

1 Wednesday, 23 January 2019

2 (8.00 am)

3 LADY SMITH: Good morning. We return to another video link  
4 this morning and I think, Mr MacAulay, you have  
5 a witness to introduce to us; is that right?

6 MR MacAULAY: Yes. Good morning, my Lady. This witness is  
7 Yvonne Lawrie O'Donnell or Radzevicius. I hope I've  
8 pronounced that correctly.

9 LADY SMITH: Is that correct?

10 THE WITNESS: Almost.

11 LADY SMITH: Let me ask you this. Do you mind if we call  
12 you Yvonne?

13 THE WITNESS: No, I don't mind at all.

14 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

15 Yvonne, I chair this inquiry, I'm Lady Smith, and  
16 what I would like to start by doing is have you take an  
17 oath to tell the truth.

18 YVONNE RADZEVICIUS (sworn) (via video link)

19 LADY SMITH: Just before I hand back to Mr MacAulay, Yvonne,  
20 can I just assure you that if at any time you have  
21 a problem with the link or you need a break, please let  
22 us know. It's important this works for you. Will you  
23 do that?

24 A. Yes, thank you very much.

25 LADY SMITH: One other thing: we're in a building that runs

1 a fire alarm test on Wednesday mornings. It's just  
2 after 8 o'clock in the morning here and the fire alarm  
3 test is usually some time shortly after 9 o'clock. So  
4 that may take place during your evidence. If it does,  
5 what I think we should do is just pause. It doesn't run  
6 for very long, it's about 30 seconds, but don't be  
7 worried if you hear an alarm at this end, we're not all  
8 suddenly going to run away. All right?

9 A. All right.

10 LADY SMITH: Mr MacAulay.

11 Questions from MR MacAULAY

12 MR MacAULAY: Yvonne, can I just confirm with you that your  
13 date of birth is [REDACTED] 1942?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. You are now aged 76?

16 A. Yes. Say that quietly!

17 Q. In front of you I think you have a copy of the statement  
18 that you have provided to the inquiry; is that correct?

19 A. Yes, I have.

20 Q. I'm going to provide a number for the transcript. You  
21 can just ignore the number. The reference number is  
22 WIT.001.002.2475. What I want you to do is to go to the  
23 last page of the statement. Can you do that?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Can you confirm that you have signed the statement?

1 A. Yes, I have.

2 Q. Can I also ask you to confirm, as you say in the last  
3 paragraph of the statement, that you have no objection  
4 to your witness statement being published as part of the  
5 evidence to the inquiry; is that correct?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. Do you also go on to say that you believe the facts  
8 stated in this witness statement are true?

9 A. Yes, I do.

10 Q. Can I take you back quite a number of years to when you  
11 were in Scotland as a child. I think the position  
12 is that you went into care, the care of the Sisters of  
13 Nazareth, at a very young age; is that right?

14 A. Yes: nine months.

15 Q. You spent your childhood years in their care; is that  
16 correct?

17 A. I spent ten years in Glasgow.

18 Q. At Cardonald in Glasgow?

19 A. Cardonald, yes.

20 Q. Have you learned since then and since you have been in  
21 Australia a little bit about your family background?

22 A. I found out through people coming, migrating to  
23 Australia who were asked to find me, I found -- I was  
24 told -- sorry, I was told in 1953 by the nuns in  
25 Cardonald that my parents were dead [REDACTED]

- 1 [REDACTED] I have since found out [REDACTED]  
2 [REDACTED] my father died in 1976.  
3 My mother -- I met her once -- she died in 1981.
- 4 Q. I think what you're saying, Yvonne, is that for many  
5 years you were under the misapprehension, because of  
6 what you were told by the nuns, that you had no family  
7 at all; is that correct?
- 8 A. Correct. And my name wasn't -- I was never called  
9 Yvonne.
- 10 Q. I'll come on to that. Did you also discover that, when  
11 you were a very young child, your parents' marriage  
12 broke up?
- 13 A. I didn't find out until much later, until 1975.
- 14 Q. But was that the background then to you going into care  
15 at a very young age?
- 16 A. I don't know the facts. I still can't find out those  
17 facts because all the family's been dead.
- 18 Q. We know, Yvonne, from records -- and you won't remember  
19 this -- that you were received into the care of the  
20 Sisters of Nazareth on 20 July 1943. Have you seen  
21 a record to that effect?
- 22 A. All I got from -- I visited Cardonald several years ago  
23 and all I got was a small slip of paper that said the  
24 date I was put into Nazareth House. I have got no  
25 record of it at all other than that piece of paper.

1 Q. Is that the date, 20 July 1943?

2 A. It's correct, that's the date.

3 Q. You were born, as you've told us, in [REDACTED] 1942, so  
4 you would only be several months old when you were  
5 admitted to Nazareth House.

6 A. Yes. They said I was nine months old.

7 Q. Again, we know from the records that it has been  
8 recorded that you left Nazareth House on  
9 27 January 1953, when you'd be aged 10; is that right?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. And you left to go to Australia?

12 A. I was sent; not left. I was sent, yes.

13 Q. Can I just look at some of the memories you have of  
14 Nazareth House in Scotland. One thing you tell us in  
15 your statement -- this is at paragraph 10 -- you do have  
16 good memories of your time in Nazareth House in  
17 Cardonald.

18 A. I don't remember anything being really bad, but I was  
19 very young. But disappointed to find out that nobody  
20 there could give me any records of my -- my hospital  
21 records, my school records, no records at all. They  
22 didn't give me anything. That's the one thing.

23 Q. I think you told us already you went back there when you  
24 were an adult and there was very little they could give  
25 you by way of records.

1 A. Yes. Nothing. Absolutely nothing. A small piece of  
2 paper about that big (indicating).

3 Q. Just a couple of inches?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And it had the information you have mentioned: the date  
6 that you were received and the date that you left?

7 A. On the back of it was the date I left.

8 Q. Just looking at some aspects of the routine in  
9 Nazareth House, I think it is the case that you had an  
10 accident at one point; is that right?

11 A. I had a car accident getting off a tram on the way home  
12 from school.

13 Q. What age were you at that time; can you remember?

14 A. I think I was 8.

15 Q. Were you seriously injured?

16 A. Well, I wasn't -- I was in hospital, but memory sort of  
17 just fades out a bit. I was in hospital for a couple of  
18 weeks, but when I asked for hospital records or medical  
19 records, the nuns said they didn't have anything.

20 Q. You also tell us in your statement -- and this was about  
21 a year before you were sent to Australia -- of having to  
22 go to the Belvidere Hospital in Glasgow. Can you tell  
23 us about that?

24 A. We went there -- not just myself, there was a group of  
25 us went to Belvidere Hospital. We had our heads shaved

1           and whatever happened, we ended up with purple dots on  
2           the top, both sides, and the back. And we never found  
3           out what it was for.

4           Q. Was it in any way connected to going to Australia?

5           A. No, because other children from the same home in  
6           Cardonald went with me and they didn't come to  
7           Australia.

8           Q. Again, looking at aspects of the routine, were your  
9           birthdays celebrated when you were at Nazareth House  
10          Cardonald?

11          A. Never.

12          Q. What about Christmas? Did you get Christmas presents?

13          A. No.

14          Q. And visitors, do you remember any visitors coming to  
15          visit you?

16          A. No. The only people -- and I can't think of the name of  
17          them -- were a Catholic association who used to come and  
18          see the children, but they ... St Christopher's?  
19          A Catholic association that was associated with the  
20          nuns. I don't know.

21          Q. You mention in your statement your godmother and you  
22          provide her name to us. Did she visit you when you were  
23          at Nazareth House?

24          A. She wasn't allowed.

25          Q. How do you know that?

1           A. Because she came looking for me because she wanted to  
2           stop the nuns sending me to Australia. She came from  
3           the same village as my mother and father and she came to  
4           see me and she asked for me by Yvonne O'Donnell. The  
5           nuns said, "We don't have a Yvonne O'Donnell here, we've  
6           only got a Marie O'Donnell". I wasn't allowed to see  
7           her and she wasn't allowed to see me and she was told to  
8           go away.

9           Q. Two points out of that. I think it is correct to say  
10          that when you were at Nazareth House Cardonald, the nuns  
11          called you Marie, not Yvonne or Maria?

12          A. Marie. I was known as Marie O'Donnell. I was never --  
13          until I was coming to Australia, I had never heard the  
14          name Yvonne.

15          Q. So far as your godmother's visit to the nuns was  
16          concerned, do you know if she visited once or more than  
17          once?

18          A. She visited more than once because it was through her  
19          getting in touch with people in Australia, she was the  
20          one that started finding my family for me. But then she  
21          died and we lost contact with her.

22          Q. Clearly, in light of what you've said, Yvonne, your  
23          godmother must have found out that there was a plan to  
24          send you to Australia.

25          A. She knew that they were sending me. She said in

1 a letter -- unfortunately, I haven't got the letter that  
2 was written. A letter was written to this couple that  
3 came from the same village in Ireland as my godmother  
4 and my mother and my father. My godmother wrote to  
5 these people in Australia, in Perth here, and asked them  
6 to find me. And it was them that found me and put me in  
7 contact with my godmother. That's how I found my mother

8 [REDACTED]

9 Q. I'll come and look at that with you. You also say in  
10 your statement that your godmother wanted to foster you;  
11 is that right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. What happened with that?

14 A. My mother wouldn't sign the papers [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED] because she was an alcoholic.

16 Q. You've already mentioned this, Yvonne, but I just want  
17 to come back to this again. In your statement, what you  
18 say is that it was drummed into you -- that's the way  
19 you put it -- that nuns and priests don't tell lies;  
20 is that right?

