THE DOUGLAS COUNTY GRAND JURY PROCEEDINGS

DATE: March 19, 1990

WITNESS: Kirstin Hallberg

INTERROGATORS: Mr. Samuel Van Pelt
Mr. Terry Dougherty

COURT REPORTER: Ms. Antonette Schneckenberger

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THOMAS & THOMAS COURT REPORTERS
502 North 40th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68131
(402) 556-5000

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MR. VAN PELT: Ladies and gentlemen, this is Kirstin Hallberg.

EXAMINATION

BY MR. VAN PELT:

Q. And, Kirstin, if you could state your name and address for the record?

A. Kirstin, that's K-i-r-s-t-i-n, Hallberg, H-a-l-l-b-e-r-g, Route 1, Box 15, Fort Calhoun 68023.

Q. And the gentleman who is approaching you is not doing so in a threatening manner. He is the foreman and he needs to have you deliver the oath and other matter.

BY JUROR 11: Thank you.

Q. (By Mr. Van Pelt) Kirstin, I think we'll move right into this. Could you tell us when you first had any knowledge about Lisa and Tracy Webb? When did that come about?

A. Okay. Lisa was a classmate of my daughters in the Fort Calhoun schools, and I had heard my daughter talk about her, but I had never met Lisa personally until she was placed as a foster child at the Sorensen home in Blair; and that was in, I believe, November of 1985, I think. Let me check here.

Q. What knowledge or what discussions did you have with your daughter at that time?

A. With my daughter?

Q. Well, I'm just trying to develop any knowledge that you had -- If you didn't have any other -- Did you have any knowledge about the Webb children from your daughter just other than --

A. I just knew that Lisa and Wally had been -- Well, in fact, the majority of the Webb children had been adopted. Lisa and Wally were both 16 at the time, this is back in 1985, and they were both classmates of my daughter.

I had heard that, you know, that they had adopted a large number of children. I can remember hearing about them receiving an award from -- I think they were made foster parents of the year or something in Lincoln, I believe, at the Governor's mansion, and they were given an award; but that's about the only knowledge that I had of the Webb family at all up until they were placed with Kathleen.

Q. And you were a good friend of Kathleen Sorensen; is that correct?

A. Yes, very good friend. Yes.

Q. And how long had you known Kathleen Sorensen?

A. Oh, I had -- I had known who she was as far back as probably the early 1980s, but I did not personally meet her until 1983, about mid 1983 -- early 1983.

Q. When was the first time that you recall having any conversation with Kathleen Sorensen respecting any of the Webb children?

A. That was right after Wally was placed with them. Wally had run away from home, and in November of 1985 -- or excuse me, June of 1985, Wally and his brother Kevin, and Kevin was a foster child, Wally had been adopted, and Kathleen told me that she had received a call from Social Services and asked them to take the two children.

And she thought it was really strange because she knew the Webb family better than I did, and they'd always been a very upstanding family and always dressed very nicely. The kids were always well-behaved, and she thought it was strange that, you know, the two boys would have run away.

And then shortly after they were placed there, Wally began to talk about -- Well, in fact, the day they were placed, the police officer pointed out bruises on Kevin's back. He had taken Kevin to the doctor, and the doctor said that he didn't require any medical attention, and the boys both said that Kevin had been beaten with what they called a railroad prop.

Q. And did you get this information, all of this, from Kathleen?

A. Kathleen, yeah.

Q. Very well.

A. Yeah.

Q. Go ahead and just go through chronologically your contact with Kathleen about these children and things that she told you.

A. Okay. Let's see. She told me about, you know, about them saying that they had been beaten with a railroad prop. She described it the way they had described it as being black and, you know, so long (indicating) with holes in the end.

They talked about seeing some pornographic materials. She wasn't sure if they meant magazines or what, but they had seen those in a box in the basement. The boys talked about how the boys in the Webb home had to stay on the lower level. They weren't allowed up, I don't think, for meals; and but their bedrooms were downstairs; and the girls' bedrooms were upstairs.

And I can remember seeing Wally on a few occasions while he was at Kathleen's when I would stop to visit, and he always seemed very high-strung and very agitated, and just, you know, he'd take off -- I can remember driving in, and he'd hop on a bike and take off. I'd stop at the Sorensens and I'd see him hoping on a bike and taking off.

Q. And when you first talked to Wally, were the other children, Lisa, were they still in the Webb home?

A. They were still in the Webb home, and Kathleen told me that Wally was quite concerned, especially about Lisa.

Q. What do you recall Wally telling Kathleen in that regard?

A. He mentioned something about, oh, let's see. He said he was worried about Lisa, and he mentioned to Kathleen that she had tried to run away during the summer sometime, and at the same time another friend of mine, who's name is Mary Lewis, had received a call from Sandra and Walter Sims, two black children who lived across the street from the Webbs.

