

Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry

Witness Statement of

LDJ [REDACTED]

Support person present: No

1. My name is LDJ [REDACTED] but I was known as LDJ [REDACTED] when I was in care. I changed it when I was eighteen because [REDACTED] is on my birth certificate. My date of birth is [REDACTED] 1968. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.

Life before going into care

2. I lived with my mum, my older sister, [REDACTED] and younger brother [REDACTED] in Greenock. [REDACTED] is 52 and [REDACTED] is 46. My mum was an alcoholic. She was called [REDACTED]. She was with a man who was in the merchant navy. He was away a lot. When he was home he was strict. He would make her look after the kids and look after the house. I think he wanted the house run properly. He made us go to church every Sunday. He was called [REDACTED]. He is [REDACTED] father. My mum would drink when he was away.
3. My mum had eleven children but it was only the three of us who were left in the house. My older brother [REDACTED] was in Smyllum for about a month at one stage. None of my older other brothers or sisters were in care. They were all [REDACTED].
4. [REDACTED] and I all went to St Saviour's Primary School in Greenock.
5. I think one of the neighbours used to report my mum to the police a lot. One evening, [REDACTED] and I were out playing and the neighbour phoned the police. My

mum was found lying drunk. They took us to a children's home. I think the police might have been up to the house before but I have no recollection of it.

Greenock Children's Home

6. I was nine when I went into care. [REDACTED] was eleven and [REDACTED] was seven. They took us to the children's home in Neil Street. I can't remember who took us there. It was probably social services but I can't remember. I always remember the social worker telling me that my mum was going into the alcohol unit at the Ravenscraig Hospital.
7. Neil Street was fine. They were just normal people who worked in there. We only spent a night or two there. I don't remember being told we were moving on.

Nazareth House, Cardonald

8. I had it stuck in my head that we would be in the kids' home for two weeks. I don't know if that's what the social worker had told me. I was always shouting about that over the next couple of years.
9. We were taken to Nazareth House in Cardonald. I just remember driving into the driveway in the car with the social worker. He was called Adrian McBride. It was like when you watched a horror film when you were a kid. The building looked six floors high but it was probably only three. It was like a Frankenstein or a big Dracula house. I always remember the big Virgin Mary statue right in the middle of the building. I remember thinking what is this place?
10. We were taken into the Mother Superior's office. She had a wee talk with us. I don't remember what she said to us. I don't remember her name but she was a big, tall, thin woman. She must have been at least six foot. She looked like she was floating.

11. When we were still in her office another nun came down. We were told she was called Sister LJS. Sister LJS was a small woman who looked in her forties. At first, Sister LJS was nice and polite. We were told we were going to her unit. She took us up the stairs.
12. I think there were three levels. The kids were on the first floor. There were two units on each side of the house. The nuns were on the ground floor on the left. We were above the nuns. The ground floor on the right was a kids' unit too.
13. I didn't really see the girls in the house. The boys were in one half of the building and the girls were in the other half. There was a big partition separating us. I saw them when we were eating, watching TV or out in the grounds.
14. I don't have a clue how many kids were in there. I don't remember any other kids in Sister LJS unit. I have blocked out every person that I met.
15. The bedrooms had big partitions that didn't go up to the roof. There were maybe two single beds in one room or two sets of bunk beds in another. When we first arrived in the first unit I shared a room with [REDACTED]. There were two bunk beds on each side of the room.

Routine at Nazareth House, Cardonald

First day

16. I always remember Sister LJS showing us the dining room on the first night. It was a pretty big room. I think there were a few tables. There were three or four kids to each table. I think she had us setting the table on the first night. I put the fork on the right and the knife on the left. I remember her rattling my knuckles for it and telling me that wasn't the way to do it.

Mornings and bedtime

17. The staff would come in and get us up in the morning. I don't know who the woman was but I remember her coming in and telling us to get up. It was a female member of staff but I can't remember her name.
18. We were in bed at the same time every night. We prayed all the time. I had to pray when I got up in the morning as well. I remember having to kneel at the side of my bed. Sister ^{LJS} [REDACTED] was always about at bedtime. She put us to bed. It was like a dorm separated into bedrooms. Her bedroom was through the wall to the boy's dorm. She had an office and her bedroom was in the office.
19. I remember once we were making a noise and she came in going mental. You didn't talk or make a noise. Once you were in bed, you stayed in bed. You wouldn't move or you would be sorry.