21 A. Yes. Yes, that's the way you're brought up in the  
22 Catholic Church.

23 Q. But you've already told us, I think, that you were told  
24 by the sisters that your parents were dead [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED]

- 1 A. Yes, correct. That was told to me in Cardonald by  
2 [REDACTED] LGE That was her name. That was in --  
3 before I came out to Australia. Just after Christmas in  
4 Glasgow. 1953.
- 5 Q. I think you discovered afterwards that that wasn't true.
- 6 A. Oh yes.
- 7 Q. It was a lie?
- 8 A. I got a letter from my godmother and I've still got that  
9 letter. I got a letter from my godmother telling me  
10 that my parents were both still alive. I got the letter  
11 in 1975 [REDACTED]. And  
12 1975, you know, from 1953 is a long time --
- 13 Q. I think you'd be in your --
- 14 A. -- to wait and find out.
- 15 Q. You'd be in your thirties by then?
- 16 A. Yes, that's true.
- 17 Q. But that was the first time, really, was it, that you  
18 realised --
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. -- that you had family?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. So had you lived your life in Australia, and I'll come  
23 to look at that in a moment, in the belief that you had  
24 no family?
- 25 A. We were almost ... because we used to ask the nuns out

1 in Australia in Geraldton, we used to ask nuns about our  
2 parents, you know, when you're talking to the young  
3 nuns. They wouldn't answer us, so we all thought the  
4 nuns wouldn't tell us anything because we all felt  
5 we were illegitimate. Some of us were, some of us  
6 weren't, but that's what we were all led to believe.  
7 We weren't told it, but that's what we were led to  
8 believe.

9 Q. You've told us about the way in which your godmother  
10 came to speak to the nuns and to seek to prevent you  
11 from going to Australia. Were you aware of any other  
12 children who were going to be going to Australia and  
13 in relation to whom people came to see if they could be  
14 stopped from going?

15 A. Two girls. I remember some lady coming to see  
16 [REDACTED] and the other girl, nobody came to see  
17 her, [REDACTED]. There was -- myself and [REDACTED] and  
18 [REDACTED] were the ones that came out from Cardonald in 1953.

19 Q. Then can you tell me what happened when someone came to  
20 see one of the girls?

21 A. I don't know because the nuns didn't tell us. They only  
22 told me (overspeaking) the girls said that the nuns  
23 didn't tell them anything.

24 Q. Were you told something afterwards as to what the  
25 visitor wanted to do?

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. Did one of the girls tell you that the visitor, who  
3 I think was a lady, wanted to tell one of the girls  
4 about her family?
- 5 A. Everything was so secretive, you didn't find out  
6 anything until they found their family, and one of the  
7 girls has found her family and she's in touch with  
8 family. The other girl is not here in  
9 Western Australia, she's in South Australia. But  
10 [REDACTED] she is in contact with family now, but  
11 I haven't seen her for years, so I don't know what's  
12 happened to [REDACTED] family.
- 13 Q. Can I move on then, Yvonne, and look to the lead-up to  
14 you coming to Australia. Can you tell me how long  
15 before you left did the issue of Australia come up?
- 16 A. Probably about six months before. We were separated  
17 from the big group of children, the three of us, and  
18 we were given what we thought was special -- special  
19 meals. We didn't dine with all the other children. We  
20 dined in a little room, the three of us, and had  
21 different meals to what they had, the children had.
- 22 Then they gave me a suitcase. They gave us  
23 suitcases. My suitcase I handed back to the nuns  
24 because it had "YL O'Donnell" on it. I said, "This is  
25 the wrong suitcase, Mother". And she said, "No, no, no,

1           that's your name from now on".

2           Q. Was that when you first learned that your real name was  
3           Yvonne?

4           A. I didn't know. Right up till I got a copy of my birth  
5           certificate, I didn't know whether my real name was  
6           Yvonne or whether it was Marie.

7           Q. How did it come to be that you, and in particular you,  
8           were selected then to go to Australia?

9           A. I think the Catholic Church picked those whose parents  
10          didn't come and visit them, so they wouldn't notice it.

11          Q. And how was the Australian trip, how was it explained to  
12          you? Were you asked did you want to go? I just want to  
13          understand exactly what -- can you tell us in your own  
14          words what the position was?

15          A. They told us that we were going to Australia. I had  
16          never heard of Australia. They told us that we were  
17          going to be special, we had a suitcase and some few  
18          little bits of clothing, and we were going to Australia.  
19          We didn't know where Australia was.

20                 We were then told -- when the time came, we went --  
21          it took us all day -- a train from Glasgow to London,  
22          stayed overnight in London, and then went down to  
23          Southampton to catch the ship. That's the first time  
24          I knew we were going on a ship.

25          Q. I'll look at some of that in a moment. Did you discover

1 afterwards, from your godmother, as to what she was told  
2 about where you were going to be in Australia?

3 A. She was told and my mother was told -- my godmother was  
4 in contact with my mother and they were told that I had  
5 been adopted by a good Catholic-Irish family.

6 Q. Was your godmother told where you were in Australia,  
7 which part?

8 A. She found out -- she persisted and she found out that  
9 I was sent to Australia. The nuns in Cardonald told her  
10 I was sent to Queensland. Queensland and  
11 Western Australia are quite a distance apart.

12 Q. So these two facts, if you want to call them that, that  
13 your godmother was told, they were untrue as well?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And when you say, "They told her", who are the "they"?

16 A. The nuns at Cardonald, Glasgow, Nazareth House.

17 Q. The other two girls that you mention who were with you  
18 when you left Nazareth House Cardonald, what ages were  
19 they?

20 A. They were five -- I think one was five, one was six.

21 Q. And you were ten?

22 A. And I was ten.

23 Q. Did that mean to some extent you were looking after them  
24 as well, particularly on the ship?

25 A. I'll tell you what happened on the ship. The Catholic

1 people found out who was coming, emigrating to  
2 Australia, and said that they would pay their fare to  
3 Australia if they acted as chaperone to the children  
4 because there was quite a few girls and there was quite  
5 a few boys and they needed chaperoning. So the lady --  
6 I hardly ever saw her, but she was in our cabin with  
7 four other girls. That's how we were allowed --  
8 we weren't allowed to see the public on the ship,  
9 we weren't allowed to go in and have the meals with the  
10 public or anything.

11 Q. So you were kept separate from the other passengers?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. But the lady that was supposed to be looking after you,  
14 did she look after you on the trip?

15 A. No. Hardly ever saw her.

16 Q. Were you one of the oldest in the little group that you  
17 have mentioned?

18 A. I was the eldest one, yes. The others were all a lot  
19 younger than me, so I looked after them.

20 Q. I think when you were seen by the inquiry team in  
21 Australia last year, you were shown the migration  
22 documentation that was relevant to you. Do you remember  
23 being shown that material?

24 A. Yes, I remember being shown it. It's the first time  
25 I ever saw it.

- 1 Q. I'm going to put that on the screen for the inquiry.  
2 You won't see it, but I'm going to ask you one or two  
3 questions about it because, as you've said, you have  
4 seen it.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. We're looking at NAA.001.001.0331. I don't know if  
7 you have a copy of that there, Yvonne, or not, the  
8 migration form.
- 9 A. No. I'm sorry, I don't.
- 10 Q. Don't worry.
- 11 A. Dr White can get it for us if need be.
- 12 Q. I can take you through it because you may remember  
13 what's on it. Your name is given there as Yvonne -- the  
14 word "Mary" was scored out -- Lawrie O'Donnell. Do you  
15 remember seeing that?
- 16 A. I remember seeing it, yes. That's the first time I saw  
17 that document because I'd never seen it before.
- 18 Q. You may remember that the consent section has been  
19 signed, not by a parent but by [REDACTED] LGE
- 20 A. [REDACTED] LGE She's the one that told me my parents  
21 are dead [REDACTED]
- 22 Q. This particular form is dated 24 November 1952, so  
23 that's the lead-up to you leaving in January of 1953.
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. I can tell you that someone has written on the form --

1           and you may remember seeing this, Yvonne -- that you  
2           were described as a bright type of girl.

3           A. I'm not about to tell you I'm dumb. I've got a sense of  
4           humour.

5           Q. You were good academically, weren't you?

6           A. Because of the Scottish education, yes, I was.

7           LADY SMITH: What I can see is written here, Yvonne, is that  
8           it tells me you were very bright.

9           A. I put it down to having a very good memory and also  
10          having a good grounding in school in Scotland.

11          LADY SMITH: And also you may just be very bright, Yvonne.

12          A. Well, [REDACTED]'s saying yes, so I'll say yes.

13          LADY SMITH: Well, there we are.

14          MR MacAULAY: The other form that I think you were shown  
15          when you were seen in Australia was the medical  
16          examination form. Do you remember seeing that?

17          A. I remember seeing that, but I don't ever remember seeing  
18          the doctors for it.

19          Q. Well, again, I'll put this on the screen for the benefit  
20          of the inquiry. It's at NAA.001.001.0333.

21                 Here your name is given as "Yvonne Mary O'Donnell".  
22                 Do you remember seeing that mistake?

23          A. I remember -- well, I don't remember seeing that.  
24                 I remember seeing it when they came over and interviewed  
25                 me last year. I remember seeing it then. Mary was

1 never -- the nuns kept on putting "Mary" because they  
2 didn't like the name Yvonne. They put it on all  
3 documents.

4 Q. This document --

5 A. I never saw ...

6 Q. This document --

7 A. The document you're referring to, I never saw doctors  
8 before we came out here.

9 Q. I'll just put to you -- and you may remember this from  
10 the time you saw the inquiry team and I fully understand  
11 you never saw it before that. This is dated  
12 18 December 1952, so we're getting close to the time  
13 when you left for Australia.

14 There are things I want to take from this document.  
15 At item 5, the question is:

16 "What medical attention have [you] required during  
17 the last 12 months?"

18 The word "accident" has been entered. You've told  
19 us about the road traffic accident; was there any other  
20 accident?

