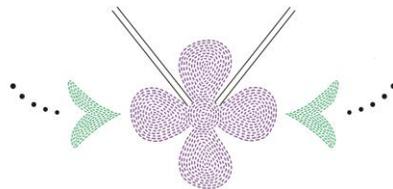


National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



Enquête nationale
sur les femmes et les filles
autochtones disparues et assassinées

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process – Part I
Public Hearings
Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel – Elmbridge Room
Metro Vancouver, British Columbia**



Publication Ban

Saturday April 7, 2018

**Public Volume 107:
Maggy (Margaret) Gisle**

**Heard by Chief Commissioner Marion Buller
Commission Counsel: Wendy van Tongeren**

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II

Publication Ban

A ban on publication is in effect on the name of the young woman spoken about in the testimony of Maggy (Margaret) Gisle, as well as anything that would tend to identify this young woman.

This ban on publication was ordered by Commissioner Brian Eyolfson on August 22, 2018 pursuant to Rule 55 of the Commission's *Legal Path: Rules of Respectful Practice*.

III

APPEARANCES

Assembly of First Nations	Jeremy Kolodziej (Legal counsel)
Government of British Columbia	Leah Greathead (Legal Counsel)
Government of Canada	Anne McConville (Legal Counsel)
Heiltsuk First Nation	Non-Appearence
Northwest Indigenous Council Society	Non-Appearence
Our Place - Ray Cam Co-operative Centre	Non-Appearence
Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada	Non-Appearence
Vancouver Sex Workers' Rights Collective	Non-Appearence
Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak / Women of the Métis Nation	Non-Appearence

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Registrar: Bryan Zandberg	

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LIST OF EXHIBITS

NO.	DESCRIPTION	PAGE
Witnesses: Maggy (Margaret) Gisle Exhibits (code: P01P15P0406)		
1	Folder containing four digital images displayed during the public testimony of the witness	

1 Vancouver, British Columbia

2 --- Upon commencing on Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 1:36 p.m.

3 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Hello? Hello?

4 Hello?

5 Good afternoon, Madam Commissioner. Good
6 afternoon everybody. Welcome to the afternoon session
7 here. It's April 7th, 2018, and this is the first session
8 in the afternoon at the Sheraton in Richmond, British
9 Columbia. And I have the honour to be the Commission
10 counsel in the presentation of the evidence of Maggy Gisle.
11 That's G-I-S-L-E.

12 And I apologize. I am not sure if you
13 wanted to swear on the Bible or affirm with the eagle
14 feather.

15 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Oh, no. I'll
16 do an eagle feather. Thank you very much.

17 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Okay. So Madam
18 Registrar?

19 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Maggy, do
20 you promise to tell your truth in a good way this
21 afternoon?

22 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yes, I do.

23 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Thank
24 you.

25 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Okay. So Maggy, I

1 know that you've been friends with people in this room for
2 30-40 years plus, and I've only known you since -- well,
3 probably the spring of last year.

4 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** M'hm.

5 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** And -- but I feel
6 like I've known you for a long time. You've -- it's been a
7 wonderful experience.

8 And I want to start off by thanking you for
9 staying in touch with the Inquiry, and also helping us
10 tremendously because you're so familiar with the Downtown
11 East Side, and Vancouver and the services that are provided
12 there, and so it helped us develop some of the services
13 that we're presenting during this week and the next few
14 weeks.

15 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Statement
16 takers.

17 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Yes.

18 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yeah, that too?

19 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Yes. So thank you.
20 You're one of a core group of women who have played a very
21 significant role.

22 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Thank you.

23 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Okay.

24 So -- so I happen to know because I've been
25 hanging out with you for a while that you were born on

1 June 28th, 1965.

2 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Yes.

3 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: And you're here to
4 basically tell us about your life.

5 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Yes.

6 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: And you know that
7 there is a number of objectives, and one of them has to do
8 -- has to do with you eventually shaving your head at the
9 end of this, which is a healing process for you, to tell
10 your story as part of your healing?

11 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Yes.

12 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: And the other one
13 relates to the Commissioner, that fine woman who's across
14 from us.

15 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Yes.

16 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: She has a job with
17 the fellow commissioners. And -- and Chief
18 Commissioner Buller also resides in British Columbia, as do
19 I and you, and you're a B.C. girl.

20 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Yes.

21 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: So the question is,
22 of the safety net, like the protectors, whose job it is to
23 develop policies, legislation, rules, resources so that
24 Indigenous women and girls stay safe in British Columbia --

25 -

1 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** M'hm.

2 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** --- in that
3 experience -- in the experiences you've had that you can
4 remember from 1965, when you tell your story, please tell
5 us about your experiences with the agencies as well.

6 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Both my parents
7 are residential school survivors, my birth parents.

8 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** So you're going to
9 start now?

10 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** But can we
11 start with Joanne?

12 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** No. Absolutely.

13 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Okay.

14 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** I'm just telling
15 you that ---

16 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Okay. Yeah,
17 I'm hearing you.

18 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Yes. So ---

19 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yeah.

20 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** --- tell your
21 truth.

22 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Understood.

23 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** I'm going to get
24 out of your way.

25 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yes.

1 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: I'm going to ---

2 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Okay.

3 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: --- you know ---

4 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Okay.

5 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: --- and you're
6 going to have the floor for sure.

7 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Okay.

8 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: So I am just doing
9 a little introduction.

10 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Okay.

11 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: But I'll end there
12 ---

13 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Okay.

14 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: --- and you start
15 with the story of your life.

16 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Okay.

17 MS. WENDY van TONGEREN: Okay. Thank you.

18 MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE: Okay. My name
19 is Margaret Jacqueline Gisle. I was born June 28th, 1965.
20 I have an identical twin sister. We're less than three
21 minutes apart. I am Nisga'a Tlingit. I'm from the Nass
22 River.

23 Both my parents, my birth parents, Johnny
24 Lincoln, Sr., and Annie Lincoln, were residential school
25 survivors from a very, very young age, before kindergarten,

1 until Grade 13 here on the Coast. I don't know which ones.
2 I know that they ended up -- in the end years that they
3 ended up in Alert Bay.

4 So I was born Jacqueline Joyce Lincoln. My
5 twin sister was born Mercy Maureen Lincoln. It's not known
6 100 percent how many brothers and sisters I have. At one
7 time, we thought it was 27, but now, talking with my other
8 brothers and sisters, that number is up to 44.

9 And all of my brothers and sisters, we all
10 have the same father. My dad was a -- is a horrible
11 pedophile. He's still alive.

12 I'm here today because I come from such
13 brokenness, I come from such a horrible place, and the
14 people that were supposed to take care of me abused me,
15 hurt me or sent me back to the abuse I came from.

16 My mom went into labour with us, and when
17 she found out -- no, she didn't go into labour with us. My
18 mom, Annie Lincoln, when she found out she was pregnant
19 with twins, tried to abort me and my twin sister.

20 I weighed 3 pounds and 11 ounces. I mean,
21 3 pounds, 11 ounces, and my sister weighed three pounds,
22 three-and-a-half-ounces. They flew her from Prince Rupert
23 to Vancouver, and she was born in Grace Hospital -- we were
24 born in Grace Hospital. It's the reason why we're still
25 alive because Grace Hospital today is the children's

1 hospital.

2 We spent many months in incubators, but they
3 gave us back to our mom and our dad after what she had
4 done, knowing that my dad was a horrible pedophile. They
5 kept giving us back. Taking us away, put us in foster care
6 for a couple of months, and then one -- either our mom or
7 our dad would come and get us and take us away and run away
8 to an auntie, and then they would just -- nobody would come
9 and look for us.

10 I'm here today because so many people have
11 harmed me, and I was so brutalized that I didn't care about
12 myself. I begged to die. I didn't want to be here.

13 And I -- and I believed I was incredibly
14 ugly. I believed I was -- like I believed I was like a
15 freak.

16 My dad penetrated me before I was 6 months
17 old. I'm deformed in the female area because I have my
18 hymen still intact sticking out of my privates and they
19 look like these little soft fingers like inside of your
20 mouths.

21 I have what's called a double-horned uterus,
22 and there is a channel on this side where you can see my
23 dad and uncle's penises went in inside me on both sides of
24 my uterus, and it's called a double-horned uterus from
25 abuse. I was sexually abused from 6 months old until I was

1 3 years old by my dad, by his friends, by my uncles.

2 I suffered from malnutrition. I had my feet
3 crushed with a hammer by my dad because I was less than
4 3 years old and I couldn't carry a Christmas tree out of
5 the bush. And my twin sister, she got a hammer smashed
6 into her head because she couldn't carry a Christmas tree
7 out of the bush.

8 I remember -- my first memories are watching
9 my baby brother, Jessie, die of hypothermia when I was
10 3 years old. It was the third time that my birth mom had
11 taken us into the bush and left us there.

12 And what would happen is that our dad would
13 be out fishing, weeks of fishing, and my mom would have her
14 kids, and she knew he was coming back. So she would take
15 all her kids, and then by this point she had nine children
16 and two had passed away at the hands of our dad and our
17 uncle.

18 I have an older set of twin -- one girl and
19 one boy, 2 years, so I would have been a year-and-a-half
20 old when they were killed. And they were killed up in the
21 bushes at the hands of my dad, and I am not sure who else
22 was there.

23 But -- so my mom, when she knew he was
24 coming in, she would run with her kids and she would take
25 them to aunts, she would take them to uncles, she would

1 take them to friends. But she wanted to drink when she got
2 left with kids and she didn't want to bring them home
3 because she just wanted to drink. She would take us up
4 into the bush and leave us there because it was better for
5 us to die at the elements than to be brutalized at the
6 hands of my dad.

7 We were sodomized, we were raped, we were
8 beaten. I remember a room -- our house on the reserve had
9 wood floors. We had no walls. We had these sheets that
10 were pinned up that made the rooms, and there was a pot
11 belly stove. I remember drinking out of the crib out of a
12 big huge bottle of wine because I knew my dad was coming.

13 My memories are -- are graphic. I have like
14 an incredible memory, and...

15 My -- my brother, I don't know why he was on
16 the floor. All he had was a diaper on. He was less than a
17 year old. He was on the floor right there, and I was up on
18 a table that was about this high, and it was a little bit
19 smaller than that there.

20 And me and my twin sister, we had these
21 cloth diapers on too, but we were 3 years old. And I was
22 on the left and my twin sister was on the right. And there
23 was a bucket of water.

24 And I can see my baby brother, his little
25 arms and little legs, screaming and crying, and he's red.

1 And I drift off and I can't reach him because it's so cold.
2 My ass is stuck to the table. I'm literally -- the diaper
3 is frozen to the table because it's leaking from the
4 bucket.

5 And this is the third time my mom's left us,
6 and this is the first time someone died. And I watched my
7 baby brother die.

8 And I come to. I can see the window beside
9 the door where you come into the cabin, and the door to the
10 cabin keeps opening and closing. I can see the reeds of
11 grass coming up through the floorboards, and I can smell
12 the earth. I can hear the wind.

13 And I'm trying to huddle with my sister, but
14 I keep falling asleep. And I can see my baby brother
15 crying. And I -- I wake up and I look for him, and he's
16 really crying now. He's blue in the face, blue around the
17 lips, and his chest is red, and his hands are blue, and his
18 feet are blue, and he is just screaming, screaming and
19 crying. And I can't reach him. I can't get him to me. I
20 can't keep him warm.

21 And I fall asleep again. I wake up and I
22 look down for my brother. He's not moving. He's spread-
23 eagled and face turned away from me. And I don't know what
24 to do. My sister won't wake up.

25 And I'm there, and I look out the door, and

1 all of a sudden, the door opens, and I see this massive
2 figure, and it was a green parka and he had red curly hair
3 and he had a big huge green backpack on his back and he was
4 a really tall man.

5 And he came in, and I watched him scoop up
6 my baby brother. And he took off his backpack and he took
7 off his shirt and he wrapped my baby brother up in his wool
8 shirt and he laid him down. And he checked on me and Lisa,
9 and he wrapped us -- he took stuff out of that backpack and
10 he wrapped us up.

11 And he put me on the left side and he put my
12 twin sister on the right side, and he stuffed us inside
13 this backpack. So I looked over this shoulder, my twin
14 sister looked over this shoulder, and he carried my baby
15 brother. And all the way down, out of this bush, I was
16 overlooking at my dead brother's face and I could see the
17 bushes bobbing up and down, and the path, and smelling the
18 grass and everything.

19 I don't know, somewhere during the journey I
20 must have fallen asleep. I think it was because I closed
21 my eyes and I didn't want to look at my baby brother.

22 He took us to the hospital. They took us.
23 My parents have never done time for what they did to my
24 baby brother.

25 That was the last time I was taken away. I

1 was malnourished, I was underweight, so was my twin sister.
2 I spoke Nisga'a Tlingit. I didn't speak much English.

3 And the system, they took us away the last
4 time. We went to a different foster home for unadoptable
5 children from 3 years old to 6 years old, because my twin
6 sister and I were so terrified of the dark. We'd been
7 thrown in blackberry bushes, I mean, like -- I mean, just
8 treated horrendously, absolutely horrendously as children,
9 as babies by the people that should protect us.

10 Jessie has a voice. Jessie had a right to
11 be here. If they'd have taken us away the first time, he'd
12 still be here. That's who failed us.

13 But they failed us again. At three-
14 and-a-half years old we were in a special foster home for
15 unadoptable children because my twin sister and I had so
16 many fears and we talked in our own native language and we
17 always had to be touching each other.

18 And were adopted by Carl and Ingrid Gisle,
19 Norwegians. We were taken from Prince Rupert, flown to
20 Powell River and flown -- I mean, flown to Vancouver and
21 then flown to Powell River where I met my brother, Patrick,
22 my sister Ellen. Later on, I met my brother Pierre.

23 But I remember that plane ride and I
24 remember looking at my brother, blonde hair and blue eyes,
25 and I never seen white skin before. He -- I thought he was

1 beautiful. I just -- I was just -- he was like a -- like -
2 - I don't know, I didn't think he was real. I mean, I kept
3 poking at him and trying to touch him and stuff like that.

4 But anyways, I'll go back to -- because I
5 just needed to take a break -- I'll go back to the
6 hospital. And that man, I want to know who that man was,
7 because he just walked away. He dropped us off and he
8 stood, and he made sure that they were going to take care
9 of us, and then he disappeared. I am so grateful to that
10 man.

11 I -- when I was adopted, the Ministry of
12 Children and Families back then, or whatever you call them
13 what they were back then, they changed my identity, they
14 changed my history, and they told my adoptive parents that
15 my mom wasn't married to my dad and that I had no other
16 brothers or sisters and that there was no history of abuse
17 in my life story.

18 I was three-and-a-half years old and I was
19 wetting my bed because I was redreaming my brother die
20 every night. I was redreaming the abuse at the hands of my
21 dad and whoever else was around him, you know, and I kept
22 dreaming it over, and over, and over again.

23 And -- and I would tell my adoptive parents
24 these stories and they would beat me because I was lying.
25 Actually, not they, my mom, Ingrid, would beat me. My dad

1 would try and take me to another doctor or -- you know, and
2 he just couldn't understand.

3 At first, he didn't believe my stories
4 because he didn't believe the Ministry would tell them as
5 adoptive parents that that's a lie. That -- you know...

6 And -- so I automatically realized that what
7 was going on with me was something that I needed to hide.
8 I needed to hide that I was abused, I needed to hide that I
9 wet the bed every night until I was -- almost every night
10 until I was 12-years-old, and I needed to hide and act and
11 pretend as if I was okay.

12 But my photographic memory and redreaming
13 everything over and over again. I had insomnia as a child.
14 I would fall asleep in school and get punished. I'm
15 lefthanded, so I got punished for that too.

16 My -- my birth parents have never done any
17 time for my story, myself, my sister and my family. My
18 birth father only did time for assault against my sister --
19 younger sister, Theresa, who just passed away last year,
20 and he did four years. And that's between Theresa,
21 Channery, and Johnny Lincoln, Sr. I don't know when he did
22 the time, but he did.

23 My dad was a horrible pedophile, who had no
24 preference of girls or boys, and hence, how many children
25 he had.

1 In my birth family, I -- I felt ashamed, I
2 felt dirty, I never felt good enough, and then going into
3 my adoptive family... My twin sister, she went the opposite
4 way. I remembered everything, and my twin sister forgot
5 everything from before we were on the plane to Powell
6 River. So she did not remember any of the years of abuse
7 that -- until she was 27.

