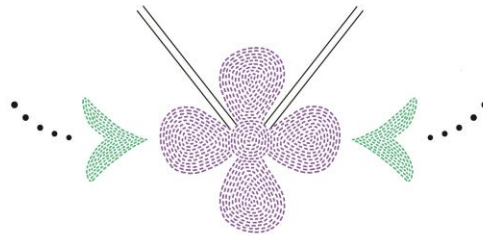


National Inquiry into  
Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls



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

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered  
Indigenous Women and Girls  
Truth-Gathering Process  
Part I Statement Gathering  
Toronto, Ontario  
Toronto Marriott Hotel**



**PUBLIC**

**October 11, 2018**

**Statement - Volume 506  
Bridget Perrier**

**Statement gathered by Francine Merasty, Commission Counsel**

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## II

### NOTE

Where not required by other statute, redactions to this public transcript have been made pursuant to Rule 55 of the Commission's *Legal Path: Rules of Respectful Practice*, which provides for "the discretion to redact private information of a sensitive nature where it is not material to the evidence to be given before distributing the information to the Parties. The National Inquiry will consider the public interest in releasing this type of information against the potential harmful impact on the individual whose personal information is at issue."

III  
Table of Contents

Statement Volume 506  
October 11, 2018

Witness: Bridget Perrier PAGE

Statement of Bridget Perrier. . . . .	1
Reporter's Certification . . . . .	95

Statement gatherer: Francine Merasty, Commission Counsel

**Documents submitted with testimony: none.**

Toronto, Ontario

1  
2 --- Upon commencing on Thursday, October 11, 2018 at 10:42  
3 a.m.

4 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** All right.

5 Okay. This is Francine Merasty, Statement Taker with the  
6 National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women  
7 and Girls. We're in Toronto, Ontario. The date is October  
8 11, 2018, and the time is 10:42 a.m. Today, I'm speaking  
9 with Bridget Perrier of the Long Lac 58 Nation, and she  
10 resides in Toronto. She's here to tell her truth about  
11 herself as a survivor. And also, she's going to be  
12 speaking about Brenda Wolfe, who was a victim of Robert  
13 Pickton. And present with us also in the room are --

14 **MS. SHANNON BENNETT:** Shannon Bennett, and  
15 I'm here to support Bridget.

16 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** And as a health  
17 support --

18 **MS. SARAH JANE COMMARDI:** Sarah Jane  
19 Commardi (ph).

20 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** Okay. Okay.  
21 Bridget, you are here voluntarily to provide your truth as  
22 a survivor. And you agree to the video taping and audio  
23 taping of your truth?

24 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** I do.

25 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** Okay. So what do you

1 want to share with the National Inquiry, Bridget?

2 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: Like --

3 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: So you can just start  
4 wherever.

5 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: Yeah.

6 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: Maybe, just  
7 introduce --

8 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: Yeah.

9 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: -- yourself, and --

10 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: Okay.

11 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: -- yeah.

12 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: So my name's Bridget  
13 Perrier. My spirit name is *Wasaya Kwe*. I was born in  
14 Thunder Bay, Ontario to -- from a -- my birth mother, her  
15 name was [BIOLOGICAL MOTHER], and I was placed up for  
16 adoption with the recommendations from her that I be  
17 adopted into a non-Native family. I was placed right away  
18 at birth. And I was adopted at five weeks of age to  
19 [MOTHER] and [FATHER] from Thunder Bay. They're French-  
20 Canadian. My mother, my adopted mom, comes from a very  
21 large French-Canadian family, and my dad comes from a small  
22 -- it was just him and his brothers.

23 I had a good childhood. And my adopted  
24 parents always told me who I was, what my background was.  
25 And they said -- they said I was quite funny because I used

1 to tell people, "I'm Native. I'm an Indian." Well, back  
2 then, we didn't say we were Native. I would say, "I'm --  
3 I'm an Indian."

4 And, I guess, you know, the first dealing of  
5 discrimination, you know, my parents went through was with  
6 their church. My mom would do a new parent's resource,  
7 kind of, group with other mothers, like, I guess, they'd go  
8 pray or whatever. And I wasn't allowed to -- I wasn't  
9 allowed to play with other kids. Like, they were pretty  
10 upfront with my mom not to bring me. And, you know, that  
11 was when, you know, I think my parents realized --

12 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** How old were you at  
13 that time?

14 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** I was, like -- she  
15 said I was nine months old. And then she said there was  
16 more problems. My mother and -- my father was the head of  
17 Social Services in Thunder Bay, so he was the head guy at  
18 Welfare. And he was really good at what he did. And he  
19 also did after hours Children's Aid worker. So, you know,  
20 like, we were brought up proper, like, that we were Native,  
21 we were adopted, but we were given up for love.

22 Like, and by fluke, I met my biological  
23 family. Thunder Bay is a small town, and my aunt [AUNT],  
24 her kid -- my cousin was in class with me, and he would go  
25 home and tell his mom, "I look like one of my siblings."

1 And he would say she's at school with him. And it just  
2 happened that my mother was also -- to keep our -- my  
3 culture alive, I was involved with [S.S], another really  
4 respected Indigenous woman from our community, and we just  
5 happened to be with her one Sunday and my aunt was there.  
6 And my mom was, like, "[BIOLOGICAL MOTHER'S LAST NAME]?"  
7 And my mom said, "Oh, my daughter is a [BIOLOGICAL MOTHER'S  
8 LAST NAME]. I -- she was -- I adopted her." And at that  
9 moment, I appeared, and my aunt knew that was who I was.  
10 And it screwed me up.

11 They -- they allowed them -- the -- my  
12 biological family, to meet with me. And my mom said that  
13 my biological mom seemed forced. Like, her sisters were  
14 all, like, gung-ho, but my mom could tell that she didn't  
15 want this -- like, that she had given me up. And she never  
16 expected to reconnect, and that it -- like, it was -- like,  
17 it was clear that she wasn't cooperating. So I went  
18 through that. And my mom asked for the help of child  
19 welfare, and they said just let her -- let her meet them,  
20 it's good. And I always had that fear because I seen how  
21 they ran their households, and my parents, like, we were  
22 kind of spoiled. I came from a little bit of a well-to-do  
23 family. And, like, we all had our own bedrooms, we had a  
24 nanny.

25 Also, during this time, my mother ran a

1 support group for clergy abuse survivors through the  
2 Catholic Church. And my adopted mother, she allowed one of  
3 them to move in. And you would think, with their  
4 background, that we would -- they wouldn't do that. But  
5 I -- the abuse started. He would go after -- his name was  
6 [PERPETRATOR 1], and he would go after the -- like, my baby  
7 brothers, and I would tell him, "No." And I, kind of,  
8 went. Like, it just happened that he started abusing me.