21 A. The other one was burnt with porridge.

22 Q. Was that an accident that you had in Cardonald?

23 A. That was at Cardonald -- both of them were at Cardonald.  
24 One was an accident, being run over by a car. The other  
25 one was burnt by porridge. To this day, I've still got

- 1 the scar on my neck from the porridge.
- 2 Q. The burnt with porridge accident, how long before you  
3 went to Australia did that happen?
- 4 A. I was nine when that happened in Cardonald. Eight or  
5 nine.
- 6 Q. And I think you said --
- 7 A. The two accidents were fairly close to each other.
- 8 Q. I think you said you may have been 8 when you had the  
9 road traffic accident.
- 10 A. I think I must have been 9 when --
- 11 Q. The porridge accident?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And the other thing that's a little bit odd about this  
14 document is that the bit at the bottom certifies that:  
15 "[You have] been examined and that [you're] not  
16 suffering from any mental or bodily defect which would  
17 cause inability to earn a living as a school."  
18 And I suspect the word "teacher" might have been  
19 omitted. I think you do tell us in your statement that  
20 there was some discussion later on, because of your  
21 academic ability, of you becoming a teacher; is that  
22 correct?
- 23 A. This was when I was in Australia.
- 24 Q. Indeed.
- 25 A. It didn't come from Cardonald. From Australia.

1 LADY SMITH: Yvonne, I see on this form the guardian, as it  
2 says, who has signed it, is Sister [FAF]. So not  
3 Sister [LGE] but Sister [FAF] this time. Do you  
4 remember Sister [FAF]?

5 A. I remember Sister [FAF]. She was a tyrant.  
6 [LGE] was the Mother Superior.  
7 Sister [FAF] was in charge of the children. So why  
8 the two of them signed different documents, I do not  
9 know.

10 LADY SMITH: Were you aware that either or both of them were  
11 your guardians?

12 A. No, I wasn't told that they were my guardians. I didn't  
13 know I had any guardians until somebody put the paper in  
14 front of me. That was when I got a copy of my birth  
15 certificate. 1975 or -- no, it was 1980.

16 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

17 MR MacAULAY: When you say that Sister [FAF] was  
18 a tyrant, what do you mean by that?

19 A. I wouldn't say tyrant. She was just very, very strict:  
20 you couldn't think, you couldn't speak, you couldn't  
21 think for yourself, you couldn't speak for yourself, you  
22 couldn't do anything. You were under the nuns' thumb.  
23 You did what you were told and you didn't have any  
24 choice.

25 Q. You've got no recollection of being seen by a doctor.

- 1 Do you have any recollection of receiving vaccinations  
2 in preparation for going to Australia?
- 3 A. No. I had a vaccination that we had long before I ever  
4 came to Australia.
- 5 Q. So the vaccinations you talk about in your statement --  
6 and you mention the name of one of the doctors -- that's  
7 nothing to do with Australia?
- 8 A. The doctors I mentioned were the doctors from Australia,  
9 not Cardonald. I don't remember -- I don't ever  
10 remember seeing any doctors in Cardonald.
- 11 Q. Just to be clear, do you remember having any  
12 vaccinations in Cardonald at all?
- 13 A. When I was very, very young, I got one I had on my arm,  
14 but all the children were having the same vaccinations.
- 15 Q. So it was nothing to do with Australia?
- 16 A. No. Nothing to do with going to Australia, no.
- 17 Q. You've already told us, Yvonne, how it came to be that  
18 you discovered that your real name was Yvonne and you've  
19 told us about how the initials "YL" were on the suitcase  
20 that you were given. You've told us about that. What  
21 about the suitcase itself? What was in the suitcase?
- 22 A. There were two dresses, some singlets and some panties  
23 and some socks.
- 24 Q. Was that what you took with you to Australia?
- 25 A. That's what we took to Australia, yes.

1 Q. What happened to the suitcase then?

2 A. That's all we had.

3 Q. And what about when you got to Australia?

4 A. When I got to Australia, they took everything off me.

5 I had, when I was in Cardonald, a Fair Isle cardigan and

6 the nuns took that. They took the suitcase, they took

7 the clothes, and I never saw them again.

8 Q. Can I ask you a little bit about the trip from Scotland

9 onwards? I think you tell us in your statement that

10 when you left Cardonald, you first of all went to the

11 Sisters of Nazareth place in London; is that right?

12 A. In Hammersmith, yes.

13 Q. You stayed there overnight?

14 A. We stayed overnight.

15 Q. Was it the next day then that you travelled to

16 Southampton?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. When you got to Southampton before you went on the ship,

19 were you put in a particular place?

20 A. We were in a big shed and we were roped off, and it

21 reminded me of a shepherd and cattle. We were roped off

22 in different sections and from part of the shed -- it

23 was like a big tin shed -- you could see part of the

24 ship and you could see part of the name, the New

25 Australia. But we were all in different sections, the

1 boys and the girls. And there was all ropes around us,  
2 sectioned off.

3 Q. Did you understand these were children who were being  
4 migrated to Australia?

5 A. No, we didn't know what it was. At that age, you don't  
6 know anything.

7 Q. But looking back --

8 A. You find out later. You don't know anything. I refer  
9 to it as herding cattle.

10 Q. Are you able to give us some idea as to how many  
11 children were in this shed?

12 A. Not in the shed, because some of them came later than we  
13 came, because a lot of them were boys. I lost count.  
14 There was a lot of them from Hammersmith in London  
15 itself. There must have been at least 20 girls and  
16 I would say the same number of boys who were on the ship  
17 coming to Australia.

18 Q. In any event, what you're telling us, you sailed on the  
19 New Australia. That's the ship you sailed on from  
20 Southampton?

21 A. That's the ship.

22 Q. And we know from the records that the ship sailed from  
23 Southampton on 28 January 1953 --

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. -- when you'd be aged 10?

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. On the ship, and you have touched on this already,  
3 Yvonne, were you in a particular group of children?
- 4 A. I was in a cabin with -- there was the two girls that  
5 came from Cardonald with me, there was another two girls  
6 and there was supposed to be this chaperone in the same  
7 cabin. The girls' names -- apart from [REDACTED] --  
8 one was [REDACTED] and she came from England,  
9 another one was [REDACTED]. Don't ask me where  
10 they are now because I don't know where they are now.
- 11 Q. Just looking at that little group, did that group make  
12 its way with you to Geraldton?
- 13 A. Yes. One of them -- [REDACTED] did, but  
14 [REDACTED] didn't. [REDACTED] was a lot younger than us  
15 and she stayed in (inaudible) somewhere. I don't know  
16 where she is, but stayed there.
- 17 Q. What did you do in the course of this trip when you were  
18 on the ship?
- 19 A. We played high jinks up on the lifeboats -- we used to  
20 sneak out into the lifeboats and play -- if we could get  
21 out on deck, we'd to be out on deck, but we weren't  
22 allowed to do much.
- 23 Q. In any event, I think we know from the records that the  
24 ship docked at Fremantle in Australia on  
25 22 February 1953.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. So that tell us that you'd been at sea for something  
3 like four to five weeks. Quite some time.
- 4 A. Yes, it was. But you did as you were told and that was  
5 it. We were too frightened to do anything else.  
6 I mean, I'd never seen a ship before, let alone been on  
7 one.
- 8 Q. We've seen photographs of the ship and it's a large  
9 ship.
- 10 A. Yes, it was. I met one of the stewards some years later  
11 when I went back to Nottingham. I met one of the  
12 stewards who was on the same trip as I was. He gave me  
13 the -- he's the one that gave me the photo.
- 14 Q. Did he give you any other information as to how child  
15 migrants were to be considered on the ship?
- 16 A. He told me -- he said they knew there were children, but  
17 they weren't allowed to be in contact with anybody else.
- 18 Q. Did he say why?
- 19 A. No, he didn't know. He was the steward and he was --  
20 children weren't allowed to be in contact with the  
21 public.
- 22 Q. I think when the inquiry team saw you, Yvonne, you were  
23 shown an entry on the passenger list, showing your name;  
24 is that right?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And also, the address that you were going to be going  
2 to, Geraldton?
- 3 A. Correct, yes. Nazareth House Geraldton.
- 4 Q. When you got to Fremantle, I think what you tell us in  
5 your statement is that you first went to St Joseph's  
6 Orphanage at Subaico; is that right?
- 7 A. Correct, yes.
- 8 Q. And that's in Perth?
- 9 A. Yes. We stayed overnight at St Joseph's because  
10 Geraldton's 300 miles away.
- 11 Q. Geraldton is north of Perth. Is that right, you go  
12 north?
- 13 A. Yes. 300 miles north of Perth, yes.
- 14 Q. I'll come to that in a moment. Did you form any  
15 impression of the St Joseph's Orphanage when you were  
16 there for the two days?
- 17 A. Not really. It was just another home like Cardonald  
18 was. All the buildings looked dull and boring, not  
19 impressive at all. The building in Geraldton is  
20 impressive. That building, not the nuns, but the  
21 building itself.
- 22 Q. I'll come to the building in a moment then. When you  
23 left St Joseph's, did you travel by bus to Geraldton?
- 24 A. We travelled by bus. We never stopped for a meal or  
25 a drink, nothing.

- 1 Q. Were you given any food on the bus?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Who was with you on the bus?
- 4 A. Two nuns.
- 5 Q. And were these two nuns nuns who would be looking after
- 6 you in Geraldton?
- 7 A. Yes. The two of them were looking after the children in
- 8 Geraldton.
- 9 Q. Had they come from --
- 10 A. Sister **LXW** and Sister **LXV** That's their
- 11 names.
- 12 Q. Had they come from Geraldton to Fremantle to meet you?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. So far as the children on the bus would be concerned,
- 15 how many children were on the bus? Can you tell me?
- 16 A. They were all girls. There must have been 20.
- 17 Unless ... Unless I looked at the photo and counted the
- 18 children, because I've got a photo of our first arrival
- 19 at Geraldton and I could ... Pity I didn't give a photo
- 20 of that to you because I've got a photo of when we first
- 21 arrived in Geraldton.
- 22 Q. I think you did give us a copy of that, so we do have
- 23 that in our records, Yvonne. We can look at that and
- 24 work it out. Do I take it --
- 25 A. All those girls were on the ship with us.

