Nazareth House. At night and weekends it was really only Sister LHW and Joe in the bungalow so he could easily sneak about. 84. was about the same age us and stayed at Nazareth House for about the same period of time. He had a brother who also stayed with us all in the bungalow. Other kids I remember from that time are two brothers. and a and were another brother and sister that were there and there was also



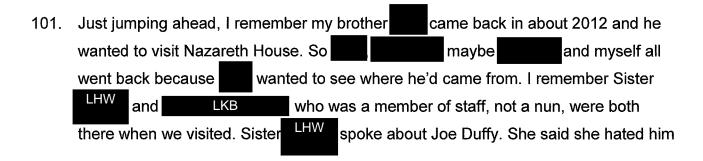
- 86. Joe Duffy befriended me and all that group of kids I've mentioned. He got our confidence up, he did the same with my sister, He befriended us all but in his own little way he befriended each of us separately, then had a special relationship with each of us individually. I think naively none of us were ever aware that he was probably grooming us.
- 87. He became friendly then abused the situation. He bought a video recorder, which was a big thing back then, and we'd go to the video shop and pick movies. He would take us swimming and when we came back he would make potato fritters for us all. He bought two big fish tanks and he took us to the fish shop to buy tropical fish to put in the tanks. He also had a cousin who had a hair salon in Glasgow and he would take us there to get our hair cut. He really rooted himself in and how no one ever saw the alarm bells is incredible.
- 88. With me there was no initial touching, it was more about pushing the boundaries and manipulation, all the time. He didn't just dive in there, he was more subtly progressive. It might have seemed innocent in my head to start with but he kept moving the boundaries and borders. He was a clever man.
- 89. On a Friday night Joe would cuddle up with us all and if I was next to him he would touch me up then. On a Saturday morning he would initially sneak through and slide into my bed and touch me up then, but that changed. He then started taking me through to the sitting room area in front of the fish tanks which was quite isolated and he would touch me up in there as well. That was always on a Saturday morning when the nun was at chapel.
- 90. That sexual relationship with Joe Duffy went on for years and years, from when I was about thirteen. He started kissing and touching me. Then he moved on to more frequent visits. He would touch me under my clothes and stuff like that, but we didn't have sexual intercourse then. I know he would sneak about other rooms as well.
- 91. He would also touch me up at the swimming pool, at Eastwood, that would be while we were in the water or when we were standing waiting for everybody at the end.

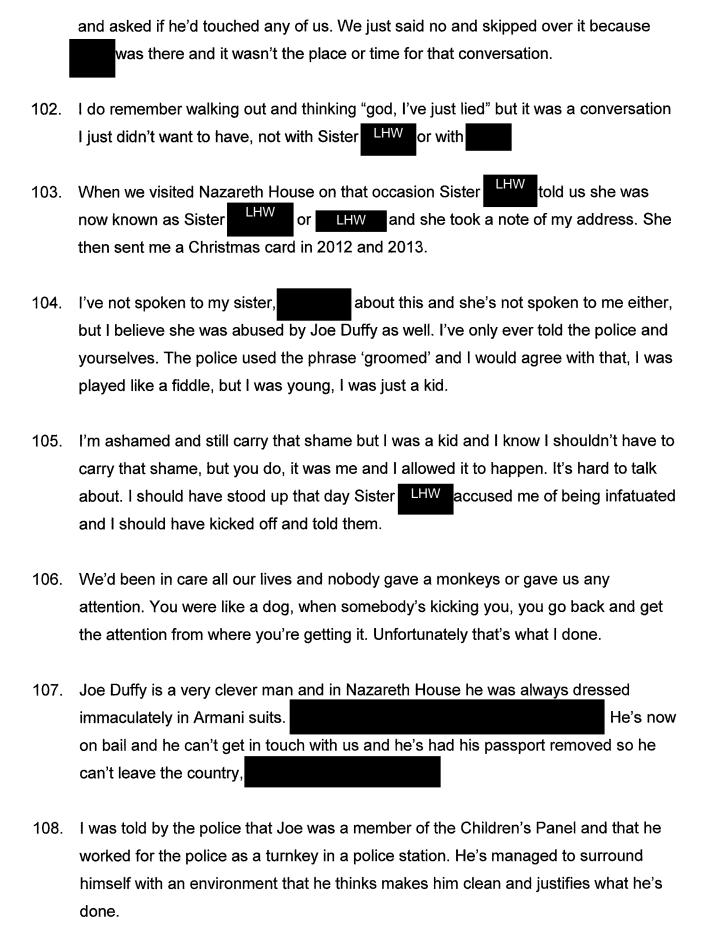
That would be in the foyer area, outside the changing rooms and café. He would do it when no one else was there but even when other kids were about, he was very subtle. We only ever went swimming on a Friday and it was about 6 or 7 o'clock in the evening.

