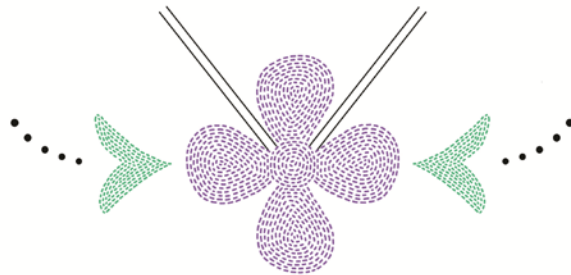


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



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  
Membertou, Unama'ki  
(Cape Breton Island) Nova Scotia**



**PUBLIC**

**Wednesday November 1, 2017**

**Statement - Volume 75**

**F.C.**

**In relation to her sister**

**Statement gathered by Marie-Audrey Girard**

International Reporting Inc.  
41 - 5450 Canotek Road, Ottawa, Ontario, K1J 9G2  
E-mail: [info@irri.net](mailto:info@irri.net) - Phone: 613-748-6043 - Fax: 613-748-8246

## II

### ORDER

Pursuant to Rule 7 of *Legal Path: Rules of Respectful Practice*, Chief Commissioner Marion Buller ordered that all names be made anonymous in this transcript and any related documents. The order for anonymity was made June 25, 2019.

III

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Documents submitted with testimony: none

#### IV

NOTE: The use of square brackets [ ] in this transcript indicates that amendments have been made to the certified transcript in order to replace information deemed inaudible or indecipherable by the original transcriptionist. Amendments were completed by listening to the source audio recording of the proceeding; amendments to this official transcript were made by Bryana Bouchir, Public Inquiry Clerk with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQ, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 at Vancouver, BC.

1 Membertou, Nova Scotia

2 --- Upon commencing on Wednesday, November 1st, 2017, at  
3 1:57 p.m.

4 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** So this is  
5 Marie-Audrey with the National Inquiry. We are in  
6 Membertou, November 1st. It is 1:57 p.m., and I'm in the  
7 room with ...

8 **MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** Barbara Sevigny,  
9 Health Manager with the National Inquiry.

10 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And?

11 **MS. F.C.:** And [F.C.], better known as  
12 [F.C.'s Nickname], and I'm from [First Nation 1].

13 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Well, thank you so  
14 much, (indiscernible), for being here with you -- with us  
15 today. So it's okay if I call you --

16 **MS. F.C.:** [F.C.'s Nickname].

17 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** -- [F.C.'s  
18 Nickname] during the interview?

19 **MS. F.C.:** Yes.

20 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:**  
21 (Indiscernible) -- okay, excellent. I'll do so.  
22 So -- well, thank you very much for being with us today.  
23 We are really grateful that you came and that you decided  
24 to share your truth and your story with us. So my first  
25 question for you, in your intake, you mentioned that you

1           have lost someone in your family. If you could -- if you  
2           could tell us about this person and what happened to her,  
3           to share her story and to share what happened to her, as  
4           well, please.

5                       **MS. F.C.:** Well, my -- was -- the woman I'm  
6           talking about, my sister, and the -- I find it very strange  
7           because I don't even know (indiscernible) brought  
8           into -- because she wasn't murdered. She was took her own  
9           life, (indiscernible) [like suicide], and then I start  
10          thinking about -- it all comes back to addiction, because  
11          if she didn't -- I hadn't been drunk that night, I think  
12          she'd still be alive with us today, but it's just -- I  
13          don't know what I'm -- what it is I'm try -- I'm  
14          try -- when I look back and reflect on all my teachings  
15          and -- when we needed our teachings, they weren't there,  
16          and it -- we was -- well, I know for her -- I can't tell  
17          you for her, but for myself, I've been so used to being  
18          abused, as her. It's like -- it's just, like, if we could  
19          keep on being abused -- if we just keep not being abused,  
20          then we could -- can go on a healing journey, but we never  
21          got -- she never got to that, although I did, and I'm very  
22          grateful that I got a chance to feel this healing power and  
23          this love and this great love that's in us -- like, it's in  
24          us. It's in me. It's in everyone, and we as individuals  
25          have to all just find the -- search for it because it's,



1           today, and I've heard that before in the program, a 12-step  
2           program said how people can go on sobriety, like, they're  
3           trying to achieve sobriety in their lives, and for me, that  
4           was a big help because I had -- I ~~never really learned~~  
5           [literally had to learn] myself how to love myself or teach  
6           myself I'm a good thing. That was never done as a child,  
7           not that I wasn't ~~that~~ [taught], but my mom went to  
8           residential school, my dad went to residential school. I  
9           was sexually abused by my dad because of residential  
10          school. After I found everything out, I was so happy that  
11          I forgave him because forgiveness is the best thing for  
12          yourself. When you want something to heal, you're not  
13          going to heal until you forgive. You've got to forgive  
14          that person -- in them -- like, in -- mentally, you've got  
15          to forgive them because when you don't forgive them,  
16          they're dragging you down. All the negative -- all that  
17          negativity drags you down, and you just don't feel worthy.  
18          It's, like, you got to get -- I got to this point where I  
19          feel worthy because I'm a beautiful person. I like to  
20          share my (~~indiscernible~~) [good spirit], my goodness, I can  
21          help with other people, just -- I love love. I just --

22                           **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** That's a beautiful  
23          message (~~indiscernible~~).

24                           **MS. F.C.:** I just love love, and  
25          this -- like, so many people have love, and they have love



[F.C.]

(Sister)

1 to share, but for some reason, they've been told, repress  
2 it. I don't know why. Why -- why was I taught to repress  
3 love? I was never taught how to love, and, like,  
4 them -- like, I could be so angry and so mad because  
5 my -- my dad did to me, that sexually abused me, but he was  
6 sexually abused by the priests and the nuns at that home,  
7 and he was only doing what he was taught. He was  
8 never -- he never just did this to -- oh, my God, I don't  
9 like [F.C.'s Nickname] and she's not my biological  
10 daughter, all the stuff I made up or conjured in my head  
11 that that why he was doing this to me. No, he did it  
12 because that's how he was taught because where was the  
13 love? There was no love. He was taught, so we're  
14 just -- we're just continuing, ~~just pass~~ [this  
15 process] -- we're continuing to abuse ourselves because  
16 that is what we're being taught, and in order to overcome  
17 this, you've got to learn to love yourself. There's no  
18 greater love than those true, honest-to-goodness true love  
19 of self, and not the negative part or, like, all the  
20 positive stuff. So much of us have so much to give, so  
21 much good light, so much love and everything, and healing.  
22 We all need to heal. I've been healing every day for a  
23 long time, and I'm going to be healing every day for a long  
24 time from now on because I love life, and I'm going to  
25 enjoy life no matter what's on my plate or -- like, if I