Bedwetting

20. I remember being a bed-wetter. I would stay in my bed until the morning if I had wet the bed. It was pure fear. I probably got walloped for it too. I remember being told to wash my sheets even though I couldn't do it. I think it was a case of putting the sheets in the sink and just wetting them a bit. I think there were a few weans who wet the bed. Sister ^{LJS} [REDACTED] would give me a cold bath or she would tell the staff to do it. She was just an evil woman. The staff did what they were told and they didn't answer back.
21. There was a member of staff called ^{LKB} [REDACTED]. She was a very strict woman. She was nasty. She never abused or hit me but she turned a blind eye to it. She saw it happening. She was always there. As an adult, the impression I got was that she was a nun who never made the cut. I think she knows everything that happened.
22. The nuns were just like the bosses. They would run about making sure things were being done. Sister ^{LJS} [REDACTED] would always be about. She would just appear. I would see

her at breakfast or in the evenings. I got dressed for school and went down for breakfast.

Mealtimes / Food

23. I can't remember breakfast at all but I remember tea time. I remember the first time I got tapioca for my pudding. It looked like frog spawn. I saw it, tasted it and thought what is this? I didn't eat it. I couldn't. I got it for breakfast and tea for the next three or four days, the same bowl until I ate it. The nuns were saying that there were kids starving and that God had put that in front of me. They were always saying things like that.
24. I ended up eating it and running to the toilet to spit it out and putting some of it in my pocket. I got nothing else until I ate it. They just kept putting it in the fridge and giving me the same bowl. I felt as if I got it on the Monday and then got my dinner on the Friday. It would happen at other times too. When I went outside some of the kids would bring me an apple or a bit of bread.
25. I think we went back to the home for lunch because I always remember getting the tapioca. I remember getting there and the other kids had eaten their lunch. The dining room would be empty. It would just be me sitting there. I was told to stay and eat it.
26. There was a staff member called Paul O'Neill. He was around at meal times. The nun told him to make sure I ate it. He just stood over me to make sure I ate it. I remember if we had mince or meat and there was a bit of fat on it, I couldn't eat it. It was the same thing. I was told to get it eaten or I'd get it again. I remember getting it again and again. It was a constant thing.

Washing / bathing

27. I don't know how often we got baths. I think it was a couple of times a week. I remember it would be busy at bath time. There would be a couple of staff floating about and boys coming in and out. There was one bath. I went into the bath on my own. One of the staff would come in and out to check. The women would never bath you. They might tell you to get washed properly. They would come in and out. I think it might have been the same water for a couple of people. Usually there were a couple of staff members about. There would be a few kids waiting on their turn.
28. I remember as soon as you went back to Nazareth House, they would take your clothes right off you and wash them. Then they would grab you and put you straight in the bath. They put that 'jungle juice' stuff in your hair for nits. They did that all the time. It was as if you came back and they thought you were dirty and needed fumigated.

Staff

29. The units were each run by one nun. Some of the staff lived in. I can only remember LKB and Paul O'Neill. There was another woman there but I can't remember her name. There were a lot of staff. I think they allowed anybody to come in and work. The two female members of staff were alright but strict. LKB would report you for every single thing that you done. She was Sister LJS sidekick. Sister LJS always had a sidekick.

Clothing / uniform

30. I would come back from school and get changed. I think I probably got clothes off of them when I went in. I don't think there was a uniform in the home. I think you got whatever clothes fitted you from their charity shop.

Leisure time

31. There was a fair bit of space around the building so we would be out there. I would meet up with the other kids from other units and kick a ball about. That's when I would see all the girls. I can't remember if there were games. I think there might have been a couple of board games in the TV room. I was an avid reader so there were books. I think I took that up when I went into care. I think reading was escape basically. There was a wee bookcase right at the back of the room. I can never remember doing anything at the weekends. They might have taken us out in the mini bus to Lochwinnoch.

School

32. The school was outside the wall on the left. I think one of the staff would walk us round. It was called Our Lady of the Rosary Primary. The high school was Lourdes. I think I was in primary four when I went into Nazareth House. Primary school was alright. I remember one incident with the head teacher. I had a flick comb. I think it got it from a circus or a fair. I remember pulling it out and some of the boys told the teacher it was a flick knife. The teacher dragged me into the office. They took it off me right away. The school called Sister ^{LJS} [REDACTED] I remember her coming into the office angry. She leathered me that night her for having a flick comb. I don't know if they gave the comb to ^{LJS} [REDACTED]
33. As I got older I just didn't go to school. I read in my reports it said that a couple of days I chose not to go but in Nazareth House you went to school, you had no option. You would have got leathered. I think high school was alright but I was a bit of a trouble maker. I was always opening my mouth in class. I always remember I was always getting sent to get the belt. My Modern Studies teacher used to throw me out every Friday. The worst punishment I got at school was the belt. It was nothing compared to the beatings in the home. I had Religious Education every morning so it would that teacher who would send you for the belt.