8 And my adoptive mom had problems. She took
9 "mother's little helper" and she was constantly going to
10 the doctors. And my mom was raised during the war in Oslo,
11 Norway, and she lived in -- in a prison in Northern Norway
12 from about 12-years-old until she was a teenager. She
13 fought for the Resistance in Northern Norway with my dad.
14 And they used to ski, and they grew up together, they were
15 childhood sweethearts.

16 My dad is the salt of the earth. And I got
17 to say, Stevie Cameron, you got it wrong, and you need to
18 make it right with me. Because my dad, Carl Aut (ph)
19 Gisle, did not abuse me. It was my birth father, Johnny
20 Lincoln, and you need to make that right with me.

21 I just had to say that, because it's one of
22 the things that bothers me.

23 That's going to be down the line. Please
24 remind me about media later because I think there needs to
25 be restrictions on what media says when somebody's going

1 through a -- like a huge trial. So we'll get back to that.

2 So from three-and-a-half years old until I
3 was 16, I lived with the Gisle's. And I wanted for
4 nothing. My dad worked in the mill for 47 years in Powell
5 River. My mom was a domestic engineer.

6 We went to the Anglican Church. I was in --
7 I took Catechism in the Anglican Church, I was a
8 pallbearer. We actually really had -- I didn't know we
9 were well off. Like I was in gymnastics, I was in
10 swimming, I was in karate, I was in -- not -- no, sorry,
11 not karate, in gymnastics, cross country running, football.
12 We did everything. We absolute -- there wasn't anything we
13 weren't in, Brownies, Guides, all of it.

14 In appearances, we looked wonderful. We
15 looked really good. But at night, my mom would drag me and
16 my twin sister out of our bed an average of two to three
17 times a week, and she would be screaming at us about the
18 sins of what we had done wrong, and she would beat us, and
19 she would put us out on the porch in our nighties, out in -
20 - you know -- out in the cold at night.

21 And we would be out there from 1:00 in the
22 morning until about half an hour just before my dad got off
23 work, because my dad worked permanent graveyards. And then
24 she would haul us back in and she would beat us, and we
25 weren't allowed to tell him.

1 Well, that was me and my twin sister's big
2 secret, was what my mom was doing to us. And it was
3 always, "Be good, Maggy, your mom's sick. Be good Maggy,
4 your mom's sick." And so I got it into my head that
5 because my dad kept telling me to be good then it must be
6 something that I was doing bad, you know, that was making
7 her sick.

8 Because as far back as I can remember, my
9 mom used to stand over my bed and we used to have these
10 beautiful birthday parties for me and my twin sister, and
11 she would have a chocolate cake and I would have a white
12 cake and everybody in the school was invited, like in my
13 classroom. I mean, 27 other children were invited. And
14 we'd have this absolutely beautiful birthday party and we'd
15 get all of these gifts.

16 Well, my mom would make us give gifts back.
17 By the end of the night, I had to pick out -- and it was
18 whatever number she had in her head -- that I could keep
19 and all the other gifts we had to give away. I never knew
20 where those gifts went.

21 And she stood over my bed and she would tell
22 me the sins of Maggy, not only on that day of my birthday,
23 but she would go chronologically back to the day I was
24 adopted. She was verbally abusive, physically abusive.
25 She would get mad and she'd chase me with a knife, a bread

1 board. I mean, she was...

2 And my dad -- she was -- constantly taking
3 her to one specialist, one doctor after another. But my
4 parents were foster parents. During all of this, they
5 fostered all kinds of children and they adopted us because
6 me and my twin sister were unadoptable, and they wanted to
7 have older children.

8 And their heart was in the right place, but
9 my mom's mental health was in no state to -- and it was the
10 other elephant we didn't talk about, you know, was my mom's
11 mental health.

12 My mom was raised in a prison in Northern
13 Norway. She was raised by her grandparents because her mom
14 had gotten pregnant with twins and my mom was jealous when
15 the twins were born, and she kicked her, and she broke her
16 hip. And so my mom -- her mom couldn't manage my mom and
17 the twin babies, so they sent my mom at 12-years-old to a
18 prison.

19 And something happened to her during the war
20 that she became phobic of people, and that phobia
21 progressed as she was raising us.

22 Okay. I'm going to stop for a second, and
23 I've got to look on my phone because...

24 I was a bully. I was so full of anger. I
25 beat the shit out of my twin sister on a regular basis just

1 because I was angry. I would defend my twin sister during
2 the day at school because she had a lisp, and then I would
3 fight somebody that was teasing her, and I'd beat them up.
4 I might have three, four fights a day and then go home and
5 fight my sister.

6 And I didn't know why I was angry, but I
7 kept going and I kept telling that, you know, I'm dreaming
8 about this and I'm dreaming about this. And it came to a
9 head.

10 At 9-years-old I was molested on a paper
11 route by Old Man Falsey (ph). I told my dad, Carl Gisle,
12 what he had done, and he smacked me in the face and asked
13 me what I did to ask for it. And that is where I got the
14 signal that I must have done something. I was 9-years-old
15 delivering the paper and I was collecting money for the
16 paper route. And so that's when I realized that you better
17 not talk about that, you know.

18 And I was afraid of falling out of his eyes
19 because my dad -- I competitive swam from I was 5-years-old
20 until I was 16-years-old. And that came about because
21 being in Norwegian family, we all -- you know, my parents
22 during the war -- we all shared the same bathtub.

23 And at three-and-a-half to five years old I
24 couldn't stand, my dad would bath, then my mom would bath,
25 my sister, Ellen, would bath, my brother, Pat, would bath,

1 then me and my twin sister together with all the shavings
2 and stuff like that and the foam and the soap. And it was
3 really gross. And we only bathed once a week.

4 And when I found swimming and that I could
5 join the swim club I could have a shower every day. So I
6 became a passionate swimmer. From 5-years-old, because I
7 was scared of people, because of my anger, I would do
8 100 laps of butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and
9 freestyle. I'd get up at 6:30 in the morning every day and
10 do that, and I did it religiously and then when I turned
11 9-years-old, I decided I wanted to be the best swimmer in
12 the world that I could be, and I was doing it again in the
13 afternoon.

14 And I'm partially deaf. That happened at
15 5-years-old from an operation to clear out our adenoids and
16 they damaged both my ears. I can lip read.

17 I'm just taking a pause. And sign language.
18 Tlingit is my first language. English was my second.
19 Reading lips was my third. Then Norwegian.

20 We had a very traditional family with -- you
21 know, celebrating Easter and Christmas and things like
22 that, but it was always at the end of it that then we, you
23 know, had to deal with facing my mom and the barrage of
24 Maggy's sins.

25 I was molested at 9, I was raped at 12. My

1 brother's best friends -- I don't if it was a older or a
2 younger brother -- raped me in Cranberry Lake and almost
3 drowned me when I was 12-years-old.

4 I was a hopeless romantic. Being raped at
5 12-years-old, even though I knew that I had been sexually
6 abused by my father -- I mean, I didn't know it was true
7 yet, I think that's why. I thought I was still a virgin.
8 So being told that, you know -- getting raped at 12-years-
9 old and being a hopeless romantic and wanting only one man
10 and, you know, and forever, and true love, and things like
11 that was -- I was devastated.

12 I became suicidal. I slashed my wrists.
13 Both of them. I couldn't take pills. I went crazy. And
14 could tell no one. No one. I told my twin sister and I
15 told my best friend, Michelle.

16 And there are some other things that
17 happened. When I was running home from after being raped
18 in Cranberry Lake, I managed to grab my top and my shorts
19 back, and I was barefoot, and I had these little tiny
20 shorts and this halter top that you tie around your neck
21 and it was all torn. And I was running for all I was worth
22 to go home because I was so ashamed.

23 I remember the wall that came up between me
24 and my family and the rest of the world, because I couldn't
25 tell them the truth, and how separated I felt.

1 And I was two years -- I was -- about a year
2 later I was assaulted by my best friend's uncle and he
3 tried to rape me. And I told Michelle, and she smacked my
4 face and she never talked to me again.

5 Well later, Michelle charged him, herself,
6 many years later for sexually abusing her. And he was
7 convicted, and things were done about that. But that was
8 later on in her life story.

9 But in mine, I -- when I was 14 years old, I
10 lived down the street from Jocelyne Haines. I ran to her
11 house, we were going to have a water fight, and I -- and I
12 took my older sister, Ellen's bikini, who was 12 years
13 older than me, and I stole her bikini to go in this water
14 fight at my friend, Jocelyne Haines' house.

15 Well, she led me down to the basement. She
16 said she had something to show me. I was 14 and she was
17 15. I don't know how old Pat was. Jocelyne held me down
18 from behind and held my shoulders down while Pat raped me
19 three times.

20 I had nobody to tell. I had nobody to help
21 me. I had everybody saying that I was lying, I was over
22 imaginative, I was a bully, I was attention seeking. And I
23 was going back and forth, back and forth, you know, and
24 then, you know, with slashing my wrists, and stuff like
25 that. My dad finally got me a child psychiatrist,

1 Dr. Almon.

2 And Dr. Almon had to open up my Ministry
3 files. And -- because he said that my -- he interviewed me
4 for a year, twice a week for an hour-and-a-half for a year.
5 And after that year, he determined from his interviews that
6 the abuse that I was speaking of was real and it was
7 something I didn't make up. And he fought for me to get my
8 Ministry files opened to see if they were true.

9 So the only thing they opened of my Ministry
10 of Children and Family files was my medical files. Me and
11 my twin sister's is high. Broken bones, smashed head,
12 lice, malnutrition -- I mean, it was just -- it was this
13 high.

14 And I thought knowing the truth was going to
15 make me okay. But not knowing that all those dreams and
16 what I thought I could remember, when I was suspended in
17 that that might not be real, then I had a closer chance of
18 being more normal, and then finding out that it was all
19 true, I just went crazy. And I've learned at a very young
20 age how to look good, how to sound good and everything.

21 And I -- I got into a relationship at 14
22 with an -- a man who was older than me, five years older
23 than me. And I got pregnant at 15.

24 My mom had Dr. Leese (ph) say that I was
25 physically incapable of having a child because of my female

1 deformity, and she got another doctor to say I was mentally
2 incapable of having a child. Well, I was trying to hide my
3 pregnancy from my family and my mom caught me at about
4 two-and-a-half months pregnant. For some reason, she was
5 aware of that I didn't have my cycle for a while.

6 My mom beat the shit out of me almost every
7 night for two months, trying to force me to have an
8 abortion. And I told her I was too far along, so she got
9 these two doctors to sign these things.

10 And I was 15-years-old and I was past five-
11 and-a-half months pregnant and they injected me with a
12 saline solution because they were telling me that I was
13 less than that, and I was telling them that I was more. My
14 son was born alive. He was this long. His skin was all
15 burned and peeled away. His -- you could see his veins and
16 his muscles, his heart.

17 And it took a while for my son to die. He
18 was between my legs. I had the umbilical cord still
19 attached to me. He was still a part of me. And nobody
20 would come because the nurse that took care of me was Jim
21 Giffin's aunt. And she said that if I ever fuckin' did
22 this again, she was going to make sure the doctors took out
23 my hardware so that I couldn't have children again. And
24 she left me in the maternity ward for hours with my dead
25 son.

1 I cried myself to sleep and they snuck in
2 and they took my baby away. There is no grave marker for
3 my son. I don't even know what they did to his body.

4 How my mom talked me into having an abortion
5 was my dad had always talked of taking me and my twin
6 sister and my mom to Oslo, Norway, and we had already
7 bought the plane tickets, and we were supposed to go when I
8 was going to have the baby. And my dad would have never
9 gone to Norway if my -- if I was having a baby.

10 And my mom kept beating me on my back and
11 kicking me. And my mom beat me a lot, and for some reason
12 I never turned around and raised a hand to her. Even
13 though I was violent with everybody else, I would never
14 turn around and strike her. And I think it was because I
15 didn't want my dad mad at me, because I cared more about
16 what my dad thought about me than -- but I didn't want him
17 to not love me if I hit her.

18 I want a marker for my son. I want his life
19 acknowledged. They didn't have the right to take my baby
20 away from me.

21 My family went back after the baby -- after
22 -- I actually had to have an emergency D&C after they cut
23 the cord because my placenta was so large because my uterus
24 is deformed that they actually had to take me in for
25 surgery and that's when -- I mean, I almost died. I got an

1 infection.

2 I had so much hate in me. And you know what
3 kept me going all these years is I remember hiding in a
4 closet and crying and I had no reason to believe in love, I
5 had none.

6 I was less than 3-years-old and I was hiding
7 with my sister in a closet trying to not be sexually
8 abused. And deep down inside of me, love, kindness,
9 compassion, and I went I know there's a good love, I know...

10 And I'd tell Lisa, there is -- they're going
11 to find us, someone's going -- and there is goodness, there
12 is goodness. I had no reason to know that goodness, other
13 than the Creator.

14 All my life I wanted to be somebody else. I
15 wanted to have blonde hair, blue eyes, big boobs, long
16 legs. I mean, I was a stripper and I was doing Tina Turner
17 specialty features. I mean, I didn't want to be me.

18 My twin sister, at 15-years-old, got away
19 from Clifford Olson in Powell River. I don't know when it
20 was, but I do remember when it happened when my friend, Pat
21 Smith, when his sister, Rose Smith, got murdered. Pat's my
22 age. He's testifying here somewhere today. She was
23 beautiful. I really liked Rose.

24 And -- and then there was another young
25 woman that was thrown off of a bridge in Eagle River. We

1 were around somewhere between 12 and 15 when that stuff
2 went on, I think.

3 But my twin sister put a scar in Clifford
4 Olsen's head and he actually went to the complex and picked
5 my sister up at the complex and said that he knew my dad,
6 Carl Gisle, and he worked with him down at the mill and dad
7 couldn't come get her.

8 And he took her back in behind Timberlane
9 and tried to rape her, but she took her skate guard off and
10 smashed him up the side of the head and then she took the
11 skate and she smashed the window out and she ran like a
12 deer, and she ran to me and my boyfriend.

13 This happened just before -- I was actually
14 in the middle of being pregnant. So she ran to my
15 boyfriend's house that was just straight down the hill and
16 a quarter block over. And my dad, he never called the
17 cops, but he ran around town in his truck with a shotgun
18 looking for the man that had tried to rape her.

19 And we had determined many years later that
20 it was Clifford Olson because he actually had a paycheck
21 that he'd never picked up from the mill that -- and the
22 description of the vehicle of the registration was the
23 vehicle that Lisa described that she had been in.

24 I had so much hate and so much anger and so
25 much of it towards myself, but I had to hide it and I had

1 to pretend and act as if.

2 And I went to -- I graduated from Grade 12.
3 I was a B-plus average, but the education system in Powell
4 River was -- I say something to be desired at the time back
5 then, because we had -- we had special classes for Grade 8
6 to Grade 12 Aboriginals. It was called Native -- Native
7 Ed. No. They first -- the first couple of years it was
8 Native (indiscernible), it was Native Ed, and then they
9 changed it to -- what was it called again -- Special
10 Education.

11 And we were -- we learned Grade 7 all over
12 again in Grade 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and our academics for
13 math, English, social studies and all that. And I
14 graduated with a B-plus average, but when I took the
15 criminal justice program in Victoria, I didn't know what
16 made a sentence, or you know, a paragraph or a Klingon
17 verb. You know, I didn't have the basics to make it.

18 And I was living with my sister, Ellen, in
19 Victoria. I was raised Christian/Anglican. I used to go
20 to summer camp. And when I went to university, to college,
21 I'd failed again miserably, and all I heard is I didn't
22 make it.

23 And I was taken by the people on the streets
24 because I was raised -- I was grizzly twin, I was ugly
25 twin, I was always associated to something ugly, and I used

1 to run home and I would go, "Mommy, mommy, why am I so
2 ugly?" And she'd go, (speaking Norwegian language). And
3 that just means, "Ah, that doesn't apply to you." But what
4 she didn't explain to me that it was prejudice because I
5 was a native child in a white community and that I was
6 different. And -- you know, I mean -- and that I was so
7 angry. You know, I mean, she just didn't explain things.
8 She wasn't very good at communicating.