Statement- Public  
[F.C.]  
(Sister)

6

1 had no food or -- it'll all come together somehow. I'm not  
2 going to let stress bring me down, stress take me out -- or  
3 (~~indiscernible~~) [worry about] stuff that beyond my control  
4 because I want to be true to my love and the love that I  
5 have for myself, and that's how I feel it's working for me  
6 is just by loving myself because I can and I want to.  
7 That's the (~~indiscernible~~) because I -- not that I want to.  
8 I -- I deserve to -- I deserve it. I earned it. I earned  
9 it, and I'm hundred percent -- I'll never be hundred  
10 percent healed. Nobody will, unless you're God,  
11 like -- you know what, I mean, God is when -- our Creator,  
12 but I know my -- I have that much trust in my Creator, the  
13 Creator our God, and my understanding that it doesn't  
14 put -- don't worry about nothing, and I'll ~~stop~~ [start]  
15 worrying about stuff, and then I'll remember what they said  
16 (~~indiscernible~~), well I'm -- then I -- oh, my God, I'm  
17 trying to play God. Okay, I'm backing out on this, putting  
18 my hands up. Okay, who -- let's go, you got this.

19 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And I would like  
20 to bring you back to your sister. You said -- you  
21 mentioned that she survived many -- many abuse.

22 **MS. F.C.:** Yeah.

23 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Can you tell us  
24 what kind of abuse she went through?

25 **MS. F.C.:** She was sexually abused, she was

1 raped, not once, not twice -- like, couple times; several  
2 times.

3 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Do you know who  
4 did that?

5 **MS. F.C.:** Boyfriends or -- like, and -- and  
6 there was -- ~~I met her~~ [another] man -- that wasn't a  
7 boyfriend, but he lured her in by telling her, oh, come  
8 over to my house, and I'll give you a drink, and  
9 then -- and when he got her -- got her all inebriated,  
10 drunk, whatever, and just -- he brutally raped her, like,  
11 every corner, but -- and then -- even with that, like,  
12 there's so much abuse. The sexual abuse can take away from  
13 you so much good energy that -- when she was dealing with  
14 this, coming up to us upset because her daughter got raped  
15 the same night she got raped, but, like, one [in [Maritimes  
16 community 1], one in] (indiscernible), and -- and the same  
17 night that happened, and when -- I think that when her  
18 daughter was trying to reach out for her mom, like, help  
19 me, like, how do we get through this? And -- and I  
20 felt -- I think my sister felt like, I can't even help  
21 you -- I can't even help myself, how can I help you? And I  
22 don't know -- I -- I think that the guilt of her -- for  
23 her, my sister, I -- I'll never be able to say just how it  
24 was for her, but how I feel was because that little girl is  
25 my goddaughter, and just how hopeless -- or helpless, how

1           hopeless I felt at the time was -- because she was there,  
2           and she was able to help her daughter get through this.  
3           She would have -- she would have felt better, but she was  
4           still so much on her own plate that she couldn't  
5           even -- the only way that she thought it was going to be  
6           okay was to go -- take herself out because this pain was  
7           too much for her to carry, and it makes me upset because I  
8           realized that if she had stayed alive and would have had so  
9           much love, and we could have got through so much, but we  
10          couldn't because that choice was final, that she's gone  
11          forever, and ...

12                       **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And do you know if  
13          it was filed in the police, the rape that she -- yeah?

14                       **MS. F.C.:** Yeah.

15                       **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** (~~Indiscernible~~)  
16          [both of them?].

17                       **MS. F.C.:** Yeah. It was -- it was  
18          (~~indiscernible~~) [being] investigated what -- I think what  
19          me -- I've been through that before where you got to  
20          testify and the women, and it's not a nice place to be  
21          because it just -- there's so much stress involved and  
22          everything, and there's no places that I ~~know~~ [tell you  
23          no,] it's not your fault because you knew in your head, why  
24          was I there? What did I -- like, what did I do to trigger  
25          this? Because you can't escape your own mind and it's,

1           like -- she was there -- when she went there that night,  
2           she went there to go chasing her addiction, right?

3                           **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** M'hm.

4                           **MS. F.C.:** And she didn't know he was  
5           setting herself up, and she did -- just, like, it's so  
6           hard, and -- but I do give her lots of credit and courage  
7           for -- she's guiding me, too, like, telling me, go -- oh,  
8           (indiscernible), don't go that way, don't go that -- but  
9           she's my -- one of my spirit guide, and I just always  
10          listen. I'm so grateful that I always listen because I  
11          can't change the past. I can change -- I can change  
12          (indiscernible) be in the future, but I can't -- so from  
13          here, I'm just going to keep on being more positive and try  
14          to love -- and try to love myself more, but try to get  
15          other women to realize their value. We're so valuable,  
16          and -- and the way we've been trained, it's like we're not  
17          valuable. We're worthless. We're -- and I'm going to put  
18          (indiscernible) down here. What really gets me upset is  
19          the Disney movie, this "Pocahontas." They said -- and this  
20          is what they're teaching our children, it's  
21          that -- savages, savages, barely even human, and it's like,  
22          oh, my God, they're teaching children -- like,  
23          they're -- ~~non-Indian~~ [non-Native] children that we're  
24          barely even human, and it's, like -- this is Walt Disney.  
25          That's the biggest enterprise, basically, in the theaters

[F.C.]

(Sister)

1           or movies or whatever, that -- like, why are they  
2           normalizing this? This -- this is not normal. Like,  
3           we're -- we're human. Like, we're all human, but why are  
4           they -- why are they -- when it came down to that point  
5           that we're not even human, like, I -- you know, there's a  
6           part of me that I really, really likes who I am, and  
7           there's a part of me, like, oh, I'm -- my (indiscernible)  
8           is a beautiful girl. She's my baby girl. [Daughter 1] is  
9           her name, whatever, translating, but she's my baby girl,  
10          and I -- I already said -- well, not -- I'm not going to  
11          guess how many tears, but about four or five times,  
12          already, I caught myself crying and crying and crying, and  
13          I looked at her, and she just looks at me, and she -- why  
14          you crying, Mom? I said, because you look so Native.  
15          You're going to die. Everything going to be against you  
16          because the way you look. Why couldn't you look like me?  
17          I look -- I don't look so Native. Why couldn't you look  
18          like me?