- 92. I mentioned going on summer holidays to Girvan every year and staying in a house on the waterfront. Joe Duffy was there with us sometimes and I remember one time he was there in his brown Ford Cortina car. He took me places in that car but I can't remember him trying anything on in it. On every occasion we were at Girvan whenever any opportunity arose Joe would kiss me and touch me up. I don't know if he did that with any other kids, in fact, I can honestly say I didn't know anything about other kids until the police came to me in 1995.
- 93. Joe would also touch me up and get me to touch him whenever he was driving the Nazareth House minibus. That would be when I was sitting next to him in the front or he would get me to sit directly behind him and touch him up. That happened every time we went swimming and there would always be other kids in the minibus when that happened. I'm sure it was always just Joe that took us swimming. There might have been other staff but I don't think so.
- 94. He was aged about 26 when things started and the sexual abuse was from when I was thirteen until I was about seventeen or eighteen. When I'd left Nazareth House he would still come and visit me at my dad's house.
- 95. The first sexual intercourse I had with Joe was the day I left Nazareth House. It was in 1984, and I was fifteen and three quarters. Joe gave me a lift home but we went via his house, in Penilee. It was in his bedroom in that house that he first had sexual intercourse with me. He then took me to my dad's house Dennistoun.
- 96. After leaving Nazareth House I stayed at my dad's at until I was about eighteen and during that time, as I have said, I would see Joe. He continued to come and see me throughout that time and he continued to have sexual intercourse with

me throughout that time. Then I went my own way and did my own thing, stumbling about in life trying to find my way, for many years.

- 97. Stupidly for me, I met up with Joe when I was about 23 or 24 and I ended up going out with him. I'd just split up with a lad and I was in a bad place. I think, good or bad, you sometimes end up going back to what you know. That went on for about nine months.
- 98. To go back to Nazareth House, Sister hated Joe but she accused me of being infatuated with him and said it was my fault and that I instigated it. I was told to stay away, as if it was me that was at fault but the abuse continued, it still happened. That was one time I should have said things were wrong but I didn't even get an opportunity.
- 99. There was a book that Sister had, where she and all the staff would write down and record things on a daily basis. Perhaps something was written there about her saying I was infatuated with Joe Duffy. She must have seen some signs, that she was aware of, to accuse me of being infatuated. She did nothing, I was thirteen or fourteen and they did nothing to try and deal with it. Why didn't she take it further? Something must have twigged within her, so why didn't she do something about it, she hated him.
- 100. I would say it was a day book and it was kept in the office in the bungalow. Sister had an office and inside that there was a locked cupboard but the book was on her desk most of the time. I saw staff writing up things about the kids in the book and we would all sneak in and read things that had been written.