9 And -- so I was failed again, you know. And
10 that's part of what my story is, is that you know...

11 Because I have a basic belief if we put in
12 our public education systems age-appropriately from wee
13 little babies to Grade 12 how to love yourselves, positive
14 affirmations. We can't assume anymore that they're being
15 taught it at home because a lot of people out there in the
16 world, are like me and pretend to be okay, and they only do
17 with looking okay.

18 Well, I'm taking a pause now because I've
19 got a rough part in my story.

20 So I come from this place where I'm so ugly,
21 and you know, grizzly twin, ugly twin, Number 6 and
22 Number 7, and I get to university to college and guys are
23 asking me out. Good looking guys are asking me out. And
24 I'm like, "Are you talking to me?" Or I'm looking for the
25 girl he's talking to; right? And I was taken aback by

1 that.

2 And I went to this Taekwondo club, and I got
3 introduced to this Taekwondo club and I started hanging out
4 with these Taekwondo people in Victoria on Yates Street,
5 and they were older good-looking men. And I was 16. I
6 wasn't yet 17. And -- no, I'd just turn 17 because I
7 graduate -- I'm born June 28, so I graduated, and the day
8 after I graduated I turned 17. So I was just 17 years in
9 college.

10 And I got -- I made these friends in between
11 September and October, and I was, you know, failing
12 miserably at school and making these friends at night,
13 going to the bar, under age. And I didn't really drink, I
14 just went to hang out and to make friends, because I wasn't
15 used to people, you know, wanting to talk to me or wanting
16 to be around me because I was always associated -- you
17 know, I was always -- I had a bad rap because I was a
18 bully, you know, and I was beating people up, or -- you
19 know. And I wasn't -- I wasn't people's first choice for a
20 friend.

21 So I was gang raped by -- through meeting
22 this kickboxing -- I mean, through meeting this Taekwondo
23 club, I also met people from this kickboxing club. And
24 they had this house, it was like a party house that had a
25 basement.

1 And they insisted that I come with them.
2 And we all went down to the basement. And I was not a
3 drinker, and I had two sips of a drink and I came to, and -
4 - underneath a man with a line up of men that were still
5 there.

6 I fought. I kicked. I screamed. I
7 punched. And I don't know how the hell I beat the shit out
8 of that man and got out of that little window, but I did.

9 I limped down the street buck naked,
10 screaming for people to help me, and nobody came to help
11 me. I was -- kept walking. I don't know how long I walked
12 buck naked, bleeding from all over the place.

13 And this van pulled up, and this man, he
14 gave me his shirt, and he gave me a chocolate bar, and he
15 dropped me back off at my sister's house in James Bay where
16 I lived in the apartment.

17 Well, I showered for three hours and I
18 cried. But that block came up again between me and my
19 sister, so I had to leave. I couldn't face her. My shame.
20 My guilt. So I ran to the streets.

21 I didn't know that this other person was a
22 part of this group. Like I knew he knew them and stuff
23 like that, but I didn't know that he was involved with
24 selling drugs with them or anything like that. I didn't
25 know that these people in the Taekwondo were into drugs or

1 anything like that.

2 And I'd gotten hooked up with a man that --
3 that convinced me when he was having a heroin overdose and
4 we were in Bateson's Karate School and I had to drag him
5 over to the showers. And he was telling me what to do, and
6 shower him with cold water and, you know, get him up and
7 walk him around. I had no idea.

8 The police left me in Bateson's Karate
9 School and they kept asking me when they came in -- I was
10 really, really sick. I had double pneumonia from sleeping
11 days on the streets and underneath bridges, and things like
12 that before I finally had hooked up with my friend that --
13 you know, let me sleep on a couch in Bateson's Karate
14 School. And then he overdosed.

15 And well, we ended up getting a place
16 together and I was trying to file for Ministry and I found
17 out that I would have to get my parents' consent. Well,
18 they just told me to come home. And with what I had on my
19 plate, I couldn't come home.

20 Richard woke up. He'd done a smash of
21 cocaine while I was sleeping, and I woke up him with a
22 knife to my throat, straddling me, telling me that I was
23 going -- I was a fuckin' rat and that I told the cops where
24 he was, and all this other stuff.

25 And it was not possible. I was seven days

1 delirious, in and out of consciousness, sicker than a dog.
2 I mean, I didn't even know what a rat was and what the hell
3 it was that I was supposed to have ratted him about.

4 But that's how I ended up on the Downtown
5 East Side, was running away from my demons in Victoria and
6 running away from my family because I was so angry, and I
7 was so hurt.

8 I had a lot of moxie. I walked from one end
9 of Granville Street all the way to Davie, and from Davie
10 all the way down. And I walked around and went "Hey, do
11 you know where I find a loan shark? Hey, do you know where
12 I can find a loan shark?" And people would tell me, "Ah,
13 fuck off. Go away."

14 And it's like -- and I got all the way down
15 Davie Street -- I was halfway down Davie Street and -- that
16 place, right by KFC.

17 And this tall man was standing there, and I
18 walked up to him and went, "Hey, can you -- you know, where
19 can I find a loan shark?" And he looks down at me and
20 goes, "And what the hell do you need with a loan shark?"
21 And I said, "Well, I can dance. I love to dance." I said,
22 you know, "And I can strip." I said, "I need the money for
23 tapes, and I need the money for costumes, and in two weeks
24 I'll give you your money back." And he looks at me and he
25 goes, "These streets are going to eat you up and spit you

1 out." And he goes, "I don't know about a loan shark," he
2 goes, "but I can give you a job."

3 And he helped prevent me from being a
4 prostitute. I sold dime bags of weed in Seymour Billiards,
5 and for every dime bag I got, was \$5 a dime bag. Well, it
6 only cost \$75 to pay for a hotel room for a week. So
7 that's like 15 dime bags; right? I think my math's right.

8 So all I had to do was sell 15 dime bags so
9 I could have a hotel for a week, and then once I had the
10 hotel for a week, I could do all this amateur stripping,
11 lip sync contest, mud wrestling, you know, all the fun
12 stuff.

13 Well, that went on for a while. I was an
14 under-age stripper for the Rose Agency. I got busted at
15 18, and I took off to Calgary.

16 The first time I did drugs, it was in -- was
17 in Victoria before I was -- no, after I was gang raped.
18 That was part of the fight, because Richard got mad because
19 he thought the first time that I did it should have been
20 with him, and that's when he went all ballistic and pulled
21 a knife on me, and stuff like that.

22 I actually didn't get in heavy. I mean, I,
23 you know, tripped here and there, and -- you know, but I
24 drank mostly. I didn't try heroin. I don't -- I don't --
25 I want to be awake. But once I came back to Vancouver,

1 after I had spent just over nine months in Calgary, I got
2 into -- I got -- actually, it was in Calgary -- I got into
3 MDA.

4 And Calgary scared the shit out of me
5 because, I mean, the closest I came to prostitution was I
6 was with Ivan James Hewitt, and we were living on the
7 streets and we're, you know, paying for hotels nightly, or
8 weekly, or whatever. And I was waiting for him. He was
9 standing on the corner where the boys stand, and I was
10 waiting for him, and he told me some bullshit story about
11 what he was doing. And I had no idea what I was doing. I
12 just knew whenever he went away and came back that he came
13 back with money and we were all good.

14 Well, while I was waiting for him, this guy
15 rolled up on me and asked me if I knew where I could get
16 him a boy under 12. And I looked at him and I said, "What
17 do you want to do with a boy under 12?" And he goes, "You
18 know, for sex." He goes, "I'll pay you, I'll pay you
19 good." And I was horrified.

20 When I finally hooked up later with Ivan and
21 I told him about this man who had approached me and offered
22 me money to bring him a young boy, Ivan got really mad.
23 And he goes, "Where were you standing?" And I said, "Over
24 there." And he goes, "Go there again," and he goes, "and
25 if he comes back," he goes, "tell him to go over there."

1 Well, he did come back the next day. I
2 jumped into his vehicle and I went over there by the bush
3 and I told him to roll down the window and, you know,
4 someone's going to, you know, talk to him. And I was in
5 the process of undoing my seatbelt and he jumped out of --
6 Ivan jumped out of the bush, grabbed the guy by the
7 shoulder, knocked him out.

8 Then we cuffed him -- we handcuffed him to
9 the cars. We wrote horrible things. "Bugger". We wrote
10 nasty things all over them and we robbed him, and we left
11 him there.

12 Well, we did this a few times. More than
13 10. And the only ones we picked on is the ones that wanted
14 little boys. And we would write this stuff on their faces
15 and chests and handcuff them and -- sometimes. And if we
16 didn't have the stuff to write on them, we'd take their
17 clothes off and leave them handcuffed to the steering
18 wheel.

19 And -- so nobody came back after us about
20 those things that we did.

21 But I got caught once. We rolled up and I
22 was taking the seatbelt off and I couldn't get the seatbelt
23 off. And Ivan went to go punch him in the head and the
24 guy's head went back and he didn't blink.

25 I'm like this, "Oh, my god," and I can't get

1 out. And -- so Ivan hits him again, and it was like he
2 went -- and the guys just looking at him. And I'm stuck
3 and I can't get the seatbelt out. And it got wrapped -- it
4 was wrapped around my arm and I tried to get out. And he
5 dragged me about maybe 50 feet before I was able to get my
6 arm out, and then I decided that was the last time I was
7 doing that.

8 And -- but we were doing that to support our
9 MDA habit. And I loved MDA because I could stay awake and
10 I didn't dream.

11 And so when I came back to Vancouver, I -- I
12 fell into cocaine. So now, I was of legal age, working for
13 the Rose Agency, still doing amateur strip contests, back
14 in Vancouver, still selling dime bags of weed at the
15 Seymour Billiards, and mud wrestling. I mean, it was a fun
16 time.

17 One of the things that stripping gave me was
18 that -- an okayness [*sic*] with my body. I mean, at the
19 beginning it didn't because I mean I always wanted -- I
20 mean, I was doing Tina Turner specialty features.

21 My years on the street, I became Jackie.
22 Crazy Jackie was my name on the street. The first people
23 that I met was Sarah Jean deVries, Holly. There was a
24 whole bunch of people on the streets that I met that were
25 prostitutes, that were heroin addicts, that were drug

1 addicts that did not judge me, that supported me. Even
2 though I wasn't the way they were, they -- you know...

3 They would hoot and holler when I was doing
4 amateur strip night. When I would win amateur strip night,
5 I would buy -- we would go to the after hours and I would
6 buy \$100 worth of beer and let everybody drink. It was my
7 way of saying thank you to them because they supported me
8 at other -- not just the amateur strip.

9 And -- so I developed a community, and I
10 fell in love. I noticed Doug Buchanan at the St. Helen's
11 Hotel. It changed into, I think, to the Regis, or
12 something like that. St. Helen's, St. Helen's. And he was
13 a bartender and a waiter at the St. Helen's Hotel, and I
14 fell in love with him at 19.

15 He was my friend for a year before we got
16 together, and he used to go buy last round. He goes, "Aw,
17 Jackie," he goes, "do I have to buy a six-pack of cider
18 before we come home?" And he goes, "Let me know for last
19 round." And I would get up and I would back door him. I
20 was afraid.

21 Well, he gave me an ultimatum after a year,
22 and he told me that -- that I was either going to go out
23 with him that night or we were never going to go out at
24 all. But I was going out with my friend, and her and I
25 were going out together and partying, and we had MDA. And

1 I said, "Well, I was going to party with my friend, and do
2 you want to come along? We're doing MDA."

3 Well, that was the beginning of me and
4 Doug's relationship. We started injecting drugs in a pool,
5 the three of us in a row. I came to a few hours later,
6 high on MDA, and the friend that I was with, she was
7 frantically trying to do a fix, and we were literally
8 sitting in a pool of blood of water, cold water, and it was
9 the cold water that woke me up.

10 And I had no reference of that this is
11 wrong. I had no moral -- I had -- moral compass. So, so
12 many bizarre things were normal. You know -- like -- I
13 mean, if you acted like it was just something that you do
14 every day, then I just went along right with you.

15 And the streets never scared me for the
16 people on the streets, not until they changed the streets.
17 The streets used to be safe. They used to have hotel rooms
18 in the -- in the Downtown Granville and Davie that offered
19 short time rooms for either \$10 or \$20 for half an hour.

20 But the rooms got used to you, and if you
21 ripped of dates you weren't allowed to turn tricks in that
22 room, but if you were a date that hurt the women, you
23 weren't allowed there either. So there was a safety in
24 that. And -- and sometimes tricks would pay for hotels.

25 But the market of drugs was not 24 hours, it

1 wasn't all over the streets. You had to have a phone
2 number and you had to know somebody and you had to have a
3 really good contact to be able to get it 24 hours. But you
4 couldn't get it 24 hours, 7 days a week, not in 1983 and
5 not in 1984, not -- not in 1985. It wasn't until actually
6 after Expo that the streets exploded.

7 When they shifted us from -- when -- they --
8 there's the powers that be in the City of Vancouver that
9 have been navigating where the addicts live. Originally,
10 we lived on Granville and Davie, and then Expo, they moved
11 us over to Hastings, and they didn't like that, and they
12 moved us over to Broadway, and then after Expo being up on
13 Broadway they moved us down to Franklin Avenue. And we
14 never had a say of that.

15 And when the open drug market came, we were
16 not prepared for that. Because we had jobs. I was a
17 stripper, and -- you know, and I dabbled in drugs, and then
18 I went back to my life. I mean, I was selling MDA at
19 Numbers and Powell's for years and I was an underage drug
20 dealer, and -- you know, and then I was, you know, of legal
21 age.

22 And -- and -- but it wasn't -- we all had
23 other jobs, you know. There were coat checks, and clerks,
24 and you know, and you know. And sometimes they were
25 prostitutes for three days and then they had their own, you

1 know, their own jobs and, you know, that was the days they
2 partied, or whatever. But it was never a 24/7 thing.

3 And the City of Vancouver created the
4 Downtown East Side. On multiple occasions, they moved us
5 around.

6 I have 64 friends on Vancouver's missing
7 women's list that I knew 10 to 12, 16 years. There's only
8 five on the list that I absolutely didn't know. Of the 64
9 that I know, there is 10 that I didn't know very well, and
10 the rest I knew, like I was just describing.

11 I remember the first time I met Sereena
12 Abotsway, Angela Jardine. I met Michelle Gurney, Janet
13 Henry in a recovery house, Jody Mills in a recovery house,
14 C. J. Julien on the streets. I've known Sarah deVries
15 since 1986.

16 I remember when 11 women were going missing,
17 and we knew about it. Like the powers that be are so
18 fuckin' powerful that there is 22 dead women that were
19 killed over by a B.C. sugar factory that's bodies were
20 dumped from 1987 to at least 1994 that I know of, and they
21 were hog bound and gagged from behind their back, and none
22 of them made the paper. Not one.

23 I seen one of those bodies, and I ran to go
24 tell somebody, and when I came back to show them it was
25 gone. They told me I was crazy, but I think -- I don't

1 know if the power -- I don't know if the powers that be --
2 but it never made the paper.

3 In 1989, I seen an execution-style killing
4 in Chinatown, and a man that was blindfolded with his hands
5 tied behind his back on his knees sitting on top of a
6 Smithrite in the middle of Chinatown. And it was actually
7 not 1989, it was New Years Eve 1990. And he was shot in
8 the back of the head twice.

9 I was sure that was going to make the news.
10 I was terrified. I was hiding in behind one of those --
11 you know those planter things that they have for all the
12 food and displays, I was hiding in behind there so that
13 they wouldn't see me. There was five guys. There was
14 three around him and two on top of the Smithrite when they
15 shot him in the back of the head twice.

16 I actually got clean and sober and Dave
17 Dickson got me into Cordova Detox. Dave Dickson is the
18 only good police officer with VPD that I know. He has
19 visited me in many treatment centres, many recovery houses,
20 got me into detox. He's always been there for me, and for
21 so many other people. And he is a person that you need to
22 learn sensitivity training from.

23 I think the entire police force has to go
24 through sensitivity training that he would provide, be a
25 part of creating because he was a good man.

1 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** He's the only one
2 that cared.

3 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yeah.

4 And he still walks a beat, because the women
5 that were there when he retired, there's some that are
6 still out there, and now he still walks a beat because some
7 of the women's children are still out there.