Religion

34. I was in the choir and I was an altar boy. There was a chapel in Nazareth House and one outside of the building, right next to Nazareth House. It was next to the primary school. We went there on a Sunday. I would sing in the choir in one mass and be an altar boy in the next mass. I had two masses on a Sunday. The whole thing would last at least two hours. I went to confession every Saturday and mass every Sunday.
35. In the other chapel inside Nazareth House they had benedictions and different types of masses. It wasn't the usual Sunday service. ^{LOQ} [REDACTED] used to do them. He stayed in Nazareth House for a couple of years. He was treated like God. The nuns all ran about after him. He had the chapel inside Nazareth House.
36. I was an altar boy in both chapels. I would hold the plate under people giving them communion or hold the wine and shake the incense. I led the priest out as he came out of his room. There would be another four altar boys behind me. I had to walk at the front carrying the crucifix. I don't know if I was chosen because I was tall. I had to wear red robes and a white tunic over the top of it. I used to call them the Ku Klux Klan robes. They were big, long white robes with hoods with the cross on them. I think I was made to be an altar boy quickly.

Trips / Holidays

37. I remember going a run to Greenock once and another time going to Largs for ice cream. We would go swimming now and again. They might have taken us to mess about for a few hours playing football in a park or something like that. It was always things outdoors like taking us to the Campsie Hills and going a walk across the hills. It would be for a few hours. The staff would take us out in the van.
38. I remember going to Girvan with Sister ^{LVQ} [REDACTED] once. I was ten or eleven. She took the whole unit. I think we stayed in a big chalet type of place for a few days. That is the only holiday I remember. It was nice. I liked it. I got chips out of the chip shop one night. I remember I was talking to the police outside it.

39. The hackney drivers used to take all the kids out. I remember that happening in Nazareth House. I think that was down to Troon for the day.
40. They sent me away to St Vincent's College in Langbank for one summer. I was away for weeks. It was a priest school. I think they were trying to make me become a priest. There were tons of other boys there. It was alright because I was with other lads my age. We were in a big, massive dorm so it was a bit of a laugh. Nothing inappropriate happened there. We prayed there all the time.

Birthdays and Christmas

41. The only thing I remember about Christmas was all the big shops in Glasgow, like Marks and Spencer, had Christmas parties for kids in care. I remember going to a couple of the parties and they gave you daft wee toys. In Nazareth House, they celebrated Christmas religiously. I can't remember seeing a Christmas tree or having Christmas dinner. I don't remember getting a present in Nazareth House. I can't remember any baubles or loveliness.
42. I remember one birthday getting four or five Easter eggs. Sometimes my birthday fell around Easter. My birthday might have been three or four days after Easter Sunday. A lot of the shops would hand in Easter eggs. Everybody got an egg but I was given four or five because it was my birthday. That's the only birthday I remember in Nazareth House. I don't think the kids would have got anything if it hadn't been for those shops.

Visits

43. My mum came up to visit once or twice when we first went in. I think that she was trying to get off alcohol. She had been in the hospital. I don't know how long she was in there. I think the social worker brought her up from Greenock. I don't think she would have come on her own. It was about thirty miles away so it was a fair journey.

44. I remember my older sister, [REDACTED] coming up once. I think she was pregnant at the time with her first son.
45. I think the social workers would appear once every few weeks. They might have had a call about something and come to see us.

Healthcare

46. I never went to hospital or the doctors ever. I remember a nun who wore a white apron. I think she must have been the nurse. I think I saw her for grazes but that's about it. I remember going to a dentist once. He took out four teeth because I had too many. I might have gone for check-ups but that time sticks in my mind.

Siblings/Family

47. I hardly remember seeing my sister [REDACTED] in the home. [REDACTED] was fostered out. I think she was fostered when we were in the second unit. We stopped staying in touch after that and drifted apart. I always looked after [REDACTED] in Nazareth House. He was my wee brother. He was always starting fights. I basically had to finish them for him. He was always up to something. We were close in Nazareth House.
48. I didn't have personal possessions. I don't remember going into the home with anything or leaving with anything.
49. We were sent home to my mum's for a trial period. I was in first year at High School at the time. I think my mum had stopped drinking so [REDACTED] and I went home. It didn't work out. We didn't go to school and my mum started drinking again. We were taken back to Nazareth House again.