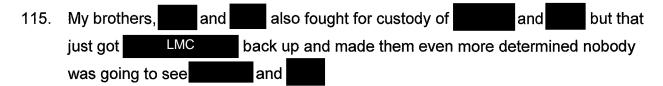


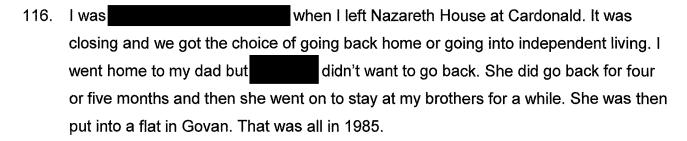
## Leaving Nazareth House, Cardonald

109.	in 1982. My dad was trying to get us out of care so we could go and stay with him.
	That was a hard time for us as we were in Nazareth House
	and going to school and everyone knew about it and was asking about it.
110.	The courts deemed that my dad couldn't get us because he was an old man, and he couldn't provide the correct environment for
	us. The social work then agreed that we had all been in care too long, so what they
	decided was that we should all be adopted. They said and I shouldn't be
	separated and didn't want to be adopted so that's why we stayed on at
	Nazareth House.
111.	and were adopted and went from
	Nazareth House to a family in Dumfries. The family, LMC is all I remember
	about them, had clearly stated that they didn't want children who'd had any previous
	interaction with other family members. The social work, for whatever reason, must
	have kidded on there was no other family, so and and left Nazareth House and went to live with
112.	It was terrible, and I had been with and and for years, then they
	were taken away from us. We knew they were going to be taken away but we were
	devastated and no one gave us any support. That was all so wrong, splitting up kids in a family
113.	I kept in touch with and and I managed to write to them and then I went to see them when I was sixteen, seventeen, eighteen once I got out of Nazareth House.
114	The courts felt dad wasn't able or suitable to look after all four of us. The ironic thing

was that dad had a huge Victorian house, was completely self-sufficient and could

easily have looked after us then, when we were aged thirteen or fourteen. Then when we left Nazareth House, aged fifteen and three quarters, they didn't know what to do with us and all of a sudden we could go back to live with our dad.