8 I just want to take a moment and look at my
9 phone because I know there is some other points; okay?

10 Oh, yeah. Okay.

11 In 1984, when I first came to Vancouver when
12 I, you know, was working at being a stripper, that was the
13 actual first time I was hurt by a VPD. I was hitchhiking
14 down -- what is that -- down Granville wanting to get to
15 Broadway to go down Broadway to go home, and the last bus
16 had left. It was like 2:30 in the morning, and I was
17 hitchhiking from the St. Helen's Hotel and I got picked up
18 by a man, and I told him I just wanted a ride, I told him
19 where I wanted to go, and he was going in the wrong
20 direction.

21 And I had my stripper bag and my tapes and
22 my high heels and everything, and I -- I was actually -- I
23 had my high heels in my -- I still had my high heels on.
24 Thank God. I had steel shanked -- I'm famous for my boots
25 and for my high heel shoes. Being a stripper, I ran in 3

1 to 5-inch stiletto steel shanks, and I could run like a
2 deer in high heel shoes.

3 This man beat the ever-living shit out of me
4 -- it's why eyes are weird -- because I wouldn't fuck him.
5 He offered me money and I said no I'm not a -- I'm not a
6 hooker, I'm a stripper.

7 He beat me so bad. I had to put my back up
8 against the door and I kicked him with my stilettos five
9 times in his stomach. The length of my stilettos went
10 right into him. I scratched his face.

11 And I managed to get the door open and I
12 tumbled out, and he dove over, and he literally beat me all
13 around the vehicle. He dislocated my hip, he screwed up my
14 eyes. I was black and blue.

15 And when I got to the back of the vehicle, I
16 looked up and I screamed at him, "I got your license plate
17 remembered. I got you." And then he jumped in the vehicle
18 and ran, and I said his license plate over and over and
19 over again. I was running down the street screaming and
20 crying and banging on doors trying to get somebody to help
21 me.

22 I ran for two blocks before somebody would
23 open their door. The man opened up the door and I kept
24 saying the license plate over and over again. I said,
25 "Write this down, write this down, write this down." I

1 said, "This is the man who hurt me," and I said the license
2 plate number and he wrote it on a chalkboard that was right
3 by his door.

4 And the police officer had already found the
5 guy. My costumes were in the back, and everything like
6 that. He was all bloody from the -- what -- you know, what
7 I had done with the stilettos.

8 And he said, "What did you expect was going
9 to happen to you?" He goes, "It's the nature of your job."
10 And I said, "What do you mean, the nature of my job?" I
11 said, "I missed my bus and was hitchhiking home." And he
12 goes, "You" -- he goes, "Yeah." He goes, "You know, the
13 other job of why you were really hitchhiking."

14 He drove me back to where I was staying and
15 told me not to waste police time. I was beaten. My eye
16 was almost hanging out of my head. He was supposed to help
17 me. He wasn't supposed to judge me.

18 I -- my son was -- I fell in love with Doug,
19 and during Expo we went to Toronto. We took a bus to
20 Toronto. Somehow in the whole thing we had found a kilo of
21 cocaine or a really large amount of cocaine in packing up
22 our stuff, and we were frickin' high all the way from
23 Vancouver, on the bus, banging on the bus, all the way to
24 Toronto, and then we stopped, and we lived with his mom.

25 I got pregnant with my son, Franklin Gisle.

1 My son was born in Wellesley Hospital in Toronto. He
2 weighed six pounds, three-and-a-half inches, I mean,
3 ounces, and he was -- and he was 19 inches long.

4 I loved Doug. He never hurt me, he never
5 yelled at me. He was a very kind man. I adored him. I
6 thought he was my one man to love for the rest of my life
7 because he was the kindest man to me.

8 Our son was born September 13th, 1986. I
9 used drugs with my son until I was five-and-a-half months
10 pregnant. I didn't know I'd gotten pregnant because I
11 believed that -- what the doctor said that I was deformed
12 and couldn't have a child. And Doug didn't believe Frank
13 was his. It wasn't until I miscarried our second child
14 that Doug actually believed that -- it was later on.

15 I can't remember exactly what happened, but
16 -- oh, yeah, I went home. I took my son home for 6 months
17 old to go to Calgary to see my twin sister because her son
18 is three months older. Our firstborns are three months
19 apart. And -- so I went to go see my twin sister and then
20 I went home to see my family, and I was clean.

21 My son -- I used drugs for five-and-a-half
22 months, IV cocaine. I used IV cocaine because I could stay
23 awake and not dream all my nightmares.

24 Toronto Police hurt me too. Doug and I got
25 busted a few times in a row for possession of a narcotic,

1 and we had large amounts, and..

2 VPD came in my house through the frickin'
3 windows. They smashed through the frickin' four big huge
4 bay windows. They came down the centre window. They
5 rammed through our entrance door, and it was right out of a
6 frickin' movie.

7 And my son was in -- he was less than --
8 well, he would have been a year old and he was in one of
9 those playpens and I had a blanket over it. And he was way
10 over there.

11 And we were sitting -- I was sitting with a
12 whole bunch of people and we were waiting for a lot of
13 drugs to come in, and they came smashing in. And they
14 smashed Dough around. The took him -- they dragged him off
15 in the bedroom and they beat the shit out of Doug, asking
16 where the drugs are.

17 They had us pinned down. There was a whole
18 bunch of us that were waiting for drugs, it was more than
19 10 people that they had in the kitchen and the living room,
20 and my son was underneath the thing. And they ripped my
21 place apart. They took knives to the furniture, they
22 kicked holes in the walls.

23 They actually took a kilo out of a sealed
24 wall in behind the door is what we got busted. We got
25 planted with fuckin' evidence. And -- I mean, if we had a

1 kilo in our wall, we wouldn't have been sitting there for
2 four hours waiting for the fuckin' dealer.

3 Well, Doug was -- Doug -- Doug was beaten
4 and manipulated and yelled and screamed at. And they
5 actually threatened -- in front of Doug, they picked up my
6 son, and they said that four police officers was going to
7 grab each arm and they were going to rip my son apart
8 unless he told them where the drugs were.

9 The treatment -- the treatment. Like when
10 you think somebody's doing drugs, I mean, it doesn't
11 entitle you to do that to them. I mean, to threaten to rip
12 apart a 1-year-old baby. Hold him up in front of me and
13 take that baby away from me, and already have me handcuffed
14 and I can't protect my baby? I mean, I understand you want
15 to bust me for possession of a narcotic, but how did that
16 become this horrible scene of where you're going to rip my
17 child apart?

18 The -- I mean, in trying to police, they
19 commit crimes themselves against me, against my friends,
20 against -- so many stories I've heard.

21 I've been -- I've been brutalized a lot of
22 times in my life. There was a black man, when I was using
23 -- oh. I'll go back to the black man.

24 But my son -- my son didn't have a chance.
25 He had two parents that didn't have the skills to deal with

1 life on life's terms that had normalized drinking and using
2 drugs to the point that we were putting our son at risk. I
3 mean, a week previous or maybe a month previous somebody
4 offered us like \$40,000 or \$50,000 to sell my son, and I
5 chased him out of my house with a 2 by 4 and a frickin'
6 crowbar.

7 I mean, I was trying to stay above water and
8 have clean and sober babysitters looking after him while we
9 got high and stuff like that, but when we got busted Doug
10 took the rap and I stayed home. And I was trying to raise
11 Doug's bail and I didn't have very much money.

12 So I took my son and I took him to John
13 Markovich's house, and he was the legal godparent to my
14 son. And I said, "I don't know how long I'm going to be.
15 I've got to come up with Doug's bail money." And it was a
16 lot of money. And I gave him over with diapers and all
17 kinds of food and everything like that, and I went back to
18 the house and I started selling drugs by myself.

19 I ended up in a prostitution ring, held
20 against my will, for two-and-a-half weeks, maybe three-
21 and-a-half weeks. I was tied down to a bed naked.

22 And they first beat you facedown, and it's
23 called breaking a hoe. You break a hoe. You're surrounded
24 by the other -- all the other women that they control, and
25 they stand all around you, and each one has a part in

1 beating you while you're strapped down, arms and legs
2 spread-eagled facedown. They beat you on your back first,
3 then they flip you over and tie you down again and beat you
4 on your front.

5 And then they put you in a shower and put
6 pretty clothes on you and put you on a corner. I put
7 myself on a corner to support me and Doug's habits and
8 Rick's habits, but I didn't put myself on a corner to be
9 pimped out.

10 We had a budget. We had to come up with a
11 thousand dollars a day or we got beat. I've been beat
12 three times because I didn't have the money.

13 I tried to get a hold of Doug. I managed to
14 break away and make a phone call, and I told him I was
15 being held against my will. And Doug went ballistic. And
16 apparently, I -- I hear that -- from the cops later on that
17 he was going down on the Lakeshore Boulevard and he was
18 kicking in doors to find me, with his brothers.

19 Well, I had a woman that was on me that
20 always had a knife, and she always had a knife in her
21 pocket and she was always close to me. And during these
22 times of, you know, a hoe beating, there was girls that had
23 stab marks and scars from her with a knife, and they had
24 stories. She was apparently very handy with it.

25 Well, she was always on top of me. And you

1 -- you always have a buddy. Until you're actually broken
2 in, you just obey. And I wasn't at that point yet, so I
3 always had a buddy the whole time I was contained.

4 Well, I -- after I got a hold of Doug, I
5 thought he's going to come find me, he's going to come find
6 me, he's going to come find me. I'm going to be okay.

7 A police officer found me, asked me who I
8 was, and asked me if I was Jackie, but you know, also
9 Margaret Gisle. And I said yes. And I was standing with
10 this woman who had this knife up in my ribcage that was
11 standing behind me, and I'm looking at this police officer,
12 and he goes, "So do you want to be here?" She's got a
13 knife in my back and I'm looking at him, and tears are
14 strolling down my eyes. I said, "No, I'm okay."

15 I was crying. I mean... And he got so mad at
16 me. He goes, "You know how much hours you've wasted with
17 the police? We've been going all over trying to save you
18 and your partner has been banging and kicking down doors,"
19 he goes, "and I'm going to go back there and tell him that
20 you want to be here."

21 How I got out of that prostitution ring,
22 because I didn't get out at that point, and I went through
23 my third hoe beating because of that police officer. That
24 wasn't -- that was actually my fourth one because of the
25 police officer thing. I went through four times. The

1 fourth one wasn't so bad.

2 A blackness came over me. A disconnection
3 to myself. I was so incredibly lost, so incredibly
4 damaged, and so incredibly fucked up.

5 I communicated to a police officer. Once --
6 I saw him in the parking lot and I knew he was a cop and I
7 walked over to him, and I was, "Ah no. You're a police
8 officer," and I walked away. And I stood over there, and I
9 thought, "I've never been charged with a crime before. I
10 don't have a criminal record. If I communicate to him, I'm
11 just going to get a little pink slip, or a blue slip and
12 I'll be released in 24 hours and I'll be back with Doug and
13 my son."

14 So I ran back to the car, and I told him
15 \$100 for a blow job, blah, blah, blah, you know, and I gave
16 him the spiel. And he looks at me, and he goes, "Why are
17 you doing that? You know I'm a cop." And I said, "Let's
18 go." I was like putting a seatbelt on and sitting up front
19 with him. And he goes, "You realize you're under arrest?"
20 I said, "Yes." And he goes, "And you want to be arrested?"
21 I said, "Yes." And he goes, "Why?" And I said, "I'm
22 leaving a prostitution ring." And he goes, "What?" And I
23 said, "Roll down the window, please." And he goes, "Why?"
24 And he goes, "Are you bailing on me?" I said, "No," I
25 said, "I'm telling you, 'fuck you, bye'."

1 And I got out of the window and I -- and I
2 held onto his hand, because he wanted to make sure I wasn't
3 jumping, and I gave them the fuckin' -- and slid back in
4 the car and I sat beside him. I was so happy because I got
5 out of this prostitution ring, and I figured he's just
6 going to write me up a slip and I'm just going to be out of
7 there and I'm going to be back home with Doug and with my
8 son.

9 Well, I ended up in the 111 Disco Road,
10 Women's Detention Centre, because I was denied bail. Well,
11 that was a whole journey.

12 Doug and I didn't make it. Doug got clean
13 before I did.

14 And I got bacterial endocarditis. I got an
15 infection in my heart, got infection in my lungs, got
16 infection in my blood. I'm a victim of Ing, the drug
17 dealer that was poisoning drug addicts.

18 He hated IV drug addicts, so he laced his
19 cocaine with trace amounts of heroin, so you get wired to
20 it, and miniscule trace amounts of arsenic. And when you
21 keep using these drugs you slowly build up this level of
22 arsenic in your body until it ignites, and your body has to
23 be at a high certain temperature. Well, when you stay
24 awake for days on end doing solid cocaine, your body rises,
25 your body rises, and as you're going on Day 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

1 not sleeping, I mean, the more cocaine I'm doing you got to
2 get to a certain level before the arsenic starts poisoning
3 you.

4 So I got -- severe arsenic poisoning and an
5 infection in my heart, infection in my lungs, and infection
6 in my blood. I was in the hospital. I weighed -- I
7 weighed in at the hospital at 57 pounds. I was in a bubble
8 for four-and-a-half months, double glove, double gown.

9 Frank wasn't able to visit me for the first
10 while that I was in there. Frank -- Doug, because of his
11 family, had chosen to put our son into foster care.

12 I was in jail when Doug did that, and I
13 flipped out, I absolutely went ballistic. I ripped the
14 phone right off the wall. I did. A big huge payphone, I
15 walked up to it and I just ripped it right off. I was so
16 mad he would do that to our son, and that he wouldn't take
17 him with his mom and -- you know, and you know, and then
18 we'd figure it out; right? You know.

19 And I got kicked out of a treatment centre
20 because of a police officer in Buffalo, New York. My first
21 treatment centre was in Pedobin Lodge down on the bottom of
22 King Street, and my counsellor was Bambi. And I was so
23 angry, and so hurt and so messed up because I still hadn't
24 cried about my life story.

25 And gotten into this treatment centre. And

1 they do two weeks where you're not allowed -- no, it's one
2 week where you're not allowed out, and then after a week
3 they assess you, and then you're allowed to go, say to an
4 AA meeting or across the street to buy a chocolate bar or
5 go for a swim or a run.

6 Well, after my first week, I went back to
7 Bambi, my counsellor, and she goes, "No" -- she goes, "No,
8 Jackie, you got to really bad attitude, and you need to
9 think about that, and you need to work on that, and next
10 Friday maybe you can get out."

11 Well, I was on house lockup. For
12 six-and-a-half weeks I couldn't get out of this house.
13 Every Friday she had another reason why that I couldn't get
14 out of this house. She said I was male attention seeking
15 to get my needs. And I said, "I can't get out of this
16 house. Of course, I'm going to do male attention seeking
17 and bum off of men, and you know, see what I can manipulate
18 and handle. You what I mean? I mean, I fly by the seat of
19 my pants. I'm good at that and I'm good at meeting my
20 needs. I mean, you know, like why is that bad thing;
21 right?" And then it was my clothes were too tight.

22 Well, I left with the maintenance man, only
23 to come back -- because I really wanted to be with Doug,
24 and I came back. It wasn't very long that I was with the
25 maintenance man.

1 He actually scared me because we got into an
2 argument and he went out, he walked around the block, he
3 came back with roses and a stuffed animal and he apologized
4 for his part of what he did wrong. And I looked at him and
5 I -- he spoke a language I didn't know, I didn't
6 understand. He scared me so bad. It was like he was from
7 fuckin' Mars, this really nice supportive kind caring man.

8 And I ran back to Doug. Because Doug was
9 the man that I knew and the man that I loved, and the man
10 that I wanted to be with.

11 They sent me to this treatment centre in
12 Toronto after Pedobin Lodge because I still wanted my son.
13 And I was in there, and I met this man, and he kept yelling
14 and screaming at me, and we had these horrible sessions,
15 and stuff like that. And this police officer from Toronto
16 was a VB -- no, Ontario Provincial Police police officer,
17 who had busted me on three separate occasions and was a
18 part of investigating me. He was in there for treatment
19 and he said, "Get rid of her. It's bitches like her that
20 put me in here." And two days later I was gone because a
21 police officer said get rid of her.