And Sandra and Walter said that some of the Webb children, they didn't say how many, had run away from home and were at their house; and would Mary please come and get them. And Mary said she couldn't do that, but she did call Fremont Social Services and told, you know, told them the Webb children had run away and that they were -- I'm not sure what the specific allegations were, whether it was physical abuse or whether they even went that far, but she called Social Services, and they said there was nothing they could to.

Q. Do you recall approximately when that incident

took place?

A. All I know is that was the summer of 1985.

Q. I take it your -- When was your first visit with Wally? Or excuse me -- Yeah, your visit with Kathleen about Wally. Do you recall when that took place?

A. I don't know. He was with them from June of 1985 until, I believe, sometime in August of 1985, but I can't remember. I mean, I know she told me about, you know, the bruises and stuff right after she got him, but I can't recall the exact date.

Q. In 1986 then, did you have some conversations with Kathleen about Lisa?

A. Yes.

Q. And do you recall when those took place?

A. Lisa was placed with the Sorensens, Lisa and Tracy were both placed with the Sorensens in November of of 1985, and I met them -- I first saw them at the Sorensen home, I know it was before Thanksgiving, and -- No, excuse me, it was before Christmas.

Anyway, they immediately verified the physical abuse, and they described the railroad prop just as Wally had described it and they said that at the time -- I don't know if Social Services --

Q. If I could just interrupt. Did they say these

things to you?

A. Yes. I was there with Kathleen. Yeah.

Q. Okay. Go ahead and tell then about anything she said to you.

A. To me? Okay. They talked about -- They said that when, I think, Social Services had investigated the bruises and stuff, and they said the Webb story had been that Kevin had fallen out of a tree, and the girls both laughed and said: Believe me, if Kevin had even climbed a tree, he would would have been beaten with a railroad prop.

You know, they weren't allowed to climb trees. They said they weren't allowed to -- Let's see. I can remember a conversation where they described the sleeping arrangements at the Webb home and how Lisa made a point of telling us that the bedroom next to Barbara and Jarrett's was empty; and when we asked her why she thought that was so important, she wouldn't say, but she, you know, she made a point of pointing that out to us.

She talked about having to hold Tasha, a younger sister, down while the Webbs beat her, and she felt a lot of guilt for that. Let's see. Okay. That -- They were real open about that stuff from the very beginning, and then it was, I believe, in March, early March, when they began to make the allegations --

Or no, excuse me. Lisa made allegations against Jarrett Webb, the adoptive father. She said that he had sexually abused her. I think that was in January of '86.

Q. Okay. What can you specifically remember about what Lisa said in January of '86 about Jarrett?

A. She began talking about this by saying that he would beat them and often require them to strip naked, you know, while they were beat; and so Kathleen asked then if he ever had touched her sexually, and Lisa said that he had, quote, humped her, but, you know, had never -- There was never any intercourse.

Q. Did you pursue that by what she meant by that term?

A. Well, she described kind of a weird position that he had her lay in, and then she said then he would just lay on top of her.

Q. Did he have his clothes off when he did that?

A. I don't recall. I know Lisa's clothes were off some of the time, but I don't recall.

Q. Did she say that there was any penetration of any --

A. She said there was not. Lisa made it a *point* to let us know that she was a virgin; and she, you know, kept pushing that and pushing that throughout the next

few months.

Q. Okay. Then moving on in February and March of 1986, what conversations did you have either with Kathleen or directly with the Webb children about abuse in the home?

A. Let's see. Well, okay. Moving back to January, in January of '86, Lisa wanted to sneak some notes to her brother Robert who was attending Fort Calhoun School and to her sister Tasha who was attending Fort Calhoun Elementary School, and both these children were still in the Webb home.

So Lisa gave the notes to Kathleen, to Kathleen Sorensen her foster mother, and Kathleen gave the note for Robert to me which I passed on to my son, and then gave the note for Tasha to another friend's daughter to give to Tasha, and Robert apparently went straight to the office.

I don't know if he opened his note or not, but I know he went to the office or my son told me that he had gone to the office. And then the next day, Tasha told the girl on the bus, the school bus, that the school superintendent, Deward Finch, and the principal, Kent Miller, had come down to their house that evening, you know, the evening that Robert took the note to the office.

And I think It was shortly after that, that we got kind of suspicious, so we asked Lisa and Tracy if -- if they had ever made any allegations about the physical abuse to the teachers.

Tracy, I think, would have been in fourth grade at that time, and she said she had told her teacher, Janet Ernst (phonetic). You know, I don't know if she had shown her bruises or just told her about the abuse, but nothing was ever done.

And then, I don't -- Let's see. I think the next -- the next allegations -- Well, they were -- Lisa was very -- kind of a game player. She'd give you a little bit of information, and then she'd want you to ask questions and she'd say -- and Tracy was the same way.