Abuse at Nazareth House

50. I was in the first unit for a couple of years. It was all the same kids in the unit. Sister LJS just disappeared one day. Sister LVQ came into the first unit and took over. She was a lovely woman. It was the first time I had ever seen a smile. It was like in films, it was like she had a bit of light on her and I could feel the warmth. She was the first nice person I had met in Nazareth House.
51. The whole unit moved into a new unit. I was still with the same kids. Sister LVQ left. Sister LJS came back. I felt like I was back to what it had been like previously. When I moved into the second unit, I started to get louder. I went to Lourdes High School.
52. The second unit was more like a house with proper bedrooms. There were three single beds in it. I can't remember if [REDACTED] was in there.
53. Another member of staff called LVN had arrived by then. There was another stocky woman with black tight curly hair. I can't remember her name but she was a bully. There was another woman with dark, curly hair and big glasses but she was really nice. I think she was called Marie.
54. In the second unit, my job was to empty the bins in each room. That's the only job I remember doing. The woman with the tight curly perm battered me because a tenner had gone missing out of her room. That evening when I came in from school I got battered. She just came in and started punching and slapping me. She dragged me from my room into her room, screaming and shouting. She was calling me a thief. She then found the tenner down the back of her unit but there was no apology. I always remember her for that.
55. I remember one day Sister LJS was about to hit someone but I stood in the way and I wouldn't let her. I'd had enough. She walloped me. I grabbed her by the veil, swung her around and she fell. The veil came off her head. I'm so glad to this day

that I did that to her. I think from that day she got rid of me. I think she knew she couldn't beat me anymore. I got thrown out of the second unit.

56. They moved me into the bungalow. I was about twelve or thirteen. It was a brand new building. It was all bedrooms. I don't know why they didn't use the other parts of the main building because they built the bungalow as another unit for kids. It was all different kids and a different nun. I was in there for about a year.

Sister [REDACTED]

57. Sister [REDACTED] always disciplined me. The staff would report everything to her. She would be the one to punish me. As an adult, looking back, I think she enjoyed being evil and hitting people. She genuinely was an evil woman. She smashed me over the back of the hands with spoons or forks all the time at meal times. I can still feel it on my hands now.
58. It was because I was left handed. I think she must have noticed it at the first meal or when I was setting the table that first night. I think that was when she decided that she hated me. It happened every time she saw me eating. She used to shout that I was the devil's child and go on about devilship and being left handed.
59. One time in the first unit I had given a girl a wee kiss and Paul O'Neill caught me. It was near the bathroom area. He grabbed me and took me to Sister [REDACTED]. She threw me into my room. She didn't hit me then. She came in when it was dark and battered me across the face with something. I think it was a rolled up magazine. She woke me up. I just remember her coming in and battering me across the face. She burst my nose. She was shouting stuff at me about kissing this girl.
60. There was blood everywhere. She didn't do anything about it. I stayed in bed because I was too scared to move after it. I remember one of the female staff came in the morning and screamed because my pillow and sheets were covered in blood. Sister [REDACTED] said it must have burst during the night.

61. One morning my sister and I were getting ready for school, it had started raining so she told us to get changed out of our shoes and into our wellies. I remember I sat down and I was taking my shoes off slowly, undoing the laces. The fire exit door was always kept ajar with a mop stick. It was up near the bathroom where the shoes and coats were kept. She grabbed the mop stick out of the door and started battering me and [REDACTED] across the back with it. She just kept belting us across the back. I can't remember what she was shouting at the time. It was probably religious things. I think other kids and staff would have seen that because it was when we were all ready to go to school.
62. I can remember another time one of the boys hit a girl so she grabbed him and dragged him into a room. She told me and four or five other boys to batter him. She threatened to hit us if we didn't. We were standing looking at each other. We didn't know what to do. She started to hit us so we had to hit him. She made us do it. She was telling us that he would have to learn not to hit a girl again. I think once we'd hit him a couple of times that was enough for her. It was an evil and nasty thing to do to a wee boy. He will remember that.
63. I remember another time when I was in the room with a couple of other boys. I had been given a leather belt from one of my uncles. It had a big cowboy buckle. It was a man's belt. She took it off me and started whipping me with it across the back, arms and legs. I don't remember what I had done. I just remember getting dragged into the room. She just leathered the living hell out of us. I didn't see the belt again after that.