22 And I found out later by his name that he
23 was the police officer that was a part of my investigation
24 and bringing me down. And you know -- and he said that I
25 had got him here, that it was women like me that had got

1 And the reason why I had my dad come was because at
2 16-years-old my adoptive mom -- my dad had been taking her
3 for all her problems and "little helpers", and stuff like
4 that. And my mom had finally got properly diagnosed at 16,
5 just -- just before we went to Europe, and she lacked a
6 specific chemical in her brain and she had too much water
7 on her brain that made her violent.

8 And I was with my mom in the hospital when
9 they shaved the side of head and drilled holes in and they
10 took water out of her brain, and when they gave her the
11 right chemical. And my mom changed overnight. There
12 wasn't a mean, violent bone in her body, and she had no
13 recollection of what she had done. And she became a loving
14 and supportive mom.

15 But I didn't trust her because of everything
16 that we had gone through. So I just had put mentally in my
17 head that because she'd changed that I'd forgiven her, but
18 I really hadn't. I still had a lot of anger towards her.

19 So because I knew my mom had changed, and
20 that she was no longer abusive, because you know, she
21 changed when I was 16 and now I'm 22-years-old, almost 23.
22 I'm twenty-two-and-a-half with a year-and-a-half old. And
23 I know, because of the way she was with babies, and her
24 favourites, young children.

25 My mom, Ingrid Gisle; my dad, Carl Gisle; my

1 brother, Patrick; my sister, Ellen; and myself became the
2 parents of Franklin. And the three of us -- I mean, there
3 had to be a majority. Well, the majority was them and not
4 me because I couldn't get a needle out of my arm.

5 I was poisoned by Ing and -- you know, in
6 the hospital and everything like that, and I remember, it
7 was sometime later after -- after the Buffalo, New York
8 treatment centre when they shipped me back when Ing got
9 charged for killing all these addicts down in the States,
10 but he'd done up in Toronto as well. And I got -- you
11 know, like the bacterial infection and everything like that
12 and the arsenic poisoning.

13 And Frank was in care. And the doctors told
14 me that they could not save my life. I had gotten up to
15 72 pounds and they said all they could do was prolong my
16 life. So I left the hospital and tried to go die. I sat
17 in a hotel room and I loaded needles.

18 And I was with a buddy of mine that -- you
19 know, that used to smoke it and he used to give it to me on
20 a spoon. And I was loading one rig at a time with a whole
21 gram of cocaine, and I would stick it in my arm and I would
22 push it and then I'd pull it out and I'd throw it in the
23 corner. And five days, I had this pile of needles that had
24 -- because I couldn't do it, I couldn't do it.

25 And I kept seeing my son, I kept seeing my

1 twin sister. And I have a belief that if you take your own
2 life that you won't see the ones that you love that passed
3 before you, and I want to see Jessie. I wanted to see my
4 babies.

5 I finally went back to Vancouver. Doug
6 stayed, and he went to a treatment centre. I can't
7 remember what it's called. He's got something like
8 30 years clean now. He's married to Judy. I don't think
9 they have any children.

10 I'm just doing a pause right now. Hang on.

11 I went back to Vancouver, and my parents had
12 my son. And I stayed clean and I -- actually, I went to --
13 first to Powell River and I tried to get my son back. I
14 went to all the Ministry appointments, and you know, I went
15 to all the -- what do you call it when somebody has to sit
16 with you when you have a visitation -- supervised visits.
17 And I went through all that.

18 I got a job as a waitress, and we were
19 living with my parents out in -- no. Frank was living out
20 in Kelly Creek and I had a place somewhere else in Powell
21 River, and I had rented an apartment for us. and I was --
22 I was signed up for taking courses, and things like that.

23 And my family saw that I wasn't ready. So
24 they refused to give me my son. So I ended up running back
25 to Hastings Street.

1 I didn't know how to live without my boy. I
2 didn't know how to live without Doug. So I went back to
3 where I knew them, and I waited for him to come.

4 I didn't know that he had gone on with his
5 life. I didn't know that he had gone in a dark hole and
6 was barely able to take care of himself for a long time. I
7 didn't know that. I just thought that he knew that I was
8 there for him.

9 Well my connections with Dominic from
10 previously turned into where when I got back to the streets
11 that I held up drug houses, organized crime houses that
12 sell cocaine 24 hours a day. And a drug house will fail,
13 and they need to send somebody in there to make it right,
14 and sometimes they would send me.

15 And I wasn't always with the same gangs.
16 There was many of them over many years of my years on the
17 streets. And four months in this drug house, seven months
18 in this drug house.

19 On good days, I was holding up drug houses.
20 On bad days, I was a prostitute. But because I'm deformed
21 in the female area and that, I tried really hard not to
22 have sex, and -- because of my memories of my dad seared
23 into my head.

24 My memories come that I don't just dream
25 them, I wake up and my belly is burning, I can't move my

1 legs, and I can't breathe because I'm suffocating. And I
2 can smell the wine, and the I can smell the cigarettes.
3 And that's how I dream. It's so visual, it's so real.

4 And -- and that is why I did drugs. It was
5 because I couldn't deal with my demons. And the only thing
6 that would keep me from having to scrape myself back
7 together again was to just stay high.

8 It wasn't because I didn't love my son that
9 I wasn't there. It was that I couldn't -- couldn't stay
10 clean and learn how to take care of myself.

11 So I ended up in detox 22 times in the next
12 -- between 1987 and 1998, 22 recovery houses. I've been
13 sexually abused and taken advantage of, a director of a
14 recovery house that took me in on three different times.
15 But because he held me up like I'm so smart and I'm so
16 beautiful, and I need you as a part of my team, because he
17 knew how much I wanted to run a recovery house. He knew
18 how much I wanted to be clean and how much I wanted to help
19 people on the streets.

20 I had many friends on the streets. I had
21 hundreds of more friends than are actually on the missing
22 women's list. I have 222 women that I tried to add to the
23 list, and the powers that be of Vancouver capped the list
24 at 69. And they refused to add more women to the list.

25 But when I got clean in 1998 for the last

1 Expo, it was after Expo, he tore this building down and
2 gutted it and rebuilt it and then he wouldn't let the girls
3 anywhere near his building. He'd beat them and throw --
4 you know, call the cops on them and stuff like that. But
5 he built that whole thing off the backs of the girls at the
6 \$10 to keep them safe.

7 But you know, the streets changed, and we
8 had no power over how the streets changed. I mean, from 19
9 -- I would say in all fairness 1987 until 1994, possibly
10 until 1997, on a regular bus -- regular basis, a bus would
11 show up in the Downtown East Side every Friday, and
12 sometimes it was one bus, sometimes it was two busses,
13 sometimes it was three busses, and they would bring in by
14 the busloads all these people from mental institutions from
15 all over the province. And they flooded the Downtown East
16 Side. And they created an addict that was never there
17 before.

18 These people never even had the choice of
19 where they wanted to live. They had the keys for their
20 hotel rooms and their little bags in hand. And some of
21 them had never been out of an institution for over
22 20 years, and they got catapulted to the Downtown East
23 Side.

24 They created a ministry office to dispense
25 daily money right beside the other ministry office to deal

1 with the crazies. And they gave them \$12 a day food
2 allowance. Well, the streets, seeing that there's a lineup
3 of people getting \$12 a day of food allowance, was bringing
4 them the T's and the R's and the pills or whatever it is
5 they wanted and got these people wired.

6 I mean, at the same time, the powers that be
7 in Vancouver opened up who gets to come into Canada. And
8 the Mexicans came first, then the Guatemalans, then the El
9 Salvadorians, but they came by the hundreds and the
10 thousands, literally overnight. And they started selling
11 drugs on our street for next to nothing, and they made it
12 available 24 hours.

13 When it wasn't available 24 hours, we used
14 to be able to take care of ourselves, or you know, you
15 know, like land on our feet. But the fact that those drugs
16 are available 24/7 all the time, and you know -- in that
17 radius, is killing our people. But it's done because
18 somehow it makes money.

19 I mean, I remember that, you know, this one
20 time in this hotel room, this New Zealand Hotel, me and
21 Darcy were having a hard time, and Darcy had a welfare
22 cheque so me and him could stay in his hotel. So I sold my
23 rent cheque to the New Zealand rooms, my \$350 rent cheque.
24 I filled out an intent to rent, and I handed it over, and I
25 gave it to him, and every month that -- they would give me

1 \$125, but I wasn't allowed to stay in the room.

2 There is actually hotels down there that
3 says they got seven, eight, nine floors, but they actually
4 only have four floors, and that seven, eight and nine are
5 the imaginary people that rent there that pick up a cheque
6 there, but they're not there. There's all kinds of
7 buildings like that down there.

8 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Scam the government.

9 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yeah.

10 And the organized crime. Like once it
11 became an open drug trade, then it -- then organized crime
12 turned around and had their response back as well. And --
13 and that's how there became more drug houses.

14 When they took -- when they had that rioting
15 down on Broadway, you know, before I went to Ontario,
16 before Expo '86, and it was shame the John's, and you know,
17 and throwing eggs at us and stuff like that, we didn't
18 understand why you guys were so mad at us. Because we
19 didn't leave needles behind or -- you know, I mean, you
20 know, it was like, you know, 8:00 in the morning and there
21 was no trace of us had ever been there on Granville or
22 Davie.

23 Because we had other things to do. We had -
24 - you know -- and with it being available 24/7, we lost the
25 ability to say no. We lost our choices. Taking our safety

1 away made our grind harder. It forced us out into alleys,
2 it forced us out into cars, it plummeted us out on the
3 streets. I never banged on the streets until after Expo.

4 I -- I've been brutalized many times on the
5 streets. A black man -- I was trying to find a place to
6 fix. And a black man in Vancouver, over in -- down past
7 Chinatown in one of the rooming houses, I went up -- the
8 doors were always open in this rooming house, so I went up
9 in there and into the bathroom, and I locked the door. And
10 I did a fix, and I was sitting there, and I wasn't
11 bothering anybody.

12 Then I put my stuff away, and I was trying
13 to decide whether I, you know, wanted to stay here or
14 whether I wanted to go somewhere else. And there was a
15 knock on the door. I thought, okay, someone needs the
16 bathroom.

17 So I put my stuff away and I got up and I
18 opened up the door and there was a black man there. Really
19 big black man, really dirty, stinky black man. Dreadlocks.
20 Much older than me.

21 And he waited -- he said, "You know, it's
22 not safe for you to get high here." He goes, "Why don't
23 you come over to my room?" He goes, "Just sit over there,"
24 he goes, "you'll be all right." He goes, "You'll be safer
25 there." He goes, "If somebody else catches you in there,

1 like they're going to beat you."

2 So I -- "okay." He raped me five times. He
3 beat me so bad. He dislocated my hip, fractured my
4 collarbone. He was going to throw me out this window. He
5 said that -- and I was yelling and screaming, and he was
6 laughing at me and he was, "Nobody cares about you in
7 here." He goes, "We'll just take turns."

8 And I didn't know who the "we" was in here
9 because -- I mean, I didn't know if that door was going to
10 open after he was finished and a whole bunch of others were
11 going to come.

12 But I didn't have the strength to fight. I
13 had the strength to get out, but I never had the strength
14 to say what happened to me. I mean, I even took one of his
15 condoms, because he wore condoms, and I tied it up and I
16 hid it. And -- and I took one of my needles and I sprayed
17 my blood underneath his chair so that I could prove that it
18 was me that was there, and I took my hand and I put it in
19 the blood and I marked up things, because I was fuckin'
20 scared. While he was assaulting me, I was doing this
21 stuff.

22 And when -- how I got out of there is I was
23 fighting for my life, and he said that he was going to
24 throw me out the window. And the window was those laurel
25 trees, it was a really high laurel hedged, but it had been

1 like trimmed right off so it was just stakes of wood. And
2 he was going to throw me in this laurel hedge that had just
3 been like capped off. And I knew I was going to get
4 skewered and die.

5 And my brain was scrambling to try and
6 survive, and I looked at him and I said, "You can't hurt
7 me." I said, "I'm a child of God." I said, I said, I
8 said, "You can't hurt me." I says, "You can beat me, you
9 can break my bones," I said, "but you can't -- you can't
10 touch me." And he goes, "What do you mean you're a child
11 of God?" He goes, "What the hell's going on?" And I stood
12 there, and I put my hands up and I said, "Go ahead." I
13 stopped fighting, and I said, "Go ahead." I said, "You
14 can't hurt me."

15 And I really freaked him out. And he said,
16 "Go. Get out of here." He said, "Get your stuff and get
17 the fuck out of here." And I grabbed my dress and I
18 grabbed my stuff, and I even grabbed the condom, and I
19 looked at where the blood was and where I marked everything
20 up and I thought, you fucker, you're going to get it,
21 right.

22 I limped down the street because my hip was
23 fucked up. I actually had to sit down on a curb, grab and
24 straighten my leg, and push around to get it into a point
25 where I could actually walk. I ended up in hospital after

1 that assault.

2 But I got to this corner and I was holding
3 this condom, and I thought of what it would be like to
4 report to VPD what happened. I went, I'm crazy to think
5 that they're going to ever do anything for me. And I threw
6 it away.

7 Darcy used to beat the shit out of me. He
8 was my partner on the streets after I left Toronto. And we
9 weren't -- we weren't sexual partners, we were partners
10 because I was waiting for Doug.

11 Well, I'd never had a boyfriend beat me
12 before. I've had bad things happen, but not my boyfriend.
13 So -- and I'd never seen that happen with other people.
14 Maybe the girls on the street, you know, but -- like not to
15 me personally.

16 The first time he beat me, I thought it was
17 because he was high and -- or he was -- actually, I thought
18 it was because he was dope sick. And I made all kinds of
19 excuses of why he beat me. And I didn't know that was
20 because I had low self-esteem or -- you know, I didn't
21 know. It was just the way I existed.

22 Darcy and I went around the block a few
23 times, and it ended when we got clean for a while and we
24 went to Athabasca. And him and I were like seven months
25 clean, or something like that, and we went to Athabasca.

1 And I was dropping a pipeline -- operated a
2 chainsaw, and we were putting in a gas -- a natural gas
3 line in. And we just finished 12 hours worth of work and
4 we had just come in from the job, and we were coming into
5 the hotel and I looked at Darcy, and we were seven months
6 stone cold sober. I was getting pipes on me because I was
7 operating a little chainsaw clearing this, you know, right-
8 of-way, and we were making good money, and stuff like that.

9 And he turned around when I told him I was
10 going to go down to the bar and say hi to the crew and then
11 I was going to come and get dressed for dinner with -- with
12 him. He goes, "You're just going to fuck them all." He
13 hauled off and -- he gave me a huge black lip, like fat
14 lip, and it cut the -- the -- my teeth cut into my -- my
15 gum and I got this huge fat lip.

16 Well, I had always made excuses for him
17 hurting me because of drugs or because he was -- didn't get
18 drugs or because I got high and he didn't get high, or
19 because he missed it. And you know -- and it was none of
20 those things. Stone cold sober, he -- you know, he laid
21 his hands on me.

22 Well, I'd already bought a truck at that
23 point, and I had a 1972 Ford pickup truck and -- three-
24 quarter ton, and I dragged him out of that fuckin' hotel
25 and I beat the shit out of him all the way down the hall,

1 all the way down the parking lot. And I left him a black
2 and blue puddle of mess for fuckin' laying a hand on me and
3 I told him don't come looking for me again because next
4 time it would be a baseball bat. And I jumped into the
5 truck and I went back to Calgary to where my twin sister
6 lived.

7 I visited my son when I could for
8 Christmases and birthdays and Easter and Thanksgiving. I
9 missed a lot. My son always knew I was a prostitute and a
10 junkie in the Downtown East Side. He used to ask why you
11 can't bring my mommy back, and -- because I would come
12 back. I would, you know, get clean on the bus ride home,
13 be clean at home, attend whatever it is that we were doing
14 and then go back to Hastings.

15 And my dad -- my dad couldn't -- they
16 couldn't keep me because I was so severely addicted, and
17 they didn't know how to help me. So they started getting
18 angry at me, and it was like I was the junkie, I was the
19 hoe, I was the drug dealer, I was the stripper, and they
20 found all kind of reasons to talk bad about me.

21 But my dad, Carl Gisle, wouldn't tolerate
22 it. He said, "When she's home, you talk nicely to her."
23 He says, "Don't push her away." And he always said as long
24 as I was clean when I was home I was always welcome home.