19                        Anyway, and I had to let go and let God, and  
20          I had to make some changes in my life so I'd be able to  
21          feel like I can breathe because I'm one mother -- one  
22          mother who loves her daughter very much who -- she -- she  
23          my whole world, and for her to be dismissed  
24          or -- like -- because she's First Nations, like, I  
25          want -- I want to be able to feel pride, to be able to say,

Statement- Public  
[F.C.]  
(Sister)

11

1 oh, yeah, look how my girl -- my girl's Native, and I'm  
2 proud. I want that feeling. I want that feeling in my  
3 head, I want that feeling in my heart, but why is it right  
4 now my fear won't let that through? That's all I want to  
5 do, but is that -- that song pops in my head, like, barely  
6 even human, savages, savages, and -- like, why? Like, how  
7 did we get here? Like, basically, put it in a nutshell,  
8 like, we all got here because of the way everything  
9 unfolded in life. It's not -- not going to be better, not  
10 going to get worse, until -- well, it'll get better, but  
11 first start making -- planning for better because -- and,  
12 first of all, because (~~indiscernible~~) [acknowledge] what's  
13 already been and what already's happening. It's, like, why  
14 as a woman of 2017, we've got everything going for them,  
15 I've got so much going for me, but why am I dominated by  
16 that fear of -- that my daughter is so disposable?  
17 Just -- it's just -- she's not important, and that's the  
18 feeling I get, and why do I have to have that feeling?  
19 Because she's a beautiful girl. She won't hurt nobody.  
20 She wouldn't hurt nobody, and I know that, but because of  
21 stereo -- like, how do you stereotype certain people or  
22 whatever, people want to hurt her just because she looks  
23 Native. It's, like, why? Like -- so I guess I'm, like, in  
24 a conundrum when it comes to that. Like, I don't know what  
25 to do.

1                   But can you ask me another question? I'm  
2           getting ...

3                   **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Yeah, of course.  
4           I would like to go back to maybe -- we were discussing your  
5           sister. You said that she was struggling with addiction.  
6           Can you tell us how long it went and if she has ever  
7           received support to deal with her addiction?

8                   **MS. F.C.:** Well, what -- what her support, I  
9           should have been her biggest supporter at the time because  
10          I've been in Alcoholics Anonymous. Like, I went to couple  
11          (indiscernible) for a long time, and it just -- I don't  
12          know when she was there with me at that time, she was  
13          my -- if -- like, I was in AA at that time, but, like, I  
14          should -- should -- no -- I was in AA at the time because I  
15          remember trying to get -- like, come with me to a meeting,  
16          like, trying to get her to get help for herself, or come  
17          with me, and she just didn't want to. And then that's -- I  
18          (~~indiscernible~~) [find] for myself, (~~indiscernible~~) ~~person~~  
19          [personally]. That's when -- just -- this term  
20          "addictions" start changing, because it wasn't more  
21          alcohols, but all of a sudden it was turning into this  
22          pills and -- like, what's going on? And I could see every  
23          changing, and -- like, everything -- everything was  
24          starting to changing, the addictions started changing, and  
25          I was, like -- when she started getting into pills, that's



1 when I noticed that there was a big shift. ~~That girl~~[Her]  
2 addiction was -- went from -- from -- how can I say  
3 it -- from (indiscernible) to total -- with this new  
4 addiction, this pills, them, just, like, engulfed her. She  
5 was caught in the middle like a little bird inside a cage,  
6 just -- and I thought it was -- well, (indiscernible), I  
7 said, oh, I don't like Tylenol, and I was, like, trying  
8 to -- oh, don't ~~be partaking~~ [even partake in] Tylenol, it  
9 just -- just for ~~recreation~~ [regular strength], Tylenol. I  
10 was, like -- like, I made a big deal about it to her, my  
11 sister, and I shouldn't have because I feel guilty that  
12 maybe that would have gave -- gave her (~~indiscernible~~) [the  
13 gift] come over, like, try to see that this is -- view it  
14 as an addiction, but all I can say is, like, my words  
15 aren't ~~worth~~ [weren't] enough, and -- but [then of course,  
16 I'm not gonna feel guilty] ~~they're~~ (indiscernible), and  
17 ~~that one pill~~ (indiscernible), I couldn't just -- I tried  
18 the best of my ability at that time, and -- my sister, I  
19 don't know what to -- I don't know. It's, like, I really  
20 miss her, and I don't know how to -- just -- and, also  
21 [there's nothing else], I can say that I wish I could bring  
22 her back, but --

23 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Of course.

24 MS. F.C.: -- but I can't, and she's always  
25 guiding me, telling me, keep on doing what you're doing,

1 but -- because I've got to help people somehow for some  
2 reason. I said, keep on going, this road I'm going on,  
3 because I got to help people, and I don't know when -- when  
4 I help them, when they get down low and they get  
5 (indiscernible) --

6 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** She has a really  
7 positive impact on you.

8 **MS. F.C.:** Yeah.

9 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Yeah. That's  
10 great. This is great.

11 **MS. F.C.:** Yeah.

12 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And you mentioned  
13 your parents a little bit earlier during this statement,  
14 and you said that they both went to residential school.  
15 Can you tell us a bit more about that, about your mother  
16 and your father when they were younger and about their  
17 upbringing as well?

18 **MS. F.C.:** Oh. Jesus. My mom was from  
19 a -- originally from [Maritimes community 1] -- I mean,  
20 originally from [Maritimes community 2]. She wasn't  
21 [Maritimes community 1], and my stepfather was from  
22 [Maritimes community 3], and at that time, because of  
23 reserves, you know, he was from [Maritimes community 3]  
24 reserve, and he moved to [Maritimes community 1], but he  
25 didn't transfer his band. They wanted my mom because it

1 was, like, woman who were -- the man (indiscernible), so my  
2 mom was told, go there too. My mom says, I ain't going to  
3 go live there. [My kids ain't gonna go live there]  
4 (Indiscernible).

5 She raised us in an old home. There  
6 wasn't -- there was no heat or nothing, and we had to live  
7 in the (indiscernible) -- like, no oil (indiscernible) are  
8 almost frozen because she refused to leave [Maritimes  
9 community 1] and go up to [Maritimes community 3],, and  
10 that -- that reserve. I just remember us, no bathroom,  
11 being very cold, no -- we had no -- because every other  
12 house had a bathroom. We had no bathroom, and I -- I  
13 always wondered, why are we so poor? Like, how come  
14 everybody else has, like, a bathroom? Like, I always  
15 thought they were just picking on us, but when I reflected  
16 and when I grew up and I was reflecting, I say, oh, my God,  
17 she was just trying -- my mom didn't want us to move -- she  
18 was just trying to -- like, we had our house, and they  
19 wouldn't help us because my -- my -- because my parents  
20 (indiscernible) [situation], but we didn't know about our  
21 parents (indiscernible) [situation]. We just do -- okay,  
22 they're just (indiscernible) [doin' it cuz they didn't like  
23 us], because we didn't know why, and -- my mom worked. She  
24 got a job as a teacher, as a teacher's aide.

