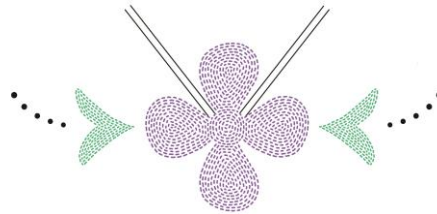


National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



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 1 Statement Gathering
Four Points Sheraton
Moncton, New Brunswick**



PUBLIC

Tuesday February 13, 2018

Statement - Volume 246

“Betty Joe,” In relation to her sister “Lucie”

Statement gathered by Daria Boyarchuk

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II

ORDER

On February 27, 2018, Chief Commissioner Marion R. Buller ordered that all names in this public transcript, and any related documents, be rendered anonymous. This order was made pursuant to Rule 7 of *Legal Path: Rules of Respectful Practice*. Neither the witness' nor her sister's real names are used in this transcript.

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Documents submitted with testimony: none.

Statement - Public
"Betty Joe"
("Lucie")

1

1 Moncton, New Brunswick

2 --- Upon commencing on Tuesday, February 13, 2018

3 at 10:30 a.m.

4 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Hi, my name is Daria
5 Boyarchuk, and I'm a statement-gatherer for the Inquiry,
6 and today I'm meeting with Betty Joe and her health
7 support, Alma, to -- in Moncton, New Brunswick, February
8 13th of 2018, and would you please introduce yourself?

9 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: My name is Alma. I'm
10 a resolution health support worker for the Mi'kmaq
11 Confederacy in PEI, but I've come over here with the Prince
12 Edward Island FILU to help support PEI survivors.

13 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Thank you. And
14 Betty Joe, do you agree voluntarily to having your
15 statement recorded, the audio and video recorded, for the
16 Commission?

17 MS. BETTY JOE: Yes, I do.

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Thank you.

19 So like I mentioned earlier, we are here
20 to hear your story, to have you share your story with us.
21 What would you like the Commissioners to know about you,
22 about your family, your loved ones? What would you like
23 them to hear?

24 MS. BETTY JOE: All right. I'm just
25 trying to figure out where to start.

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1 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Take your time.

2 MS. BETTY JOE: I think it would probably
3 be important to kind of start when I was younger, so you
4 heard my statement in PEI, so that background information,
5 I think, is important.

6 I'm the youngest of eight girls. My
7 mother, by the time -- by the time I was born, she was 25,
8 so eight girls. She's a resident -- Indian residential
9 school survivor, and unfortunately, because of that trauma
10 in her life and because of marrying so young and having so
11 many babies when she was 20 -- by the time she was 25, she
12 was very overwhelmed.

13 There was alcohol abuse that she was
14 dealing with, and my parents at the time were just going
15 through a really hard time. We were on the reserve in
16 [Reserve 1], Alberta, dirt-poor, we were living dirt-poor,
17 and trying to survive on a reserve that didn't have very
18 much economic development or any possibility, as far as
19 work goes, so it was very challenging.

20 My father decided when I was young, just
21 after I was born, to go to Edmonton, which is three-and-a-
22 half hours away, to look for work, and then be able to
23 provide money for -- for the family.

24 At that time he was sending money home,
25 when he was able to find work he was sending money home,

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1 but it wasn't always used for -- it wasn't always used for
2 food, and it wasn't always used for things that us girls
3 needed. Sometimes my mom took the money and drank.

4 Having met her finally, and having spoken
5 to her, it's really, really hard to -- to -- to put my own
6 personal feelings aside, because at the time what she was
7 going through and what she was dealing with, and the way
8 she recounts it, is very different from the way that the
9 older girls recount it, and again, I have to remember,
10 everybody has a different perspective, right, and -- and
11 that when you're young and you're hungry, you want food,
12 and when you're young and you've got eight girls, and you
13 need that break, so trying to recognize what the two sides
14 were, because I was just a baby.

15 Then social services stepped in to take
16 some of us, to take us girls out of the home, because it
17 wasn't fit to live in any more, and my mother wasn't fit to
18 look after us, because of her alcoholism, and my father had
19 moved on with his life in Edmonton, and he started his own
20 -- he started another family. Us girls were left with
21 nothing. So us last three were -- were put in foster care,
22 and the oldest five were put in with family members, so I -
23 - I lost all contact with my family, so I was in foster
24 care for five years. I was adopted.

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: How old were you

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1 when you were adopted?

2 MS. BETTY JOE: I was eight when I was
3 adopted. But I lost -- I mean, I lost all contact with my
4 family. I lost my language, lost my culture. I was in
5 five different foster homes. And during that time the
6 older girls were trying to survive themselves, because they
7 were dealing with family members that were trying to rape,
8 trying to physically abuse them and sexually abuse them,
9 and it was very -- they were in survival mode, and my
10 sister, Lucie, she's had three children, well, three I
11 know, but in 1996 she went missing, and this story is
12 really about her, because I want to honour her, because she
13 is the only sister that I haven't actually met. I've been
14 very fortunate to meet everybody else. I got to meet my
15 birth father before he passed away, and I got to meet my
16 birth mother, [Biological mother], two years ago.

17 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Betty Joe, I'm sorry
18 to interrupt you. So when you were adopted, you haven't
19 seen your mother until two years ago; is that correct?