25 And my mom had changed. And I think part of

1 my coming back sporadically had to do with the fact that I
2 didn't trust that -- you know, I didn't trust that she had
3 changed enough for me to go back.

4 In 1989, I was severely, severely
5 brutalized, sodomized and raped on Seymour Mountain by two
6 serial killers. I didn't know -- all I knew that this man
7 was -- was -- used to be my regular trick and pick-me-up on
8 Fridays.

9 And they worked on getting at me, because he
10 picked me up every Friday and he paid my \$100 for a blow
11 job and he paid for the hotel room and he let me have the
12 hotel afterwards, and he did that for six weeks. And then
13 he came, not on the Friday, but on a Saturday, and I'd been
14 on a run for a few days, and I was really sick.

15 And I was standing over in behind
16 Oppenheimer Park and Darcy was watching me. And -- because
17 things were happening to women and stuff like that, he was
18 writing down license plates and stuff like that, and we
19 were trying to find ways to keep each other safe.

20 We had all these rules. Not to go on that
21 side of the track, and -- you know -- I mean, you know, to
22 try to keep each other safe. And Darcy had written down
23 the license plate and I was given \$100 and I tied it up in
24 my hair and I jumped in the vehicle. And I was roofied
25 again.

1 We were trying to find a spot to park, and
2 they asked me if I wanted to smoke a joint, and I said no
3 thanks. And they kept asking me to drink a beer. So this
4 one beer was open, and they kept giving that one to me.

5 And I literally took two tiny sips -- and we
6 were just under the bridge at Clarke and Hastings talking
7 about where we're going to go back to, to go do this oral
8 sex -- and I came to going up the bottom of Seymour
9 Mountain.

10 They ripped me apart. My mouth was split.
11 I got scars on the inside of my mouth from biting down so
12 hard that I bit through both my lips.

13 And I was begging for my life. I talked
14 about my son, I talked about my twin sister, I -- I begged.
15 I pleaded. I told them I'm a student, you know, like I
16 won't do this again, like you know, I'll get out of here.
17 I won't -- you know, like just -- let's just like say this
18 was a bad day.

19 And -- and I weighed 62 pounds. I had track
20 marks all over my neck and all over my arms. I had really
21 lived up to the name of Crazy Jackie, staying awake 22,
22 26 days solid. I was a death wish runner. I begged to
23 die. And when I was faced with death, I didn't want to
24 die.

25 I saw my baby brother when I was fighting.

1 I saw my sister. I dove out of a little window that was
2 open this much.

3 I had both of them inside me, one in the
4 front, one in the back. I was brutally sodomized and raped
5 for -- from like 2:00 in the afternoon until the next day
6 at 6:00 in the morning.

7 It got so hot and we'd gone through so many
8 condoms, and neither of these guys could get off. And I
9 was trying to be nice and trying to coax them and talking
10 about my kids.

11 But I was sitting on top of my casket that
12 they were going to bury me in. There was a shovel in the
13 back of the truck, and when I managed to dive out the
14 window, somewhere they had parked, and that license plate
15 that was on the back of the truck was gone.

16 I was on a plywood box that was nailed, that
17 was about this long, and this wide, and this high that had
18 yellow handles, which they were going to bury me on Seymour
19 Mountain. But what scared the shit out of me is the
20 conversation between the two of them when they were talking
21 about other people that they had done this to.

22 I dove out the window, and he dove after me,
23 and we were fighting like crazy and he wanted the \$100
24 back. And I was underneath his truck and I had a flash in
25 my head, and it was like you're going to die over \$100.

1 So I dove underneath the truck, went up the
2 other side, ran around the truck and he was -- he was -- he
3 went the other way, so we were both running towards each
4 other. And I ripped this \$100 out of my ponytail in my
5 hair and I threw it.

6 And they had already thrown my dress, my
7 shoes out the window. So he went running after the money
8 and I bent over, and I picked up my skirt and my shoes and
9 I ran straight to the road, because we were off the road
10 and there was trees, but you could -- you could see the
11 vehicles.

12 I was bleeding from all over. My lip was
13 split. My eye was split again. My ear was streaming --
14 was -- my belling hurt, my asshole hurt. I was -- I was a
15 bloody mess.

16 I limped down Seymour Mountain, and the
17 people that hurt me the worst were the people that wouldn't
18 pick me up, wouldn't help me. I seen school kids with
19 little uniforms in their little cars driving by with
20 parents going like this, don't look, you know. And I'm
21 screaming, "please, please help me, help me please."

22 A doctor from St. Paul's Hospital picked me
23 up. He didn't tell me what his name was, he just told me
24 he didn't want to help me because he was going to work and
25 that he's a doctor and that I'm going to make him late.

1 I begged him to take me to the police. I
2 begged to take me to the hospital. I wanted out so bad, I
3 wanted help so bad.

4 He really didn't want to get involved, and I
5 jumped into his car. And we actually chased a vehicle
6 because we thought it was the truck because -- you know,
7 because I wanted -- they must have gone in somewhere and
8 put the license back on, or whatever, and -- you know, gone
9 somewhere. But we had tried to catch -- we had tried to
10 catch the truck, but I think he deliberately turned the
11 wrong way because he really didn't want to get involved, so
12 the truck got away from us.

13 And we were going down Hastings Street, and
14 this doctor -- I'm like, "Please take me to the hospital,
15 please, or take me to the cop shop." I said, "Just take me
16 over there to the cop shop." And we were turning the
17 corner on Hastings and Main at Carnegie and he leaned over,
18 and he opened up the door and he kicked me out onto
19 Hastings Street and pulled up and closed his door and took
20 off on me. And I was getting kicked out of this car and
21 I'm trying to run, but I end up wiping out and screwing up
22 my knees on the curb, right on the corner of Main and
23 Hastings.

24 And right there is Darcy, and he just
25 fuckin' beat the shit out of me. He dragged me down the

1 street. Took me to Clay's and made me wash up and fuckin'
2 dressed me and put me back on the corner.

3 I was on and off the streets many times.
4 Four months sober, in a recovery house, back on the streets
5 for three months. Ten months sober, in and out of the
6 recovery house, you know, back on the streets for seven
7 months.

8 My longest run holding up one single drug
9 house on Franklin Avenue was 22 months. And I was with
10 Black Winston.

11 And that's when I knew the fuckin' police
12 were fucked. I knew they were before, because in 1983 and
13 '84, Mutt and Jeff used to be -- they used to rob the drug
14 dealers and beat them up, take them for a drive. And they
15 were VPD, the famous Mutt and Jeff crew, and they'd
16 literally rob you and beat the shit out of you and leave
17 you in Surrey or leave you somewhere and let you limp back
18 -- your way back, you know, to town.

19 And so I, as a stripper, used to run off
20 stage out the back alley and go, "I'm a witness to whatever
21 happens here," to try and help my friend to keep from
22 getting beat up and robbed and left somewhere. Is that we
23 would run out, and the only way that we could keep from,
24 you know, them hurting is just by running out and saying,
25 "I'm a witness to whatever happens here." And -- and

1 because, you know, I was a part of the bar and a stripper,
2 they -- they wouldn't rough me up. Sometimes they did if
3 somebody else tried that, you know, like -- but they were
4 notorious.

5 So I mean, I knew the police were corrupt,
6 but I didn't know it 1000 percent until Winston, when he
7 was stirring his cocaine talking to a police officer. And
8 Winston told me that he played the police, and I didn't
9 believe him until I seen him. I mean, they should have
10 fuckin' jacked him up and charged him and thrown the keys
11 away.

12 But Winston was my partner too that I did
13 not sleep with. I used to go on these long runs, and I
14 would crash after 22, 26 days, and I would crash for 34,
15 72 hours, and you couldn't wake me up. I have scars all
16 over my body where Winston would put his cigarettes out on
17 me. I've got them all over my arms, all over the place,
18 these burn marks from Winston. I've got them on my chest,
19 I've got them on my waist, I've got them on my ass, I've
20 got them on my thighs. I've got them all over my legs.

21 And he used to bug the girls, and -- that we
22 had in our drug house, and he would emphasize how he could
23 do anything to me when I was out and that he could hurt me.
24 And he would show them, and he would prove it.

25 And for the longest time the girls didn't

1 tell me he was putting cigarette butts out on me. Months
2 and months -- we did 22 months together, and I ended up one
3 big fuckin' sore after 22 months. That's where a lot of my
4 scars come from.

5 But the cops gave us permission to kill a
6 man. There was a guy named Jay that was hurting
7 prostitutes, and he was roughing up people in the streets
8 and jacking them up and robbing them. He was creating all
9 kinds of havoc for the police, doing B&Es.

10 He wasn't sticking to the rules because on
11 the Hastings, we had a code of ethics. You do crime, you
12 don't do it downtown, you do it somewhere else. You rip a
13 date off, you don't do it on Hastings, you rip them off
14 somewhere else and then come back to Hastings. And we had
15 these rules of how to keep it safe for the rest of us that
16 were down there that lived that lifestyle.

17 And ---

18 **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** (Inaudible).

19 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yeah.

20 And... I'm sorry, I forgot what my point was
21 there for a second. Oh, yeah. The point was about --
22 about they gave Winston permission to shoot Jay. That
23 there was an open -- open -- that they would not
24 investigate if he appeared dead, is the way they worded it.

25 And that was -- I mean, I ended up in a huge

1 scrap and a fight for my life because somebody on the other
2 end of the building was trying to rob a dealer, and I got
3 stuck in the building. I ended up ripping this poor girl's
4 throat out trying to get out. She's sober to this day.

5 There was these 16 locks in this board that
6 went from the ceiling to -- down to the door that blocked
7 off, and there was all these locks and these beams that
8 locked Cliff's door on Franklin. And Jay had overdosed,
9 and his girlfriend was in there.

10 And his girlfriend worked for me, and -- she
11 was one of my girls. And I thought that me providing drugs
12 and a hotel room and making sure they ate, and -- you know,
13 and they had a place to have safe tricks that I was nice to
14 them. I didn't know I was hurting them, until somewhere
15 around 19 months of holding up this drug house and I sat
16 down getting high with my girls.

17 They were -- unfortunately, I found out
18 later, they were 17 to 32 years old that lived in my house
19 for 22 years, I mean, 22 months. And they got ravaged by
20 drugs because of the availability that I made it that they
21 had to get anytime they wanted.

22 And when I almost got killed by Jay, to get
23 out I attacked his girlfriend and I punched these three
24 fingers into the side of her throat, and my thumb into this
25 side of her throat, and I shoved my hands in and I grabbed

1 a hold of her. But I did it from behind. I had my leg
2 wrapped around her and my arm wrapped around her, and I did
3 it from behind, and I had a hold of her with -- with her
4 neck. And I made Jay let me out.

5 And that girl had to have an operation to
6 repair her throat, and she sobered up, and she's still
7 clean today. That girl, she told me she was much older
8 than she was, and she was only 17 years old.

9 Dave Dickson is the police officer that
10 picked me up after that and got me into Cordova Detox. I
11 mean, he's picked me up so many times. That's called
12 sensitivity, compassion.

13 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Maggy,
14 would you -- would you mind if I took a five-minute break?

15 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Of course.

16 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** We'll
17 take a five-minute break please.

18 --- Upon recessing at 4:02 p.m.

19 --- Upon resuming at 4:15 p.m.

20 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** It's
21 4:15, and we're ready to continue.

22 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Hello?

23 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Okay,
24 good. We're good to go.

25 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Okay.

1 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Can you read
2 back where -- where we did stop last? (Inaudible).

3 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** You were
4 talking about Winston and Jay and escaping from Jay.

5 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Oh, yeah.

6 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** And you
7 got into Cordova Detox.

8 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Detox.

9 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** M'hm.

10 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yeah, and that
11 girl got clean and that's when I had time to process and
12 get clean and think about what I did to those women. And
13 when I thought that I was helping them, and when I was
14 actually hurting them and saw how ravaged they were with
15 the picking of the bodies, and -- you know, and you know,
16 and how they were living and stuff like that.

17 And I was mortified with myself. Because I
18 had always been the junkie on the corner that would save my
19 fix. I was always that one that would go do a fix with you
20 or go and get you, or -- you know. I mean, I mean, I was -
21 - I mean -- but you know, I really had to re-evaluate what
22 I was doing to these women. And I cried, and I cried, and
23 I cried, because I had never, ever wanted to be a part of
24 oppressing and hurting women.

25 That was a real turning point for me in --

1 because I always believed that I was garbage and there was
2 -- you know, there was no better life for me, and stuff
3 like that. But my adoptive dad said you can do anything
4 you set your mind and you just keep doing it and don't ever
5 give up. And so I would just keep going to a treatment
6 centre, and keep going to a recovery house, and I kept
7 trying.

8 Yet, on the streets, everything was
9 changing. My friends were going missing and disappearing,
10 and -- I mean, we were trying to cope on the streets. I
11 would ask Dave Dickson looking for so and so and so and so.

12 And then I found that -- I'd been friends
13 with Dawn Crey for a really long time, and I'd always
14 passed her off as crazy. And -- but she had this ability
15 of remembering, and she would look in this room and she
16 would rattle off what you were wearing, what date it was
17 and where you were on the streets the last time she'd seen
18 you.

19 So you see the whole streets of Hastings
20 running by her, and she'd be jibbering *[sic]* away and
21 everybody thought she was just talking crazy, but she was
22 jibbering *[sic]* real fast, but when she saw you, jibbering
23 *[sic]* real fast when she saw you, when she saw you, and
24 every single person that passed her, and then for the ones
25 that she didn't know that were regular people, she'd do,

1 don't know, don't know, and she'd do this flick thing. And
2 there was, you know, all these other people that she didn't
3 know that she would refuse to acknowledge, but she
4 acknowledged all the street people.

5 So once I realized how brilliant her brain
6 was, I started going to Dawn Crey looking for my friends.
7 I would sit down with a crack pipe, because that's how Dawn
8 did her -- her coke, and I'd give her a rock and we'd sit
9 down together in an alley. And I would ask her, you know,
10 have you seen Rebecca, have you seen Jenny? You know, when
11 was the last time? And she would tell me the exact dates,
12 and stuff like. And she helped me find people or she'd
13 help me be okay with -- okay, they're okay, she saw them
14 yesterday, right.

15 And -- yeah, that was... She got burned.
16 Strangers drove by her on the corner of Main and Hastings
17 and threw battery acid on her on the side of her face. She
18 wasn't a prostitute. She was my friend.

19 There was so many of them that were my
20 friends. They hung onto me at my worst. I was Crazy
21 Jackie. I was the freaker and the tweaker that was doing
22 it up and down alleys and -- you know, and in a mess and
23 staying awake for so long. And they would drag me back to
24 a room and go, "You gotta eat. Don't pick." You know,
25 "Wash your face. Don't pick at your face."

1 And they -- I picked up things, you know,
2 that -- that I remember today. I remember Christmas and
3 the snowball fight, you know, at -- at the hoe down when we
4 had the fight with VPD and the whole building bailed out
5 and we're having a snowball fight with VPD and the women
6 that lived there.

7 And I was walking around, and slowly, piece
8 by piece, woman by woman, entire buildings of women were
9 going missing. Main Street, Cordova, Roosevelt, Balmoral.
10 I mean -- and like -- and just one by one here and there,
11 over there and over there, and then it got bigger, and it
12 got bigger and it got bigger.

13 And my experience on Seymour Mountain
14 cemented into my head that I didn't want to die, that I
15 actually -- I didn't want to go through all of this and not
16 come to the part where I live a good life. Like I wanted
17 to get to the part where I fall in love, I have a baby, I -
18 - you know, I have a good life, I get a job, I -- you know.
19 I become, you know, a productive member of society.

20 I always craved that. I always desired it.
21 For no known reason, or for anything of any good life
22 experience, it was all out of the fact that I'd never had
23 it.

24 My parents raised my son, and my brother and
25 my sister, Ellen. My sister, Ellen, raised my son as well,

1 and she was a nurse. My dad worked at the mill and my mom
2 stayed at home. But my mom's phobia of people was so bad
3 that she never left the property and she never left the
4 house.

5 They were good to my son, and they allowed
6 me to have continuous contact with him. And they weren't
7 allowed to speak bad about me when I was home.