9 And we had a -- we had a nanny, a woman that  
10 took care of us, but she was Caribbean, and she didn't say  
11 much. She knew what was going on, but she was afraid to be  
12 sent back. So she just, kind of, like, you know, she was  
13 the only -- she was just doing her job. She would try to  
14 keep us away from him, but the abuse, it only took a few  
15 months for it to really start. And he stayed there for a  
16 good year. And I remember, like -- like, behaviour-wise,  
17 just, like, you know, like, having to apologize to him.

18 And, like, what he did to me, like, trying  
19 to get me to, like, abuse my brothers, and I -- I would  
20 refuse, I would hide them. I hid the babies from him. I  
21 would hide them, like, in the cubby. Like, my parents had  
22 this huge house in Thunder Bay, and it was, like, a -- a --  
23 like, a -- I don't know, it was a nine-bedroom house, so I  
24 would hide the kids from him. And, like, I would do  
25 things, like, when he would come down around my parents. I



1 would tell my siblings to throw things at him. And my mom  
2 would make me, like, 'cause she was, like, one of those  
3 proper parenting ladies, you know, you go in your child's  
4 face, and you say, like, she would make him crouch down and  
5 make him say sorry -- made me say sorry to him. And I just  
6 hated him. And then it, like -- he was there. Like, I  
7 would do stuff like pee the bed, so he wouldn't bother me.  
8 And I would sleep with my parents. And, like, he would,  
9 like, he was there. They would leave us 'cause they were  
10 so involved in their fucking religion.

11 I started acting out and, like, also, like,  
12 I would act out, and they would be, like, "Well, the --  
13 she's Native." Like, that's why -- like, "That's how  
14 Indians act." Like, that's what I got. And I remember,  
15 like, being at this thing and it was Palm Sunday, and it,  
16 like, we come from, like, the family -- the, like, my mom's  
17 family, there was, like, I think there was 47  
18 grandchildren, and we, like, took over, like, the  
19 children's liturgy at St. Agnes Parish in Thunder Bay. And  
20 we had to make our hands as palms. And, of -- of course,  
21 we gave -- we made our fingers, like, gave, like the  
22 finger, me and my cousin. And it was, like, she didn't get  
23 in trouble, I got in trouble. And I remember the sister,  
24 like, holding my arm, and I yanked -- when I yanked down,  
25 she fell down. And, like, she called me, like, she was

1 saying, like, "You fucking little Indian." And my mother  
2 was, like -- like, "You don't talk to --" Like, she stuck  
3 up for me. But it was stuff like that.

4 Like, I remember keeping my hair up. My  
5 babysitter putting my hair in a French, like, twist, and  
6 the sister at the school I went to ripping it out, and  
7 saying, "That's -- that's how kept women are." And I  
8 didn't understand what a kept-woman was. She -- and she  
9 said it was a (Speaking Native Language), which was, like,  
10 kind of, like a -- like -- like a mistress. And I went  
11 back and told my nanny, and she -- and my nanny went there  
12 and, like, cussed her off. Like, she was Jamaican, and she  
13 said, like, "There's a reason why you don't have kids.  
14 You're evil." Like, 'cause I knew I was going to get it  
15 when I went home with my hair undone. Like, I was going to  
16 get a whooping. And the nanny was so upset that she did  
17 that to me. She humiliated me. She would, like, purposely  
18 humiliate me as soon as they found out I was Native. Like,  
19 they would just -- anything went wrong in the classroom, if  
20 I -- you know, I was standing there, I was to blame. So it  
21 started, like, I just started hating them all and acting  
22 out.

23 I really started acting out at around 11.  
24 And my parents, they put me in a group home for Native  
25 kids. I have to face these men in the work that I do. One

1 of them's a Chief. And it was called [NAME OF GROUP HOME].  
2 And I went through at 11 years old. I didn't look like an  
3 11-year-old, I looked like a 15-year-old. I went through  
4 early puberty. And I -- I remember my mom packing me up  
5 because she coloured coded all six kids, and I was the kid  
6 with the red suitcase. So, like, I had red, red suitcase,  
7 red bedspread, like, that's how she did it. And I remember  
8 being dropped off.

9 And I remember, like, just having, like, all  
10 of a sudden, like, the -- the male staff, they were, like,  
11 "Oh, we didn't know that you're a -- a kid." And, like, it  
12 just started. It was like within a week of being there  
13 that they were bothering me. And I always knew I had big  
14 boobs. I hated them. Like, I used to wear double bras  
15 and -- I played ringette, so I bound myself. And it was  
16 summertime, and it was like my mom put me in a bad  
17 situation. And I remember the female staff, like, were  
18 inappropriate too, but I remember the -- the two male  
19 staff, one named [PERPETRATOR 2] and one named [PERPETRATOR  
20 3].

21 And I remember [PERPETRATOR 3] was really --  
22 it was scary. I would -- my parents would go to the  
23 cottage, they had a cottage. And, you know, they would be  
24 gone. And there wasn't, like, a phone. So he would say,  
25 "Oh, I'm dropping her off." And I would go to his house

1 with him. And I remember one time he dropped -- he drove  
2 with me up in the -- when the first, like, when the sexual  
3 stuff started happening was, they drove me and two other  
4 kids up on the mountain, and then they -- we were coming  
5 down, and they shut the lights off. And he -- he was,  
6 like, "Touch me, and I'll turn the lights on." And those  
7 kids were so scared. And the -- it was, like, I don't  
8 know, it was a -- a blue minivan. And those two little  
9 boys were so scared. And he was, like, "Tell them to touch  
10 me." And it, like, and those boys were telling me, "Just  
11 touch him, Bridget. Just touch him." They were so afraid.  
12 So I touched him, and he turned on the lights. Like it was  
13 scary driving down that mountain. And it happened a lot.

14 And he would, like, everyone liked him, all  
15 the other staff. And I hated him. And those boys knew  
16 what was going on. Like, one of them, his name was [J1],  
17 and he knew -- he knew, like, he -- we -- our rooms were  
18 side-by-side, and he said, "I heard." Like, I remember him  
19 telling me, "I heard you crying." And I would just tell  
20 them, like, you know, they would tell me, like, "Oh, we're  
21 going to tell your parents not to take you home." And they  
22 kept me. And my mom -- and then, had no idea. Like, none.  
23 And even, like, they would take us, like, we'd have to go  
24 to the bush to do ceremony. They would be bothering me.

25 And I remember one time, I'd fractured my

1 hand at cheerleading, and I -- I went, like, the group home  
2 picked me up. Of course, I was known -- it got out that I  
3 was living in a group home. And the female staff were so  
4 hard on me. That it -- like, I told them my hand was sore,  
5 and right in front of the female staff, one of the male  
6 staff, like, put my hands on him. And he was, like,  
7 "They're not sore for that." And, like, the -- you know,  
8 like, just it -- I knew it was wrong being in there. And I  
9 tried to run away.