20 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah. I didn't know --
21 well, I'd spoken to her on the phone. I contacted my band.
22 My daughter was born in '96. I contacted the band in '97,
23 and I was able to find out through a cousin who was on the
24 phone who my father's -- what my father's name was, because
25 I didn't know. On my adoption papers there is very little

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1 information. I only had a couple of physical features that
2 I could have gone by. So when I shared that information
3 over the phone, then it was just a very random question,
4 because I was looking to register my daughter and have her
5 be a band member under her reserve, but anyway, I shared
6 the information, and she told me who it was that I was
7 looking for, that I was her first cousin, so I was like,
8 'Okay. Cool.'

9 Anyway, but Lucie in '96 I got missing,
10 and this is recounted from my sisters. The last person to
11 see her was an aunt, and she was at -- she was in
12 Vancouver, and she had had -- I'm not sure exactly where.
13 Anyway, one of the malls, my aunt ended up seeing -- ended
14 up seeing Lucie. Lucie at the time had been dealing with a
15 major drug addiction, heroin, and other -- other -- other
16 drugs at the time. Unfortunately, due to her addiction,
17 she turned to the streets in order to provide the money in
18 order to support her addiction, but she always wanted to
19 get clean and to be able to come home and to be a mother
20 for her children, and that's one of the last things that
21 she had said to my aunt, and -- and so -- but in '96,
22 that's it, that was the last person that had seen her, and
23 then she went missing.

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: How old was she when
25 she went missing?

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1 MS. BETTY JOE: I think it was late 30s.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Late 30s? Okay.

3 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

4 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Do you have a
5 picture of her or anything that your aunt perhaps shared,
6 what she looks like?

7 MS. BETTY JOE: I do have a picture of
8 her, and the girls, my sisters, have been great to share
9 other things and other stories, and --

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

11 MS. BETTY JOE: -- just -- because I
12 didn't grow up with them, right, so --

13 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

14 MS. BETTY JOE: -- I didn't have that -- I
15 didn't have that family connection that they did. But
16 they've been -- they've always been so amazing and sharing
17 all the stories regarding her and the things that she loved
18 and wants, and how important her children were, and
19 unfortunately because of her own abuse is probably the
20 reason why -- why she turned to drugs and alcohol in order
21 for her to cope.

22 I struggle telling this story. I do.

23 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: I think that's
24 because it's intertwined with your story.

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: How is it

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1 intertwined with your story, Betty Joe? Would you like to
2 share it?

3 MS. BETTY JOE: Just -- just because of my
4 own loss, I mean, I -- because I lost -- because I lost my
5 family, right? I lost the contact when I was put in foster
6 care, you know, and put in foster care because of Indian
7 residential school, and my mom being a survivor, and -- and
8 not knowing how to parent, because -- because of her loss,
9 you know, that that inter-generational trauma is -- is such
10 a -- is such a very large circle and affects totally
11 different areas of your life.

12 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

13 MS. BETTY JOE: You know? And then the
14 Sixties Scoop. I mean, I lost everything. I lost all
15 contact with my family. I lost my Native tongue. I mean,
16 I used to speak Cree. It was the only thing that I knew
17 how to speak until I was four, when it got beaten out of
18 me. (Crying)

19 I remember -- I remember struggling to
20 understand English. I remember watching the daytime drama
21 show, Edge of Night, and the reason why I was watching it,
22 because I understood. I mean, I was four. Not that I
23 understood what was going on, but because they spoke
24 slowly, and it was like a story, and trying to understand
25 the English words with what was going on, and struggling

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1 with -- with being yelled at and trying to very quickly
2 learn English words when -- when it just wasn't there, you
3 know, so forcing yourself to learn English as quickly as
4 you could, but, I mean, you're four, so, you know, yeah.
5 Forced to eat food you didn't like. Ugh. I can remember
6 sitting at the dining-room table and the kitchen table,
7 just going, like -- and knowing you couldn't move until you
8 did. I sat there a long time. I can't remember exactly
9 what it was, but it was green. It was -- maybe it was
10 (inaudible) or something. I don't know, I didn't like it.

11 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Are your sisters
12 still around?

13 MS. BETTY JOE: My sisters?

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Yes.

15 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: Yeah.

16 MS. BETTY JOE: Yes. Yeah, they're all --
17 they're all out west, so...

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Do you keep in touch
19 with them? I know you said that --

20 MS. BETTY JOE: Mm-hmm.

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- they share --

22 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah. Yeah. Now, yeah.
23 When I was 33, that's when I was -- that's when I was able
24 to make contact. Hasn't been easy, though, you know. They
25 talk about different things that happened, and part of me

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1 is grateful to be able to share the stories and --

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

3 MS. BETTY JOE: -- and to hear what's
4 going on, but it's also very sad, because that's all the
5 things I missed, you know, all those memories, all that --
6 all those family ties, all those -- all that history that
7 makes you who you are as a family, right, the good, the
8 bad, and the ugly, because it all -- it all intertwines,
9 and it all -- it all makes you stronger, it all connects
10 you, so when you don't have that connection, it's really
11 hard to find your way woven in there when it's only bits
12 and pieces, right, so -- and -- and -- and to find out that
13 my dad had had another child with his second wife, I can't
14 even speak to her. I get angry. I'm so angry and so
15 jealous, because she got to be around all the girls, she
16 got to be around my grandparents, she got to spend time on
17 our reserve and know who our family is and to be a part of
18 that, and I wasn't, and -- and I -- I -- I resent -- I
19 resent the fact that she calls herself our baby sister.
20 It's like, no, you're not my baby sister. I will never
21 accept you or see you in that light, and I know it's anger,
22 I know it is, but you're -- you're my -- you're my dad's --
23 what was I going to say? It wasn't very nice. Anyway.
24 And she can't understand why I'm angry. I said, 'You have
25 no idea what you have, and what I've lost, and what I've

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1 struggled with,' because even though I was adopted, it was
2 still -- still not the same, you know. You're part of
3 another family, and, yes, I was -- I was loved and I was
4 looked after, but it was still different, you know? There
5 was a brother and sister that was biological and that there
6 was me and my younger brother that was adopted, and there
7 was times very much, it was very much obvious, as far as
8 the way we were treated and spoken to --

9 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So you were adopted
10 with your brother, you said.