25 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Yeah.

1                   **MS. F.C.:** And they start bringing in money,  
2                   and she was always trying to, like, better our -- better  
3                   our lives and then put -- my poor mom, she just tried  
4                   harder and harder, and she only lived to be 63. She passed  
5                   away from pancreatic cancer.

6                   **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Hm.

7                   **MS. F.C.:** Because even when she got cancer,  
8                   she told them, don't you guys tell [F.C.'s Nickname], she  
9                   going to be upset and she going to get sick, and  
10                  me -- everybody was scared I get sick and I revert back to  
11                  where I was (indiscernible) to go all the way back  
12                  from -- as a mom, I said I would probably feel that way,  
13                  too, but -- but she told them, don't you tell [F.C.'s  
14                  Nickname]. [F.C.'s Nickname] will think something's up,  
15                  but (indiscernible) -- they were trying not to tell me. I  
16                  finally figured it out, and I told my sister -- because I'm  
17                  the oldest, right, and my sister, she just say, no,  
18                  (indiscernible). What's going on? I know something's  
19                  going on. And why's Mom going to the hospital almost every  
20                  second day? But that's -- she's in  
21                  Sydney (ph) -- -- because [Maritimes community 1] is like,  
22                  a half-hour drive away, and I'm in [Maritimes community 4],  
23                  so I was seeing her every two days. She dropped by my  
24                  house, and like -- like, I had a brain injury, and ~~that~~  
25                  [not a] stupid injury, like, hello, gosh, what's going on?

1 But if I'm (indiscernible). From the time they told me to  
2 burying my mom was not even three months. It went that  
3 fast.

4 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Can you  
5 maybe -- to the best of your knowledge, can you tell us a  
6 little bit about your experience at residential school,  
7 your mother?

8 **MS. F.C.:** She didn't like to talk about it  
9 at all. There's not much because residential school wasn't  
10 talked about at all in my house. So -- she told us a few  
11 stories, not much, but I do remember one story, and there  
12 was -- about this boy was getting sick from, like, eating  
13 food. Like, they all have their meals, whatever. For some  
14 reason, she told -- shared this one with us, and she goes  
15 to us, this boy in -- in -- not the nurse but the nuns who  
16 was -- eat your food, blah, blah. He spit up, and they  
17 made him eat his throw-up food, over and -- because  
18 he -- my mom said, that poor boy, he threw it back up  
19 because he couldn't keep it down, and they -- they were  
20 make him stay there and eat all his food -- like, not food.  
21 The throw-up, right? And that -- just -- she didn't share  
22 much stories, but when she did, it was -- but all I know  
23 from all the years that she talked about it, I just -- I  
24 always remember thinking, I'm so glad I didn't go there.  
25 I'm so happy it was you, Mom, not me. Like, what am I

1 going to say? Like -- just -- just,  
2 like -- (indiscernible), I don't know what. It was so  
3 beyond my comprehension that -- here's my children. I love  
4 my children. (Indiscernible). Like, just come in, just  
5 take all your children, because they didn't want, like, the  
6 way -- what you are teaching them, or they wanted to teach  
7 them another way, not -- so I don't know, just -- what was  
8 the question? I got all side --

9 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: You  
10 are -- you're -- it's perfect.

11 MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY: You're on the right  
12 track.

13 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: You are -- I  
14 was -- well, my question, I'm interested to the effects of  
15 the people that went to residential school and how it  
16 impacted you, those effects impacted you. So my question  
17 was what do you think was the experience of your parents?  
18 What -- like, your mother asked, but I'll ask more  
19 globally, your mother and your father at the residential  
20 school, and how did it affect you?

21 MS. F.C.: Okay. Looking back on it,  
22 52 years old, and I've very lucky to be alive. I'd have to  
23 say residential school affected me almost, like, a hundred  
24 percent because wasn't for residential school, that I find  
25 residential school was the nook that took everything all

1 away all at once, is -- like, all our faith, our hope,  
2 everything to just drawn -- like, just ~~something~~ [sucking  
3 it] out of our -- our -- what's the word I'm looking for?  
4 Like, our wholeness, our sacredness, it just pulled it  
5 right out and just left us without nothing to survive with.  
6 Like, -- just, like, somebody tell me -- here, let me take  
7 all this information in your brain, but -- there, now go  
8 walk, go out, try and live your life, but all your  
9 teachings, I'm keeping them. Like, what the heck? I need  
10 my teachings to continue on my journey, to know how to live  
11 my life and what to do. Give me back my teachings. But  
12 just keep walking, just keep walking and talking, trying  
13 and remember these teachings that you had in your  
14 head -- in your brain that they didn't get at, just to try  
15 and keep on keeping on, just try to work every day to the  
16 best of your ability. That's all I can do.

17 Like -- like, when my stepfather, I'm -- I'm  
18 like, reflecting back now. Even though -- I'm pretty sure  
19 he doesn't like the way it went, but I certainly liked the  
20 way it went because he sexually abused me from the age of 5  
21 until I was 15, and when my [Son] boy was born, and that  
22 was 1980 -- no, 1993 my [Son] boy was born, and when he was  
23 2, I walked out of court with 2-year-old in my hand, walked  
24 away, and my dad got two and a half years in Dorchester  
25 Penitentiary because I -- I fought back. I took him to

1 court and said, he did this to me when I was young, now I  
2 want -- now I want (indiscernible). I'm not young no more.  
3 I got my own kids, motherfucker, and (indiscernible),  
4 but -- I said, I don't -- I don't care about this anymore,  
5 just -- (indiscernible) [the ton of] abuses, how -- just  
6 going to move forward in your life, but I said -- like, I'm  
7 not going to -- that not no good for me, all negativity,  
8 you know.