10 And I remember running. I got -- like, they  
11 locked us in there. Like, I turned 12, and I took off, and  
12 they had caught me on Red River Road, and I was, like,  
13 running down it, and I got into a car full of white guys.  
14 And I just told them, "Get me the fuck out of here." And  
15 they just drove with me, and I didn't want to go back. And  
16 we went to my parents' house and, like, nobody was there.  
17 And, like, I went to my aunt's house, and I didn't want to  
18 go to my grannie's house 'cause I knew it would stress her  
19 out. So, like, and nobody was home because it was summer,  
20 and everyone was out at their cottages.

21 And I went -- those guys dropped me back  
22 off. And that staff, he took me to his house. And I  
23 remember I've -- something I just -- my mom called, and  
24 said, "Where -- I want to speak to my daughter." She was  
25 in Edmonton. Their house was getting -- asbestos was

1 getting removed, so they were in Edmonton. And they said,  
2 "She's with her parents." And my mom said she knew. And  
3 she drove home. And it -- what would have taken (ph) her  
4 three days, took her a day and a half. And she came and  
5 removed me, and then they put me in foster care.

6 And, you know, I couldn't tell. Like, I  
7 just didn't, like, know what to do. And then I stayed,  
8 like, for the first time in awhile. I was in a foster home  
9 on [ADDRESS], and she was the most loving, nicest person I  
10 ever met, her and her husband. And it was just -- it --  
11 school time had started, and they -- they put me in school.  
12 And they -- they asked me what school I wanted to go to,  
13 and I was, like, "I want to go to [SCHOOL NAME]." And they  
14 were so nice. She liked me 'cause I never complained about  
15 her cooking 'cause her food was so good. And her name was  
16 [FOSTER MOTHER].

17 And she had shown me -- she had had photo  
18 album of every kid that went through her doors. And she  
19 had showed me she had 200 kids. And she had a -- like, she  
20 would take your picture with a Polaroid of the day you go,  
21 and the day you leave. And she always made sure you left  
22 with like a -- not a garbage bag, but she would buy -- she  
23 would either go to the Salvation Army or buy you a  
24 suitcase. And she was so sweet.

25 Like, I would -- they had, like, chores.

1 They were really strict. They were Dutch. And I liked  
2 mowing the lawn and that was, like, a punishment. So they  
3 couldn't -- they couldn't punish me 'cause I liked -- their  
4 punishment was go and do the yard work, and I liked doing  
5 that. So they were like -- and I never acted out. Like,  
6 if I was late, I would call them. And I called them,  
7 Grandma and Grandpa. And they loved me. Like, they were,  
8 like, "This kid's amazing." And she knew, like, she would,  
9 like, she showed us, like, how to cook. Like me and the  
10 other girls, we'd go in the kitchen with her, and she'd  
11 show us how to make bread. And she would ask us, like,  
12 "Were you ever touched?" And, like, the girl -- and then  
13 she'd give you, like, she's -- she said, she had a book,  
14 and she said, "You can write it down, if you don't want to  
15 tell me."

16 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** How old were you?

17 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** I was, like, 12. And  
18 I -- I waited for the other girls, and -- to leave. And  
19 every night she made a -- a point to kiss the kids. Her  
20 and her husband would, like, we called them, like, either  
21 Ma and Pa, our -- our Oma, like, the -- the Dutch word for  
22 Oma and Grandpa and Grandma. And I called them Grandma and  
23 Grandpa. And her and her husband would come in, they were  
24 Christian, and they would say -- and, like, the kids would  
25 be, like, "What the fuck?" Like, they hated them, but they

1       were nice. Like, she would shut off the T.V. at, like, 10.  
2       And you had a T.V. room. And I got to, like -- I kind of  
3       was the youngest they took. So they, kind of, treated me a  
4       little bit babyish. And they would come in, and they  
5       didn't care, they always made it a point to give you a hug  
6       and kiss goodnight. And, like, and even the kids said it  
7       was weird at first, but they loved it.

8                       And, like, she would get our clothing money,  
9       and it was date night. They would say it was date --  
10      "Okay, [FOSTER BROTHER] going on Wednesday." And she would  
11      write it on the family calendar, "Date Night." So the boys  
12      would go with him, and he would go buy them -- like, let  
13      them pick out anything. And Sears was, like, big to --  
14      Eaton's and Sears.

15                      **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** M'hm.

16                      **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** And it -- they would  
17      take each kid separately. And it would be, like, special.  
18      And you would do something, like, either go for an ice  
19      cream. And they would -- they told us that they were  
20      retiring. And they also adopted mass amounts of children,  
21      too. And I was their last kid, and they had asked to keep  
22      me. And my parents, for some reason, felt that I needed to  
23      be in a group home, and I went into the girls' home. And I  
24      remember, you know, her being really sad. And -- because  
25      she knew that I shouldn't have went.



1                   They knew that I still was like a little  
2                   girl. Like, you know, like, they bought me kids' pajamas.  
3                   Like, it wasn't like, you know, like, teenagers wear like  
4                   shorts, or whatever. She -- like, when we went shopping,  
5                   we shopped at Sears in the kids' section. There was no,  
6                   like, if I wanted to wear something, like, she got me  
7                   fitted for my bras. Like, she was, like, "Whoa, you got  
8                   big boobs." And, like, she just explained, like, and,  
9                   like, I had already had my period, and, you know. Like,  
10                  she was, like, explained it to me. And I was, like, "Why  
11                  is this old lady explaining it?"

12                  So all of a sudden, now I'm being -- I'm  
13                  doing well in school. I've been there, like, you know, I'd  
14                  babysit for her other children. Like, I'd go babysit,  
15                  like, I was well behaved. I never, ever, ever -- I got  
16                  suspended once when I was there. I was behavioural at  
17                  school, too. And I remember it was 'cause the teacher  
18                  called me a bitch. And I was, like, I just didn't -- I  
19                  wasn't going to stand for it. And he came, and I thought,  
20                  "Oh, shit. I'm in trouble." Like, he showed up. And he  
21                  was, like, "Why are you guys say -- " Like, he was, like,  
22                  "No. I know her." And he had a Dutch accent. And he was,  
23                  like, "What did you do?" And I said, "She called me a  
24                  bitch." And the teacher tried to say no, and he said,  
25                  "You're a liar. You don't call --" Like, he stuck up for

1 me. I was, like, "Oh, I'm not --" And when we drove home,  
2 he got me -- like, he went and got me, like, Mckellar  
3 Confectionery and a milkshake. And he said, "She was a  
4 bitch."

5 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** M'hm.

6 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** Like, I thought, "Oh,  
7 shit. Like, I'm going to have to -- I'm in trouble." And  
8 he was like, "No, you're not in trouble." And they were  
9 really upset that I was going into the group home. And  
10 they -- my parents, they were at a big plan of care. And  
11 then it was -- wasn't Crown ward, you could -- I was a  
12 society ward, so it would either go society ward or Crown  
13 ward. And I was a society -- my parents relinquished their  
14 rights, but they still had rights. And if they had been  
15 Crown ward, if I had been Crown ward, they would have kept  
16 me.

17 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** M'hm.