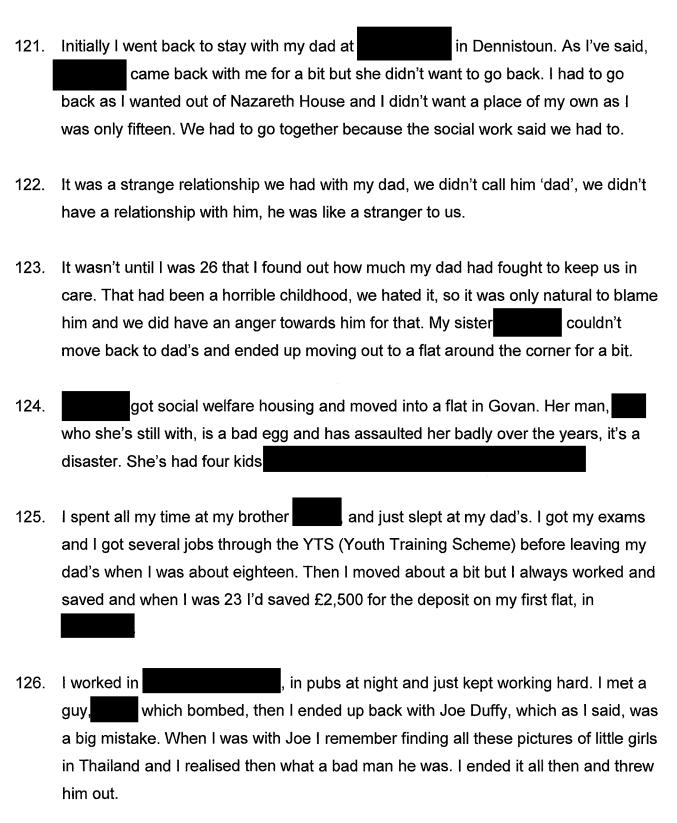


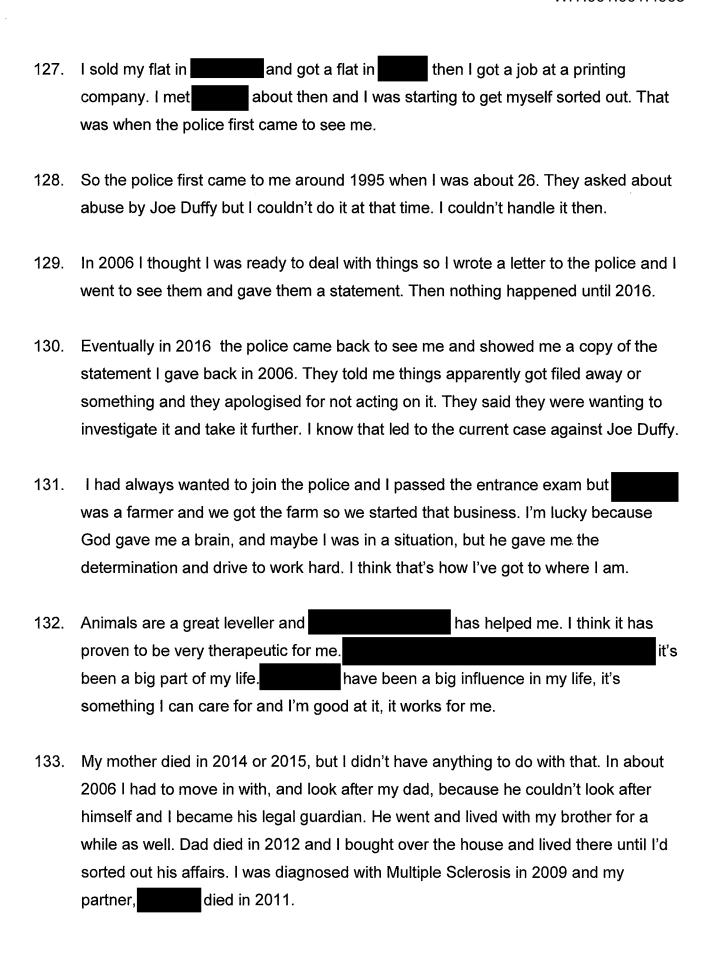


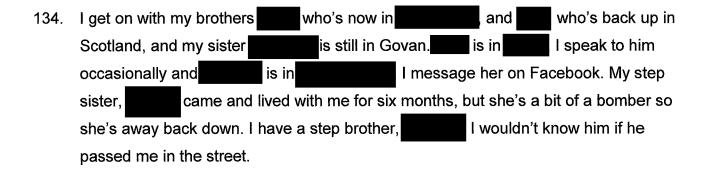
## Reporting of abuse at Nazareth House, Cardonald

- 117. Our social worker was absolutely useless, his name was Graham Boyd, and he was just a wee boy with no experience. He was just a little 'yes' man and would do anything the nuns asked of him.
- 118. The social work did come and visit us at the bungalow at Nazareth House. There was a 'quiet room' where we would speak with them, but there was always a nun there. I would frequently complain about the clothing, going to bed so early, getting hit for stuff, the food and loads of things. I would tell the social work but if a nun's sitting there saying it didn't happen, who were the social work going to believe?
- 119. The social work would say they would speak to the nuns about it but the nuns were always there and would just say we were lying, and that it didn't happen. Nothing ever happened when we reported anything to the social work.
- 120. I never spoke to any other people, you learned not to do that. I didn't tell any teachers, you just went to school.

## Life after being in care







#### **Impact**

- 135. The kids in our family were all ripped apart. For our whole lives we were put down.

  Kids need cuddles and love and that was missing. We were almost craving attention but the nuns ruled by fear and strictness to get the kids subservient.
- 136. My sister, is very deep, she lives in Govan now. We are such very different people yet she remembers it all and carries it about with her. I just want to put it behind me.
- 137. I'm probably a bit of a sociopath and a bit of a loner. When I was younger I feel lacked confidence and self-belief, I felt ashamed of myself and didn't tell people the truth. I used to say that my parents were dead as I was feeling so ashamed of my life. I don't rely on anybody, if I want something done I would go and do it myself.
- 138. I have no children, probably because I didn't think I was good enough and I didn't have the confidence to bring them up. It probably was a conscious decision not to. I think it goes back to Smyllum and Nazareth House and being told by people that I'm not good enough.
- 139. I don't trust people, I'm always thinking "what's your agenda?" and I think I'm very self-sufficient and probably very insular. I have friends but not a lot of people in my life and it's a very small group that are close friends. It's been better since I've had the farm. It's as if I've created this world and I'm in control of everybody that comes in to it.

- 140. There is negative and positive in that I'm driven and work hard and I'm determined. I always look at all the pro's and con's, and don't jump in without thinking "how could this impact on me?" or "could I be hurt by this?". Like coming here for example, I sat and weighed it up to see if it could hurt me, but it was in the past, so it can't.
- 141. I have bad dreams most nights, sometimes about nuns, sometimes other different things that are going on in my life. It's been occasional going years back but recently, especially with the upcoming court case, it's been frequent.
- 142. For a long time I've not liked my parents, but I don't hate them or Joe or the nuns. If you don't have feelings about something you can't hate it and it can't hurt you. If it's not in your heart, it can't hurt you. Hate is not a good thing to carry about with you. You shouldn't carry that kind of hate or baggage about with you.