They'd say -- Kathleen said: Well, do you think Finches -- Mr. Finch knew about this? And Tracy would say: Well, my Mom and Dad were in his office almost every day, and they'd make a lot of insinuations but not a lot of direct allegations.

Then on March 7th -- I made notes -- On March 7th of 1986, I had been up to Kathleen's, and Lisa asked me if I wanted to see -- I can't find it now -- Lisa had asked me if I wanted to see her -- or listen to her deposition that she had given in regard to -- to Gary Randall. Gary Randall was the Webbs' attorney.

Q. Uh-huh.

A. And she had given that in regards to the sexual abuse allegations against Jarrett Webb. So she read the deposition, and she had previously written a poem saying something. She had given the poem to Kathleen and myself and said: Read this.

And all I can remember from the poem was that it said: I am the actor and the actress, and we knew she wanted us to figure out something, but we couldn't figure out what she wanted us to figure out.

Well, then she began making statements like I can change the course of a lot of lives, and she could ruin a lot of people's lives if she talked, but she wasn't one to talk, but she still would drop hints. So when I asked her, this was March --

Q. March 7th, I think you said?

A. -- 7th, yeah. So when I asked her -- Okay -- what she meant, you know, by the fact that she could change the course of a lot of people's lives, she stated that Gary Randall's brother, Casey, was gay and that the reason that Gary Randall was Webbs' attorney was because he owed Larry King a favor because Larry King had gotten Casey off cocaine or something and -- Oh, I need to back up.

Q. Before you back up, how? Did you ask her how

she knew that, what the basis of that information was, first of all, about Casey?

A. Okay. Before she -- Before she brought this up before March 7th, there was a conversation about the Webbs' 25th Anniversary, and Lisa told us how -- how elegant it was, and how many people were invited, and how Barbara had received a diamond ring.

And they had gone on a cruise, and they had this big party, and she mentioned that Larry King had catered, you know, the party, and there were limousines, and at that time I -- the name Larry King was not familiar to me at all.

And when I asked her who he was, she said that he, you know, she mentioned Franklin Credit Union, and she said that he was a cousin of Barbara Webbs, and she and Tracy referred to him as either Uncle Larry or Mr. King.

And she talked about his extravagant lifestyle, and she said he entertained a lot of prominent people, but she didn't make any allegations at that time. That was the first that she brought up Larry King.

Q. And when do you think that was time-wise?

A. When? I would say probably sometime in February of '86.

Q. Okay.

A. It was before -- before the deposition was given.

Q. Okay.

A. And then on March 7th when she read the deposition, she began to talk about Casey Randall. And she said that -- She and Tracy both said they knew Casey, and I think it was at that time too, somewhere in that time period, that they expressed concern because they had seen Gary Randall, the attorney, driving in Blair.

They said he drove a little sports car; and they would see him, like, driving near the high school or driving by when they were on their way home from school. They said he never stopped, you know, never said anything, but they both took it as a threat.

They -- They mentioned Tiny Caldwell. They said he was a brother of Barbara Webb's who lived in Minneapolis. They didn't go any further than that. They mentioned Denise Mosley. They said Denise was a friend of Barbara Webb's, and she was a prostitute who had been beat up by her pimp and lived with the Webbs while she was recovering.

And I remember Kathleen, at the time, saying that that didn't fit her perception of the Webbs' type of friends, you know, that they would have.

They mentioned their grand -- exuse me --

Barbara Webb's grandmother, Anna May Partridge, and they said that she had run a home for boys many years ago on the Webb property.

And I remember there had been an article in The World-Herald back in 1984 about the Webbs, and it did mention the fact that Barbara Webb's grandmother had run this home on the Webb property, an adjacent property. Apparently, it was a big farm.

And they mentioned Helen Caldwell, Barbara Webb's mother. They said she was a former prostitute. They mentioned Shawn Caldwell, Barbara Webb's nephew, and when Kathleen asked why they were mentioning him, Lisa said: Well, he had lived with them for a while, and he kept Satanic paraphernalia in his bedroom at the Webb home while he lived with them. But Lisa acted like she didn't, you know, know anything about his involvement, just that she had found Satanic paraphernalia in his bedroom.

Q. What did Lisa say was the basis of her knowledge about the mother -- or the woman being the prostitute? Did you ask her about that?

A. We did. I can't remember what the basis was. She mentioned that Helen lived in North Hampton Apartments, which is located on 52nd and Redick; and, apparently, Helen spent quite a bit of time at the Webb

home, but she did not -- I don't recall what she said the basis was for that.

Q. In April then of 1986, I think that you indicated that you and Kathleen had some contact with a Greg Hoffman; do you recall that?