- 1 Q. Sorry?
- 2 A. All those girls were on the ship with us.
- 3 Q. It was all girls -- was it only girls who were at  
4 Geraldton?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Looking to what you've told us then, it would follow  
7 that you arrived at the Nazareth House in Geraldton on  
8 24 February 1953.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And if I was to jump ahead a few years, when did you  
11 leave?
- 12 A. I left when I was 17 and a half.
- 13 Q. That would be around 1960?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. If you were born in 19 ...
- 16 A. I finished school -- now, don't laugh at this.  
17 I finished school -- because I didn't go to school at  
18 Nazareth House, I was sent out, from the first year  
19 I was there, to a college, to Stella Maris College in  
20 Geraldton. I ... I've forgotten what I was going to  
21 say.
- 22 Q. I'll come on to that, Yvonne, don't worry. I just want  
23 to look at when you first arrived at Geraldton. You've  
24 told us a photograph was taken of the new arrivals;  
25 is that right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And as I've said, you have given us a copy of that.
- 3 You have told us that your suitcase that you had with
- 4 you was taken from you and you never saw it again.
- 5 A. Yes, correct.
- 6 Q. When you came to leave Geraldton, was the suitcase given
- 7 back to you?
- 8 A. No. The nuns in Geraldton gave me another suitcase,
- 9 a smaller one than the one I had. They gave me another
- 10 suitcase and put a few things in it. I got sent away
- 11 forever to be forgotten. That's what the nuns hoped.
- 12 Q. You've already mentioned, Yvonne, the building or
- 13 buildings at Geraldton. Can you describe the set-up for
- 14 us?
- 15 A. The thing was that it was built -- Nazareth House
- 16 Geraldton was built for child migrants. But when the
- 17 war broke out, because they couldn't -- they didn't have
- 18 the ships because the ships were being used in the war,
- 19 so they couldn't send the children out on the ships. So
- 20 the nuns and the Catholic Church took in old people,
- 21 they took in old men and old women.
- 22 LADY SMITH: Yvonne, can you hear me? It's Lady Smith
- 23 speaking.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 LADY SMITH: We normally have a break at some point in

1 a witness's evidence after they've been giving evidence  
2 for a while, and I can see now we're moving to another  
3 important part of your evidence so what I think we'll do  
4 is take a break for 10 or 15 minutes just now, and  
5 I hope that would enable you to relax a bit and refresh  
6 yourself. Then we'll come back after that. All right?

7 A. Thank you so much, Lady Smith.

8 (8.50 am)

9 (A short break)

10 (9.05 am)

11 LADY SMITH: Hello again, Yvonne. Are you ready to carry  
12 on?

13 A. I'm ready.

14 LADY SMITH: The good news for you is that our fire alarm  
15 test took place during that break.

16 A. We heard it.

17 LADY SMITH: Sorry. At least it wasn't during your  
18 evidence.

19 I'll hand back to Mr MacAulay and we'll see what he  
20 wants to ask you next.

21 MR MacAULAY: We'd come to the point in your evidence,  
22 Yvonne, when you have arrived at Geraldton and you spent  
23 the next several years or so there. Can I just  
24 understand the geography? Although we referred to the  
25 Nazareth House in Geraldton as Geraldton, it's some way

- 1 out of the town; is that right?
- 2 A. It's 4 miles out of Geraldton. It's a place called  
3 Bluff Point.
- 4 Q. Are there any other houses in that area or is it really  
5 in the middle of nowhere?
- 6 A. Well, when we first went there, it seemed like the  
7 middle of nowhere. But eventually, the area sort of --  
8 they built houses close by, but not when we first went  
9 there.
- 10 Q. You were going on to explain about the nature of the  
11 buildings, and I think you told us that it was built for  
12 child migrants, but housed elderly people first of all;  
13 is that correct?
- 14 A. That's correct, yes.
- 15 Q. Can you describe the buildings?
- 16 A. The building was very similar -- like a Spanish --  
17 arches, and Spanish plaster, it was made out of, not  
18 like some of the dungeon-like houses that the old  
19 Nazareth Houses have. This was a very nice looking  
20 building.
- 21 Q. Looking to the facilities, what sort of facilities were  
22 provided there for children?
- 23 A. For children, there was tennis courts if you could  
24 borrow a tennis racket. There was basketball. There  
25 was a swimming pool. That was it. You didn't get ...

- 1           Because I went out to school, this is -- you were  
2           talking about teaching. The first year I was in  
3           Geraldton, they taught all the other children at  
4           Nazareth House. They sent me to Stella Maris College  
5           because the nuns in Geraldton wanted me to become  
6           a teacher. And because I wouldn't --
- 7           Q. I'll come on to that. But from what you've said then,  
8           to go from Geraldton to Stella Maris College, you'd have  
9           to travel. How did you travel from Geraldton to the  
10          college?
- 11          A. The first few years I was going to the college, we  
12          walked.
- 13          Q. That's quite a distance.
- 14          A. About four miles.
- 15          Q. There and back?
- 16          A. Yes, and eventually they used to make one of the buses  
17          stop and pick us up.
- 18          Q. But when you first went to Stella Maris College, were  
19          you the only child migrant who went there or were there  
20          others?
- 21          A. Yes.
- 22          Q. You were the only --
- 23          A. There were other girls. The other girls that I went  
24          with were Australians.
- 25          Q. That was one of the things I was going to ask you

1 in relation to the girls at Geraldton. There were not  
2 only child migrants there, but also girls who were  
3 Australian girls?

4 A. Yes, correct.

5 Q. Can you give me an estimate as to how many girls  
6 altogether there might have been there at a given time?

7 A. At any given time, I would say 70. I can't be accurate.  
8 I've never counted. About 70 children were there.

9 There were babies and then we were called "the  
10 children", the ones that were still going to school were  
11 called "the children", and once you left school and you  
12 worked at Nazareth House, you were called "the girls".

13 Q. We'll come to look at what you had to do work-wise in  
14 a moment. But what about nuns? How many nuns were  
15 there to care for you, the children, care for the  
16 children?

17 A. Two.

18 Q. Are those the two you have mentioned already,  
19 Sister **LXW** and Sister **LXV**

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. You mentioned that there were elderly people there as  
22 well. Did the children have any contact with the  
23 elderly people?

24 A. Only when you'd left school, then you had to help one of  
25 the nuns look after the elderly people.

1 Q. And were there different nuns looking after the elderly  
2 people?

3 A. Different nuns, yes: one nun looked after the men, one  
4 looked after the women.

5 Q. What about lay staff? Were there lay staff there when  
6 you --

7 A. No.

8 Q. So in relation --

9 A. Only the girls that were brought up in Nazareth House.  
10 We did the work once we'd finished school.

11 Q. I just want to look at some aspects of the routine with  
12 you, Yvonne, so let's start with bedtime. Did you sleep  
13 in dormitories or other types of rooms?

14 A. Dormitories, big dormitories. There was possibly about  
15 40 beds in the junior dorm and one in the senior dorm.  
16 We were all still children at school. The dormitories  
17 were the same for the juniors and seniors.

18 Q. Are you suggesting there was a large dormitory for the  
19 juniors and a large dormitory for the seniors?

20 A. Yes. About 40 in each.

21 Q. Were you given any instructions at bedtime as to how you  
22 were to be in bed?

23 A. You had to -- first of all, before you went to bed, you  
24 had to kneel down and say the prayers. Then the nuns  
25 told us that when we went to bed we had to lie on our

1 right side. We weren't allowed to lie on your left side  
2 because that was the side of the devil and you weren't  
3 allowed to lie on your back because you would have  
4 impure thoughts (inaudible: distorted).

5 Q. Were you given any instructions as to how your hands  
6 were to be placed?

7 A. You had to have your hands crossed over on your chest.

8 Q. The habit of lying on your right side, did that habit  
9 stay with you throughout your life or did that change?

10 A. No. I now never sleep on my right. I always sleep on  
11 my left. I started off doing it to spite the nuns, but  
12 now it's automatic.

13 Q. Were there some children who had problems with  
14 bed-wetting?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. I don't think that was a problem you had.

17 A. No, it wasn't a problem -- it was with [REDACTED] for  
18 a little while, one of the girls who came out with me,  
19 and the nuns were -- oh, they were terrible to those  
20 children.

21 Q. What happened?

22 A. They used to make them have a cold bath and hang their  
23 sheets out so everybody could see that they had wet the  
24 bed. I was fortunate because I didn't. But the other  
25 girls, I felt sorry for them.