18 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** My life wouldn't have  
19 went the way it did. And my mom felt that I was being,  
20 like, I was taking advantage of them. Like, I was  
21 manipulating them. They had a hundreds of kids before me.  
22 They adopted crack babies, they, like, you know. They had,  
23 like -- they had like 16 children. Like, how the hell was  
24 I going to manipulate them? They were a lot more -- they  
25 were strict, but I think what I needed was to be, like,

1 nurtured. Like, not have, like -- 'cause my adopted  
2 parents, we were their babysitters, right. You know, like,  
3 they would have children and, like, a lot of children after  
4 me and, like, just leave and I raised my siblings. So I  
5 think, like, she just didn't see that I could be good for  
6 someone else while they had control of me. And I liked  
7 their rules. And I didn't screw up. And I never, ever  
8 talked back to them, or even sass'd them in any way.

9 So I got put in a girls' home, and I went.  
10 And she was, like, this woman would -- the -- would -- the  
11 foster mom said to them, "I've seen kids like Bridget."  
12 And, like, you know, "I don't think a group home's for  
13 her." And they were retiring after, like, 42 years as  
14 foster parents. They were, like, "I don't think that  
15 that's --" And -- and, like, my mom was, like, "You're not  
16 a psychologist. You don't know what's for Bridget."

17 And, like, I -- I would see -- I had to see  
18 this child psychologist in Thunder Bay and that was the  
19 weirdest guy ever. He would talk about sex the whole time.  
20 [PSYCHIATRIST] and rub himself. Like, I hated going to see  
21 him. And his things was too, his -- when he had told my  
22 mom and the CAS was to put me in this group home, and I  
23 told the foster mom what he was like. And when I told her  
24 what he was like, she sat in the meetings with him. She  
25 refused to let me go in to see [PSYCHIATRIST] alone. After

1 I told her that, that was one of the things I wrote. And  
2 she said that other kids in her home had wrote -- 'cause  
3 you know in Thunder Bay, it's so small, there's only one  
4 psychiatrist, so she knew. And she was, like -- she -- I  
5 remember her, and she never swore, in that meeting, she  
6 swore at him. She said, "Bullshit." She said, "You're  
7 bullshit." And we're -- I was, like, "Whoa. She just  
8 swore."

9 And my life would have been different. I  
10 would have went to Holland, and I would have probably  
11 married a friggin' farmer. And, like, shit, like, that  
12 followed wouldn't have happened. It only took two months  
13 in that group home for me to be talked out of -- talked  
14 into running away and turning a trick.

15 And I remember living in [NAME OF GIRLS'  
16 HOME] and it was, like, the staff were, like,  
17 dysfunctionally okay. And they had one male staff, which  
18 he was weird, and we all knew he was a pervert. And we,  
19 like -- we all banded together, the girls, to make his day  
20 working there hell. And, like, the staff, like, you'd have  
21 to chores, whatever, and all that stuff.

22 And [NIECE] was born in -- so my -- one of  
23 my siblings was in there, my biologicals. And she was  
24 pregnant. So we, like, you know, there -- I went in, it  
25 was in -- it was a week before Halloween, and I remember

1 going in there. And I, you know, I was the youngest, yet  
2 again. And my -- my biological sibling was there, and she  
3 was big and pregnant, and it -- she had -[NIECE] in -- in  
4 December. And by January, that was when I was inducted  
5 into prostitution. And I remember running away.

6 And the first time -- like, the first time I  
7 ever turned a trick, all the girls ran away from the staff,  
8 and it was so cold. And they knew we're -- we went to Port  
9 Arthur. And he was an old diamond driller, and he liked  
10 the new girl. And the -- the new girl experience was --  
11 everyone sit around and manually stimulate him and laugh.  
12 And the more you laugh, the money you made. And it was,  
13 like, we made \$400 from him. And it was, like -- like, you  
14 know. Do you stay in a group home, or do you just, you  
15 know, with staff --

16 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** How -- how old were  
17 you?

18 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** I was -- I was 12. I  
19 was 12. It was in that year. That's when I turned --  
20 busted out. And the thing that was different for me, was I  
21 was bilingual. So I could -- I could speak French. And  
22 the -- like, so they would bring me the booze can, and I  
23 could negotiate, and I knew, like, how to speak. But they  
24 also -- a lot of the girls didn't have, like, basic manners  
25 because, you know, they had went through hell in their own

1       life, and I had manners. There was me and one of the  
2       doctor's -- [DOCTOR]'s daughter. And we were taken at 12,  
3       and I was approached.

4                       We were on Court Street in Thunder Bay.  
5       There was this bar called, Zagrams (ph). I don't know how,  
6       like, at 12, we could get served at a bar, but we did. And  
7       we -- we would get served at the Polish Legion and at  
8       Zagrams. And we met a Madam. She came in the bar, and she  
9       would -- she would say, "Don't drink that." Like, we are  
10      -- we thought we were big drinking, like -- I think we were  
11      drinking, like, vodka and peach juice, or peach schnapps  
12      and orange juice. And she was, like, "No, no, no. Get  
13      this drink." And we were, like, "Whoa." And she was,  
14      like, this French Madam. And, like, she drove, like, a big  
15      Lincoln Continental. And one time she let us drive it.  
16      And she really liked me. And she realized I could speak  
17      French, so she would speak French to me.

18                      And she knew. She knew my weaknesses. And  
19      my weakness was, you know, I wanted my mom. Like, I told  
20      her I was abused. I told her about it all. And, like, she  
21      treated me like her baby and, like, she knew. And it  
22      didn't take long for me to be flown out. And I remember --  
23      this is how manipulative she was, and you're from Thunder  
24      Bay, so you remember this, in Victoriaville there was this  
25      drug store called, Berks (ph) Drug Mart. And they had

1       these dolls, they were Powderpuff. These dolls, they were  
2       big dolls, they were called Powderpuff dolls. And you  
3       could only get them -- and they were expensive, and she  
4       bought me one. I still was a baby.

5               I -- she manipulated me to go to Halifax.  
6       And I even, like, remember it was Canadian Airlines, and  
7       the flight cost \$772. And there I am in Thunder Bay  
8       airport buying a fucking ticket with her standing there,  
9       and we're buying a ticket to go to Halifax to her -- she  
10      owned a brothel in Halifax. And there we are. And, like,  
11      no one questioned me. Like, no one questioned it. Like, I  
12      think if I worked for, like, one of the airlines and the --  
13      a kid came in a bought a ticket, I'd be, like, "Whoa, wait  
14      a minute." No one questioned me. There I am with a  
15      Powderpuff doll, and I flew to Halifax.

16                   **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** What year was this?

17                   **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** Well, I was 12. So I  
18      was born in '76, so it was around '87, '88 -- '88, '88,  
19      '89, yeah, '88, and I flew from Thunder Bay. And I had  
20      to -- the flight went to Toronto, and I had to transfer,  
21      and I did it all by myself. But because I flew before with  
22      my parents, like, I remember flying to Vancouver and then,  
23      like, going to Nanaimo. You know, going out to the States  
24      with my parents, like, so I understood, and I, like, went  
25      by myself on the plane.