A. Yes. That was April -- April of -- No. Wait a minute. April of '86. Okay. Yeah. April 11th of '86.

Q. What was that about? What took place at that conversation?

A. Well, the reason we went down there was because --

Q. Who is Greg Hoffman?

A. Greg Hoffman is a -- I don't know if he's a detective. I think he was a sergeant at the time with an organized crime intelligence unit at the Omaha Police Department.

And we had gone down there in connection with the Richard Chadek murder, the little boy that was kidnapped from the bank on, I'm not sure, somewhere in South Omaha, and we knew that the investigation had been centered around the Fort Calhoun area.

The policeman had been to the restaurants in Fort Calhoun asking what had been served on Easter Sunday, apparently, to compare it with what was in his stomach at the time.

And my brother worked for the geography laboratory at UNO at the time, and he received a request for aerial maps of Washington County from the river five miles west. And we knew at the time that, you know, the investigation had been centered around Fort Calhoun, and we felt that the description of the abductor matched the description of a man that -- that we had heard about in Herman, Nebraska.

So that's why we originally approached Greg Hoffman. And while we were there, we told him about the allegations that the girls had been making about Larry King.

Q. And generally, can you just summarize the sort of things that you told Hoffman at that time?

A. Well, by that time the girls had talked about girls being used from Girls Club for purposes of prostitution and pornography, and at the time -- at the time that the girls told us that, I said: Wait a minute. You know, if Larry King is gay, why would he want to use girls from Girls Club. And simultaneously both girls said: He got the boys from Boys Town. And --

Q. Let me back up. This would have been sometime either in March or --

A. This would have been back in March.

Q. March and April of '86 that you had these

conversations?

A. Right. Right.

Q. Go ahead and tell again what the girls said in those conversations.

A. Okay. They talked about the girls -- about girls from Girls Club being used. They -- When they mentioned Boys Town, Kathleen and I just kind of looked at each other like, oh, my God. And I didn't, you know, I didn't believe them.

And I said: Well, how, you know, how is he going to get boys from Boys Town? And Lisa said he would use boys who were seniors and were getting jobs, and he would go through, I think the -- Now, she didn't say this. Let me see. What did she say.

Q. Tell us what you remember she said.

A. That -- I can't remember if she said he went to the job placement office there or not, but he would hire boys from Boys Town to work either for his catering firm or for his lawn service, and those were the boys, you know, some of those boys were the ones that he used, you know, as male prostitutes. Okay.

Q. And that information you related to Hoffman?

A. Yes.

Q. On March 11th?

A. Uh-huh. April 11th.

Q. April 11th, I'm sorry. Can you think of any other statements that the two girls made to you or to Kathleen respecting either the Girls Club or respecting Boys Town?

A. Okay. After the girls made the allegations about boys from Boys Town, Kathleen contacted a friend of hers who worked at Boys Town by the name of Julie Walters, and Julie brought some yearbooks out; and we met, Kathleen myself, Julie Walters and Lisa and Tracy, met in the basement of our church in Fort Calhoun.

And Julie brought some yearbooks; and they pointed out, I think, like three to four pictures that they said had been, you know, involved in Larry King's businesses and involved in the prostitution. And Julie later was able to verify that these boys had worked for Larry King in some capacity.

Q. Okay. Let me interrupt you for a minute. First of all, when did that take place that Julie brought out the yearbook and --

A. I don't have a date on that.

Q. Would it have been after your April 11th meeting with Hoffman or before?

A. I can't -- I can't recall.

Q. Do you have any idea? Like, was it within months either way? Or you just -- If you can't remember,

you can't remember.

A. It would have been, you know, shortly before or shortly after, but I can't be certain on that.

Q. Okay. Then was there any other discussion -- What else happened at that meeting, that meeting you haven't told us about?

A. With Greg Hoffman?

Q. No.

A. Oh, with Julie Walters?

Q. When Julie Walters brought the yearbook out.

A. Julie took a lot of notes. I didn't take any notes. All that I can really remember being said was Lisa -- and Lisa had already talked about being flown to Washington, D.C., Chicago and New York for purposes of prostitution.

Q. When did Lisa tell about that?

A. I don't have an exact date.

Q. Would it have been like in January, February, and March?

A. No. It would have been March because --

Q. In reference to your March 7th meeting and the --

A. It was after that.

Q. Okay. Was it prior to the April 11th meeting with Hoffman?

A. I'm not sure.

Q. In any event, then sometime after March 7th of 1986, Lisa made these statements about traveling to other parts of the country?

A. Uh-huh.

Q. What did she say that you can remember?

A. Well, when she first talked about traveling, she said that she was often let out of school by her parents to travel with Larry King to baby-sit for Prince. Prince was King's -- I think he was a five-year-old at that time -- Larry King's son. And then later she said, you know, that she was used as a prostitute at some of these parties that took place in these different cities.