Paul O'Neill

64. Paul O'Neill took pleasure in reporting me to Sister [REDACTED] LJS I always remember him grabbing me by the chest and pulling me closely into his face. He was threatening me all the time. I can't remember what he would say but I would always be terrified. He used to take me to Sister [REDACTED] LJS
65. I think he might only have been twenty. I found out that he came into Nazareth House and asked if he could be a voluntary worker. They said that would be fine and

gave him a job. He probably stayed over certain nights. He was like a wee lap dog to Sister LJS He was a paedophile as well.

66. At normal bath times the lights would be on and there was a bit of commotion. When Paul O'Neill bathed you, it was later than the average bath time, the big hall lights would be out and only the little lamps were on.
67. He would take me into the bathroom and bath me. He would touch me and masturbate me and stick his fingers up my backside. I was nine or ten. He did that a few times in the bath. He used to take you into the toilet, he would stand beside the toilet and tell me to take my trousers down and tell me to show him how I did the toilet. He would go behind me and touch me. It would always be at night. He would grab me by the arm tightly and go right into my face. I can't remember what he would say to me. I think the other kids would be in the TV room with another member of staff. It was always at night.
68. I saw him doing it to a wee girl as well. I had gone up to the bathroom, when I came out the door was ajar and I saw the wee girl in the bath. He was holding her the same way that held me in the bath. I remember she was staring at me with her big eyes. I could see the fear in her face. It was like she wanted me to help her. I just knew that he was doing the same to her. I remember him turning around and seeing me. I tried to run but I didn't get very far. He grabbed me and pulled me right into his face. I just always remember that wee girl's face. She was only about five. She doesn't remember but I remember. She was just staring at me and I didn't even help her. She was just a wee lassie.
69. I knew other kids were being abused by him but nobody spoke about it. I didn't see him doing it to anyone else other than that wee girl. I remember being abused by him three times in the bath and twice in the toilet.
70. I think he was there for about eighteen months to two years. He just came in off the street. He worked voluntary. I'd maybe been in Nazareth House for a few months when he showed up. I think the abuse started within the first six to nine months.

LVN

71. I think LVN appeared at the end of my time in the first unit. He came when Paul O'Neil left. I think LVN was about twenty. I thought they were both older when I was young. I thought they were men in their thirties or forties at the time.
72. [REDACTED]
73. He used to give me proper beatings. He would punch me on the back of the head, in the ribs, on my stomach or on the back right between my shoulder blades. He would slam me off the walls. I always had sore ribs and bruises.
74. He was another sexual abuser but he never sexually abused me. LVN hit me for anything. He always punched me. It was constant. I don't know if it was for answering back or if it was for sticking up for my wee brother. I just remember him battering him and slamming me off of walls. It seemed daily. It was anytime he saw me he'd do it.
75. I think LJS realised she couldn't do it to me anymore. LJS would get him to do it and he took over from her. He battered me constantly. We had moved into the new unit. I had taken a stretch.
76. As an adult I think she knew Paul O'Neill and LVN were paedophiles. Sister LJS allowed it. LKB definitely knew about both of them. She lived there so she was always there. I don't think she even had a day off. She must have known what was going on. There was never anybody about when the abuse happened.
77. The nun in the bungalow would get LVN to batter me if I stepped out of line. I can't remember her name. All I remember about her was her shouting at me. She

locked me out all the time and wouldn't let me back in. I would be left out on the street all night.

78. One time she had locked me out so I went for a wander round the streets of Cardonald. I was only about eleven. I was bursting for the toilet. I went behind the bingo. Two policemen found me and took back. I was about eleven. It must have been about twelve or one o'clock in the morning.
79. She said that she had been so worried about me as I hadn't come home. She was saying I was so ungrateful. I remember the policemen shouting at me and giving me a lecture. They believed her. Back then, they thought the nuns were angels. The police believed her, everybody did. I don't know if we were allowed out or if I just went out. I think I got a bit of an attitude when I went moved into the bungalow.
80. I started to be noisy and drawing attention to myself. I think I had realised I wasn't putting up with anymore abuse. Sister ^{LJS} [REDACTED] used to say "we've taken you in, nobody wants you" and all that religious stuff. That's all she ever said.

[REDACTED]
LTS

81. There was another bloke called ^{LTS} [REDACTED] in Nazareth House. I think he was nineteen or twenty. He was quite young. I am unsure if that is his real name. He was olive skinned and had black hair. He came in to be a 'helper' out of the blue. He wasn't a member of staff. He was the same as Paul O'Neill. They might have been there around the same time.
82. He came into my unit. All the kids looked up to him. I think it was because he was older. He lived with his mother [REDACTED]
83. He was grooming me. He started taking kids out to the park. He used to take me to the football or ice skating and buy me things. He sexually abused me a few times. He would take me to the garages at the Moss Heights flats. He would take me in

there and interfere with me. I would have to do things to him. I was taken quite a few times. I think it was three or four times.