#### Records

143. I haven't applied for any records from the nuns order or from the social work department.

#### Lessons to be learned

- 144. The whole ethos towards the kids was to keep them down and treat them as if they weren't human beings. Did they set out to be that way or what?
- 145. We can't change the past but we must be more careful who is employed and make it harder for people to be left alone. We need to learn and be aware. If people say something don't presume, look more thoroughly, listen and try to find out the truth. People in the industry need to listen.
- 146. Unfortunately in the world you get people who cry wolf and my worry is that we need to be mindful and don't go too far in accusing good people of doing bad things, when

they are in fact innocent. Looking too much at things when people are doing the right things. Bad things happen but good people can get accused of doing them and can be innocent.

147. Perhaps the Inquiry should be taking money from the nuns to do good towards under-privileged children. They failed to do what they were meant to do. They should be made to pay for letting down all those kids.

148.	
	I needed to be
	disclosure Scotland checked, become a child welfare officer and pass a load of
	written and oral exams over a period of a year. I have all that duty of care so how
	can nuns be allowed to look after just one child with no training or experience in
	childcare.

#### Other information

- 149. I mentioned the court case against Joe Duffy earlier in my statement and the police coming to see me in 2016. When they came to see me I clarified some of the detail from my earlier statement and I had to go and see the procurator fiscal in Glasgow a couple of times after that. I then identified Joseph Duffy by video at London Road Police in Glasgow. Then I received a citation to give evidence at Glasgow High Court and I gave my evidence on 2018.
- 150. When I first saw Joe Duffy at the court, that was the first time I'd seen him seen him since 1994 or 1995. I didn't feel anything, I didn't feel scared or wanting to run away but I did not want to speak to him. I would have walked away if he had spoken to me. I was thinking that, at last, he was going to be brought to task.

- 151. I gave evidence for about five hours and when I first went in I was scared. I knew I was going to be accused of being liar and that my integrity and morals would be challenged. I felt Mr Finlay tried so hard to antagonise me and make me break down and be weak. His main thing seemed to be that because I hadn't told anybody about the abuse that it wasn't true. I'm so confused by this whole court case because, to me, that seemed to be his main defence, that we never told anybody.
- 152. He also had this attitude that because I'd done well for myself and was intelligent then, as a child, I should have been able to tell somebody then. I remember he asked me a question, I can't remember it exactly, but it made me ask him if he was questioning how I had any self-respect. That really annoyed me, but I stayed calm and in control throughout. Even the judge asked him to repeat the question, but he just cast it aside. I found that appalling, like he was trying to create a black mark against me, as if it was all my fault.
- 153. Mr Finlay also mentioned my relationship with Joe when I was 23 or 24, when Joe and I were engaged, and he asked if Joe had asked me to marry him. I don't know why that was important to him, but Joe didn't ask me to marry him, he bought me an engagement ring, but the relationship ended about nine months later when I found the pornographic pictures I spoke of.
- 154. I would be furious if he got away with it but I feel nothing personally towards him. I don't believe he'll walk away from this without it tarnishing him and he'll always be looking over his shoulder and be aware that it could come back if he gets away with it.
- 155. I prepared myself very hard for giving my evidence and I found it very difficult bearing my soul like that. I was so happy it was a closed court. I didn't want anyone that knew me knowing about what happened and my horrible childhood. I don't want people changing their perceptions and feeling sorry for me.
- 156. When I was at the High Court in Glasgow I met a woman called who was also cited as a witness in the case against Joe Duffy. She introduced herself and she told

	pool on one occasion. was also in care at Nazareth House, and remembered
	me, I think she was only about nine or ten when she saw what she saw. I don't know
	how the police identified her. gave her evidence after me
	asked me for the details of the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry and I
	told her how to get in contact.
157.	My sister, is a witness in the Joe Duffy case as well, but we have never
	ever discussed anything to do with Joe Duffy. I knew she'd been cited but thought
	just as a witness, not as a complainer. The first time I knew that Joe had abused her
	was the day she gave her evidence, when she told me. I have told what I
	have been involved with in relation to the Child Abuse Inquiry and encouraged her to
	make contact as well. I think she will.
158.	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.
	LCY
	Signed
	Dated 13th Feb 18 1

me she was there to give evidence as she'd seen Joe touch me at the swimming