Q. Specifically, what did she say she did?

A. She said -- I mean, she kept insisting that she was still a virgin. She said that men would pay up to a thousand dollars to do everything with her but have intercourse. She didn't -- She was very uncomfortable talking about it and she didn't make any specific -- She didn't tell us specifically what they had done with her, but she made it very clear that we know, you know, that she was still a virgin.

I can remember Lisa talking about credit cards -- people that came to the parties having to use some type of a credit card that they would have to stick in a

slot or some type of machine or something in order to gain entry to the parties.

When we asked her how -- how the people at the parties would get access to the kids, she said they would come up and hand the child $50 or $100 or whatever, and then the child would go off to the bedroom with the people. But then later she said they were not allowed to keep the money, and I don't know -- I don't remember --

Q. Did she say what they did with the money?

A. I don't recall.

Q. Did she know any of the other children who were at these parties?

A. Yes.

Q. And who did she say were some of the other children?

A. I don't know that she named -- The only name I can remember Lisa using was a boy named Brent, and she didn't give a last name, and she said that he was transferred to another city because he wanted out of the group.

And I said: What do you mean transferred, Lisa? And she said: Well, he just flew him to a different city. And I said: Well, you know, you can't drag a kid unwillingly on to a plane. And she said: No, no, no. Mr. King never used commercial planes, you know,

he always used private jets.

And she didn't -- I don't believe she told us which city, and like I said, she didn't give a last name.

Q. How did she say they -- Who traveled? Did Lisa say who traveled with them on these trips?

A. The only ones I can remember Lisa mentioning were Larry King. I'm not sure if she said if Alice went, his wife went along or not, and I'm assuming that Prince went along if, in fact, Lisa did baby-sit.

Q. What was the next contact that you had either with Kathleen or with any of the Webb children in the late spring or summer of 1986?

A. After what?

Q. After April. After -- We've come through approximately April 11th.

A. Okay. I don't recall.

Q. Let me go back for a minute. You mentioned earlier, Lisa referred to the Webbs being in Mr. Finch's office.

A. Uh-huh.

Q. Again, state what was Mr. Finch's title at that time.

A. He was the superintendent of the Fort Calhoun school system.

Q. And what specifically did she say about that?

A. It was actually Tracy who talked more before that, and she said that Barbara and Jarrett Webb were up there, I think, Tracy said daily. And I do know from other children that the Webbs were in that office on a regular basis, but I don't, you know, I don't know if it was daily or not.

Tracy also mentioned that Barb Webb often carried a Gucci bag into Mr. Finch's office. And when Kathleen tried to ask her if, you know, she was trying to say something, what was in the bag, she said, well, it was about this big, you know, and she said you could have fit anything in there.

Kathleen and I both got the impression, and this is around the same time, that the girls had been talking about pornography. They talked about UPS delivering frequent -- making frequent deliveries of Manila envelopes, and the girls wanted us to believe that they were pornography, but they never really came out and said that.

Q. Did they ever say that they saw the contents of the envelopes or anything like that?

A. No. I can remember Kathleen asking what was in it and Lisa -- Oh, she said: What makes you think it was pornography? And Lisa said: Barbara always took it directly to her room. And I said: Well, how do you know

it wasn't a lamp, you know, or something that she was having delivered.

And she said: Believe me, if it was anything material, she would have shown us right away. You know, because Barb Webb, they said, was very, very into, you know, nice material things, and but they never to my knowledge said that they had seen, you know, what were in these envelopes.

Q. And referring to your notes, can you remember any other contacts or visits that you had either with the Webb children or with Kathleen respecting them during the remainder of 1986?

A. Okay. Sometime in early 1986, Kathleen and I had taken the girls to McDonalds for hamburgers; and Lisa had maintained from the very beginning, you know, this isn't even worth pursuing. Larry King has too much power. You know, it will be my word against his. He knows a lot of influential people, and, you know, she maintained that all, you know, throughout everything that she had talked about.

Well, this day at McDonalds she mentioned that everything was political, and I said: What do you mean political? And she said: Well, it just goes high up. She said: Republican party. And I said: What are you trying to say? And she said: Well, I'm just saying, you

know, that he has a lot of political connections and nothing will ever happen.

So I said: Well, you know, what do you mean? Give me a name. And she refused to give a name at that point, and she said: Well, just think of somebody in the Republican party. And I'm not too into politics; and at that time, I think, Willy Thiessen was running for something so I said: Okay. Willy Thiessen. And she said: Yeah, he's involved.