9 So when the -- like, I'm happy I fought with  
10 [for] my son and was able put him in there but not too many  
11 people because I had all my -- like, I had to go to P.E.I.  
12 that day, and, like, that -- the stops or whatever for  
13 crossing the ferry and all that, that -- that's  
14 what -- that's why because convicted because  
15 (indiscernible) stuff like that, or they go find them,  
16 and -- and for some reason, I don't know why, I don't -- I  
17 wish I could really say (indiscernible) [I know exactly  
18 why], but after my brain injury, for some reason, I forgave  
19 him. I was, like, in a hospital bed, and I was laying  
20 there, and my family came in, like, my mother and my  
21 father, they came, (indiscernible)[all my siblings], they  
22 were all walking in, and I was watching them walking,  
23 but -- just watching them, and then he walked in, and I  
24 found out later on -- like, later on that he had -- had  
25 asked to speak to me alone, and -- and when he walked by,



1 he was the only one out of everyone that walked in, only  
2 one that had a light over him, and -- I stopped calling him  
3 Dad, I told you earlier, [you're name was] (indiscernible)  
4 because -- my dad wouldn't have did this, and I  
5 went -- they all walked in, and then for some reason, I  
6 just went, Dad, and, like, he walked over. I -- I wanted  
7 him. Dad. I gave him a hug. I said, I must -- I don't  
8 even know what I said, I must (indiscernible).

9 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: And you  
10 remember -- you said you went to court, and he was found  
11 guilty. How long has he been to jail? What happened after  
12 that?

13 MS. F.C.: Two and a half years he was in  
14 jail.

15 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: And you just  
16 mentioned your brain injury. Can you tell us how it  
17 happened, how -- what happened with this brain injury, how  
18 it happened, what --

19 MS. F.C.: Okay. Well, my brain -- we were  
20 out one night, me and my husband, my ex, and all I been  
21 told so far is that they heard, like, a ruckus, and they  
22 seen -- finally -- we were, like, fighting each other,  
23 trying to fight, and they said -- one fellow says he -- he  
24 knocked me out, like, he punched me, knocked me out, and  
25 (indiscernible) -- and so he said I started tying my shoes

1 because he was going to come down and (~~indiscernible~~)  
2 [help] me out, right, and he goes, when I got to outside,  
3 like, (~~indiscernible~~) [the door], so I soon them walking  
4 away. They said, oh, good, he's walking away, not going to  
5 hit her no more. And he goes -- then he goes, like, the  
6 steps, there's, like, a flight of stairs that  
7 (~~indiscernible~~). By the time he got down, he had -- all  
8 he'd seen ~~them~~ [him] walking away, and when he got down to  
9 the bottom of the steps, he seen [him] running towards me,  
10 and he walked away, like -- and he used my head for a  
11 football, like, a football. He kicking me in the head,  
12 and -- from then on, I had to go to the hospital -- well, I  
13 had to go to the hospital, then -- then I had to get  
14 airlifted. That's when my brain was bleeding, and then  
15 they start -- (~~indiscernible~~) -- like, I had to go to  
16 surgery right away, so thank goodness -- oh, my God. Thank  
17 goodness the bleeding stopped and the flight -- helicopter  
18 flight on the way there, (~~indiscernible~~) [to Halifax], and  
19 when that happened, when stopped -- they stopped -- I  
20 stopped bleeding, and then my children were told to tell me  
21 good-bye, that I wasn't going to make it through the night,  
22 blah, blah, blah. So yeah, I told them good-bye. I'm  
23 still here.

24 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: And was it the  
25 fist time that your ex-husband was violent with you?

1                   **MS. F.C.:** Yeah, I thought -- that's what I  
2                   thought, but no, because my son -- I asked him, I  
3                   don't -- I didn't remember ever being abused, so I -- I  
4                   was, like -- didn't abuse me much. Then my son told  
5                   me -- because he says, oh, (indiscernible) [he was 11 when]  
6                   that happened, but later on, like, he doesn't -- Mom, do  
7                   you remember that time -- he goes, it was Easter time, and  
8                   we had no phone, you told me -- because I got roller blades  
9                   from Easter Bunny, and he told me, you put your roller  
10                  blades on and go to the store and tell them to call the  
11                  cops, I said, because he kept getting punched and  
12                  everything. He was beating you up. I was like, oh, man, I  
13                  forgot that.

14                   I get -- like, there's some memories I  
15                  didn't get back, but -- like, him -- by him telling me, I  
16                  said, oh, yeah, I remember now. Like, there's a lot of  
17                  things that -- okay -- okay, my memory gets triggered,  
18                  okay. And -- I got lost there. What was the question?

19                  **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** That's -- no,  
20                  that's perfect. Yeah, I was asking if it was the first  
21                  time that he was violent with you in --

22                  **MS. F.C.:** Oh, I don't know.

23                  **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And how long have  
24                  you been with him?

25                  **MS. F.C.:** On that day, was 22 years.

1 Twenty-two years and four kids. Only two years away from  
2 having my 25th wedding anniversary. That's going to be  
3 celebrated. I used to feel bad, like (indiscernible).  
4 Nah, I don't feel bad.

5 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And when that  
6 happened, after you reported it to the police, what  
7 happened?

8 **MS. F.C.:** Oh -- oh, got reported it to the  
9 police, they were trying -- when it got out of the  
10 hospital, when I went to the court -- I went to the  
11 courthouse. They were pissed off. I -- I (indiscernible)  
12 [I was pretty loud], and I'm (indiscernible) [I can  
13 understand why they were] pissed off, and I went in there,  
14 and I was getting my man out of jail. Because he tricked  
15 me, and I said -- and (indiscernible) said [everybody used  
16 to be very upset] that he tricked me, and I -- I used to be  
17 very upset, too, but I said, I'm not going to worry about  
18 it. I'm not going to stress out, but when he gets to see  
19 his Creator, when the Creator gets (indiscernible), he can  
20 have that with his Creator because I think his Creator's  
21 going to be a lot harder on him than he is on himself, but  
22 I just didn't worry about it. I just -- I had to let it go  
23 because -- too much of my energy, all my positive energy  
24 being dragged away, so I just, nah, I'm not going to let  
25 him bother me like that no more.

1                   **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And do you know if  
2                   your kids that -- did your kids have -- ever suffer any  
3                   kind of abuses; physical, emotional, psychological, sexual  
4                   abuses?

5                   **MS. F.C.:** My children?

6                   **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Uh-huh.

7                   **MS. F.C.:** No, because --

8                   **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And not  
9                   necessarily from your family, even from outside or any  
10                  trauma that they could have experienced.

11                  **MS. F.C.:** Oh, like -- say it again.

12                  **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Your children.  
13                  Like, either [Daughter 2], I have [Son], [Daughter 3], and  
14                  [Daughter 4]. Do you know if they have ever been victim of  
15                  any abuses, either sexual abuses, physical abuses,  
16                  emotional abuses?

17                  **MS. F.C.:** Emotional. Not sexual, because  
18                  their -- their mom lived a hard life, and they've -- they  
19                  know, they know, like, all stories  
20                  (indiscernible) -- what's the word I'm looking for?  
21                  They're, like -- costs, there more ~~costs~~ [cautious],  
22                  because of my life, not the way I taught them,  
23                  but -- that's a really confusing question for me because  
24                  it's, like, I tried to stay out of their lives, let them  
25                  live their lives too.