11 MS. BETTY JOE: No. A brother.

12 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Oh. Okay.

13 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah. So... It's a
14 biological brother --

15 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

16 MS. BETTY JOE: -- meaning adopted
17 biological --

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

19 MS. BETTY JOE: -- daughter, sister, an
20 adopted brother.

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

22 MS. BETTY JOE: So...

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So it's your adopted
24 kids --

25 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

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1 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- in that family.

2 MS. BETTY JOE: So -- and as I got older I
3 found out that because of my age I fit -- I fit in to
4 replace the baby that my mother had lost, so that was a
5 little weird. So -- from my perspective, obviously. How
6 can you replace a baby? But it was -- but back to -- back
7 to our family, it was -- it was -- because of being in
8 foster care, and moving around as much as I did, so, yeah,
9 that connection was lost. I found out later when I spoke
10 to my sisters when I got in touch with them that my two
11 older sisters, [Sister 1] and Lucie, used to come visit me
12 in foster care, used to come visit me and speak to me, and
13 of course they spoke to me in Cree, so -- so I could
14 converse. But struggled, struggled with them leaving, and
15 wondering why I couldn't go.

16 And it's funny. I remember being that
17 age, and even though I don't remember speaking with them, I
18 remember knowing that and feeling that -- that
19 hopelessness, and that powerlessness that my life right
20 now, it is what it is, you know, and I knew there was
21 nothing that I could do to change it.

22 But, yeah, my -- so when [Sister 1] and
23 Lucie used to come visit, [Sister 1] said that the first
24 couple of times she came to visit me I was talking a lot,
25 and then she said on the last couple of times that when she

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1 came, that I stopped talking, so I don't know, and then the
2 last time that she came, her and Lucie came, or was it just
3 her came, that I didn't talk at all, so I don't remember
4 not talking, but it make sense, and I didn't talk for a
5 long time, but I also developed a really bad stutter as
6 well, and that was part of the reason why I stopped
7 talking, that emotional stutter. But just struggling with
8 the English words too, stuttering.

9 I was told that Lucie and [Sister 2],
10 [Sister 2] is the third-oldest, were the two that looked
11 after me when I was a baby, when we were still on reserve
12 in [Reserve 1]. And it's funny, when you're little you
13 have -- I don't know if they've ever experienced this, but
14 you have -- when you think back, and images, facial images,
15 and being little, I remember -- I remember playing, being
16 little, and bigger sisters looking after me, and certain
17 ones, but it's not clear, I mean, you get so -- but it's
18 just that memory, just knowing that I was surrounded by my
19 siblings. (Crying)

20 It's so frustrating now, because I lost so
21 many years, so when you -- when you desperately want to put
22 those pieces of your puzzle back together again, and
23 because of time, or because of whatever reason, you know, I
24 wasn't able to connect with Lucie, and there will always be
25 that missing piece, always, you know. I -- even though --

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1 even though I've been able to meet and have flown out west
2 to be with sisters and some of them have come -- came to
3 PEI to -- to be with me and my family, it's still -- it's
4 still -- like, there will always be that missing piece, and
5 I always asked about Lucie. I always ask about, you know,
6 'Tell me stories about her, and what's going on,' because I
7 -- I -- everybody -- everybody in my family, as far as my
8 sisters say, that I look exactly like her. I am the
9 spitting image of her. There's a graduation picture that I
10 have from 2000, and one of my sisters was over visiting,
11 and she just dropped. Like, she stopped in her tracks, and
12 she was just like, 'Oh, my God. That could be Lucie.
13 Like, I actually thought it was. If I didn't know
14 differently,' she said, 'I could have -- I could have very
15 easily thought that that was her,' which -- so -- so
16 knowing that, that I look so much like her, I almost feel
17 like -- I almost feel like I carry part of her spirit. Do
18 you know what I mean? Like, it's -- it's almost like she
19 doesn't want to be forgotten, and I know the other sisters
20 struggle with sharing her story and not knowing whether or
21 not she's -- whether or not she's passed on. The girls
22 just don't -- that they -- they just don't want to pursue,
23 and I don't know why. For me, I need to know. I want to
24 know, one way or another, you know. When you're missing,
25 you just -- there's no -- there's no closure, there's no

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1 end, and because there's no closure and because there's no
2 end, I feel like I can't stop. I know the other girls
3 don't want to pursue or can't or just want to let -- like,
4 leave laying dogs lie.

5 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: Lie.

6 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, yeah, so -- and some
7 of them just, they can't accept. They're just not there.
8 And that's okay. And they don't understand why I want to
9 know and why I'm pursuing this as much and for as long as I
10 have, and I've said that, 'My God, should something ever
11 happen to me, I would hope that there would be somebody
12 that would be willing to represent me,' you know? And not
13 forgotten. And it's not that she's forgotten, but if
14 you're not represented either, you know... Not that I
15 could ever represent my sister. I don't know, it's a
16 little hard to explain, but I just -- that will to know,
17 that will to never forget. At family functions now or
18 during conversations or whatever, I will always bring up
19 her name, and some of the girls -- when I say "girls" I
20 mean my sisters. Some of the girls get upset with me, but
21 I'm like, 'You know what? We can't -- we can never forget
22 who she is, and she should always be a part of our family,
23 whatever,' and I said, 'You know, before I found you all,'
24 I said, 'did you not speak of me? Did you not speak of,
25 jeez, I wonder how [Betty Joe's childhood name] is doing, I

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1 wonder how, you know, like,' I said, 'or was I just kind of
2 like --

3 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: That was your name.