Well, I wasn't too sure I believed that. You know, I thought, you know, I gave her the answer on that one. And I said -- I said: I don't think so, Lisa. And I said -- She said: Well, it goes even higher than that. And I said: Well, how high does it go? And she said: Well, let's just say I've met George Bush. And Tracy piped in with: And let's just say he likes little boys. And remember this is back in 1986. I think Bush was vice president at that point.

Q. Did you pursue that with them then --

A. Lisa said she had met him at a party in Washington, D.C., and Tracy -- Tracy was the type she'd give a little bit of information and then clam up, and you could tell that she wished, you know, she had never said it. All I can remember is that Lisa said she had met him at a party.

Q. Can you remember anything more specifically that she said in that regard or --

A. You know, I don't think we pursued it because I don't think we believed it at that point. And I remember thinking, you know, thinking later: Well, maybe she meant somebody who was dressed up like George Bush; and but, no, we never did pursue that.

Q. Okay. Again, and I want to try to keep it chronologically so that we can try to keep it in some framework.

Moving on through the remainder of 1986, can you recall any other discussions you had either with Kathleen or with any of the Webb children about any of these matters?

A. Okay. That same day at -- that we had gone to McDonalds, Tracy talked about a house that Shirley Jordan owned. Now, Shirley Jordan was a partner of Larry King's in Cleopatra's, and Tracy talked about a house that she owned on, I think, it was either 16th or 17th and Wirt.

It doesn't fit in the neighborhood at all. It's a very elegant Spanish-style home that takes up like half a block, and Tracy said that's where they take the little boys. And Tracy also said, I believe it was that same day, that Larry King had -- or excuse me, she didn't say Larry King. She said Cleopatra's had hidden cameras.

And I remember at that time, Cleopatra's was a nightclub on -- It's the old Masters nightclub on 60th and Ames, and they did have a teen dance every Thursday night.

And when I said to Tracy, you know: Did he tape anything at the teen dances? You know, again she said: That's all I'm going to say. Tracy was the type that would make a point but wouldn't elaborate on it.

Q. Moving on then to February of 1987, did you have a meeting with Father Val Peters at Boys Town regarding some of these matters?

A. Yes. But can we back up to April?

Q. Sure.

A. I'm not sure at some time -- I'm not sure of the exact date. I'd have to say before June of '86, sometime between April and June of '86. Kathy Urick (phonetic), who was a mother from Fort Calhoun, she had children who went to Fort Calhoun schools, and, I believe Vicky Gautreau, who is G-a-u-t-r-e-a-u, who is also from Fort Calhoun, and myself met with Jim Avery from the state patrol and Lieutenant Gallardo from the state patrol. And Kathy Urick wanted to talk to them about some concerns she had involving drugs in Fort Calhoun.

The nun at the rectory at the Catholic church had seen children going to a place of business next to

the rectory. She said they would go in one door and come right back out, you know, within a few minutes. And, I mean, you know, there was a definite drug problem at the high school at that point, and she wanted to talk with the state patrol investigators.

So after we talked with them, we went out to the parking lot, and we had discussed whether we should tell them about the King allegations or not, and we finally decided why not. And we walked back in and spoke with both Jim Avery and Lieutenant Gallardo and briefly told them about the allegations that had been made, and the allegations about George Bush had been made at that time.

Q. Did you tell them about that?

A. Yes.

Q. And this was, approximately, when in '86?

A. I know it was before June of '86, but sometime between April and June of 1986.

Q. Okay. Then getting into 1987, tell us about your meeting with Father Peters.

A. Okay. If we can back up again to December 5th of 1986, I attended a juvenile justice conference in Lincoln, and John Evans from the FBI spoke at that conference on the Rulo murders, and he had mentioned that the FBI had located three witches covens during the

investigation of the Chadek murder, and he went quite extensively into the Rulo investigation.

Anyway, I approached him after the meeting and told him about the allegations, you know, because nobody else seemed to be pursuing it, and again he just kind of shook his head and said that there was nothing they could do unless the girls were willing to come forward.

Okay. Then in -- Yes, in February of '87, I met with Father Val Peter to request the use of a meeting room at Boys Town, and I brought up, you know, the allegations that the Webb girls had made, and he kind of brushed over it and said: Well, we're conducting our own investigation on that.

And the other woman with me was Susan Streefe (phonetic) from Lincoln. She now lives in Chicago. But he had made the comment: Well, don't take this to, you know, the Omaha Police Department because we're not sure who we can trust there.

Q. Did he elaborate any on that?

A. No.

Q. Did -- Your meeting in February of '87, did Father Peters say anything about what Boys Town was doing or any investigation or anything in response?

A. No. He just said that they were doing their own private investigation.

Q. I think at this time chronologically I'd like to have you -- I'd like to talk a little bit about Shawneta Moore, and let me ask you: When or where did you first meet Shawneta Moore?

A. Okay. I was working at Uta Halee, and I started there in June -- Excuse me. I started there in May of 1986, and she was admitted there as a patient or a resident in June of 1986.