1                   **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And it's the best  
2 of your knowledge. If you think that there's none, and  
3 it's -- no problem at all. You don't need an answer for  
4 that. I'm just asking the question around, have, like, a  
5 good perspective.

6                   **MS. F.C.:** M'hm.

7                   **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** So if there's  
8 none, that's not -- not a problem at all.

9                   **MS. F.C.:** (Indiscernible)

10                  **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Yeah. And I would  
11 like to have a little bit of information about your  
12 grandchildren as well. You mentioned earlier that five of  
13 your grandchildren were -- were not with you anymore. Can  
14 you tell us a little bit more about that?

15                  **MS. F.C.:** I'm 53 years old, and I already  
16 got nine grandchildren. Imagine.

17                  **MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** Nice.

18                  **MS. F.C.:** Just a lot of grandchildren, I  
19 got (indiscernible). But -- yeah, it's sad that I don't  
20 get to see my grandchildren. It's, like, I know there's a  
21 part of me -- like -- like, (indiscernible), and I don't  
22 feel like -- no. Hm. It's, like, I feel like they  
23 were -- it's like residential school all over again. It's,  
24 like, they got taken away. It's, like, not the way I feel  
25 about that is how -- I feel like Forrest Gump over here.

1 Just the way my life was supposed to fall, I was supposed  
2 to teach my grandchildren how to do all -- it's  
3 like -- like residential school. It's got -- they scooped  
4 them up again. They just took them away.

5 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Who took them  
6 away?

7 **MS. F.C.:** ~~With my family.~~ [Mi'kmaw Family]  
8 They took away my grandchildren. Now I can't be a grammy.  
9 I'll always be their grammy biologically, like, in their  
10 brain, but my teachings are all gone because I wasn't  
11 allowed to teach them. There's some days I say, okay,  
12 well, good for them. That's -- I don't have that much  
13 money, I can't buy lots of stuff for them, blah, blah,  
14 blah, and then -- that's one way of looking, and the other  
15 way of looking is, I'm a great person. I'm so lovable.  
16 I've got so many teachings that I can share. I -- I feel  
17 like they ripped me off because -- they stole my thunder.  
18 Like, these children have to learn how to love, but -- but  
19 they're taught how not to love. Like, your grandmother,  
20 she's not important. Your mom, she's not important at all.  
21 We got to take you away from her so you could have a better  
22 life. It's, like, just all the negativity just -- at the  
23 core of my heart, I guess it really, really, really, really  
24 hurts so much that -- that I don't even want to think about  
25 it (indiscernible). I just want to stop for -- like, don't

1 even think about it because it hurts so much, that all  
2 that's gone. There's no amount of money's never going to  
3 buy it back because you can't buy that stuff.

4 Like -- and then -- you know how I found  
5 solace in this? One of my grandchildren died. She got  
6 called back, and she was only four and a half months old.  
7 She got called back to heaven, and I said, okay. Okay,  
8 Creator, this what's going on? Okay. Okay, I got this.  
9 Then the second time -- well, I just lost one just, like,  
10 three months ago.

11 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Sorry.

12 **MS. F.C.:** They got taken away from me and  
13 my family. He got -- he beat her, he beat the  
14 (~~indiscernible~~) [baby] -- almost, like, right out of her.  
15 Now, he's with the family of the man because -- it's ~~not~~  
16 ~~the family~~ -- ~~with my family~~ [with the family, the  
17 [Indigenous Family Services agency] now. Like, I'm -- I'm  
18 so grateful that I'm not a violent person because I had  
19 to -- (~~indiscernible~~) [One of these days] I would shoot  
20 somebody -- shoot the whole family, but I'm not violent,  
21 but anyway -- she just had a baby three months ago, my  
22 daughter, and the man that beat her up and cut up his  
23 friend's face because -- and he cut up his face because all  
24 these years he thought he was more handsome than him.  
25 That's the only reason why he cut up his face, and



1 the -- the woman that adopted -- that adopted that -- the  
2 father, like, the dad -- baby dad or what, she works for  
3 [Indigenous Family Services agency]. [Indigenous Family  
4 Services agency] got five children over there, and I've  
5 seen them with my own two eyes getting slapped upside the  
6 head for speaking English. It's the opposite of  
7 residential schools. Like, they're teaching English, and  
8 they're trying -- and that little boy is blind, and they  
9 only teach him how to speak Mi'kmaw. So when he goes to  
10 the hospital, he can't speak -- nobody can understand him  
11 or nothing, and -- now my grandson is there,  
12 (indiscernible).

13 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** And why did they  
14 remove the kids from your daughter's care?

15 **MS. F.C.:** Because of -- they said abuse;  
16 like, drugs. But it's a hard road. I'm getting all upset.  
17 Now I want another cigarette.

18 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** That's all right.  
19 We can take a break. Totally. I'm asking lots of  
20 difficult questions, and I'm aware of that.

21 **MS. F.C.:** Okay.

22 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Okay so we can  
23 totally take a break right now. I'll just turn off the  
24 audio-recorder, and it's 2:48 p.m., and we're turning the  
25 recorder off.

1 --- Upon recessing at 2:48 p.m.

2 --- Upon resuming at 3:06 p.m.

3 MS. F.C.: I think that's why they wanted me  
4 to come in because they -- like, and what you just said,  
5 it's, like, I half-full, like -- I'm positive like that.

6 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: You are.

7 MS. F.C.: (Indiscernible), oh, my God,  
8 you've got to tell your stuff. I said, I talk about all  
9 the time. Like, anytime always I'm talking about myself,  
10 ~~and I got nothing~~ [like I'm not even] there.

11 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: I'll just say that  
12 it's 3:06 p.m., and we're continuing the session with  
13 Marie-Audrey.

14 MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY: Barbara Sevigny.

15 MS. F.C.: And [P.C.].

16 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Thank you very  
17 much. So before we left, you were talking about your  
18 daughter, and you were telling us a little bit about a  
19 problem that she has right now and the addiction and the  
20 fact that some of her children right now are not with her  
21 anymore, and do you know if she has some support? Like, do  
22 you know if she's receiving counseling, some support, or is  
23 she receiving any help to help her with this -- this  
24 addiction?

25 MS. F.C.: Yeah.

1                   **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Yeah?