1                   And my girlfriend didn't go, the other girl.  
2           [FRIEND] didn't go. And this Madam had told me, "You can't  
3           --" Like, I shouldn't hang around with my sister 'cause my  
4           sister was a drug addict. And back then, they used to  
5           shoot-up Talwin and Ritalin, T and Rs. And she said, like,  
6           "That's really bad for you, and you're too pretty." And,  
7           you know, she had -- she had put in -- she had done it,  
8           like, just, you know, "Your sister's struggling, and you  
9           being there is putting more --" So she got me away from my  
10          sister and that other girl, and she had sent me to Halifax.

11                   And I remember going into the brothel, and I  
12          had that doll with me. And all the women that were working  
13          there were angry. Because, back then, how they would --  
14          like, the men would come in, and there was, like, you go in  
15          and there's like a big foyer, like, grand. It's in  
16          Halifax, and a lot of, like, shipmen, boat men. So there I  
17          am, and they would have all the girls parade down the  
18          staircase. We'd meet and go down. And stand there in  
19          your, like -- like your lingerie. And I wasn't allowed to  
20          do that because, like, it basically was like a menu.  
21          Because I was underage, I had a different purpose, and a  
22          lot of the women didn't want to work with me.

23                   And she never, ever used, like, physical  
24          violence with me. She didn't have to because, to me,  
25          letting her down hurt me more than being beat. And I



1 remember one time, I was -- the client -- the -- the sex  
2 buyer was in the room with me, and I had a script, so I --  
3 I went -- the Madam calmed me down, and it was her business  
4 partner, and I didn't stay at the brothel because the women  
5 had problems. They were like, "Uh-huh. She's underage."  
6 Like, and I was scripted. So if the police came, always  
7 say I was waiting for her, she's my aunt. And I stayed at  
8 the -- the owner's house because I could fit in with her  
9 daughter's best friend, right, and say, like, you know,  
10 "I'm just sleeping over."

11 So she -- I remember she had me come in  
12 and -- and, like, come down and she had given me explicit,  
13 like, I hadn't really experienced having intercourse for  
14 money. It was a lot of, like, blow jobs, hand jobs, like,  
15 that kind of stuff. I hadn't really -- 'cause I wasn't  
16 even used to it. And she had dressed me up in like this  
17 shiny red friggin' jogging suit. It was, like, had bows on  
18 it, and she's -- put my hair in -- I don't know if you  
19 remember -- remember the hair ties that are, like, woolen,  
20 pieces of wool? Like, they were long. They put  
21 my -- she French braided that in my hair. And she said,  
22 "No makeup." And they, like, wiped off the makeup. And  
23 they were, like, about my boobs, like, they were, like,  
24 "(Unreportable Sound)." 'Cause I had these huge boobs.  
25 And they were, like, "No, no, no, no." And they were,

1       like, "Stand like this." And she was, like, "No, sit  
2       down." And they had to put me in this jogging suit and  
3       with these ugly running shoes and -- to make me look like a  
4       little girl. And that was the first, like, so, basically,  
5       she said, you know, "You got to pretend your name's  
6       [PERPETRATOR 4's DAUGHTER]." And I was, like, "What the  
7       fuck." And it was -- 'cause [PERPETRATOR 4's DAUGHTER] was  
8       his daughter. And I was, like, whatever he said -- she  
9       told me, "Whatever he says, you do." And she kissed me on  
10      the head.

11                   And he was a sadist. He was so rough with  
12      me. And I was, like, it wasn't normal, like, you know. He  
13      kept on, like, I remember, like, it was basically he was  
14      paying to violate me. And whatever he did to his daughter,  
15      [PERPETRATOR 4's DAUGHTER], I was -- it was being done.  
16      And I remember, like, the condom, like, breaking, and him  
17      getting angry at me. And, like, it was just horrible. And  
18      I handled it. I handled it, like, a lot more while --  
19      like, she thought I would be, like, freaked out now after.  
20      I just said, "I need a shower." And I regained myself.  
21      And I knew, like, either this was going to break me or make  
22      me. And I demanded him to give me more money. Like, I --  
23      I turned into this very strong Bridget. And I was, like,  
24      "No, no, no. You're going to give me more money. You're  
25      going to give me way more money than this." Like, and, you

1 know, she realized that, "Okay. She listens well, she  
2 doesn't, like, defy me." And it was, like, boom. And the  
3 other girls, like, when I would have contact with them,  
4 they would tell me, "Go home. Like, what are doing here?"

5 And I was introduced to a ship captain in  
6 Halifax, and he was known to come to Thunder Bay. And they  
7 said he was a rough, like, he was known to rough up the  
8 girls, but I knew how to play him, and he didn't rough me  
9 up. And when I was in Halifax, I met a -- like, we had  
10 free time. It was, like, more like a group home, kind of,  
11 to really think of it. So on my free time, I met this  
12 black guy, and she had told me, "Watch out for the black  
13 men." And he was one of the [LAST NAME] from North  
14 Preston, Nova Scotia. And we just secretly talked. Back  
15 then, I had a pager. So that was, like, he would page me,  
16 and I would call him, and, you know, we'd talk. And I  
17 continued to fly back and forth, and then work in Toronto.  
18 And then one time I -- I called him, I was in Toronto, and  
19 he wouldn't let me leave the hotel room.

20 I went and I met him. I figured 'cause I'd  
21 been talking to him and, like, he knew, like, "Oh, you're  
22 in Ottawa this month." Oh, you're in this. He knew,  
23 "Okay. Now, I'm going to have a turn." And I went and saw  
24 him, and -- and he had phone --

25 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** So -- so you were

1 going to all these different cities?

2 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: Cities, yeah.

3 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: To work?

4 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: To work in the sex  
5 industry in high-end escorts. And I never went on a  
6 stroll. I had to go inside 'cause I was young. And at  
7 that time, there was a child in need of protection order  
8 out on me.

9 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: M'hm.

10 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: So I was in -- I was  
11 around 13 now, so by then I would have been -- been about  
12 eight, nine months in it. And I turned 13, and I was --  
13 still was -- like, I would turn myself in and go back to  
14 the group for rest and then leave.

15 And I went to see him in Toronto, and he  
16 wouldn't let me leave. And I was, like, "Oh, shit, I'm in  
17 trouble." And I talked him into letting me go back to  
18 Thunder Bay. And I told him, "I'll bring you more girls."  
19 And I went back to Thunder Bay, and in it -- I went back to  
20 Thunder Bay, it wasn't -- like, I just didn't go back to  
21 Toronto, was sticking in Thunder Bay. I didn't think  
22 anything of it. Got pregnant, you know. Not with him,  
23 with another guy, with an older guy, and had the baby.  
24 Gave her up for adoption. Gave her up for adoption and was  
25 back here in Toronto.