Q. And what is Uta Halee?

A. Uta Halee is a residential psychiatric treatment center for adolescent girls.

Q. And where is it located?

A. 10625 Calhoun Road in Omaha.

Q. Is it in Douglas County or Washington County?

A. It's Douglas County, just on the edge of the city limits.

Q. And what were your duties? What type of work did you do at Uta Halee?

A. Well, I was a resident advisor, and we had to admit the girls and administer treatment plans. Each girl was given a specific treatment plan. We had to talk with the girls. We pretty much worked with them on a one-to-one basis and just kind of oversaw their activities. We served as role models, took them to activities, different things like that.

Q. Okay. Tell us then again, when is the first time that you recall having any contact with Shawneta Moore?

A. The day that she was admitted, I had been asked to work on the intake unit, which wasn't my usual unit, and on the intake unit it's just a small apartment type thing, a couch and a chair and TV and then a small bedroom, and we work one to one with the girls as they're admitted.

And I was asking Shawneta, you know, what she did in her spare time, what she liked to do, and she was 12 years old. And first she said: Well, I just go to the bar. And I said: You're 12 and you go to the bar? And she said: Yeah. And I said: Well, don't you have any other activities that you do or things that you're involved in?

And she said: Well, sometimes I go to Girls Club. I said: Do you happen to know Lisa and Tracy Webb? And she said, yes, that she knew Tracy. And I said, without getting into any specific allegations, I said: Well, Lisa and Tracy have both told me about some pretty weird things going on at Girls Club.

And Shawneta was crocheting a potholder at that time and, you know, she was on her first chain, and she got really nervous and this chain ended up to be like 18

feet long. I mean, she just kept going faster and faster and kept talking faster and faster.

And finally without mentioning any names, she said that she had been involved in a prostitution and pornography ring and that when she had tried to get out, you know, told some friends that she wanted out, that her mother was raped. And the date she gave me was May 31st. I can remember that because it was my birthday, but I don't --

Q. May 31st of what year?

A. I don't recall. I'm assuming 1985.

Q. Okay.

A. But it could have been 1984, and but she said -- I asked if her mother had reported the rape, and she said, yes. And Shawneta said that the man who raped her mother had come into the house and specifically asked for Shawneta, and Shawneta wasn't there, and he raped her mother. But he had mentioned her name when he came in.

Q. And what else did she say about that incident in which her mother was raped?

A. Just that she felt it was retaliation for her trying to get out of this group.

Q. Why did she think that?

A. I guess because the guy had mentioned her name.

Q. Okay. When was the next significant contact

that you had with Shawneta Moore at Uta Halee?

A. Oh, I had contact with her on and off the whole time I was there, and she -- You know, after she had spoken about the pornography ring, she acted very, very frightened, very depressed.

She would -- I would try to get her, you know, to be more specific and, you know, to give more information, and she would say, you know: It's not worth it; they have too much power; you're going to get hurt; you're in danger; you know, you're in danger for even knowing about this. And she never really got any more specific, I mean, she never gave any names at that point.

Q. When she said "they," she didn't name anybody; is that correct?

A. Huh-uh. She did -- She did tell me that the name of the rapist was James Broom, I believe.

Q. Later on, was she more specific about naming names as to who she was referring to?

A. No. After she was discharged from Uta Halee, I think it was in May of '88, I began receiving phone calls from her home in Omaha; and she would insinuate a lot about Larry King; but when I would ask her if she knew him, she would say no.

She would insinuate knowing things about Fort Calhoun, but when I would try to, you know, pin her down,

she wouldn't elaborate. And throughout this whole time, I, you know, I continued to encourage her to talk to someone in law enforcement, and she kept saying I can't. You know, she'd be in too much danger if she did.

One thing I had forgotten to mention, on July 4th of '86, we were taking the girls to the fireworks program in Blair, and we were in the van and Shawneta was in back. I was in the rider seat, you know, in the front; and as we drove by the Webbs' home on the highway, I turned around to see what she was doing; and she had crouched way down in the seat and was crying.

When I asked her, you know, if it had any significance where she was, she said no; and she remained pretty despondent, I think, throughout the whole evening.

Q. Okay. Did you have any other -- What happened to Shawneta? How long was she in Uta Halee; do you recall?

A. She was admitted in June of '86, and I'm not sure when she was discharged.

Q. And at some time in there, your employment with Uta Halee was terminated; is that correct?

A. Yes, in March of '87.

Q. After your termination of your employment, did you have contact with Shawneta in 1987 or 1988?

A. She started to call. I can remember she

started to call me in May of '88.