- 1 Q. You also tell us a little bit in your statement about  
2 bathing practices. That's something that you were  
3 unhappy about. Can you explain that to us?
- 4 A. We had a bath once a week and if you didn't get in front  
5 of the queue, you ended up bathing in dirty water and  
6 you ended up trying to dry yourself with a wet towel.
- 7 Q. How large a queue would this be?
- 8 A. The queue would go out the bathroom and down the  
9 corridor.
- 10 Q. And privacy, what sort of privacy?
- 11 A. No privacy. The only time you got privacy is when you  
12 left school and you became one of the girls. Not  
13 children, girls. Then you could have a shower by  
14 yourself. They had showers there, but the children  
15 weren't allowed to use them.
- 16 Q. Leaving school. What age generally would the children  
17 leave school?
- 18 A. Normally, it would probably be about 16, but I left when  
19 I was 14.
- 20 Q. And I'll come and look at that with you shortly.  
21 Clothing. Can you tell me a bit about what clothes  
22 you were provided with?
- 23 A. You changed -- you had a dress and a singlet and a pair  
24 of what we called pants, knickers and they were changed  
25 once a week. Saturdays they were changed and then you

- 1           wore them for the next week.
- 2           Q. And that applied not just to outer clothing, but also  
3           your underclothing?
- 4           A. Your underclothing and your dress were changed once  
5           a week.
- 6           Q. Can I come then and look at your schooling, Yvonne.  
7           You've already told us that although children were  
8           taught on site, but you -- and this was exceptional for  
9           a child migrant -- when you went there, you went to  
10          Stella Maris College in Geraldton.
- 11          A. Stella Maris College, yes.
- 12          Q. So were you going there from the age of 10?
- 13          A. Yes. I never went to school at Nazareth House. I was  
14          sent -- as soon as school started, as soon as I got  
15          there, they explained -- we all went through an IQ test,  
16          all the child migrants, I don't know who it was, but we  
17          went through an IQ test. They said that I should be  
18          sent to college and they were telling all this rubbish.  
19          And the nuns sent me straightaway to  
20          Stella Maris College. All the other girls stayed there  
21          and the two nuns that I told you, Sister **LXW** and  
22          **LXV**, they weren't teachers but they taught the  
23          other children. But I went out to Stella Maris College.
- 24          Q. As the years went on, did more child migrants go with  
25          you to the college?

1 A. There were two others from Ireland -- no, one was from  
2 Wales and one was from Ireland. They were several years  
3 later.

4 Q. How did you get on at school, Yvonne?

5 A. I found schoolwork very easy. I skipped -- when I went  
6 to the college, I skipped two years of schooling because  
7 I'd done all this work before. I was younger than all  
8 the other girls, I was two years younger than the girls  
9 I was in the same class with, and I never studied,  
10 I just remembered everything very well and went through  
11 and did right up to the leaving certificate.

12 Q. Did you pass that leaving certificate?

13 A. Yes, junior and leaving.

14 Q. What age were you at that time?

15 A. 14.

16 Q. Can you just tell me a little bit about what happened at  
17 this time in relation to what career path you would  
18 take? Because I think you've already indicated that the  
19 nuns wanted you to be a schoolteacher.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And what happened?

22 A. When you do the -- I'm going back some years, it's not  
23 the same now, but when you do the junior certificate,  
24 the nuns or the students could apply for a teacher's  
25 training bursary, which paid for the two extra years of

1 schooling you needed to go to teacher training college.

2 They got the bursary, I got the bursary on my behalf  
3 and then, because I didn't want to go teaching, I wanted  
4 to go into children's nursing, the nuns said to me,  
5 "Well, you'll have to work to pay off what we paid out  
6 for the teacher training bursary".

7 Q. If you got the bursary, would they have had to pay  
8 anything?

9 A. I don't know. The people that wanted to go to the  
10 teacher training college would have paid for the two  
11 extra years of schooling. I didn't look into it very  
12 well. I went on what the nuns told me: you'll have to  
13 work because you didn't go into teaching, so we had to  
14 give back the money for the bursary.

15 Q. Just to be clear then, the bursary was received by the  
16 nuns on your behalf, but because you didn't want to  
17 choose that particular career, they had to give the  
18 bursary back?

19 A. Yes. That's what they told me.

20 Q. Was it against that background that they told you that  
21 you would have to work for them?

22 A. Yes. That's when they sent me -- when I finished  
23 schooling, they sent me to work in the kitchen --

24 Q. I'll look at that --

25 A. -- cooking -- sorry.

1 Q. No, no.

2 Can I just go back briefly to your time at  
3 Stella Maris College? How were you treated by the other  
4 children in the college?

5 A. You'll have to excuse the expression, but what I was  
6 called was -- Lady Smith, please excuse me saying  
7 this --

8 LADY SMITH: Don't worry, Yvonne. I've heard plenty of rude  
9 expressions in my life.

10 A. I was called "the Nazzie house bastard". That's what  
11 they thought I was.

12 MR MacAULAY: Was that upsetting for you?

13 A. It was. You got so used to the children saying it  
14 that -- they all thought we were illegitimate, we  
15 thought we were illegitimate when we were at school, so  
16 that's what they called us. But I was the only one  
17 there that was a child migrant at the time, so I copped  
18 it. Later on, the girls -- two other child migrant  
19 girls went to school and they didn't get called it.

20 Q. You've told us about how it came to be, Yvonne, that you  
21 had to work in the kitchen at Geraldton. Can I just ask  
22 you a little bit about what was involved in that. Take  
23 us through the normal day, if you like.

24 A. Normal day. Called at 5.30 in the morning. Down to the  
25 kitchen. Preparing all the meals, all the breakfasts,

1           until the morning bell went for Mass, straight up to the  
2           church to Mass. As soon as Mass was finished, down to  
3           the kitchen again. Serve all the breakfasts out and  
4           then you could have your breakfast.

5           Then back in the kitchen, made sure all the lunches  
6           were served for the old people, the old men, the old  
7           women, the nuns, the children. 12 o'clock, they were  
8           all served. Then we had to clean up and we got an hour,  
9           an hour and a half's break in the afternoon, then we  
10          went back and had to do the evening meal.

11          After 7.30, 7.45, depending on what part of the  
12          kitchen you were working on, if you were working on the  
13          stoves, you had to look after the fires, the Aga fires.  
14          We had to fill them up with coke and look after the  
15          fires.

16          We had to make sure everything was cleaned down and  
17          then, upstairs, and 8.30, lights out. And that was it  
18          for the day. And that was every day.

19          Q. And that was from the age of 14?

20          A. Yes.

21          Q. So what you seem to be describing, Yvonne, is a long,  
22          hard day.

23          A. It was. But when that's all you did every day and  
24          you're young -- and it's only just lately, the last  
25          eight years, I've got sick. I was as fit as a fiddle.

1           Played a lot of sport. I never had any childhood  
2           diseases, so I was lucky. But when that's what you did  
3           every day, you're so used to it, you just took it for  
4           granted.

5           Q. Were you paid?

6           A. There were two other girls that worked in the kitchen,  
7           younger girls, and one nun. So there were four of us  
8           who cooked in the kitchen for over 200 every day.

9           Q. I was asking: were you paid anything for this work?

10          A. Not a penny.

11          Q. Looking at other aspects of the routine when you were  
12          there, were birthdays celebrated?

13          A. No. The way we celebrated it, the night before, we  
14          all -- we put our hair in rags, the old-fashioned rags,  
15          and curled our hair so everybody knew that it was our  
16          birthday the next day. But we never got anything.  
17          Everybody sang "Happy Birthday", but that was it, it  
18          wasn't celebrated it.

19          Q. What about Christmas? Did you get Christmas presents?

20          A. I remember once getting a petticoat, one year, but after  
21          that, no, I don't ever remember getting anything. They  
22          put a Christmas tree out and Christmas -- before we went  
23          to midnight Mass, we would go round and give all the old  
24          ladies and all the old men a present each and we'd sing  
25          Christmas carols. We never got one.

1 Q. You do tell us about a particular event or incident when  
2 you'd put pillowcases at the end of your beds.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Can you tell us about that?

5 A. The nuns used to take turns doing watch night and they  
6 would have to go right round Nazareth House and inspect  
7 to see if everything was all right. They used to come  
8 through the dormitories, make sure everything was okay.  
9 At Christmas we put pillows on the end of our beds. One  
10 of the nuns had a habit of putting something in your  
11 pillow slip -- not a stocking, a pillow slip -- and she  
12 always put dirty pots and pans in my pillow slip.

13 Q. Do you know why that was?

14 A. Because I worked in the kitchen. I worked in the  
15 kitchen, so that's what she did. Saucepans. It was her  
16 weird sense of humour.

17 Q. You do say that boys who were with the  
18 Christian Brothers would sometimes visit the home;  
19 is that correct?

20 A. They were from Tardun. I don't know whether you've ever  
21 heard of Tardun. The boys from Tardun used to come up  
22 to Geraldton for the Christmas break and they stayed at  
23 a boys' home in Geraldton, St Joseph's, for the school.  
24 They used to come out on the truck out to Nazareth House  
25 and we'd be allowed to dance, as long as we stayed

1           10 inches apart, and we were allowed to sing for them.

2           A lot of those were child migrants, a lot of the  
3           boys, but I lost contact with them all.

4           Q. Apart from that sort of event, did you have any other  
5           visitors?

6           A. In Geraldton? No.

7           Q. You do tell us that you remember somebody from the  
8           Catholic Welfare department paying a visit.

9           A. The Catholic Welfare department. We were told she was  
10          a social worker. Miss Sanderson, we knew her by. When  
11          she came, we had to be polite, we had to be well  
12          mannered and we had to have our hair combed. We never  
13          got to speak to her. As a group -- we were all in  
14          a group, but we never, ever got to speak to her.

15          We were told by the nuns that she was from child  
16          welfare. She wasn't, she was from Catholic  
17          migration ...

18          Q. So far as dress was concerned, did you have to dress in  
19          a particular way?

20          A. Not for her, but for other people we had to.

21          Q. In what way?

22          A. Well, sometimes they'd give us a clean dress to wear --  
23          if we were working we'd get a clean dress to wear. That  
24          would be as far as it went.

25          Q. You've mentioned this already in relation to how

1 children would ask nuns about their families and would  
2 get little information or no information and that sort  
3 of led you infer that you were illegitimate. Is that  
4 correct?

5 A. That's correct, yes.

6 Q. Was there a particular nun who would say something to  
7 you about how you came to be at Cardonald?

8 A. Sister [REDACTED] LXV one of the ones I've mentioned, she  
9 told me, "I remember you being left outside the gate at  
10 Cardonald, Glasgow, in wet nappies".

11 Q. And what impact did that have on you?

12 A. I just was upset about it at the time that she said it,  
13 I thought, well, Sister [REDACTED] LXV couldn't tell  
14 stories, so, no, eventually you let it go. She was one  
15 of the ones who looked after the children.