1                   And I went back with him. And he strong-  
2 armed me. He was, like, super violent. Like, it was,  
3 like, he was a lot worse, but at -- by then, I must have  
4 become more seasoned because I saw him for what he was, and  
5 I hated him. And there was really young girls. Like, even  
6 though I was, like, 13, 14 -- I was going on -- yeah, I  
7 was -- because -- yeah, I was -- I was turning 14, I still  
8 felt like I was older. I looked older. And he had really  
9 young girls. Like, girls that were, like, not even you --  
10 like, he was a kiddie pimp. And I remember, like, I was --  
11 we were laughing 'cause we were driving by -- I showed her  
12 my corner because that's when he put me out on track. And,  
13 like, I didn't work kiddie track, I worked high track. So  
14 he would beat me. He would, like, beat me to the point  
15 where, like, he had ten of us, and I think four of them  
16 were pregnant.

17                   And he -- one time he beat me -- he beat me  
18 because I bought tampons and left them in my room. Like,  
19 we were -- we were told when to eat, we were told when to  
20 sleep, we were told how many tampons we were going to use.  
21 We were given instructions, he would buy big chunks of sea  
22 foam, so when you had your period, you still serviced  
23 johns. You stick it up you, and, you know. And then he  
24 used to always say, "'X' marks the spot." 'X' marks the  
25 spot where we had to stand on the corner. And he would

1       literally go and put an 'X' there, of where we had to  
2       stand, and he would always walk by and say, "Ten toes. Ten  
3       toes meets 'X' marks the spot." Your ten toes are supposed  
4       to be planted there. If you were off the 'X', you were  
5       getting beat. If you were on the 'X', you were fine.  
6       Like, he would beat you. Okay, that night, your quota  
7       would be, like, a thousand. "Bring home a thousand." If  
8       you didn't bring home a thousand 'cause they were doing  
9       sweeps, you'd still get beat. He beat you for everything.

10                One time, he starved us to the point where I  
11       remember getting in a trick's car, and this how powerless I  
12       was, I said, "Before --" I couldn't even have sex, I was  
13       so weak. And I said, like, "I need food." And the guy  
14       felt bad, and he went to Harvey's and he got me three  
15       burgers, and I woofed them down. I woofed them down, and  
16       he had big little chicken, I woofed that down. And the guy  
17       felt so bad. I was, like, "Okay. I can do it now." He  
18       was -- said, like, you could feel my ribs and everything.  
19       And he was, like, "No." He's like, "I'm going to pay you.  
20       Just come stay at my house tonight." And I remember  
21       saying, "Well, it's going to cost you 2500."

22                And he, like, took me to his house. And I  
23       was telling him everything. And he was sitting there, and  
24       he was, like -- like a business. It was a white guy. But  
25       he's, like, sitting there, like, just mortified. And I'm

1 at his apartment, his condo. And I'm telling him what's  
2 going on, and -- and then I said, "Yeah, see." And I  
3 showed him, and I had boot imprints on my back from being  
4 forced to eat dog food. And he was, like, "What's your  
5 real name?" And I told him my real name. And he said,  
6 "I'll --" He said, "Do you want to sleep?" And I said,  
7 like, "I can't, like, take your money and not have sex with  
8 you." 'Cause I'm so young still. Like, if I was older, I  
9 would have been, like, "Fucking, okay." Like, but I was so  
10 young, and I said, "I have to have sex with you, he's going  
11 to know."

12 And he couldn't. Like, he said, "I can't,  
13 Bridget." And he felt so bad. And I remember him at,  
14 like, 5 in the morning, he said, "You got to call, like,  
15 can I call your parents?" And I said, "No." And I said,  
16 you know, and I had a cellphone, like the big fucking big  
17 clunker cellphone, and I said, "I have to call him to come  
18 get me." And he said, "Bridget, you taught me a lot. I'll  
19 never buy a girl again." And I just, like, you know, like,  
20 I ate, though. I was in his apartment, and I was, like,  
21 eating. I was putting butter on crackers. And he was,  
22 like, just watching me eat. Like, holy shit, this girl --  
23 like, she -- I have \$900 shoes on, and I'm like fucking  
24 eating like a pig because I hadn't eaten.

25 Like, he would, like, give us like a half a

1 piece of bread. Like, he was so controlling, that pimp.  
2 And I remember, like, going back and, like, just hating  
3 him. Like, you know, he would force us to have sex. And,  
4 like, you know, you've been out turning tricks all night,  
5 and you don't want to have sex. And he was really well  
6 endowed, and I just hated him. I hated him. I would  
7 pretend to, like, just -- like, I could go into dead sleep  
8 back then, like, you couldn't wake me up, and he would  
9 still have sex with us. And he wanted to get everyone  
10 pregnant, and that was how he kept his -- his stable.

11 And I remember one time, he beat a girl.  
12 She just wanted to call her mom, and I let her call her  
13 mom. And he beat her so bad in front of me, and I thought  
14 she was dead. He was standing on her head. He was just  
15 horrible. And she just wanted to call her mom. And I knew  
16 I had to get away.

17 And he worked airport security, so I knew I  
18 couldn't get a flight home. And he knew where I lived,  
19 see -- 'cause, stupidly, I told him. And I remember it was  
20 around Christmas time, and I went with him and -- to North  
21 Preston. I went back with him home. And I got, like,  
22 strep throat. Like, I always got strep throat 'cause I had  
23 tonsillitis, and I went and I had strep throat. I was  
24 really sick. And I woke up -- like, I must have slept for,  
25 like, a -- a good long time. Like, I was really, really



1 sick, I had a fever. I woke up, and he was having sex with  
2 his sister. And I was, like -- and I caught him, so I was,  
3 like, (unreportable Sound). And I immediately said to him,  
4 "I want a flight back to Toronto." And he put me on a  
5 plane back to Toronto thinking, "Okay, you're -- we're  
6 not --" He was, like, "Bridget, like, don't ever say  
7 anything." And I was, like, "No." But I used it against  
8 him 'cause I did tell other people.

9 And I realized I was taking my power back  
10 with him. And what was happening was, I was maturing. So  
11 I wasn't, like -- I was still making my own money and  
12 stashing half of it, telling him, like, you know. Like, he  
13 would try to do that starving thing, and I would be, like,  
14 "No. We're going to eat. It's our money." And, like, he  
15 was, like, (unreportable Sound), like losing it with me.