8 I got scared straight. A friend of mine
9 told me that his dad -- no. I got word from -- from the
10 hotel down, I can't remember what the name of it is, that
11 there was a message for me that my friend's dad had died,
12 and my friend was in recovery living in Mission. And I was
13 worried about him. So I went all the way down to this
14 hotel, and I -- I got a hold of my friend and I asked him
15 to come pick me up and I would go spend a couple of days
16 with him.

17 And that was March 13th, 1998, Friday the
18 13th. I detoxed. It took me 21 days to detox 100 percent.
19 After 21 days, I couldn't go back. I was on the streets --
20 my last month and a half on the streets I couldn't stand on
21 a corner anymore. I couldn't stick a needle in my arm
22 anymore. I couldn't turn a trick anymore.

23 And my last -- from 1994 when that went on
24 with what happened in Franklin rooms, I stopped
25 prostituting women and I stopped holding up drug houses,

1 and I lived in the hoe down. And every time I relapsed I
2 went back to the hoe down. And -- but I wouldn't go back
3 into prostituting or having other women work for me or sell
4 drugs anymore.

5 And my last day on the street, I seen Sarah
6 deVries on April the 13th, I mean, February the 13th. Before
7 that, in April, sometime in the end of April was the last
8 time I had seen Cara Ellis, my best friend. And I had
9 gotten clean for ten months and I relapsed because I found
10 Cara downtown.

11 And Cara and I, we used to hate each other,
12 originally and first on the streets, until we went to a
13 recovery house in Surrey together. She was a feisty little
14 tough ---

15 **MS. EVELYN YOUNGCHIEF:** Can I interrupt you
16 for a second?

17 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Oh. So Kara
18 Stone is the only one left?

19 **MS. EVELYN YOUNGCHIEF:** (Inaudible).

20 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Oh.

21 **MS. EVELYN YOUNGCHIEF:** (Inaudible).

22 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Oh. Thank you.

23 **MS. EVELYN YOUNGCHIEF:** I didn't mean to
24 interrupt. I just wanted to share that with her right now.
25 So I guess you didn't know. Sorry.

1 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yeah. No, I
2 didn't.

3 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** It'd be
4 great, if you spoke, if we knew who you were though.

5 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Oh, I'm sorry.
6 Here.

7 **MS. EVELYN YOUNGCHIEF:** Hi, my name is
8 Evelyn Youngchief, a very long-time friend of Margaret
9 here, Maggy, as we call her.

10 For me, Maggy -- I think of all the West
11 Coast sisters, she's the longest survivor that I know,
12 because so many of them are gone. So she's -- she's still
13 here with us. I don't think there's anyone out there that
14 I know that can share and that survived the worst of the
15 worst, because everybody we know is gone; right?

16 So -- I mean, there is others, there is
17 others that are still here, but Maggy has gone through the
18 worst, and -- for all these years she spoke up for them.
19 Because me, I haven't spoken at the -- February 14 march
20 like Maggy does.

21 So yeah. I'm really honoured to be sitting
22 here beside her. I came in and I was listening to her and
23 I started crying and I left and got myself together in the
24 bathroom and I came back to listen to her again.

25 And during the break, she grabbed me, and I

1 said I'll come sit with you. But I didn't think I was
2 going to be sitting up. But it's -- I feel -- so yeah.

3 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** Yeah, okay.
4 It's okay.

5 Oh, yeah. We're going to go back to a
6 couple of things that happened. We're going to go back to
7 -- I got busted in '94, and it was the second time I was
8 busted.

9 That mugshot of me was the first time I was
10 busted a week ago that's up there that I'm holding. Yeah,
11 that was in 1994. And a week after that, I got busted.

12 And I was coming out of the Brazil rooms.
13 And the Brazil rooms, the stairs are literally like this.
14 And I come running down, and I put my four spitballs in my
15 mouth in the back, because I've got these spots where I
16 don't have molars where they can sit close to my tongue.
17 And I came running down the stairs and I had an umbrella in
18 my hand. And I had a little pink dress that had sleeves
19 like this, but it was really tight, and the back went like
20 this, so you could see my whole back, and you could see my
21 cleavage and that, and I had my 5-inch stiletto high heels,
22 and I'm -- down the stairs.

23 And I opened up the door and this police
24 officer fuckin' clocked me right across my throat as I came
25 out that door, but he clocked me above where the dope was.

1 So he actually ended up helping me swallow it.

2 Well, I come out, and after he
3 (indiscernible) me and I'm coughing and I'm sputtering and
4 I'm -- like I -- you know, and I'm trying to stay up off
5 the ground, and I'm in the process of trying to swallow it,
6 and he handcuffs me. And he says, "Where is it?" And I
7 said, "I don't have any dope." You know, I was like, "I
8 don't fuckin' have any dope."

9 And he was pissed off because he knew for
10 sure I did. So he walked me from the Brandy's down around
11 the corner to the main police station to the holding cells,
12 and he took me up in the elevator.

13 And I'm 62 pounds soaking wet. Five-foot-
14 three-and-a-half, 62 pounds, wearing this little dress, and
15 I'm handcuffed with my hands behind my back. And he
16 smashed me from one side of the elevator to the other side,
17 back and forth, beating me up in this elevator while we're
18 going up.

19 We got out on the men's floor. I looked
20 around, and right in front of me was that men's drunk tank
21 holding cell right there, and there was like seven or eight
22 guys inside there. Well, they see me coming with my little
23 dress and my high heel shoes and they're banging off the
24 bars, and woo woo, you know, it was like party. You know,
25 they think that I'm they're fuckin' lunch or something like

1 that, some delivery of some prostitute to the cells.

2 And I'm handcuffed standing right in the
3 middle of this, you know, this floor, and there is this
4 railing here and there's six police officers there, and the
5 guy goes around, and he leaves me there. And he goes -- he
6 goes, "Well," he was like, "who's going to strip search
7 him?" And they're like -- the guys in the cell are saying,
8 "She's female," but the cops are having an argument in
9 front of me.

10 And more cops come out. And now they're
11 placing bets on whether or not I'm female or not. And I'm
12 standing there, and I'm like, "What do you mean you don't
13 think I'm female?" He goes, "Oh, you're a trannie, you're
14 a transvestite."

15 Well, of course, I had no boobs. I was
16 62 pounds. At 140 pounds, I got no boobs, so I was like
17 what the hell, you know. It's like I'm a trannie because
18 I'm a flatsy?

19 So I was trying to process this stuff. But
20 then I started getting humiliated, catcalled and jeered,
21 and they wanted me to pull out my dick, and -- you know,
22 and they wanted to -- they were still trying to figure out
23 who was going to strip search me, and I was adamant that I
24 was female to the point that I was running away from them
25 when they were trying to drag me into a cell to strip

1 search me, and I'm kicking these cops in the ankles because
2 I've got no protection, my hands are cuffed behind my back.
3 And I'm running around and kicking at their ankles.

4 And -- and they were jeering me, and they
5 were saying that I was a transvestite. And because I was
6 so insistent, and I was wiry and slippery as fuck, they
7 finally called down to get a female matron to come up to
8 check me out.

9 And she didn't even close the door of the
10 prison cell that -- where you check people out. And she
11 left the door wide open. So the prison cell is here, the
12 elevator to come in is here, the prison cell that she strip
13 searches me in is here, the tank where all those guys are
14 is right here, and where all the cops are is right in front
15 of me. So at least all these cops are watching her strip
16 search me and taking my clothes off and stuff like that.

17 And I have long labia's and I have these
18 things that come out from the inside of my privates, and
19 she was like, "Is that a penis?" And I said, "Part them."
20 It was like -- and that's when she freaked, and she went,
21 "You don't have a tranny here, you have a 100 percent
22 female."

23 And she took me and covered me with a
24 blanket. I got dressed, she covered me with a blanket.
25 All the cops ran in all different kinds of directions, and

1 I was pushed into the elevator and let go of.

2 How can you trust people on one hand and
3 then have them do that to you on another hand? What gives
4 them the right? I mean, the powers that be in Vancouver
5 don't only exist in Vancouver, they exist in every major
6 city across Canada, and they also exist in the States.

7 I don't know how that system works, but I
8 know it exists. There's a fuckin' system between the
9 police, between the healthcare system, and between the
10 streets and the whole drug trade. And somehow, they keep
11 everybody happy. They're making money off of us.

12 Because we never wanted to be there. We
13 wanted to go back to the lives that we had. And that --
14 and you know, that was...

15 You know, my -- I got clean so I got scared
16 straight. Valentine's Day is the first day of -- of -- you
17 know, my new year out of the Downtown East Side. And I've
18 had a relapse, but this is 20 -- this Valentine's Day was
19 my 20th Valentine's out of the Downtown East Side.

20 I'm an advocate and a woman's speaker. I'm
21 in -- somewhere in between 27 and 52 documentaries because
22 of the filming of Pickton and stuff like that, and all
23 that. So from Spiegel TV in Germany, Norway, Japan, I
24 mean, it's -- I'm in lots of documentaries.

25 I public speak, and I advocate for women and

1 youth, because I was a youth and I was a woman that needed
2 help that was failed so many times, because I have
3 posttraumatic and survivor's guilt, that I loved the women
4 that hung on to me. I have a better life today because of
5 all my friends on the street that hung onto me until I
6 could get out.

7 And I love them. I think of them. I think
8 of them every day. I think of the qualities that they had
9 and how they touched me.

10 My survivor's guilt made me, empowered me.
11 Instead of hurting myself with it, to think of things how
12 could have I helped my friend when they were on the street.
13 So I created the self-monitoring system. I created a piece
14 of paper with Pivot Legal Society, which no longer exists.

15 Okay. The self-monitoring system. Say all
16 of us are -- in this room are on Hastings Street and we're
17 all ravaged drug addicts and prostitutes and we want to
18 stay safe. Well, I know for a fact the reason why
19 predators come to Hastings is because they know that nobody
20 is going to notice when they take them. Even today, they
21 know that. They're spineless bastards that go after what
22 they believe 100 percent that they can get away with.

23 So I thought, what if we watch these women?
24 What if they check in, and that we notice when they go
25 missing? What does that look like?

1 I was raised -- I -- like I said, I did the
2 wild thing once when I was six weeks pregnant, and I got
3 pregnant with my daughter and it catapulted me into
4 recovery. I worked in -- at the Mission Indian Friendship
5 Centre and I taught youths alternatives to alcohol, drugs
6 and crime at six weeks clean. I taught them how to make
7 dreamcatchers, and I taught them how to make blankets.

8 And -- and I joined a woman's -- program for
9 women that were pregnant in recovery, and I got an alcohol
10 and drug counsellor and I got a grief and loss counsellor.
11 And I took all the tools of all the recovery houses and the
12 treatment centres and my desire for a better life, knowing
13 that I was filled in my belly with my baby girl that was
14 born in sobriety. Because it was really important for me
15 not to do to my daughter what I did to my son, or what was
16 done to me and my twin sisters and my siblings.

17 And I had a clean and sober pregnancy. I
18 had a relapse with my daughter when she was older.

19 I went back to school. I became a nurse. I
20 went back to school and -- I took the home support caring
21 course. I took that in 1999 after I had one year of
22 sobriety. I came back to Powell River to have reasonable
23 access to my son and for him to have reasonable access to
24 me while I was raising a daughter.

25 I was in love with Henry. Henry John Martin

1 was my partner. We weren't married. He's [daughter's name
2 redacted - Rule 55]'s father, was [daughter's name redacted
3 - Rule 55]'s father. [Sentence redacted pursuant to Rule
4 55].

5 I caught him. He was abusing me, and in a
6 backwards way I caught him. I woke up with him sexually
7 abusing me and beating the shit out of me, and then when I
8 started fighting back he acted like he woke up. He has a
9 brain injury and he's got a scar on the side of his face,
10 and I thought that he did that because of something because
11 of his brain injury.

12 And so I made him go to counselling and
13 stuff like that, but he did it again six months later. And
14 I told him you need to go get help. And then he did it
15 again three months later, and I had him charged for what he
16 did to me.

17 But I had him charged because of what my
18 daughter revealed happened between her and him. And he
19 hadn't had sex with her yet, but he had put his mouth down
20 there.

21 And I'd attracted a pedophile in recovery.
22 That's why they say not to get into relationships for the
23 first year because we're sick. I was really sick, and I
24 attracted a person that was really sick, and I ended up
25 with an amazing beautiful daughter.

1 But I fought for her. And he's got a sealed
2 file of women, I mean, girls, his girls, his daughters that
3 he sexually abused that Catholic Charities took away from
4 him and gave him his boys, because he was a preferential
5 pedophile and he would not touch a boy, but he would touch
6 a girl.

7 The Ministry knew my old man was a pedophile
8 and nobody in the Ministry during my pregnancy told me. I
9 had to find out after he touched her. And it was
10 documented seven different times. I had the right to know
11 that the person I was getting involved with was a bad man,
12 especially being pregnant with his child.

13 So many ways I've been failed as a person,
14 as a human being, as a woman, as an Aboriginal. Me,
15 sitting here in my regalia speaks to my healing. I never
16 wanted to be Indian. I never wanted to speak my truths.
17 It speaks to my respect for myself.

18 I tell my stories to try and help others
19 because there is a history that I have in my head. My
20 recovery hasn't been easy. I've fought for every piece of
21 it.

22 I got my dad back. Becoming a caring nurse,
23 I did about just over two years of palliative care of my
24 dad, Carl Gisle. I did four-and-a-half year Alzheimer's
25 care of my mom, Ingrid Gisle.

1 I took my daughter, after I relapsed, and I
2 had left her at the Y, [paragraph redacted pursuant to Rule
3 55].

4 She was 5-years-old, maybe four-and-a-half,
5 5-years-old, or 6-years-old when I -- no. She would have
6 been 5-years-old, almost 5-years-old when I relapsed, and
7 we were in Vancouver.

8 And... I couldn't go back to using drugs,
9 though. I couldn't stick a needle in my arm. I sat there
10 for days, and days, and days, and I smoked crack cocaine,
11 but I could not stick a needle in my arm. I was absolutely
12 terrified that I would end up back in hell again.

13 It was a four-and-a-half month relapse, and
14 I got clean. [Sentence redacted - Rule 55]. I took
15 Parenting Wisely, Strengthening Families, there was a
16 couple of other ones. There was a child one, where you
17 actually had a dinner at the end of the thing. I can't
18 remember what that one was called, but -- I went back to
19 12-Step programs, and we were okay.

20 My twin sister was assaulted by her
21 ex-boyfriend and he broke her neck, and my twin sister is a
22 paraplegic in 2008. Today, I do care of my twin sister
23 part time. I'm on disability and I'm allowed to make 700
24 extra, well 800, but I make 100 at the CRCN and make 700
25 with my sister.

1 And -- but he promised five years before
2 2008 that he was going to kill her boyfriend. And in 2008,
3 he came barreling down the hill, and Lisa's car was parked
4 on the side of the road. They were out of gas and my
5 sister was in the car, and -- with the seat reclined.

6 And Dan was outside of the car flagging down
7 this big huge truck coming down towards him, and it was
8 Cliff LaPlere (ph). He shoved my sister's vehicle, parked
9 with the emergency brake on, about 180 metres into the
10 bush. He was doing somewhere between 190 and 240 when he
11 hit my sister's vehicle.

12 He broke her neck. She died. She has a
13 spinal cord injury, she can't walk.

14 She's bedbound now and she's at home, and
15 recovery has given us back our relationship, because we
16 parted ways at 16 because I used to beat her up, and -- you
17 know, and we parted ways and I decided that, okay, I'm a
18 better sister if I just leave her alone. And we're really,
19 really close. Recovery has given us that back.

20 I was assaulted. I was assaulted a few
21 times in recovery. I had a boyfriend. When [daughter's
22 name redacted - Rule 55] was visiting her auntie's, he
23 roofied me and sodomized and raped me in recovery. I went
24 through a really bad depression and a really bad fear
25 because [daughter's name redacted - Rule 55] could have

1 been there. It was just by chance that she was spending
2 the weekend with her auntie.

3 I actually had to go to the doctor's because
4 my stomach and my asshole hurt so bad and my insides hurt
5 so bad I thought he left something inside me. So I
6 actually had to go to the hospital and get them to check me
7 out.

8 In 2012, I got involved with a man that I
9 had known for about seven months in recovery. Six-foot-
10 four, 247 pounds. I'm 5 foot 3, 132 pounds.

11 He wanted -- he wanted to have a last drink
12 because he got released from jail and was ordered to go to
13 a recovery house and he wanted to have a last drink. I
14 understand a last fix, I understand a last drink.