16 Q. What about emotional support and care? Did you get  
17 emotional support and care from the nuns?

18 A. None whatsoever.

19 Q. Was there anybody you could go and speak to if you had  
20 a problem?

21 A. No. No, nobody whatsoever.

22 Q. In your time at Geraldton, did you have any personal  
23 possessions?

24 A. No.

25 Q. What about money, pocket money? Were you given pocket

- 1 money?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Let's look at discipline for a moment or two, Yvonne.
- 4 Did you receive any physical treatment from the nuns?
- 5 A. Quite often on the back of my hand, the side of a ruler.
- 6 Whack on the back of your hand. This part (indicating).
- 7 Whacked with a ruler. All the girls got this. One of
- 8 the other nuns, who used to look after us when we --
- 9 during our dinner, midday meal, her name was
- 10 Sister [REDACTED] LXX . Now, there's a tyrant. She thought
- 11 I knew something somebody said and she kept poking me.
- 12 She pushed me and to stop falling, I grabbed hold and
- 13 her veil came off and she pushed my head through
- 14 a window. I didn't believe the nuns could do that, but
- 15 they did. Sister [REDACTED] LXX did.
- 16 Q. What age were you at that time?
- 17 A. I was in Geraldton then so I must have been 12.
- 18 Q. Were you injured?
- 19 A. I had glass in my head and cuts on my head, but they
- 20 just pulled the glass out and left it.
- 21 Q. Did you get any treatment from the nuns?
- 22 A. No, just take the glass out, comb your hair and just put
- 23 up with it. I had to hold a bit of gauze on there to
- 24 stop the bleeding.
- 25 Q. One of the practices you describe in your statement is

1           having to sit on cold tiles as a punishment. Can you  
2           tell me about that?

3           A. As a punishment, if they couldn't do anything else, they  
4           would come and get you out of bed and you had to go and  
5           sit in the bathroom for as long as they wanted you to  
6           and they were all cold tiles.

7           Q. How long --

8           A. This is the bathroom. It could be a couple of hours.  
9           You could be there for a couple of hours until they came  
10          round the next time on their watch.

11          Q. For what misdemeanours would that sort of treatment be  
12          given to you?

13          A. If you back-chatted or you wouldn't do what you were  
14          told straightaway, that was a no-no as far as the nuns  
15          were concerned. The nuns said jump and you said, "How  
16          high?" And if you didn't do exactly what they said, you  
17          got punished.

18          Q. In relation to the way you were treated by the nuns,  
19          you've told us some of that today. I think you also  
20          provided statements to the Australian National Redress  
21          Scheme; is that correct?

22          A. That's correct, yes.

23          Q. And you set out in these statements -- there's  
24          a statement and a supplementary statement -- the way  
25          that you were treated by the nuns; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes, I did, yes.
- 2 Q. Was that the truth?
- 3 A. Yes. You can't have a memory like mine and put  
4 everything -- and say I forgot. This is everything.  
5 I don't mind doing this and I'm grateful to be able to  
6 do it, but I wish it was all all over and done with  
7 because you're bringing it up again and I'll have nights  
8 now where everything will be going round and round in my  
9 head. I'm not being detrimental, I mean that's what  
10 happens.
- 11 Q. One thing you do tell us -- and indeed you told the  
12 redress scheme -- is that quite apart from the physical  
13 abuse and the emotional abuse that you have told us  
14 about, you were also sexually abused; is that right?
- 15 A. By two old men. Not brothers, not priests: there were  
16 two old men that worked in Geraldton.
- 17 Q. You have set it out for us in your statement, Yvonne,  
18 and it's also set out in your supplementary redress  
19 statement. If you don't want to talk about it, that's  
20 perfectly acceptable.
- 21 A. I can mention their names: Mr LXY and Mr LXZ One  
22 was in charge of [REDACTED]  
23 [REDACTED] and the other one was in charge of [REDACTED]  
24 [REDACTED] Those two.
- 25 Q. Was it because you were working in the kitchen in

- 1 particular that they were able to get access to you?
- 2 A. Exactly, because one of the smaller rooms that LXY had  
3 was just outside -- it wouldn't be ten steps from the  
4 kitchen door. The other one would come into the kitchen  
5 because LXZ would [REDACTED] So you were  
6 in the kitchen when they were there.
- 7 Q. So far as you could see, was this behaviour that they  
8 indulged in, did they do that to anybody else so far as  
9 you could see?
- 10 A. The thing is that being children, you sort of keep --  
11 the other kids will think I'm making it up or they won't  
12 believe you, so you didn't really tell each other  
13 secrets. And because I had no -- I had a foot in both  
14 camps. I had no friends, schoolmates, at Stella Maris,  
15 and I had no mates at Nazareth House because I never  
16 spent any time with them. Sundays was the only time  
17 I spent in Nazareth House. So you never had  
18 a schoolmate or a chum that you could tell your secrets  
19 to or share. So you didn't tell anybody.
- 20 Q. Are you saying --
- 21 A. I know it happened. I know it happened.
- 22 Q. To other children?
- 23 A. To other children that were there.
- 24 Q. Is that something you've found out afterwards or is it  
25 something you knew at the time?

1 A. Yes. Afterwards, yes.

2 Q. What about the nuns? Did you say anything to the nuns,  
3 that these two men were abusing you?

4 A. One of these men told me, "Well, the nuns are not going  
5 to believe you, they pay us to work and you are working  
6 for nothing, so they're not going to believe you".

7 Q. And did you believe that?

8 A. You were too scared not to. You were scared of these  
9 men and you were scared of the nuns. And if you didn't  
10 have anyone to help you, what else do you do as a child?  
11 You don't have any answers to that.

12 Q. Did this abuse then go on for the years that you worked  
13 in the kitchen?

14 A. The three years I worked in the kitchen, on and off,  
15 yes.

16 Q. What about priests? Did you have contact with priests  
17 when you were there?

18 A. You had contact with priests, but there was always nuns  
19 around. It was when you were in church, when you went  
20 to church, that's the contact you had with the priests.  
21 There was one priest I had -- they used to do the church  
22 paper, it was called the Record, the Catholic Record.  
23 One of the priests -- I used to help him with writing  
24 out the addresses. But he was a brilliant man, a good  
25 priest, but I never -- he wasn't someone you could talk

1 to. Priests weren't some -- they weren't people you  
2 could talk to. Not when you're a child.

3 You put the nuns and the priests on a pedestal and  
4 you don't think that they could do any wrong. So what  
5 as a child are you going to do? You can't do anything.

6 Q. Can I then look at the time when you came to leave  
7 Nazareth House, Yvonne. Can you just explain to me how  
8 that came about?

9 A. I had done a course in paediatrics. I wanted to go to  
10 what was Princess Margaret Hospital for Children.  
11 That's now closed down, they've set up a new hospital,  
12 the Princess Margaret Hospital. I wanted to train as  
13 a paediatric nurse. That was where I went. They had  
14 somewhere where people could board, nurses could  
15 board -- a nurses' home, it was called. That's where  
16 I went.

17 Q. In the lead-up to leaving Geraldton, Nazareth House  
18 Geraldton, what preparations were put in place for your  
19 departure?

20 A. Nothing.

21 Q. So what happened when you came to leave?

22 A. We got placed with ... What did we have? Some  
23 underwear, a blouse and a skirt, a pair of shoes.  
24 I think that's all we had. I went into the nurses' home  
25 down in Perth, the Princess Margaret Hospital.

- 1 Q. When you came to leave, did you leave on your own or  
2 were there other girls who left with you?
- 3 A. No, I left on my own. Most of the girls were sent out  
4 to be domestics in a hospital situation or in private  
5 homes. I was the only one that went to  
6 Princess Margaret, and I had done -- what do you call  
7 it, the course you do? When you're writing, you do  
8 exams when you do questions and numbers.
- 9 Q. I think what you're telling us, Yvonne, is you did  
10 a particular course in preparation to train.
- 11 A. I did a course so I could be accepted as a trainee in  
12 Princess Margaret Hospital, yes. I filled in  
13 a questionnaire, studied it, and put all the answers in  
14 and got accepted to Princess Margaret Hospital. When  
15 I got accepted, the nuns gave me a case with a few  
16 things in it and that was it. End of an era. Never to  
17 be welcomed back.
- 18 Q. Well, you went on to train and became a paediatric  
19 nurse; is that correct?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. You worked as a nurse in Australia in that capacity for  
22 about 20 years?
- 23 A. Not entirely with children because I did obstets and  
24 gynae, obstetrics and gynaecology, and I did a stint,  
25 believe it or not, at the Claremont mental home. That's

1           where I learned I wasn't mad. You could take the option  
2           of doing any of the hospitals around Perth, so I did the  
3           obstets and gynae and the mental home. I did stints  
4           there.

5           Then I was able to look after what they called  
6           C-class hospitals, which housed the elderly, and I was  
7           able to do that. Until I went back to Nottingham,  
8           I worked in a hospital there on a cancer ward.

9           Q. I'll just come to Nottingham in a moment.

10           Essentially, what you're telling us, Yvonne, is that  
11           you developed a career in nursing?

12           A. Yes.

13           Q. And practised nursing for a considerable number of  
14           years?

15           A. Yes.

16           Q. You do tell us in your statement that you got married in  
17           1966, is that correct --

18           A. Correct.

19           Q. -- and that you have two children?

20           A. I have two daughters, yes.

21           Q. You mentioned Nottingham, which of course is in England.  
22           Did there come a point in time when you came back to the  
23           United Kingdom and to Nottingham in particular?

24           A. I have to go back to when I first received the news from  
25           my godmother by letter that my parents were still both

1           alive [REDACTED]. I went back  
2           when I got the chance in 1979. I went back to find my  
3           family.