4 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

5 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: [*Betty Joe's*
6 *childhood name*] is your --

7 MS. BETTY JOE: Oh, sorry, yeah.

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Oh, is it?

9 MS. BETTY JOE: So, yeah, I said, 'Was I
10 never talked about?' And they were like, 'Well, yeah, we
11 always wondered where you were,' and I went, 'Did you ever
12 try and find me?' And some said, 'Yes,' and some went,
13 'Well, we didn't know what to do,' and that's probably the
14 reason why I think -- probably the reason why it's so
15 important for me to never forget. Not that I was
16 forgotten, but I always want to make sure that she's
17 represented, that she's always a part of my life now, even
18 as spirit.

19 I don't know what else to say. I just
20 don't know what else to say.

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: I actually wanted to
22 ask some questions of you. You said, Betty Joe, that you
23 wanted to find out what happened to Lucie because she went
24 missing and no one really knows under what circumstances
25 and things like that.

1 Have you been -- and you said that you
2 were really putting in some efforts into it. What have you
3 done, and what kind of responses have you got related to
4 investigation?

5 MS. BETTY JOE: Well, just talking to my
6 family. It's been really challenging, because a lot of
7 girls just don't want to talk about it.

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

9 MS. BETTY JOE: A lot of girls just don't
10 want to -- just don't want to do anything, whether it's --
11 well, they have a number of different reasons. So -- and I
12 need to respect that.

13 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

14 MS. BETTY JOE: And what I've been told is
15 very limited as to -- well -- so I found out recently --
16 and I don't know if it's just because of the years that
17 have gone by, but there isn't missing -- missing-person
18 report.

19 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: There is one?

20 MS. BETTY JOE: There isn't. I just found
21 that out. [S.] let me know that a couple weeks ago. So
22 I've come forward. And a little annoyed, and hurt, because
23 I thought some of these things have already been done.
24 Like, I was told that there was a Canada-wide search done.
25 I was told that there was a North American search that was

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1 done.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: A North American
3 search, or --

4 MS. BETTY JOE: Like, the U.S., like,
5 Canada and the U.S. --

6 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: By police, or, like,
7 there was some investigation --

8 MS. BETTY JOE: Like a -- I think what I
9 understand with that is her name was put forward and then
10 put in a database to see if there was any hits --

11 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

12 MS. BETTY JOE: -- on a missing and
13 murdered -- or missing -- or -- report --

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

15 MS. BETTY JOE: -- done. But to find out
16 that there wasn't.

17 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mmm.

18 MS. BETTY JOE: So --

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So what --

20 MS. BETTY JOE: So now -- so now -- and
21 it's so hard, because of my sister's life and the decisions
22 and the way she had lived her life, very hard life, and
23 like I said, with the drug addiction --

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

25 MS. BETTY JOE: -- prostitution, and I

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1 know she was very much of the Downtown Eastside of
2 Vancouver, and -- and -- and then with the Picton murders,
3 you know, or the Picton farm, and just, you know, that
4 worries me and concerns me because of the victims that he
5 targeted, and to know that the investigation that they had
6 done, and there's jars and jars and jars of DNA that are
7 sitting in a warehouse that isn't claimed, nobody's claimed
8 them, and -- and -- and I need to now file a missing and
9 murdered -- like, file a missing-persons report. Don't
10 know if I can do it here or if I have --

11 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

12 MS. BETTY JOE: -- to go out west, right?
13 I don't know what information I'd need to be able to do
14 that.

15 So it's becoming very -- it's becoming a
16 lot more challenging than I realized it was going to be,
17 because I trusted that these steps would have already been
18 done, so I feel like I'm starting at square one, and not
19 with the support of my sisters either, which is a little
20 frustrating, and -- and disappointed.

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

22 MS. BETTY JOE: But anyways, so that
23 process will be done.

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

25 MS. BETTY JOE: Whether I do it with

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1 family support or whether I do it by myself, and then I'm
2 prepared to do that. And again, it goes back to myself,
3 you know, because I know what it's like to be -- to be
4 missing from all of the family.

5 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So Betty Joe, when
6 Lucie was living in B.C. at the time when she went missing,
7 do you know if she lived on her own, if she lived with
8 roommates and that --

9 MS. BETTY JOE: I have no idea.

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- a partner? Okay.

11 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, no idea.

12 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So no one would have
13 gone out and filed a report or actually reported her
14 missing?

15 MS. BETTY JOE: No, unfortunately, during
16 that time, so, no, no. I don't -- like I said, what I
17 thought was done, it hadn't been done, and also, like --

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: This was 1996,
19 right?

20 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, yeah.

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. And when your
22 aunt found out about it, do you know how she found out, who
23 told her, or is this -- you said your aunt --

24 MS. BETTY JOE: My aunt was the last
25 person to speak --

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1 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Was -- to speak.

2 MS. BETTY JOE: -- to her.

3 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

4 MS. BETTY JOE: So it's --

5 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Then who found out
6 about that your sister went missing? Like --

7 MS. BETTY JOE: Well, because she stopped
8 contacting us.

9 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. Okay.

10 MS. BETTY JOE: So, yeah, it was just lack
11 of contact and we weren't able to contact her either, but
12 she would resurface every three or four months, right?