16 And it was in May, and I -- I convinced my  
17 mom to come get me from Thunder Bay. And I said, "Just  
18 come. I need to come home." And my mom and her sister  
19 came, and there I am. And, like, he worked airport  
20 security, so I knew his schedule. So I had hidden my  
21 clothes in a garbage bag, and put them in the parking  
22 garage. And I got my mom in. She came down, put the  
23 clothes in her car, and we took off back to Thunder Bay.  
24 But I convinced her, I said -- and on top of it, I robbed  
25 him. I convinced my mom to drive the northern route, not

1 the Sioux route. So they're -- my mom is like this  
2 religious lady. I'm, like, "Yeah, let's go the northern  
3 route. I want to go --" I think I said, "I have to go to  
4 my band anyways." So we went the northern route. And I  
5 was so scared 'cause, you know, they had a green car. And  
6 I was, like, "Shit, he's going to find us in this green  
7 car." He didn't. We got to Thunder Bay, and I just -- I  
8 remember, like, pulling in on -- on Cumberland and just  
9 getting out of the car and telling my mom, "Bye."

10 But I also robbed him. I stole all his  
11 crack, and he had a -- like a big brick of crack, and I  
12 stole it. I didn't even know what drugs was. And I'm,  
13 like, giving it out in Thunder Bay to all my cousins. And  
14 they're, like, "What the fuck." But, like, you know,  
15 that's just the naiveness. But what I did when we were  
16 leaving, this is how smart I was, he had had two girls  
17 handcuffed to the water heater of his condo. Like, the  
18 water -- and I -- when we were leaving, I told my mom,  
19 "Pull over." And I called 911 to the address. And he was  
20 charged for child, like -- like, exploitation. So I was,  
21 like, (unreportable sound).

22 But he still came to Thunder Bay looking for  
23 me. And I remember -- I went back. Like, I never stopped  
24 prostituting. And he had come looking for me, and in this  
25 process, my parents and the Children's Aid didn't know what

1 the hell to do with me. He had come back to Thunder Bay  
2 and got told to leave, 'cause the bikers and all that.

3 At 14, I was brought to Duluth. So my mom,  
4 this is how stupid I was, she convinced me to go to  
5 Minneapolis with her. And I was, like, "Okay." And I went  
6 to Minnesota. Back then, they were taking Canadian kids,  
7 and it -- putting us in, like, institutions. So I -- they  
8 had already got my sister in there, so I was, like, the  
9 next kid. So the group home said, "Yeah, your mom's taking  
10 you back to school shopping." And I'm, like, "And why is  
11 she taking me in July back to school shopping?" What the  
12 fuck?

13 They brought me there, and they locked me up  
14 in [MEDICAL CENTRE]. And I -- me, there was,  
15 like, okay, so they had a, like, Native staff that came  
16 with us. Like, they had to have -- they -- American Indian  
17 People came once a week to visit us. But there was a bunch  
18 of us Native kids, and kids -- so they called it, Canadian  
19 Extended Care. And we had -- they were -- I -- I had a  
20 really good psychiatrist. I loved him. I didn't want to  
21 leave that place. But I ran away, and I ended up going on  
22 a tour in the States. And then I came back to Canada when  
23 the earthquake had hit. It scared me, being in the States.

24 And I had come back, and there was no  
25 supports for me. Nothing. Like, I was trying to be good,

1 but there was nothing for me. Like, by then, I was so  
2 seasoned that Simpson Street was, like, it was like a walk  
3 in the park. I could work anywhere in Canada, I had no  
4 problems. Like --

5 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** What -- what is  
6 Simpson Street?

7 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** It was where all the  
8 prostitutes -- it was a street in Thunder Bay that where  
9 all the girls, like, where a sex -- prostitution happened.  
10 The sex industry flourished. So I also hid my identity, my  
11 ethnicity, because I learnt pretty straight forward in  
12 prostitution, that if you're Native, you weren't making as  
13 much money as the white girls. So because of how I looked,  
14 I was able to -- like, I had blonde hair, like, I was able  
15 to hide my ethnicity. And Simpson Street was rough. And  
16 I -- I just kept on. Like, I kept on. I had my corner, I  
17 had my turf. I -- I was, you know, I knew -- I was well  
18 known by Thunder Bay Police.

19 I also, by that time, had started sleeping  
20 with the Crown attorney, Agnew Johnston. He was a big  
21 pervert. He liked little girls and little boys. And he  
22 would pay us. So we had, like, some kind of in. Like,  
23 there was a high -- there was a underground sex, like,  
24 okay. So there's, like, a underground sex club in Thunder  
25 Bay. It's -- a lot of the Crown attorneys, judges, and

1 high-end business owners, so realtors, and a lot of people  
2 don't talk about it. I've talked about it because it's  
3 affected me with my children, and all that. So I -- I had  
4 met the Crown attorney, and he -- he was, like, what we  
5 would call a -- a regular. Like, in the -- in -- and he  
6 was a pervert. So I was seeing him.

7 And I was dealing with a lot of other  
8 customers, and I got introduced back onto the ships. And  
9 that was around 14, 15. Well, I had already been a couple  
10 times on the ships out in Halifax. But this time, it was  
11 the same shipman, the captain, [SHIP CAPTAIN]. And he had  
12 me -- basically, he paid me a lot of money. I was to go to  
13 Duluth and -- I think they go back up -- back up to Thunder  
14 Bay. It was -- they were delivering potash. And I went on  
15 the ships. And there I am, I'm young, I'm with the  
16 captain. And there's like a mess hall in it. And when I  
17 walked through the mess hall, there was a bunch of girls  
18 from Thunder -- like Native girls. And I was, like, they  
19 weren't even prostitutes. They were just, like, always in  
20 the bar.

21 And -- and I remember like -- like -- 'cause  
22 you didn't have to buy the beer, like, you just paid the  
23 deposit. Like, so you'd pay 10 cents. So they were all  
24 partying. And I was, like, "Whatever. I'm up with the  
25 captain." He was, like, "Okay." Like, we're not in --

1 'cause the shipmen, it's basically, like, a row of beds,  
2 but they have, like, bunks, but they have, like, curtains.  
3 When you're with the captain, you have your own cabin. So  
4 I was, like, "Okay. I'm fine here. I can deal with this  
5 old fart." And one -- when we were, like, we were -- we're  
6 in bed, like, we're sleeping, there was a knock. And  
7 they're, like, "Get her down here." And he's, like, "You  
8 need to go downstairs." Me and him went down there, and  
9 those Native girls were fighting with them. And I'm, like,  
10 "Well, like, what do you expect? They're all drinking."

11 Like, and I was, like -- like, trying to  
12 calm one of them down. I brought her to the -- to where I  
13 was staying in the room. I said, "Can I --" I, like, she  
14 was freaked out. And, like, she was bleeding, and I -- you  
15 know, I -- I said, "I need to see her in the room with me."  
16 And she had -- her uterus was coming out. He -- her cervix  
17 was pulled out. And I'm, like -- and that captain's, like,  
18 "You better shut her up." And I'm, like, "Well, what are  
19 you going to do?" And he's, like, "We're going to throw  
20 her overboard." And I'm, like, trying to calm her down.  
21 And I'm, like, telling her, like, "It's okay. I'll be  
22 okay." And they recognized me. They were, like -- and I  
23 told the other ones, "Just shut up." And, like, I got mad,  
24 and they're all, like, "Everyone smarten up." And her,  
25 I'm, like, "Calm down."