4           At first, I went to Yorkshire and then [REDACTED]

5           [REDACTED] in Nottingham [REDACTED]  
6           [REDACTED]  
7           [REDACTED]

8           Q. Perhaps I could take you --

9           A. So that's where I ended up.

10          Q. Perhaps I could take you to the letter you received from  
11          your godmother. I think you say in your statement that  
12          that was in 1975.

13          A. 1975, yes.

14          Q. And I think you mentioned this earlier. You'd be in  
15          your thirties by then?

16          A. I was 30, getting on, because I was 40 -- yes, it would  
17          have been, yes.

18          Q. The letter --

19          A. 42, yes.

20          Q. You've mentioned the letter.

21          A. This is how old it is. It was an air mail letter. I've  
22          still got it.

23          Q. And I think you provided the inquiry with a copy.

24          We have a copy for our records.

25          A. Yes, I did.

1 Q. This is the letter that told you that you had parents, a  
2 mother and father, [REDACTED]

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What was your reaction to that? Because this is the  
5 first time you've been made aware of that fact.

6 A. I was running round, waving this letter about, saying,  
7 "I'm not a bastard, I'm not a bastard". Excuse my  
8 expression, but that's what I was saying when I got this  
9 letter because that's what I thought. I was just so  
10 excited to get this letter. It was the first time I'd  
11 ever got anything from anyone.

12 Q. But it also told you that you had family?

13 A. It told me my parents were both still alive [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]

15 Q. What then did you do at that time?

16 A. At that time, she had pointed out to me in the letter  
17 not to be too quick to drop everything and go over to  
18 England. She didn't want me to be too quick about that.  
19 She said, "Take your time and think it out". I didn't  
20 really do anything about it until 1979.

21 Two days before I -- I made plans in 1979 to go to  
22 Britain somewhere and see if I could find my family.  
23 Two days before I was due to leave, I got a letter --  
24 two letters: one from a cousin who's in America, and one  
25 from [REDACTED] who's in Nottingham. She had put her

1 [REDACTED] and that's  
2 how I -- the first contact I had with my family. That  
3 was 1979.

4 Q. Is that then the background to you eventually making  
5 your way to Nottingham in 1979?

6 A. Yes. I went to Yorkshire and then I went down to  
7 Nottingham. That was when I worked in a hospital  
8 called -- I don't know if it's still open,  
9 Gervis Pearson ward in the old general hospital.

10 Q. I think you came to Nottingham with your two children;  
11 is that right?

12 A. I came with my two daughters, yes.

13 Q. And you went to work, effectively, in Nottingham and  
14 spent some years working there?

15 A. Yes, working in the old general hospital.

16 MR MacAULAY: I don't know if my Lady would be having  
17 another short break.

18 LADY SMITH: Would now be a convenient time, Mr MacAulay?

19 MR MacAULAY: It would give Yvonne a little bit of a rest.

20 I don't have long to go, Yvonne, but we'll have a  
21 little bit of a rest and then we'll come back.

22 LADY SMITH: Yvonne, let's have another short break before  
23 the final section of your evidence.

24 A. Mr MacAulay, my mother's family are McAuleys in Donegal.

25 MR MacAULAY: We have something in common.

1 LADY SMITH: Thank you for that, Yvonne.

2 We'll have a break now.

3 A. That's why I remembered your name.

4 (9.55 am)

5 (A short break)

6 (10.10 am)

7 LADY SMITH: Hello again, Yvonne. Are you ready to carry

8 on?

9 A. Thank you, yes, Lady Smith.

10 LADY SMITH: I gather that you were wanting to know how much

11 longer we're going to be with you. I don't imagine

12 it'll be much longer than another 15 minutes; is that

13 all right?

14 A. That's fine. We just wanted to know roughly because

15 there's another interview through Skype --

16 LADY SMITH: I did get an inkling of that.

17 A. -- for ABC News --

18 LADY SMITH: Good. Good for you.

19 A. -- concerning the Scottish inquiry.

20 LADY SMITH: Excellent. Well, we'll free you for that as

21 soon as we can. I'll just hand you back to Mr MacAulay.

22 MR MacAULAY: I now want to look at the time when you came

23 back to the United Kingdom. You met [REDACTED]

24 and in due course you also met your mother; is that

25 right?

1 A. I met my mother once in 1981.

2 Q. Can you tell me a little bit about that?

3 A. It took some time to find where she was because she  
4 ended up being an alcoholic and she was in one of the  
5 most derelict, filthy places we ever found her in  
6 London. We got her out of there because she had lost  
7 one of -- half of one of her legs. Because she was an  
8 alcoholic, she was sleeping on the Tube, the underground  
9 in London, a guard made her get off and she got off the  
10 wrong side and she got electrocuted, so she lost her  
11 leg.

12 She was living in this derelict home and we got her  
13 out of there and put her into hospital. We got a phone  
14 call from the hospital -- I was trying to make  
15 arrangements for her to come and live with me in  
16 Nottingham and we got a phone call from the hospital,  
17 saying that an Irishman had come and taken her out of  
18 the hospital -- sorry for laughing, but in  
19 a wheelbarrow, because she had no crutches and she only  
20 had one leg.

21 We couldn't find her, but three or four months  
22 later, we had a telephone call from the police saying  
23 that they had a phone call from an anonymous Irishman,  
24 or an anonymous man with an Irish accent, saying that  
25 he had found this woman dead in bed.

1           There was a coroner's inquest and what we got out of  
2           it was that at some time or other she'd had just about  
3           every bone in her body broken.

4           I was able to go to her funeral. When I went down  
5           for the funeral, [REDACTED]  
6           [REDACTED] I went in  
7           and identified my mother. I had only seen her once,  
8           been looking for her for 40-odd years.

9           This is what annoyed me about the nuns. Because if  
10          they'd given you information that they had -- we know  
11          they had it -- when you left school or left the convent,  
12          you would have had time [REDACTED] to  
13          meet, to find your mother. I'm not so worried about my  
14          father, but my mother, yes. But for years, when you  
15          believed she was dead, I didn't really look until I got  
16          the letter from my godmother. That's the emotional  
17          abuse the nuns put me through.

18         Q. I think what you're saying is that in that situation,  
19          really, you didn't have the opportunity to bond with  
20          your mother?

21         A. None, no.

22         Q. [REDACTED]

23         A. There's no bond that should naturally be there if you  
24          were brought up with your children. My mother, when  
25          I met her, she kept looking at myself and my eldest

1 daughter -- my eldest daughter looked like me. She kept  
2 looking at the two of us and she said, "Those two are  
3 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was the nickname of her family. She  
4 said, "Those two are [REDACTED] She went through all her  
5 brothers and sisters, because she was one of ten.  
6 I said, "No, no". She said, "Would you be after telling  
7 me your name?" and I said, "Yvonne". She said, "Oh my  
8 God, my baby". (Overspeaking) my name.

9 Q. Did you also discover that when you were at Cardonald,  
10 your mother was working in Glasgow?

11 A. She was working at St Paul's Whiteinch, the next suburb  
12 on from Cardonald. St Paul's is the Catholic Church in  
13 Whiteinch, not very far away from Cardonald.

14 Q. Was she working there as a priest's housekeeper?

15 A. The housekeeper that was there at the time we went back  
16 there, she said -- I went there, I said, "I believe  
17 I was baptised here in this church", and I showed the  
18 information I had. She said, "Oh, that's funny. You've  
19 got the same name as the last housekeeper that was  
20 here". I said, "Who do you mean?" She said, "She had  
21 a beautiful name but they called her something nasty,  
22 like [REDACTED] I said, "No, not [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
23 [REDACTED] was my mother's nickname. Everybody called her  
24 [REDACTED] She was working there and she was living  
25 about four streets away from the church, which wasn't

1 very far from Cardonald and the nuns were telling me she  
2 was dead.

3 Q. You did go back to Australia after having spent some  
4 time in this country; is that right?

5 A. I did and I'll tell you this, because I couldn't bond  
6 with the family, mum's family in Ireland, [REDACTED]

7 [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED] I wasn't coming back to Australia, rather  
9 running away from what I didn't have when I met the  
10 family.

11 Q. Was that in about 1997?

12 A. 1997, I came back.

13 Q. You tell us in your statement that you took part in  
14 what was known as the Towards Healing programme in  
15 Western Australia; is that correct?

16 A. Correct. The Catholic Church set it up. They outlined  
17 what the nuns were supposed to do. I met two nuns,  
18 I never knew them, and they kept saying, "We're sorry,  
19 we're sorry, we're sorry, we'll give you some money, but  
20 we haven't got very deep pockets". They gave me --  
21 I can't remember how much I got.

22 Q. Did they tell you what they were sorry for?

23 A. Sorry for what happened in the convent is all they said:  
24 "This shouldn't have happened".

25 Q. Did you tell them --

1 A. I was telling them about what the nuns, both in Scotland  
2 and Geraldton, did to me. It was mainly -- most of it  
3 that I put to the nuns, I established it as emotional  
4 abuse.

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. Because that's what it was to me, and to this day it  
7 still is. I missed out on family, on my childhood,  
8 because of the Catholic Church, the Catholic nuns.  
9 That's what I ...

10 Q. Did the nuns accept that the abuse you suffered should  
11 never have happened?

12 A. That's what they said. They kept saying sorry and,  
13 "Sign this letter before we give you any money".

14 Q. Were you asked to sign some document?

15 A. Yes, sign a document.

16 Q. And what was the --

17 A. They sent it through in the post and you had to sign it,  
18 saying that you wouldn't come back to them for anything  
19 else.