13 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

14 MS. BETTY JOE: And -- and then she'd be
15 missing again, so...

16 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

17 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah. So, yeah, and then
18 she just -- yeah, just no contact.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

20 MS. BETTY JOE: So -- but because of her
21 lifestyle --

22 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

23 MS. BETTY JOE: -- that's pretty normal.

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

25 MS. BETTY JOE: So...

1 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: I think you
2 mentioned that you want to file a report and you want help
3 finding out actually how to do it, because since most
4 likely you're doing it on your own, you need some help with
5 that. How do you think the Commission can help you in
6 pursuing this investigation or actually even filing a
7 report?

8 MS. BETTY JOE: Oh...

9 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Do you have any
10 recommendations or something that you would like us to help
11 you with? Anything that you can think of?

12 MS. BETTY JOE: It's going to be difficult
13 because -- because of the jurisdiction, right?

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

15 MS. BETTY JOE: So, I mean, I'm in PEI,
16 and the jurisdiction that I would be -- I would imagine I
17 would have to start, would be to file one in Alberta, you
18 know, because that's where we're from.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: But she lived in
20 B.C. at the time, right --

21 MS. BETTY JOE: So --

22 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- when she went
23 missing?

24 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, but she --

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

1 MS. BETTY JOE: -- she travelled back and
2 forth as well, right?

3 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

4 MS. BETTY JOE: So she would be in
5 Vancouver, and then she'd be in Edmonton for a while, just
6 because of her lifestyle, there was travelling, need to
7 change, so... So, yeah...

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Is there anything
9 that the Commission can do to help you out with this
10 information or anything you think we can -- of use to you?
11 To you or other families who are probably in the same
12 position as you are.

13 MS. BETTY JOE: I think just the legal
14 part of it, you know.

15 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

16 MS. BETTY JOE: And like I said, because I
17 don't know whether or not I need to file a missing-persons
18 report in Alberta, just, yeah, so I think it's just that.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

20 MS. BETTY JOE: And navigating that legal
21 process, because sometimes that process can be very
22 confusing, so -- so who -- who do you speak to?

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

24 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

1 MS. BETTY JOE: How do you follow up? Who
2 do you follow up with? So...

3 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: I'm going to write
4 it all down so that we can see whether we can do that, so
5 that the Commission is also aware of this.

6 Okay. And I know that Alma is a very good
7 support to you and perhaps has been so over the years.
8 Have you looked out for any, like, local -- local support
9 that's -- or any community support, any area, you're
10 connecting with someone or -- like, on a regular basis?

11 MS. BETTY JOE: It's not something which
12 you connect on a regular basis, because it comes in waves,
13 right?

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

15 MS. BETTY JOE: So, like, I know today
16 it'll be -- it'll be a trying day, but I also know that --
17 that, you know, Alma's got my number, I've got her number.

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

19 MS. BETTY JOE: You know, so -- so I know
20 -- I know that if I need to talk or reach out she's a phone
21 call away, she's a text away.

22 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So there is someone
23 you can talk to --

24 MS. BETTY JOE: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah. So
25 -- plus -- plus just my own ceremonies as well, so --

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1 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

2 MS. BETTY JOE: And I make sure --

3 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: (Inaudible)

4 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, exactly, so it's --

5 yeah. So, yeah, it's -- I know I'm well taken care of and

6 I'm looked after, and I know I am -- I know my own

7 limitations and I know my own -- when I need to reach out.

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

9 MS. BETTY JOE: I can and I do, so --

10 yeah.

11 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: And you mentioned

12 earlier that your sisters (inaudible) in Vancouver. Do you

13 think that --

14 MS. BETTY JOE: In Edmonton.

15 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Oh, in Edmonton --

16 MS. BETTY JOE: In -- well, in --

17 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- I apologize.

18 MS. BETTY JOE: -- Alberta, yeah.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: In Alberta. Okay.

20 Do you -- have you spoken to them? Do they know that

21 you're coming here?

22 MS. BETTY JOE: Mm-hmm.

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Would they

24 themselves be interested in --

25 MS. BETTY JOE: No.

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1 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- for example,
2 coming and sharing their story of --

3 MS. BETTY JOE: No.

4 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. Do they
5 support you in having you come here?

6 MS. BETTY JOE: Some of them struggle with
7 me being here.

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

9 MS. BETTY JOE: Struggle -- just because -
10 - just because of their own -- just because of their own
11 acceptance. Some of them don't want to -- don't want to
12 admit or consider the fact that our sister could very well
13 be murdered, that our sister could very well be dead.

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So they're still
15 going through that acceptance phase.

16 MS. BETTY JOE: So, yeah, so if you don't
17 ask, you don't know.

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

19 MS. BETTY JOE: If you don't know, then
20 you can pretend to think whatever you want to think, so --
21 where -- where I -- I -- I want to know.

22 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

23 MS. BETTY JOE: One way or another, you
24 know --

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Is there something

1 that will give you closure?

2 MS. BETTY JOE: It's more than that,
3 though. I mean, it's more than that. It's like I said, it
4 will always be that missing piece in my life.

5 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

6 MS. BETTY JOE: But if she is alive under
7 a different name, whatever, I -- and I don't know whether
8 or not I would ever find that out, but at least -- at least
9 for my own -- for my own sake --

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

11 MS. BETTY JOE: -- to -- to know that I
12 have done -- that I have done everything that I could
13 within my power to find her.