2                   **MS. F.C.:** Getting help, but -- and I told  
3 this already. I said, can't help you until you want to  
4 help yourself. No matter how many times you say you want  
5 help, if you don't want to help yourself, I can't help you.  
6 That's -- the hardest part for me was trying to tell her  
7 that I want to help because I'm not going to get help if  
8 you don't want it, (indiscernible). Now that's just  
9 like -- that's (indiscernible) or whatever, right, because  
10 (indiscernible) for a girl. She looks at me, and  
11 that's -- remember I was telling you about a song,  
12 Carrie Underwood, my song? My song in my life right now  
13 for me is Carrie Underwood song, "Something in the Water,"  
14 and the only thing about -- different about that is the  
15 preacher man on the song is my 12-step programs. I mean, I  
16 was listening to it, and I was crying my head off in the  
17 living room one night, and I couldn't ask [I was] -- that  
18 never happened to me before in my life. I was so, so  
19 emotional, crying and everything. I walked to the  
20 room -- like, her room's (indiscernible) home, so I walked  
21 out, and I'm, like, oh -- I can't even see anymore, like,  
22 the tears coming up. I walked in, and my baby girl looks  
23 up, and she goes, who died? And I -- oh, no, happy tears,  
24 happy tears. (Indiscernible). Happy tears. And  
25 the -- they go -- my oldest girl just goes, oh, my God, did



1 be -- like, before this happy tears came --

2 MS. F.C.: Yeah.

3 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: -- how long was it  
4 for you when you were in the little sadder place? How long  
5 did it take -- like, how long have you been there?

6 MS. F.C.: Oh, my God. I'd say 53 years.  
7 Like, a long time. I'm only just starting to feel this  
8 love, but I think it was, like, a process. Like, I was  
9 slowly getting through here, you know, but I'd say from  
10 that time I had my happy breakdown, I'd say about three  
11 years ago.

12 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Three years ago?  
13 Okay.

14 MS. F.C.: Like when, I -- I have to  
15 (indiscernible). That's it. Three years.

16 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: And -- and how did  
17 you cope with the sadness?

18 MS. F.C.: By being [F.C.'s Nickname].  
19 By -- I always think that -- that instead of a half -- I  
20 know -- all my life, I knew that you got to be half-full,  
21 it's going to be half-full, but all my life, ~~my world's~~  
22 ~~been~~ (indiscernible) [my road's been driving me] that, no,  
23 no, no. No, no, no. Now, I just couldn't get to it. And  
24 then after my brain injury, a lot of things like,  
25 this -- because even my kids, I told them, you tell your



1 baby girl, I like to call her, she's -- how can I say it?  
2 She's -- she drinks, like, a -- like, a -- more -- like,  
3 not every night, but on weekends, and I am -- I always tell  
4 her, [Daughter 3]. She goes, what, Mom? I said,  
5 you're -- you're an alcoholic. You know that, right? You  
6 just don't realize it yet. She goes -- I said, really,  
7 [Daughter 3], I said, you were born an alcoholic. I was  
8 born an alcoholic. It's in our genes. I said you can't  
9 avoid it because grand -- my mom, she -- she drank so much.  
10 She's like -- she'd get -- basically drank herself to death  
11 because she -- pancreatic cancer. That's what had  
12 happened, but so -- but -- I was -- and I told [Daughter  
13 3], I -- I been at AA -- like, how old am I, 53? If I  
14 stayed in AA -- stayed sober, I mean -- I'd be happy sober  
15 28 years if I stayed from the first time I went to a  
16 program because I've always been that way, ~~sometimes~~  
17 [something's] off-kilter. I got no (indiscernible), I  
18 (indiscernible) go find out what it is and figure out how  
19 to fix it. Like, what can I do to make it better,  
20 or -- because we're -- I don't know. (Indiscernible), but  
21 we're here -- now we're here -- we're not here for a long  
22 time, but got to make the most of what we have while we're  
23 here.

24 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: M'hm.

25 MS. F.C.: So -- and some people think that

1           it's a -- things that are material, things are whatever,  
2           but none of that bullshit really matters if you don't have  
3           self-love.

4                           **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** M'hm.

5                           **MS. F.C.:** I'd rather have self-love any day  
6           because all that money, all the drugs in the world couldn't  
7           make me feel how happy - ~~happy~~ [and healthy] I feel inside,  
8           and even this feeling, the ~~most of them~~ [emotions] that  
9           are -- because that was just -- just love coming out of me.  
10          I could -- like, I'm emitting love, right, and I'm walking  
11          on, like -- and I'm -- like, I was just telling -- like, I  
12          tell them self-talk, talk to myself, that -- okay, [F.C.'s  
13          Nickname], what do I got to be grateful about today? Like,  
14          what's all the things we're getting grateful for today?  
15          Because I know that the key to (~~indiscernible~~) [this] is  
16          gratitude. The key to where I'm at is gratitude, always  
17          being grateful for stuff that you have. Did you know that  
18          you give gratitude for stuff, and you get more stuff? This  
19          is how it works. Well, I give gratitude every day for  
20          being able to walk, give gratitude every day for being able  
21          to read. Every day -- like, stuff that we just take for  
22          granted every day is, like -- and I'm so grateful for it  
23          every day. Like, that will do a list -- like, sometimes I  
24          do write it down, sometimes I don't. It's like, I  
25          was -- every day -- well, this is what I've been doing.



1 Every day I wrote down five things that I'm grateful for,  
2 right away, because -- and that -- it's, like, okay, I'm  
3 grateful I opened my eyes this morning. Like,  
4 what -- I'll -- and I seen this on Facebook, that's a -- I  
5 stole it off somebody, said, ~~probably~~ [I opened]the best  
6 gift this morning, I opened my eyes. Thank you -- thank  
7 you, Creator.

8 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** [F.C.'s Nickname],  
9 in your opinion, what kind of change would you like to see  
10 in the future for Indigenous women and girls? What do you  
11 think can be improved, and how do you see -- what can be  
12 done for Indigenous women and girls to have a better  
13 future? This is a --

14 **MS. F.C.:** Wow.

15 (LAUGHTER)

16 **MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** (Indiscernible)  
17 question.

18 **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** This is a -- in  
19 your opinion and ~~in~~ experience.

20 **MS. F.C.:** Like, I'll tell you, in my  
21 experience, I would say I would like them to start by being  
22 true to themselves, like, loving themselves,  
23 what -- there's so much that we have to learn to love  
24 ourself -- like -- like, I love myself so much because I  
25 know my culture. I know -- well, like, you know -- see,







1           What could help prevent that from happening? What would  
2           you like to see changed? If you had a magic wand, what  
3           would you wish?

4                       **MS. F.C.:** Oh, my God. Could you  
5           (indiscernible) [F.C.'s Nickname] World?