Q. What sort of things did she say to you or can you tell us about those conversations?

A. Those were the conversations I just spoke about.

Q. Okay.

A. With references to Larry King and Fort Calhoun but nothing specific.

Q. I want to digress perhaps a little, but it's chronologically consistent. In May of 1988, I think, you attended a conference of some sort down in Kansas City; is that correct?

A. Uh-huh.

Q. And could you tell us what that conference was?

A. It was the Lost Child Network Conference, and I spoke with Susan Streefe from Lincoln. They had a panel that we spoke on ritual abuse of children, and we just -- she spoke -- Her daughter had been abused at a day-care center in Chicago, and so we spoke about ritual abuse. I believe that was a two-day conference.

Q. And I believe you had some conversation with a -- either a FBI agent or a detective; is that --

A. Her name was Lynn Cunningham, and she was with the organized crime unit with the Kansas City Police Department.

Q. And what was the nature of that conversation that you had with Detective Cunningham?

A. I asked her if she had heard, if they had heard anything in Kansas City about Larry King, and she made a comment about: When are you guys up there in Nebraska going to do something about him?

But she was very evasive, and I got the idea that she was working undercover, you know, and didn't want to share a lot. She didn't really elaborate on anything she knew, but it was apparent that she did know who I was talking about.

Q. Can you recall anything else about that conversation?

A. Not without looking at my notes.

Q. Okay. Sometime, I take it, during 1988 after May when you had these phone calls, did Shawneta tell you about cult activity and things like that that she had observed?

A. Not to my -- Not to me. Well, I take that back.

Q. Did she say --

A. I take that back. On, let's see, it would have been sometime in June of '88 I received a phone call from Shawneta. She had asked me to meet with her school counselor, Franklin Thompson (phonetic) at -- I can't

remember the specialized -- the specialized school they have. ISU or something on 16th and Martha, and she said she had been talking with him about allegations she had made about Larry King, and she wanted me to meet with him.

So we made arrangements to meet with him; and the night before, she called and said that she couldn't make it; she was too tired. She sounded real despondent, and I was afraid she had taken sleeping pills. She sounded very afraid; and so anyway, she said: I just can't go through with it.

So I called him at home, Franklin Thompson at home, and he suggested I go pick her up, and then meet with him in the morning. So I went and got a friend and went down and picked her up, and on the way home -- excuse me -- after we got home, she made comments about -- and she still wasn't saying who -- she said: Well, they really messed with our minds. And I said: What do you mean? And she said: Well, they'd show us pictures of mutilated bodies and say this is what's going to happen to you.

And let's see. I can't remember -- I can't remember if she mentioned cult activity at that time or not.

Q. Do you think at a later time she mentioned

anything to you about cult activity?

A. I can't recall.

Q. When do you recall about a hospitalization of hers at Richard Young? When did that take place; do you recall?

A. I recall it, but I'm not supposed to talk about it, but I will anyway.

Q. Well --

A. I -- Mr. Thompson and I ended up admitting her the day that we met with him at his office. She threatened to go home and get a gun and kill herself. And she had made the comment the night before that it would be easier for her -- It would be less painful for her to kill herself because "they" would torture her, and she said at least if I kill myself, I'm not going to suffer. So she was admitted sometime in June of '88.

The reason I'm not supposed to say that is because I was employed at Richard Young at the time, and we're not supposed to talk about patients because of confidentiality, but I don't think that applies when there's an investigation.

Q. Well, this is confidential and anything you say in here is confidential. Tell us a little bit about Franklin Thompson again, exactly what his title was and what his relationship was.

A. He was the counselor at this school, and I wasn't fully comfortable with him. He was another one who said: Don't go to the police, and I got the impression that he didn't trust the Omaha Police Department, but I just wasn't comfortable with him. And I can't put my finger on why.

But apparently, Shawneta had confided everything in him, you know, more than she had confided in me. She mentioned Larry King's name to him, and he didn't say exactly what she said, but it was pretty apparent that he knew quite a bit about what, you know, different things she had talked about.

MR. VAN PELT: I want to stop and go off the record for a minute.

(Discussion had off the record, and the proceedings adjourned at 4:55 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
) ss
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS)

I, Antonette Schneckenberger, a Court Reporter and General Notary Public within and for the State of Nebraska, do hereby certify that there came before me on the 19th day of March, 1990, at 4:05 p.m., Kirstin Hallberg, who was duly sworn to testify the truth in relation to the matters in controversy between the parties hereto;

That said grand jury proceedings was taken in stenotype by me at the time and place hereinbefore set forth and was thereafter reduced to typewritten form under my supervision by means of computer-aided transcription, and that the same is a true and correct transcript of my stenotype notes then and there taken;

I further certify that I am not employed by, related to, nor of counsel for any of the parties herein, nor otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have placed my hand and notarial seal this 1st day of October, 1990.

GENERAL NOTARY PUBLIC