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

15 MS. BETTY JOE: So -- and however that
16 looks. I don't think it's -- because I missed out so much
17 myself.

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

19 MS. BETTY JOE: I know what it's like, and
20 -- and I don't want to -- I don't want to accept somebody
21 else's -- just because my sister struggles with accepting
22 whether she's alive or dead, right, so I don't want to just
23 go, 'Oh, okay. Well, seeing how you're having a hard time
24 with it, I won't do anything.'

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

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1 MS. BETTY JOE: I don't think that's fair.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

3 MS. BETTY JOE: And if I don't do whatever
4 I can for -- for -- whether it's finding out -- I don't
5 think I'm doing my sister any justice.

6 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

7 MS. BETTY JOE: So I need to do -- I need
8 to do that. So -- and I also think of her children as
9 well, you know? Her children --

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Yes, you mentioned
11 she has children --

12 MS. BETTY JOE: -- yeah, I mean, I think -
13 - I think it's -- I think it would be beneficial for her
14 children, but again, that's a conversation with them, and
15 they may not want to know either, you know, because they've
16 grown up in families that, you know -- they've been
17 adopted, and, I mean, her oldest son, you know, brought up
18 by a very loving family, very supportive family, but like
19 he said, 'I've had a wonderful life and a wonderful
20 upbringing, but it's not my mom,' you know.

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

22 MS. BETTY JOE: 'This is a wonderful woman
23 that's raised me and has loved me, and who I call Mom, but
24 she'll never truly be my mother,' and there is a
25 difference, you know, and I agree with that. I mean, I

1 have somebody who raised me and brought me up as well and
2 who I call Mom, but she's not my mother, you know. And --
3 and also, having met [Biological mother] and meeting my
4 biological mother, it's also a double-edged sword, because,
5 yes, you are my mother, but --

6 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

7 MS. BETTY JOE: -- you're not my mom. So
8 it's kind of weird. It's difficult. It's trying. It's --
9 it's really -- yeah.

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: And you said Lucie
11 had several children. Do you know how many and their age,
12 perhaps any information that you can give, like, age at the
13 time when she went missing or --

14 MS. BETTY JOE: So, well, I mean, she has
15 three -- three -- three children.

16 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

17 MS. BETTY JOE: So...

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: The oldest is a boy,
19 you said.

20 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: How old is he now?

22 MS. BETTY JOE: He would be...

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Like, approximate is
24 fine.

25 MS. BETTY JOE: (Inaudible) I think he

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1 just turned 40.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

3 MS. BETTY JOE: I think. She was young
4 when she had him. And then she had two others. Another
5 boy and a girl.

6 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

7 MS. BETTY JOE: So -- and they are -- 40 -
8 - so they would be 30 and 28.

9 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So the boy is 30, or
10 the second boy is -- how old is he?

11 MS. BETTY JOE: So he would be 30. So 40
12 -- it's two --

13 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: 40 --

14 MS. BETTY JOE: 40 is the son.

15 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

16 MS. BETTY JOE: 30 is the son.

17 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

18 MS. BETTY JOE: And 28 is a daughter.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. So the oldest
20 son, at the time when his mother went missing, he must have
21 known something about it. I mean, they were all living
22 together, I presume, at the time when she went missing.

23 No?

24 MS. BETTY JOE: No.

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: No? Okay. Can you

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1 a little bit tell me --

2 MS. BETTY JOE: So, no, he was --

3 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- part of the story
4 --

5 MS. BETTY JOE: -- he was -- he was -- he
6 was put up for adoption when he was little.

7 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

8 MS. BETTY JOE: So, yeah. She had given
9 up her rights. He was given up.

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: For all three kids,
11 or...

12 MS. BETTY JOE: It ended up being for all
13 three, yes.

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. Do you know
15 how old they were, like, at the time --

16 MS. BETTY JOE: [Niece] and [Nephew] --
17 I'm not sure.

18 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. Like,
19 toddlers, or --

20 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, I think they'd have
21 been toddlers --

22 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

23 MS. BETTY JOE: -- from what I understood.

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

25 MS. BETTY JOE: So, yeah.

1 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Is there anything
2 else you would like to share with us, anything that you
3 think would be important for the Commission to know or to
4 help looking into the disappearance of your sister?

5 MS. BETTY JOE: Uh...

6 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Anything that would
7 help us put all the pieces of the puzzle together, just
8 like you're struggling?

9 MS. BETTY JOE: Oh, jeepers, yeah. My
10 puzzle's kind of crazy, so I don't know. It's -- I think
11 the biggest thing that I've had to live through and that
12 I've had to accept is the fact that not only myself but my
13 family -- and when I say my family, my mother, has lost so
14 much, you know, so that inter-generational trauma from
15 Indian residential schools to -- to being a part of that
16 Sixties Scoop, and brought up by non-Aboriginal parents, to
17 losing my culture and -- and when I say "culture", it's not
18 culture, it's losing -- well, and losing my language, you
19 know, and so I've had to fight that much harder for -- to
20 get that culture back in my life again, you know, but that
21 was a -- that was a journey, and then that was a decision
22 that I made for myself. I've been very blessed to be able
23 to have that and -- and to have it a part of my life again,
24 but I've had to work twice as hard to get it.

25 And I think understanding that I'm not

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1 alone I think is really important, and -- and understanding
2 that that generational ripple can go very far, so, I mean,
3 it's not just with my mother, it's aunts and uncles as
4 well, you know.

5 And as a parent, as a grandmother, now,
6 the importance of -- and understanding that you don't want
7 your grandchildren to be affected. You don't want your
8 children to be affected. So having to fight that much
9 harder to stop that cycle is -- is really challenging, and
10 having -- and not having -- or not knowing what the
11 resources are out there.