15 I'd never drank with this man before. I was
16 in recovery and met him in recovery. And I took him to a
17 friend's place so that he could have a drink, and I bought
18 him an 8-pack of that 8 percent beer.

19 And six beers into it, that he drank in
20 40 minutes, he just went ballistic. He beat the shit out
21 of me, he slammed my head through two walls. He beat the
22 shit out of my friend, Neil, put him through a plate glass
23 window, almost severed his artery. And I got marks on my
24 neck from the burns from where he was twisting my necklace
25 and choking me to death. And he dragged me out in the

1 backyard and he was kicking the shit out of me up
2 underneath the bush. And Old Man Ralph came out with a
3 baseball bat and hit him a couple of times with a baseball
4 bat, and Michael ran away.

5 But my daughter was just getting out of
6 school and the bus was coming, and we lived on the other
7 side of Wildwood, which was only about a 15-minute walk.
8 And that's the way Michael headed, and I knew she was
9 coming home to spend about 35-40 minutes, pack her bag with
10 her best friend and then she was going to go somewhere
11 else.

12 And -- but I didn't know that she had gotten
13 to the other place safely, so I ran home. And he actually
14 chased me part of the way, and then -- he's got bad hips,
15 so I managed to get away from him.

16 And I got home, and I ran in the house and I
17 locked down all the doors. [Two sentences redacted - Rule
18 55].

19 And I was all beat up and I told her -- I
20 phoned 911 and they said, yes, we're looking for Michael
21 Douglas, you know, we're going to get him, and you know,
22 it's going to be okay. Stay where you are, we're going to
23 send a cop car. Don't -- you know, just don't move and,
24 you know, someone's going to come get you.

25 So I collapsed, and I laid down on my bed

1 while [daughter's name redacted - Rule 55] and Christine
2 were still packing. And they had hit -- I made sure they
3 had locked all the windows, pulled down all the blinds, and
4 everything like that. And they were in [daughter's name
5 redacted - Rule 55]'s bedroom which was beside mine.

6 And about an hour-and-a-half later, there
7 was this bang, bang, bang on the back door. And I was
8 dozing, and I went, oh, the cops, and I ran -- I went to
9 get up.

10 Well, [daughter's name redacted - Rule 55]
11 was ahead of me, and when he banged again, I was running
12 after her, and I was just about to say, "No, [daughter's
13 name redacted - Rule 55]," and she opened up the door and
14 it was Michael. And she went to close the door and he's
15 trying to push her in. And I get there and I'm pushing the
16 door closed. So it's both me and [name redacted - Rule 55]
17 trying to push this door closed, but we're fighting a
18 6 foot 4, 247-pound man, a 12-year-old girl and -- and me.
19 And we lost.

20 I told [daughter's name redacted - Rule 55]
21 to go to the bedroom, but she knew that Michael was -- he
22 really likes knives, he plays with knives all the time. So
23 when she ran away, she grabbed all my knives because they
24 were in a knife chopping block, and she ran out and she
25 went into the bedroom. And it's a weird bedroom because

1 there's this little balcony and these stairs, and you can
2 get outside. And she went out there and she threw the
3 knives in the back of this truck and she came running back
4 in and she locked everything back up.

5 And she locked herself in the bedroom with
6 Christine, and she put Christine in the closet and covered
7 her with clothes. And I had locks on the door for
8 [daughter's name redacted - Rule 55]'s bedroom, and she
9 locked herself in there.

10 And I was pushing him back, telling him,
11 "You can't touch me," you know, I mean, "like you can't
12 come here and fuckin' beat the shit out of me and expect to
13 come back in my life." I said, "The cops are called," I
14 said, "fuck off," like, "get out of here."

15 And he picked me up, he picked me up, turned
16 me over, grabbed around me, and slammed down, picked his
17 leg up and slammed me down on my head three times. I could
18 hear bones smashing, crunching, and I fought each time.

19 And the third time he stood over me, he
20 stood over me and he looked down at me and he said, "When
21 I'm finished beating the shit out of you, and breaking you
22 in two," and I took breaking you into two as in killing me,
23 he goes, "I'm going to beat the shit out of your 12-year-
24 old daughter because she deserves it." And then he put his
25 hands on his hips and he looked down at me and he goes,

1 "Then I'm going to beat the shit out of your twin sister
2 just because I fuckin' can." My twin sister is paralyzed
3 in a wheelchair and 100 percent defenseless, and so is my
4 12-year-old daughter.

5 I laid underneath his legs and I looked up
6 at him and I roared from the bottom of my soul. I said,
7 "No, you don't," and I jumped up.

8 I grabbed him by the shoulder, I stuck my
9 thumb right into his collarbone and I dug in real hard. I
10 took -- I took these -- what did I -- oh, I took my fist
11 and I -- I grabbed on and I punched him as hard as I could
12 three times in his Adams apple. And he fell like a fuckin'
13 tree.

14 And I kept my thumb while he was going down
15 into his collarbone, and I sat on his chest and I went to
16 smash his -- I went to smash his -- hello? I went to --
17 oh. I went to smash his nose up into his brain, but he
18 turned his head at the last second, so I actually placed
19 his nose underneath his eye.

20 And then I took these three fingers, while I
21 was pressing down on his collarbone with my thumb in that
22 spot that really hurts. And -- so I missed his nose and I
23 took these three fingers and I bashed into his throat like
24 I'd done that girl I told you about, and then I stuck my
25 finger and the thumb, and I shoved my fingers in, and I

1 started pulling for all I was worth. And when I had a hold
2 of his esophagus with my hands in there, I -- I started
3 scratching up his face. And I had really long nails, and I
4 literally ripped him apart.

5 And I was going to kill him. I was like
6 you're not hurting my family, you're not hurting me, you're
7 not hurting my daughter, you're not hurting my sister.

8 [Sentence redacted pursuant to Rule 55].

9 [Three sentences redacted pursuant to Rule
10 55] -- I thought she ran back in the bathroom. And I got
11 up off of him and I booted him as hard as I could in the
12 head and I stumbled to the back door.

13 And I opened up the door. And there was at
14 least nine Powell River police officers standing there that
15 would not cross that door because they were having an
16 argument with the landlord who was going to pay for the
17 fuckin' kicked in door because they're going to have to
18 take a battering ram because it's an iron metal door and
19 it's like a whole -- really -- it's a really nice house.
20 And so the landlord is preventing the police from breaking
21 into the house to help me.

22 I was taken by ambulance. They took him in
23 handcuffs. They actually didn't let him get medical help
24 and he is scarred for the rest of his life from me. He is
25 not a pretty boy anymore. He's got deep scratches in his

1 face; his nose is over here. Oh, I went to pull his eye
2 out too, so his eyeball is all fucked up, yeah, and he's
3 got the thing above his throat. But he used to be really
4 particular about his nose.

5 But he got served -- he served -- for all
6 those assaults and what he did, uttering threats and
7 everything like that, he got 13 days time served.

8 And you know, I don't mean towards oh, it's
9 because I'm native, or you know. I honestly don't know
10 why. I just know that every time that I come into a system
11 I come out on the short end of the stick.

12 And I was treated horribly after that
13 because my doctor said that there was nothing wrong with my
14 neck. I walked around for three years and four months with
15 a broken neck. I walked like this around because I
16 couldn't lift my head.

17 I was treated like a junkie. I was kicked
18 out of hospitals, I was kicked out of those temporary, you
19 know, what do they call those clinics, those -- yeah, and
20 after -- walk-in clinics and after hours. I was kicked
21 out. I was treated like I was totally drug seeking.

22 I actually -- before the assault of me --
23 no. After the assault of me, shortly after, my daughter
24 went through a traumatic experience and she got bullied and
25 ---

1 recommendations and I was working on them for a long time.
2 And I have a computer that I was just typing and typing and
3 typing and I've been working on for a long time. And I
4 never saved it, and I went to save it before I came here,
5 and I deleted everything. So I kind of wrote them down
6 again on here.

7 And I wish there wasn't a statute of
8 limitations on crimes done against me. There's so many
9 that need to face what they did. From my birth parents, at
10 one time it would have been my adoptive mom, to who raped
11 me when I was a child, to Jocelyne holding me down. Like
12 there shouldn't be a statute of limitations. Like I
13 shouldn't have to see these people still in our
14 communities. Like...

15 So that's on a personal side. Like my dad's
16 still alive. I have property up in Prince Rupert, and so
17 does my sister, and I won't go there until he's not here.
18 But more importantly, I want to finish this so I can have
19 the strength to charge him.

20 Okay. So I got, Number 1, rebuild the self-
21 monitoring system, the one that I was explaining about.
22 It's like you sign in every 24 hours and then they know
23 you're safe, and if you don't sign in, a red flag goes up.
24 And it's a system that I created, and it needs to be
25 running because it will help in every major city that is

1 drug entrenched.

2 The Ministry needs to open sealed files of
3 children that were scooped -- because I'm also a sixties
4 scooped child and so is my twin sister -- that were scooped
5 from their families and adopted out into non-Aboriginal
6 homes. There are so many of my adopted friends that didn't
7 or don't even know they're native.

8 The Ministry needs to open the files of
9 children that were adopted and tell the truth of where they
10 come from and who they are and who their birth family is
11 and if they have brothers and sisters. They can no longer
12 get the right to remake our history.

13 Okay. We need to be able to identify our
14 roots and culture. We definitely -- we need to make that
15 legal piece of paper that I created with Pivot Legal
16 Society that says, okay, "I, Maggy Jacqueline Joyce Gisle
17 recognize Jody Knowles as a family member in the case that
18 I go missing, because I've been estranged from my family
19 for such and such a years." But that piece of paper, you
20 could put it to somebody at Wish or somebody -- you know.
21 I mean -- and -- and it enables to report people in a
22 timely manner.

23 The Ministry did not report Cara Ellis
24 missing until she was missing for 10 years, and then they
25 handed her file over to the police. And then shortly

1 after, she was found on the pig farm.

2 It should be mandatory, because I'm sorry,
3 if you're on a -- in a drug-entrenched life you are going
4 to pick up at the latest by Friday. You don't pick up on
5 Wednesday, a red flag goes up. You know, you don't come on
6 Thursday, that red flag just got a little bigger. But
7 Friday, I'm sorry, your file should be turned over to the
8 police.

9 That is in practice right now at Main and
10 Hastings' Welfare Office, but it is in no other office
11 except that one, and it needs to be practiced in all.

12 Number 5, teach youths how to love
13 themselves, age appropriate, from preschool to Grade 12.
14 If I'd have loved myself, I would have stood up and had a
15 voice for myself.

16 Teach youths from preschool to Grade 12 age
17 appropriate life skills to deal with anger, hurt,
18 disappointment, success, sadness, and how to express all
19 their feelings in a positive way. We take for granted --
20 these need to be in our school system. We can't take for
21 granted that these are being taught at home, because we
22 have so many homes that are damaged, and we got to heal
23 from the inside out.

24 Six, teach -- okay. No, I did that one.

25 Seven, teach our youth age appropriately

1 from preschool to Grade 12 about all religions and
2 cultures, age appropriately. And the reason why I say that
3 is because we have so many prejudices about what we don't
4 know, and we don't have openness. So age appropriately, we
5 need to identify what a Muslim is, what a Jew is, what a
6 Catholic is, what an Anglican is and what it is be Nisga'a
7 or, you know -- and all the -- age appropriately so that
8 we're not judging them, that we're understanding them.

9 Number 8, teach age appropriately from
10 preschool to Grade 12 about all types of mental illness in
11 schools. Identify the different types of mental illness
12 and ways of managing and identifying mental illness.

13 Have mental illness assessments mandatory in
14 school, is Number 9.

15 Number 10, in our prison system, if you are
16 not a Canadian citizen and you've hurt our women or sold
17 drugs and you've got multiple convictions and you're not
18 yet a Canadian, kick them back to their country. They did
19 that to my husband in 1994. He was charged with possession
20 for the purpose of trafficking, possession for the purpose
21 of trafficking, failing to appear, failing to report, but
22 he was on the run from Mexico and he had illegal
23 immigration papers saying he was from Guatemala when he had
24 papers saying that he was born in (indiscernible), Mexico.

25 When the cops finally caught up to him, they

1 graduated and for people that want to change their life
2 direction. Help restore our language. Teach practical
3 life skills of how to do dishes, laundry, and pay the
4 bills, clean the house, garden, canning, and shopping and
5 budgeting, age appropriate chores in school.

6 Police sensitivity training that includes
7 extensive knowledge of addiction, alcoholism and mental
8 illness. And the police need to have a panel of the public
9 that they're accountable for when there is grievance
10 against them.

11 And we need way more female and youth detox
12 centres. What we have right now is not even 10 percent of
13 what's available for men in Vancouver, and we need to even
14 those so that the women's is offering as much as what's
15 available for the men in Vancouver, but across the country
16 too.

17 Yeah, police -- that's the last one, the
18 emphasis on police accountability and the public panel for
19 grievance in every province.

20 I have other recommendations, but there is
21 structuring, and you know -- I mean, there is packages that
22 I'm going to have to turn in at a later date. But my
23 recommendations are based out of that I was a person that
24 didn't have a voice and didn't have support, and people
25 that were supposed to be helping and supporting me failed

1 me. And I think that, you know, if I'd have loved myself
2 and respected myself and had learned those skills, that my
3 life would have taken a much different direction.

4 **MS. WENDY van TONGEREN:** Over to you, Madam
5 Commissioner.

6 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Maggy,
7 I'm not often at a loss for words, as most people can tell
8 you. But I am -- I -- you're remarkable.

9 What I want to tell you is this, what you've
10 said today is so important to the work that we're doing,
11 and I thank you very much for making a fabulous
12 contribution to our work and providing a voice, not only
13 for the women of the Downtown East Side, those who are
14 still with us and those who aren't, but also advocating for
15 young people coming up.

16 Thank you so much. Your recommendations are
17 brilliant. Not surprising. So you've made a valuable,
18 valuable contribution to our work today, and I thank you
19 for that.

20 I want to thank you personally as well.
21 It's women like you that give me the strength to go
22 forward. Even though people are banging the table for my
23 resignation and putting an end to this national inquiry,
24 you help me get through all that. So thank you.

25 I also want to thank you for your humour

1 today. Please know in your heart that you're a beautiful,
2 beautiful Indigenous woman who is smart, who is strong, who
3 is resilient, and has accomplished so much and given so
4 much.

5 Because of how you've helped us this
6 afternoon -- I also want to say one thing, a very personal
7 comment to you, and I hope this gives you strength and
8 doesn't hurt you. Okay?

9 Some really bad things happened to you that
10 you didn't deserve and were not your fault. You're a
11 beautiful person. Please remember that.

12 So having said that, because you've given us
13 so much today, we have some gifts for you. First of all,
14 we have an eagle feather for you because as we all know,
15 eagle feathers will lift you up and hold you up when you
16 need it. And when you have dreams of doing something more
17 or something greater, the eagle feather will help you get
18 to that next level.

19 We also have some seeds. Now, I hope you
20 have better luck than I did.

21 **MS. MAGGY (MARGARET) GISLE:** I grow -- I
22 grow good.

23 **CHIEF COMMISSIONER MARION BULLER:** Good.
24 I'm glad to hear that. When the commissioners and I
25 started this work, we hoped, as part of our work, that

1 there would be healing, and out of healing, new growth and
2 strength. So we decided that we would give witnesses who
3 come forward to share their truths, seeds to plant.

4 If something grows, please take a picture
5 and send it to us for our archive. And actually, we're
6 having pictures coming from all over Canada now. And
7 hopefully this will bring new growth for you as well.

8 I wish you years of good health, sobriety.
9 I wish all the best for you and your family. Thank you so
10 much.

11 And thank you to your support people who
12 have -- who have been wonderful all afternoon. Thank you
13 so much as well.

14 And feel free to send Wendy your volumes of
15 recommendations. I look forward to receiving them. Thank
16 you so much.

17 And we're adjourned.

18

19 **--- Exhibits (code: P01P15P0406)**

20 **Exhibit 1:** Folder containing four digital images
21 displayed during the public testimony of the
22 witness

23

24 --- Upon adjourning at 5:18 p.m.

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LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Suzanne Jobb, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this matter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Suzanne Jobb", is written over a horizontal line.

Suzanne Jobb

April 17, 2018