20 Q.

21

22

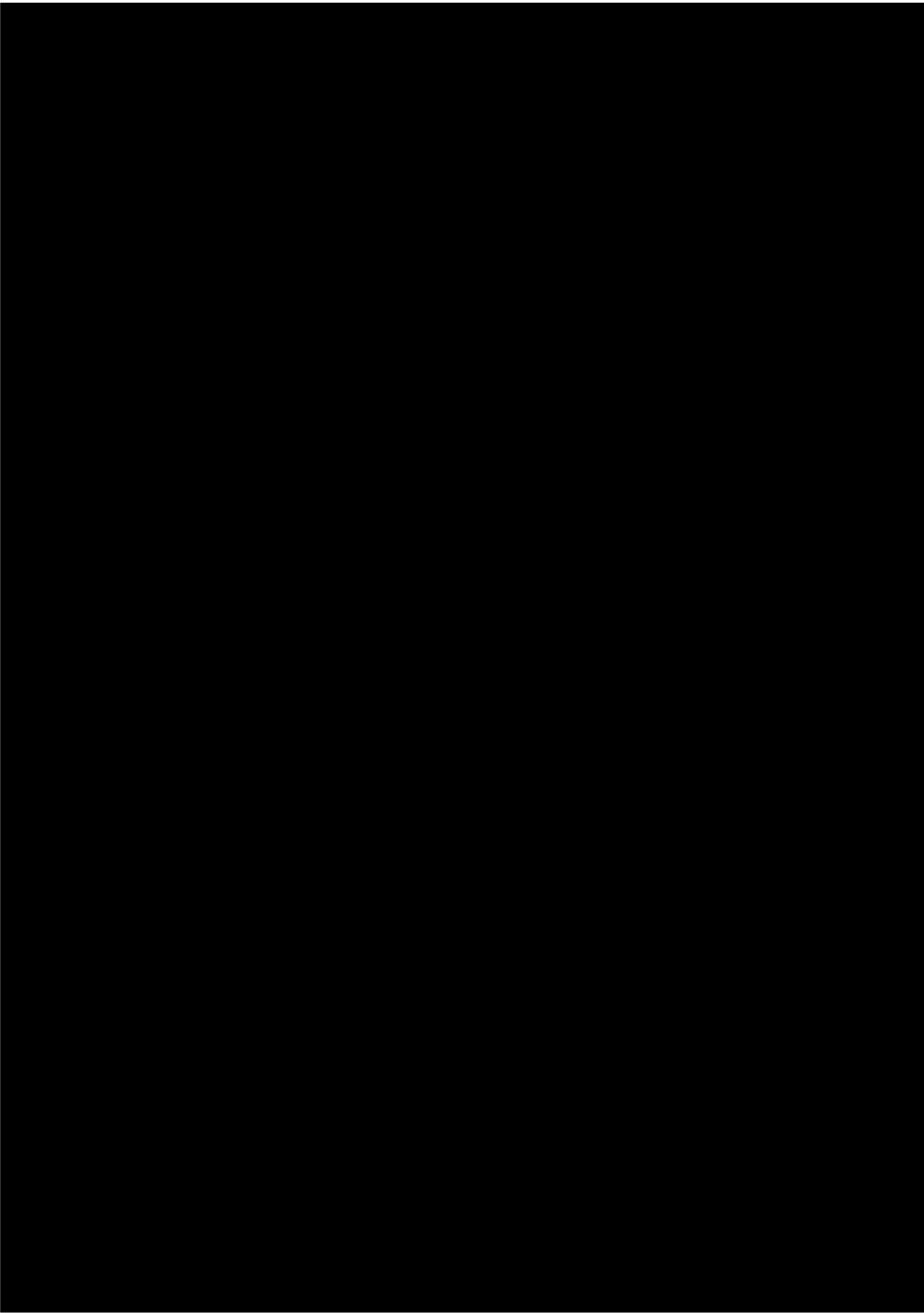
23 A.

24 Q.

25 A.

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24 Q. In your statement -- and this is at paragraph 158 of  
25 your statement -- you do provide some information to the

1 inquiry about the impact having been a child migrant has  
2 had on you and your life. Can you sum up what you see  
3 the impact to be?

4 A. Because of my childhood, nobody's taught you how to  
5 love. And that was brought out in my upbringing of my  
6 two daughters. It was discipline, discipline,  
7 discipline, like I got at the convent. To this day,  
8 I cannot hug my daughters. I can hug them, but they  
9 don't want it. I was never, ever able to -- I loved my  
10 daughters, but I was never able to show them. I wrote  
11 them both a letter and [REDACTED] helped me with that letter  
12 to send to both of my daughters, trying to explain --  
13 not excuse it, but to explain why I was the way I was.

14 But that's what -- it goes on, generation after  
15 generation after generation. My daughters are bringing  
16 their children up with discipline. I don't see much of  
17 the hugging and sitting on each other's knees because  
18 I didn't show them how to do it. Nobody showed me,  
19 I didn't show them. That to me is worse than any other  
20 form of abuse. The emotional abuse you're left with  
21 is ...

22 And the other side of it is: where do I belong?  
23 I don't know to this day where I belong, except as part  
24 of a group of child migrants. I didn't belong at  
25 Stella Maris, I didn't belong at Nazareth House. But as

1 soon as the child migrant issue was brought up, you  
2 belong to a group of child migrants, and that's the only  
3 people who can understand -- up until now, the only  
4 people who can understand what your emotions are like  
5 and why I say, as I've said earlier, I wish it was all  
6 over and done with. Can you understand? Can you  
7 understand what I'm saying, Lady Smith?

8 LADY SMITH: Yes, Yvonne. The nearest, I suppose, one could  
9 get would be to be in part of a group of nomads  
10 wandering in the desert --

11 A. Yes, exactly.

12 LADY SMITH: -- that don't belong in any --

13 A. You don't know what rights you have.

14 I can come down to Tuart Place because I have known  
15 [REDACTED] for many years and she's become a friend, but to  
16 come down here, it's part of a group of people brought  
17 up and out of home care, you're part of a group again.  
18 You never ever, until I met the three that came out to  
19 interview me, were treated as a person, one to one, one  
20 on one. The rest of it, you were spoke to in a group.  
21 I'm not saying that about [REDACTED] because her and I get  
22 on very well. But it really is something that you never  
23 get away from no matter how old you get.

24 MR MacAULAY: What did you make of the apologies that were  
25 tendered on behalf of the Australian government and

- 1           indeed the British Government?
- 2           A.   Everybody kept saying, "Sorry, sorry, sorry", and, "Go  
3           away now we've said sorry". That's all. That's the way  
4           we all were. Everybody kept saying sorry, but nobody  
5           was doing anything or they weren't setting up any  
6           counselling for us. It was, "We said sorry, now go  
7           away".
- 8           Q.   In your statement, you set out some hopes for this  
9           inquiry, Yvonne. One point you make is that no church  
10          should be trusted to look after children; is that your  
11          view?
- 12          A.   No, it's still my view. Even the smallest amount of  
13          abuse that we had goes to any child brought up in --  
14          I'll speak on the Catholic Church particularly. No,  
15          they should be abolished (inaudible: distorted).
- 16          Q.   The other point you make is that children in care should  
17          have access to their records as soon as they leave the  
18          institution, and I think there you are going back to  
19          your own experience when you went back to Cardonald --
- 20          A.   Yes.
- 21          Q.   -- and there was hardly anything of your life.
- 22          A.   When I left, when I was 17, when I left, the records  
23          were there but nobody would give them to us. If I had  
24          got records when I was 17 -- I mean, I was 40-odd before  
25          I met my mother. I would have had all that time to find

1 her, I would have had all that time to meet family and  
2 have time to bond with family, which you don't get --  
3 you're too old to start making bonds [REDACTED]

4 [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED]  
6 MR MacAULAY: Fortunately, for this inquiry, you have  
7 existed and you've provided very clear and powerful  
8 evidence. Thank you for engaging with the inquiry and  
9 doing that today.

10 My Lady, no questions have been submitted to be put  
11 to Yvonne.

12 LADY SMITH: Let me check if there are any outstanding  
13 applications for questions. Are there? No.

14 Yvonne, those are all the questions we have for you.  
15 Thank you very, very much for engaging with the inquiry.  
16 I'm acutely aware of the fact that we've been asking you  
17 to talk yet again, you must feel, about your history as  
18 a child migrant, but can I just assure you, it's been of  
19 enormous value to the work we're doing here,  
20 particularly to me, and I'm extremely grateful to you.

21 May I also, again, express my gratitude to  
22 Tuart Place. We are in their debt for helping us, both  
23 today and on Monday, and I'm glad that the link has  
24 worked so well.

25 But please, make sure, if [REDACTED] is still in hearing

1 distance, that she knows that. Thank you very much.  
2 A. Lady Smith, I must say that for the first time anyone  
3 that was trying to help child migrants -- it's the first  
4 time when the three people came over, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and  
5 [REDACTED] came over, the first time that I've been treated  
6 as a person and not as a number in  
7 a group (overspeaking) --

8 LADY SMITH: That's because you are a person. And moreover,  
9 Yvonne, you're an individual and your individual account  
10 and story matters a lot to us. So thank you for that.  
11 I'm now able to let you go.

12 A. I'm very good at ranting!

13 LADY SMITH: I wouldn't have put it that way. I'm grateful  
14 to you for being so frank.

15 A. I've got a sense of humour, Lady Smith.

16 LADY SMITH: Hang on to it!

17 A. Thank you very much and good luck with the committee.

18 LADY SMITH: Thank you.

19 (The video link was terminated)

20 MR MacAULAY: My Lady, that is all the evidence for today.

21 LADY SMITH: Thank you very much.

22 That's all we have today. I will sit again on  
23 Monday morning. I don't know if we have confirmed the  
24 time for Monday morning, but if you keep track of the  
25 website, you'll see that. I think it was 10.00, but

1           there was some discussion at some point of sitting  
2           earlier. Thank you.

3           (10.30 am)

4                           (The inquiry adjourned until 10.00 am  
5                           on Monday, 28 January 2019)

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YVONNE RADZEVICIUS (sworn) (via .....1  
 video link)  
 Questions from MR MacAULAY .....2

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