12 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Resources for
13 support or for --

14 MS. BETTY JOE: Resources for support, but
15 also just resources in order to help you cope and
16 understand the different things that you're going through,
17 you know, residential-school survivors are -- are unique,
18 because we've lost so much more. Sixties Scoop. I lost
19 that much more. You know...

20 So everything that I've got today means
21 that much more, because I've had to fight for that much --
22 like, that much more, so it's... Even amongst our people I
23 find that we're -- we forget that everybody has their own
24 story, and we can be really cruel to our own, and people
25 don't know how much you had to fight for who you are. So

1 it's... I don't know.

2 That's all I'll say about that.

3 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

4 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: Can I interject just
5 for a second? And part of this -- part of this is because
6 of the traumas that you also had to endure yourself, going
7 through foster care, not only losing your parents and
8 losing your family, but the traumas and the violence that
9 you experienced as a very, very young child in foster care.

10 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

11 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: Which people don't
12 know of either. As you can tell, I've worked with Betty
13 Joe for a long time.

14 MS. BETTY JOE: It's not something that I
15 talk about, you know.

16 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: But it goes back to
17 the same thing.

18 MS. BETTY JOE: Oh, yeah, absolutely.

19 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: Because you want to
20 make sure that that, you know, hopefully didn't happen to
21 your nieces and nephews.

22 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

23 MS. BETTY JOE: Well --

24 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: Your sister. Because
25 you know that that's probably something that may have

1 happened to your sister. It's all interwoven, it's that
2 basket of what we carry on our families, because when you
3 do bring this up, it brings you right back to that time.

4 MS. BETTY JOE: I can speak better about
5 it now, though, compared to before, when all I do is cry,
6 so I -- so that healing is -- is -- is good. When I talk
7 about it, it's still -- it's still healing.

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

9 MS. BETTY JOE: You know? I get stronger.

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

11 MS. BETTY JOE: And -- and I know that
12 where I was 20 years ago compared to where I am now, I know
13 I'm in a much better place, much healthier place, a much
14 stronger place, and it's evident within my children, so --
15 because I worked so hard to make sure that they did not
16 experience what I experienced, you know? Unfortunately,
17 they still had to deal with the divorce, which I was very
18 upset about, but healthier.

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

20 MS. BETTY JOE: But I -- and I know that
21 as a parent you want the absolute best for your children,
22 and unfortunately, life has its way of throwing different
23 things at you, right? So -- but I also know that the
24 decisions that I make and that I had made had -- I always
25 had the very best intention for my children, not

1 necessarily for myself, but for my children.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Because of the --

3 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah. Yeah.

4 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- what has happened
5 to you --

6 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

7 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- because of what a
8 difference you wanted to make in the life of your children?

9 MS. BETTY JOE: Mm-hmm.

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So they don't become
11 the victims of --

12 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, yeah. So...
13 They're much more educated.

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

15 MS. BETTY JOE: You know? Much more --
16 much more -- as far as knowing the resources that are out
17 there and having that support system and culturally aware
18 whether they are -- whether they are cultural or not, they
19 are culturally aware.

20 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

21 MS. BETTY JOE: Which is good, you know?
22 And even myself, it's funny, my -- my grandmother, so my
23 foster, adoptive family.

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

25 MS. BETTY JOE: My grandmother, she said

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1 when I was probably nine or ten, yeah, nine or ten, she
2 said to my mother, 'Betty Joe has the finest (inaudible)
3 that will carry her through, because she has that -- she
4 has that faith,' and I didn't understand at first what that
5 meant, but it stuck with me, and -- and -- and I realized
6 that as I got older and even as a teenager, that I
7 conversed with God a lot, the Creator, and -- and I didn't
8 realize how much I prayed.

9 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mmm.

10 MS. BETTY JOE: Even when I was young, I
11 prayed, and -- and when I met my birth mother and the first
12 thing she said to me was, 'Oh, my goodness, it's beautiful
13 to see a traditional woman.'

14 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: This was two years
15 ago, right?

16 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

17 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

18 MS. BETTY JOE: And she was like, 'I am so
19 glad and I am so honoured,' and anyway, as the conversation
20 had gone on, she said -- she said, 'We used to pray all the
21 time,' and I was just -- and I said, 'Pray as in, like,
22 pray as in Catholic pray or...' Because I didn't --

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

24 MS. BETTY JOE: -- anyway, but she said,
25 'No,' she said, 'with smudging and pray,' and I'd be like,

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1 'Okay.' But, yeah, but that -- so -- so knowing that even
2 when I was little, so having that, growing up with that, so
3 since the time that I was born, having that, so made me
4 able to carry that, and it was something which I didn't
5 even know I did until it was pointed out, that it was such
6 a -- but I think it was such an integral part of me,
7 because that's what carried me, but when you're four, five,
8 and six, you don't think of it like that, do you know what
9 I mean? Like, it's just -- so... So, yeah, having that --
10 having that faith all of my life, by being able to be aware
11 of it now and culturally appreciate and understand and know
12 the importance of it, you know, so, yeah, it makes it that
13 much more precious now, so, yeah.

14 So, yes, I -- so making sure that those
15 cultural supports are here during these testimonies and
16 these different events that are going on. Now I know
17 that'll be my role tomorrow and want her to be able to do
18 that, and to allow myself today to -- to understand and --
19 that -- that I'm here for my sister, you know, so that
20 she'll never be forgotten, so -- and to do whatever I can
21 for myself, to ensure that that doesn't happen, so -- and I
22 feel her spirit around me, you know? It's funny, because
23 I've asked Alma --

24 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

25 MS. BETTY JOE: -- you know, 'Who do you

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1 see around me,' you know, so -- besides --

2 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: She's always there.