84. He took me to his house once to do stuff to me. He was doing it to other kids as well. He was there for at least six months. I don't know why he left. I told the police about him in September. They have spoken to him.

Brother AKU LTT

85. Before LVN came to Nazareth House, there was a Marist Brother, called Brother AKU LTT I was in the first unit at the time. He sexually abused me. The nuns invited him in. I don't know if it was to put a male figure in our lives.

86. He took me away to a place called Hetland House in Dumfries. It was a big stately home out in the middle of nowhere in Dumfries. I think it was a Marist Brother retreat. I think the first time I went it was an Easter weekend. I refuse to even think about it because I know weird things happened there. They used to take us there during holidays.

87. I remember being in a room in one of the wings of the house. There were four other boys in my room. I think [REDACTED] was there too and another couple of boys from Nazareth House. I don't know if they were in my unit. As an adult, I used to think that they drugged us. I can never remember anything about Hetland House about what we did daily. I can't remember anything we did there.

88. After we had eaten supper we were taken straight to our room. We were told under strict instruction not to leave our room under any circumstances. We were never to leave the room. They would tell us not to wander at night time because there were older Marist Brothers about.

89. I remember one night the other boys were all sleeping. Brother AKU LT was sitting on my bed, he had my pyjamas down and he was masturbating me.

90. I remember another night he brought a boy into the room and I woke up. I saw him putting the boy into the bed. He was pulling the blankets over him. It was as though he had had the boy out of the room. He told me to get back to sleep.
91. Another time I remember being in a room and there were three men in it. I remember my pyjama trousers being down.
92. I just remember night time and being scared shit less and not leaving the room. Brother **AKU LT** would always tell us a ghost story. I went to Hetland House quite a few times.
93. I don't even like thinking about the house. I know weird shit went on there. Brother **AKU LTT** was in Nazareth House for about a year. He did my Confirmation. I just remember he disappeared. I never saw him again.

Reporting of abuse at Nazareth House

94. I remember sitting in the social worker's car parked in the grounds. I'm sure Adrian McBride had a yellow mini. I have visions of sitting in the yellow mini. He would ask me what went on in the home. I remember telling him that they were battering me all the time. I told him about the slappings and the beatings. I told the other social worker, Jim Lyons, too. They would never question me about it. I told them about **LVN**. They would say that they would look into it.
95. I never told them about the sexual abuse. I might have said they would "do other things". At that age I don't think I even knew what sex was or I don't think I knew the words for sex. I doubt I would even have known what to say as a child.
96. It would all get forgotten about. They wouldn't even bring it up the next time I saw them. I doubt they even wrote it down or spoke to the staff about it. I never heard anything about it ever again. I don't know if they didn't have anywhere else to put us so we were stuck there. I have never spoken to anyone else about it.

Leaving Nazareth House

97. I ran away with a boy called [REDACTED]. I was thirteen. [REDACTED] was an older boy who stayed in the bungalow too. He had stolen a wage packet off someone that day so he wanted to run away. He knew he was going to get a doing. I tried to kick a little window to break the handle but [REDACTED] picked up a chair and put it through the window. [REDACTED] came in just before he did that and asked what we were doing. The three of us ran away. It was after school. I don't know why now we didn't just walk out the door! I was in there for four years but it felt much longer.
98. I think we got the train from Cardonald. We went to the arcade in Greenock and spent the wage packet. After that we went to my mum's. I hadn't seen her for a couple of years. I don't know if she phoned the police but they came that night. The nuns didn't want [REDACTED] or me back. [REDACTED] got taken back to Nazareth House.
99. [REDACTED] and I were left in the police station. The police phoned around every care home in Scotland to try to find somewhere for us. I remember everyone was refusing to take us. I don't know what the nuns had been saying about us.
100. We were taken to Chapel House in Paisley. I was only there for a short time before I ran away.

101. After that we went to Carsewood in Howwood near Johnstone. It was a children's home run by the local authority. [REDACTED]

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

102. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

103.

104.

105.

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107.

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

108.

109.

110. I went to a local school called St Cuthbert's. I had a few fights with other kids and left. I went to Balrossie, a List D school, in Kilmalcolm.

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

111.