6                                       **(LAUGHTER)**

7                       **MS. F.C.:** (~~Indiscernible~~) [That would be  
8           fantastic]. Oh, my God. But -- oh. There's all -- so  
9           many negative things, too, that can come out of positive  
10          things, but I don't want to be a Negative Nancy either.

11                                       **(LAUGHTER)**

12                       **MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** Maybe I could use one,  
13          for example, that you shared. You didn't trust the  
14          service-providers. You didn't -- or you didn't know  
15          where -- where they were when you needed help. Could that  
16          change for the women, maybe? Like, if women knew where to  
17          go, what was available?

18                       **MS. F.C.:** Yes, because -- yeah, that's  
19          really hard because if it wasn't for [F.C.'s Nickname]  
20          helping [F.C.'s Nickname], if that makes any sense.  
21          Like --

22                       **MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** M'hm.

23                       **MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Yeah.

24                       **MS. F.C.:** You know what I mean, like, going  
25          out and saying, I need to do something, I can help myself.

1 I don't even know where, but -- it's hard to say, too,  
2 because [F.C.'s Nickname]'s being guided.

3 **MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** M'hm.

4 **MS. F.C.:** Because I can't -- I can't take  
5 all the credit because, it's, like, Creator's taking me  
6 there. It's like, I can't -- it's not all me. Like -- but  
7 I don't know if that was when I let go and I said, okay,  
8 you've got this, I'm not going -- like, I -- I'm -- this  
9 was not even only two months, it was only, like, two weeks  
10 ago, I just said, okay. Okay. Okay, Creator, I'm -- at  
11 this point, I'm so stressed the fuck out. (Indiscernible).  
12 I'm so stressed the fuck out. I can't do this anymore.  
13 Okay. (Breathes out, breathes in) Okay. I know what I'm  
14 going to do. You -- you've got my back, you've got better  
15 than ~~any of my~~ [anybody] -- you know me better than I know  
16 myself. I'm not going to worry about it no more. I'm  
17 releasing it. I'm letting it go. I'm not taking it back  
18 because every time I take it back, I get all this stress.  
19 Okay. Okay. You got my back, hundred percent, and I trust  
20 you hundred percent. Not the one leading you around, never  
21 did, never will. Okay. And then I just lifted up.

22 **MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** So do you think,  
23 saying that, if women were taught how to say, no, I'm not  
24 going to take it back, I'm going to let it go, would that  
25 help women if somebody were to teach them how to do that?

1                   MS. F.C.: Yeah, I think so, because I  
2           find -- because it doesn't matter what you -- like,  
3           addictions, because I'm, like -- like, I'm -- I can say I'm  
4           well versed for that, how it goes around. It's,  
5           like -- it's hard for somebody not to take it back when  
6           they give it -- like, when they offer it up to the Creator,  
7           but -- but (~~indiscernible~~) [you gotta tell them], you got  
8           to, like, make them aware that they are doing this, because  
9           I didn't even -- like, the one I could fool the most was  
10          [F.C.'s Nickname] because [F.C.'s Nickname] didn't even  
11          know, right? And I tell him, one day, look at, what am I  
12          doing? I took that back. ~~Like~~ [why did], I take that  
13          back. I -- but that helped me find my Creator even better  
14          because by identifying that I took it back, I got no power,  
15          but I took it because I'm a sucky baby and I wanted  
16          everything done yesterday ~~and all~~ (~~indiscernible~~) [no  
17          patience, no nothing], like, oh, okay. You can have it  
18          back.

19   (LAUGHTER)

20                   MS. F.C.: But yeah, I think it -- learning  
21           process, and I don't know where -- like, I wish I could put  
22           all my stuff in a book and say, yeah, this is how you do  
23           it.

24                   MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: That's a good  
25           idea, eh?





1 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: When you're ready.

2 MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY: -- it will happen.

3 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Yeah.

4 MS. F.C.: And I said -- and I said, okay,  
5 so -- because something's going to -- I'm going to get  
6 money -- I'm going to get money for -- like, I'm not going  
7 be poor my whole life, but I'm going to get money, and I  
8 said, maybe that's how I going to get the money, got to  
9 write the book.

10 (LAUGHTER)

11 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: This is a  
12 wonderful idea. Well -- well, thank you so much --

13 MS. F.C.: Thank you.

14 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: -- for  
15 listening -- well, for sharing your story to -- with us --

16 MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY: M'hm.

17 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: -- for being here  
18 today. I really think you have lots to say and lots to  
19 teach as well.

20 MS. F.C.: Yeah.

21 MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY: Yeah.

22 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: I think the way  
23 you see life and this positivity and this strength and  
24 courage is -- well, it warms my heart.

25 MS. F.C.: I know because I --

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(LAUGHTER)

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** So I really want to say from myself, really, thank you for sharing your story with us. I'm really grateful that you're here, and I'm sure it's the same for -- for Barbara that is here with us.

**MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** M'hm.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** So I will just turn off the audio-recorder. Unless you have any other thing you would like to add at the moment, I will turn off the audio-recorder, and --

**MS. F.C.:** I -- I wish -- put this song on -- on the end of the song, say this -- put -- my song called "Something in the Water," Carrie Underwood, and the preacher man is 12-step program for me.

(LAUGHTER)

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Thank you for that. So it's 15 -- oh.

**MS. F.C.:** And I'm a hugger too. I love hugs.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** Thank you so much.

**MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY:** That's good because we're huggers too.

**MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD:** We are. We love that as well. Thank you.

1 MS. F.C.: But I (indiscernible). You're a  
2 little rigid.

3 (LAUGHTER)

4 MS. F.C.: You know what I mean,  
5 because -- now, I tell it because we are (indiscernible).

6 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Yeah.

7 MS. F.C.: Get right in there.

8 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: Do you mean all my  
9 muscle I have? I'm kidding.

10 (LAUGHTER)

11 MS. F.C.: You guys are like --

12 (LAUGHTER)

13 MS. F.C.: Next time, when you getting into  
14 a hug, relax.

15 (LAUGHTER)

16 MS. BARBARA SEVIGNY: Again?

17 MS. F.C.: (Indiscernible)

18 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: This is why we  
19 have hugging.

20 (LAUGHTER)

21 MS. MARIE-AUDREY GIRARD: I'll just turn off  
22 the recorder. So it's 4:31, and we're turning off the  
23 recorder.


24 --- Upon adjourning at 4:31 p.m.

Statement-  
[F.C.]  
(Sister)

48

LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Jenessa Leriger, 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, appearing to read "Jenessa Leriger", is written above a solid horizontal line.

Jenessa Leriger

March 13, 2018