3 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, and besides the
4 grandmother that's beside me as well, you know, so I know -
5 - I know I carry them with me, and it's good, it's a good
6 thing. I always struggle telling my story, though, because
7 I never -- I always struggled, whether or not I was -- not
8 worthy, but whether or not I was -- because I don't know if
9 it's tragic or not, right, like, if you're -- we've heard
10 some very tragic stories here from other family members,
11 with a family that had been brutally murdered, you know, so
12 the ones that are missing are wider, you know?

13 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

14 MS. BETTY JOE: You don't have that --

15 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: Just as tragic,
16 because you don't have that closure.

17 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah, yeah. Yeah, and I
18 guess maybe that's, you know -- so, yeah, it is quieter,
19 because it's not as -- because we don't know, we don't have
20 those answers.

21 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

22 MS. BETTY JOE: But I think -- like I
23 said, I think that's part of the reason why I struggle with
24 telling my story, because I don't have those details like
25 they got. I don't have that closure like they do. Or, you

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1 know, listening to Pamela this morning, like, like, what --
2 what carries her now and what her purpose now is, you know,
3 part of me is -- I feel sad, I feel sad that -- that
4 because of the tragedy that she's had to live through, that
5 her goal or her mission in life now is -- is this.

6 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

7 MS. BETTY JOE: You know? I mean, and I
8 empathize, and I can get why she's doing what she's doing,
9 but I worry that as a survivor we -- we don't put our life
10 on hold or turn it in a way that's -- it's driven for the
11 wrong reasons, if it's the wrong reason, and I don't think
12 there's a wrong reason, but in an unhealthy way --

13 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

14 MS. BETTY JOE: -- so -- but I can't speak
15 for other people. I can only speak for myself, you know,
16 and I -- and at the same time I wouldn't want my daughter
17 to have to deal with -- she's had to deal with her 16-year-
18 old, you know -- like, my daughter's 21, and -- my
19 youngest, and God forbid I have to deal with the same sort
20 of tragedy and heartache, because it would be heartache to
21 lose a child like that, you know.

22 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: So your mom, how did
23 she react to the disappearance of Lucie? Did you ever talk
24 to her about it, or...

25 MS. BETTY JOE: She --

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1 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Did she actually
2 know about it?

3 MS. BETTY JOE: -- no, she doesn't -- oh,
4 yes, yeah.

5 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

6 MS. BETTY JOE: She doesn't talk about it.

7 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay.

8 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah. So, which I find
9 frustrating.

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Do you know how she
11 found out at all, or you never even brought up the topic?

12 MS. BETTY JOE: It's...

13 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Okay. Okay. MS.
14 BETTY JOE: She would have known about it all her life. I
15 mean, that's --

16 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

17 MS. BETTY JOE: -- her daughter, so she
18 would have known --

19 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Yeah, I'm just
20 wondering --

21 MS. BETTY JOE: -- about her, because her
22 --

23 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- who told her --

24 MS. BETTY JOE: -- daughter was --

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- about it or --

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1 MS. BETTY JOE: It's not -- it's not -- it
2 wouldn't be being told about it, it's --

3 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Right.

4 MS. BETTY JOE: -- you know --

5 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: (Inaudible)

6 MS. BETTY JOE: -- yeah, it's what --
7 well, if you have children you know where they are.

8 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

9 MS. BETTY JOE: So if you haven't heard
10 from them and you contact them and if you -- you know,
11 like, there's --

12 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Even if there was no
13 phone call, say --

14 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah.

15 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: -- you say, like,
16 'Oh, this is what happened.' Okay. Does your mother know
17 that you're here today, or...

18 MS. BETTY JOE: She -- yes, I did tell
19 her.

20 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: And how did she feel
21 about it?

22 MS. BETTY JOE: Never said anything
23 (inaudible). So I can't explain that to... Yeah, I...
24 It's all right... It's...

25 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: The way she copes.

Statement - Public
"Betty Joe"
("Lucie")

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1 MS. BETTY JOE: Huh?

2 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: I said it's part of
3 the way she copes.

4 MS. BETTY JOE: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah.

5 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: To disconnect.

6 MS. BETTY JOE: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah, and
7 even my sisters. It's frustrating for me, because I'm
8 like, how, how can you disconnect? But everybody copes
9 differently.

10 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: Mm-hmm.

11 MS. BETTY JOE: (Inaudible), so... And
12 that's something that I keep reminding myself, because I
13 was -- I was the only one in my family that lost complete
14 touch for 33 years, so even the other two that were in
15 foster care, they -- [Sister 3] -- [Sister 3] was in a
16 family that was close enough that she went to school with
17 all those girls, you know? So even though she wasn't
18 brought up in the same household, she went to school with
19 them and saw them on a daily basis, and hung out and
20 whatever, right, and still did family stuff. It was, she
21 just lived in a different home, so -- and that was the same
22 with [Sister 4], you know? She was -- it was the same
23 thing, so... So there was always that connection, so... I
24 have to go to the bathroom.

25 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: We can pause...

Statement - Public
"Betty Joe"
("Lucie")

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1 MS. ALMA McDOUGALL: You're getting beat.

2 MS. DARIA BOYARCHUK: It's 12:01. We're
3 going to take a pause, after having started at 10:30.

4 --- Whereupon the statement concluded at 12:01 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I have, to the best
of my skill and ability,
accurately transcribed from a pre-existing recording
the foregoing proceeding..



Andrea Kovats, Certified Court Reporter