Secondary Institutions - to be published later

112. [REDACTED] got fostered at one point. He went away for a while. I think I was in Carsewood myself for a wee while. I knew my sister [REDACTED] was fostered when I was at Nazareth House. I think it was near the end of my time in Nazareth House.

113. The social work were trying to get me fostered all the time. I used to hear horror stories from other kids about abuse by foster parents. I never wanted fostered. It was the first thing the social work ever said. I think they wanted you off their books so it was less kids for them to have to look out for because they had foster parents.

114. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

115.

116.

117.

118.

119. Secondary Institutions - to be published later

120.

Life after being in care

121. I left Carsewood because my sister, [REDACTED] took me in. It was 1983. It was just before I turned sixteen. I had been going down there to stay at the weekends and during holidays. [REDACTED] had a husband and four kids of her own. My older brother, [REDACTED], was also staying with her. It was a full house.
122. I can't remember who told me it was happening. I think I had wanted to move in with her before then but the social services were holding off until I was nearly sixteen. There was talk of them getting me a flat but I asked to stay with [REDACTED]
123. I met some of my older brothers and sisters for the first time. They are like proper brothers and sisters. I don't feel related to them. I think it's because they didn't know us and we were in care. They are a close knit, tight family. One of my sisters, [REDACTED] was adopted when she was born. I don't know why. My family won't tell me anything about it.
124. I stayed with [REDACTED] for about six months until she found us our own house. It was up the back of her house. [REDACTED] and I moved in there together. [REDACTED] still did our washings and

food shopping. She was a slave. The other sisters all buggered off. They didn't do what she did for us. She must have been onto her fifth child by then.

125. I was working in a Youth Training Scheme doing landscape gardening. I lived with [REDACTED] for about a year. He left to go to England. I had no contact with my mum. I didn't know where she was living.
126. I remember [REDACTED] phoned me months later and told me to come down to England. He said that there was lots of work and good money. I decided that I would go down. I was about eighteen.
127. At that time, [REDACTED] lived in Hounslow, Middlesex. He worked as a waiter. I rented a room in a house with him. It was a four bedroom semi-detached. The landlord lived downstairs.
128. I got a job quickly doing painting and decorating. I think I was getting at least a couple of hundred pounds a week. It seemed a fortune to me. It was enough to pay the rent and bills and enjoy myself. I stayed there for a couple of years. I don't know if the landlord sold up but we had to look for new digs.
129. We moved into Hounslow town centre. We lived in a top flat with another two guys. [REDACTED] and I stayed together for a few years. My sister [REDACTED] came to England and stayed in our house for a couple of months. She got a job and her own digs.
130. I ended up working as a driver's mate in a warehouse. I then worked in a supermarket. I worked in the [REDACTED] as the night manager. After that, I went to work for [REDACTED] in electronics. I was trained on the job.
131. I always got bored after a while because I knew how to do the job and there wasn't anything to learn. My attitude is that you become like a computer. You could leave a job on a Friday and start a new one on the Monday down there. I've pulled off everything that I turned my hand to. I think people have always recognised that I have a brain. I had a lot of jobs.

132. I met [REDACTED] when I was thirty. I went out with her for a couple of years before we had my daughter [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] had moved into my house with me. I was working as a plumber's mate when [REDACTED] was born.
133. I left that job. I started working for the company [REDACTED] worked for. It was an advertising agency. My role was to escort female workers to their cars at night. I think there had been a few rapes at the time. [REDACTED] had been there for ten years. I had only been there for about two weeks and the directors took a shine to me. They would come down and talk to me.
134. They paid me to do a training course. I started studying and doing Open University. They said they'd give me a job upstairs doing proof reading for the magazines. The salary was going to be £45,000. They said that they would train me up. [REDACTED] didn't like it. She said that I was changing and becoming like them. I think they had been telling her that they would send her to college but they never did. I told her that they were just keeping her at her station in case she left. She didn't want to hear it. That's when the bickering and arguments started.
135. We spilt up. [REDACTED] was about four. She wanted me to leave my job, become unemployed and take [REDACTED]. She wanted to look after her every second weekend. I told her that I wasn't doing that so she told us both to leave. I had been probably been saying things to make her react. If someone tells me that it's over then I accept it. I wouldn't fight for it. I just cut people off.
136. After I split from [REDACTED] I spoke to my brother [REDACTED]. He was working as a lorry driver. He was living back in Scotland. I told [REDACTED] that I was taking [REDACTED] back to Scotland with me. I was awarded full custody of her.
137. I've been working as a support actor for about seven years. [REDACTED] had told me about it. He did it a couple of times. I phoned an agent. It's been fairly steady work. I think I've

got one of those faces, they seem to like. They always picked me all the time. I always played coppers or bad guys.

138. I'm a single parent. I've had a great relationship with my daughter. She was always with me. If I went into the local shop, the shop keeper would ask where she was. She was always by my side from when she was four or five.
139. The only time I saw [REDACTED] was if he was in trouble or when he needed something. He would appear when he was on the run, if warrants were out for him or if he owed someone money. He has always been a bad drug addict. He even used to give my name to the police.
140. He robbed me blind once. He had shown up one night at my work and I felt obliged to help him out. I think he had been staying for a week or two. I came home from work one night and everything was gone. I could have murdered him. I always help him out. I can't help it. I haven't seen him for about three years. I fell out with him when the police came to see me. He hadn't told me. I see [REDACTED] rarely. She moved back to Scotland too.
141. My mum died a few years ago. I called her [REDACTED]. I never called her mum. She lived in Greenock too. I had a grudge against her because we ended up in care.

Impact

142. I don't trust people. If I do and they let me down then they're out of my life. I can't build relationships or friendships. I just end them over anything. I had good friendships in England but since I moved back I haven't kept in contact with people. It's always been the case of people coming into my life and then they leave. It was like when I was in care and Sister ^{LVQ} [REDACTED] left. I think if I don't trust them then I can't be hurt. I destroy relationships. I start arguments for them to pick on me for me to finish it. I've always destroyed relationships.

143. I've never lived anywhere for more than a couple of years. After a year or two something tells me to leave. I have been in my house three and a half years. It's the longest I've ever been anywhere. I have always moved about. I don't like staying in the same place for too long. Even now I want to move house. I don't know why.
144. Before the police arrived, over the years, I would think about what happened. The beatings would come into my mind. I blocked the sexual abuse out. I built up barriers and walls. If it even came into my head, I would get it out straight away. When my sister phoned me to tell me about the police investigation, I tried to go to sleep that night and I couldn't sleep at all. As soon as I shut my eyes I kept getting visions of Paul O'Neill and Nazareth House. I couldn't sleep the whole weekend.
145. I have started having nightmares and wake up screaming. I've never done that in my life. I just remember visions of being in the dorm in Nazareth House. My daughter heard me and I told her it was just bad dreams. I've never discussed anything with her. She knows that I was in care and that I was kicked about a lot. I think she was online with her mother and they were reading about Nazareth House.
146. I went to my doctor this year and asked her to refer me to Safe Harbour. They are an organisation who helps people with mental health problems. The lack of sleep and eating was just getting too much for me. I needed to speak to someone about my feelings, the anger and anxiety. The doctor told me to refer myself. She offered me anti-depressants. I told her that I didn't want them.
147. I phoned Safe Harbour and they phoned me back after fifteen days. They told me that the doctor needed to refer me. They told me that they couldn't help me with most of my problems. I didn't want to go back to my doctor and go through it again after being refused the first time. I wouldn't have the patience. I would end up shouting and the police would be called.
148. I got in touch with In Care Survivors. They are the only people who actually got in touch with me and came to see me. They phoned me back within a couple of days. I feel that they are the first people who have actually done something to help me.

Reporting of Abuse

149. I never have spoken to anyone about the abuse. I've never spoken to any partners about it. The police were the first people I spoke to about it. I never spoke to [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] about anything.
150. The police came to see me in August last year and said a few people had mentioned my name. They told me that my brother [REDACTED] had mentioned my name. The police officers were DC George Moir and DC Claire Inglis. They're from Dalmarnock Police Station. I think they have both moved to a different department. I gave them a statement.
151. I told them about everyone at Nazareth House apart from than the Marist Brother. I have told them that I want to speak to them again. I am waiting on them getting in touch with me.
152. I know that Paul O'Neill has been charged and is on bail. [REDACTED]

Records

153. I applied for my records when I was in England about twenty years ago. I went to the social work office in Greenock to see them. Jim Lyons was there. I wanted to know what happened. It had been playing on my mind. The only thing about Nazareth House recorded is the date we moved in and the day we moved out. I think the chair incident is recorded too. There was nothing.
154. There wasn't much from Carsewood either. I don't think there were even social workers' notes.

Lessons to be Learned

155. You're never going to stop paedophilia. It is ingrained in society. I think children's homes should have CCTV in the public area. I don't think staff should be allowed into children's bedrooms either. I think that would offer protection for both children and adults.

Other information

156. 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.

LDJ

Signed.

Dated.

25/4/18