1                   And I asked them, like, "Can we put her  
2                   somewhere, like, close, where we can -- I can watch her?  
3                   I'll still go back to bed." And he said, "We're going to  
4                   be going to Duluth." And I said, "She needs medical  
5                   attention." I didn't know what was going on, I was young.  
6                   And I said, "I'll bring her to the hospital 'cause we  
7                   can -- we have medical in the States." And he was, like,  
8                   "Okay." So I brought her to the hospital. And I was,  
9                   like, "Screw that, I'm not going back on there." I had all  
10                  my stuff anyways, I brought with me. I brought her -- and  
11                  I brought her to the hospital. I gave her a hundred  
12                  dollars, American, to get home. 'Cause he had already paid  
13                  me. I just tooked (ph) off.

14                   I had -- I knew someone that lived in  
15                  Duluth, and we drove back. They drove me back to Thunder  
16                  Bay. And I seen her after that, and she had told me  
17                  what -- medically was wrong. But that scared me. And then  
18                  the next time I had a dealing on the ships, I went on with  
19                  my cousin, [COUSIN]. And we took a beer, I don't even know  
20                  what -- 'cause I was pretty seasoned. Like, I was -- and  
21                  we were -- it was like at 11:30 at night, we woke up to the  
22                  -- the engines being turned on. They drugged us. They  
23                  were going to leave. And I, like, got her up, and we went  
24                  up. And they were just about to pull the -- the bridge,  
25                  and we ran across -- I -- actually, on the way up, I told

1 her, "If you have to jump, swim out away from the -- 'cause  
2 the propeller will pull you under." I said, "Swim out from  
3 the boat. And make it to the -- 'cause the deck -- the  
4 dock -- to -- going the other side of the dock and pull  
5 up." And she was, like, "What the?" She was so scared.  
6 And I said, "We'll jump together. Just follow me. Fuck  
7 your shoes, everything."

8 And we ran across. We got across, and the  
9 security guard had called a cab. I was, like, "What?" And  
10 he was, like, "This isn't the first time." And then after  
11 the -- the Thunder Bay Police would warn the out of town  
12 girls, "Don't go on the ships." Like, not -- not -- to  
13 stay away from the ships.

14 Another time -- like, and during this time,  
15 like, my parents still, like, they would report me missing.  
16 And my father was told -- okay, so one time my dad was  
17 reporting me missing, and he was told -- okay, when he gave  
18 my description, he said, "She's Native." And the police  
19 officer said, 'cause he knew my dad, said, "Larry, don't  
20 say she's Native." And my dad's, like, "Why?" And he's,  
21 like -- thank you -- he's, like, "Because we won't look for  
22 her." And that -- that scared my dad. That scared my dad  
23 because, you know, he -- he knew that I -- he knew that I  
24 was very vulnerable. And he said it bothered him. Like,  
25 you know, don't -- you know. The first thing they ask you,



1 "What -- what's her race?" And, "She's Native." Like, you  
2 know, imagine being told, "Don't say she's Native, or they  
3 won't look for her."

4 My -- my -- I had this connection with this  
5 Crown attorney, and he -- you know, he was weird. Like, he  
6 also knew my parents. Like, they knew each other because,  
7 you know, they went to, like, they did things, like, golfed  
8 with them. He knew my dad. And I, you know, it would  
9 bother me. He'd be, like, "Oh, my wife and your mom are  
10 at, like, something." And I'm, like -- some meeting  
11 together. And I was, like -- he was weird. But he was  
12 really weird. Like, really pervertedly weird. He never  
13 did things to hurt us, but he had, like, weird sex drives.  
14 And he liked to have, like -- we would dress him up as a  
15 woman, and he would get all drunk and stupid.

16 And I remember one time we dressed him up  
17 and he fell, and he split his eye open. And he got --  
18 gashed himself, and we had to drive him to the hospital.  
19 He was bleeding everywhere. And I got pulled over driving  
20 him. And Thunder Bay Police was, like, "What the fuck?"  
21 And they didn't say anything. Like, the -- underage girl,  
22 on the run, is driving the Crown attorney's Jeep. Like, we  
23 would drive his Jeep for days, leave him tied up. Go back,  
24 check on him. Like, he was weird. But, like, nobody would  
25 say anything.

1                   But they'd have these, like, big sex  
2 parties. And, you know, like, imagine you have to see that  
3 judge after. And they would, like -- and there was female  
4 lawyers there. And they wouldn't -- like, we would have to  
5 see these people. Like, one was, like, our Children's Aid  
6 lawyer, one was my ex's lawyer. Like, one was my, like,  
7 you know, these are high -- these are people put in  
8 politically that could do -- you know, that are supposed to  
9 be there to protect you, but they're there, you know, doing  
10 cocaine off your ass. Like, I never said I was going to  
11 ever be a drug-addicted prostitute. Like, you know, and I  
12 really kept that away from me. I also travelled a lot in  
13 it, you know.

14                   I ended up -- my -- my parents thought it  
15 would do me good to -- I ended up in Oshawa, trying to, you  
16 know, figure things out in a home in Oshawa, and I met my  
17 real dad, and all that. And it didn't work out. But I  
18 met -- I ended up meeting someone involved in organized  
19 crime in a -- or in a huge biker family, one of the heads'  
20 sons. And I ended up pregnant with this young man. And I  
21 came back to Thunder Bay. And I actually requested --  
22 'cause it was either go to jail, and I just knew that,  
23 like, I wanted better for my baby, so I said I needed to go  
24 to rehab. 'Cause I would rather go down to Minneapolis,  
25 where the staff knew me. So the police officer, the young

1 offender cop, brought me to -- they brought me back to  
2 [HOSPITAL NAME]. And because I had a job there. Like, I  
3 left the first time -- I left -- I got actually paid job,  
4 so I went back there. And my shrink -- I wanted my same  
5 shrink, like, I had a really good rapport. And they were,  
6 like, "He's dead." He had committed suicide.

7 So I went back into treatment. And they,  
8 like, they take pregnancy tests, like, it was part of your  
9 admissions. And I didn't know I was pregnant. Like, I  
10 kind of sensed I was, but I wasn't telling anyone. And  
11 the -- one of the workers who knew me really well -- I was  
12 so tired, and she came in, and she said, "Get the fuck up."  
13 She said, "We're going for an ultrasound," she was, like,  
14 "you little jerk." And I was, like, "What?" And she was,  
15 like, "You're pregnant." And I was, like, "Oh, shit." And  
16 sure enough, I was 18 weeks pregnant.

17 So there I am, back in [HOSPITAL NAME] --  
18 but I was safe there. See, that's why I went back there.  
19 People were, like, "Whoa, was it -- did they mistreat you?"  
20 Actually, in [HOSPITAL NAME], them and the young offender  
21 centres in Thunder Bay, were the only places I felt safe.  
22 So, like, and I was, kind of, treated -- because the staff  
23 already had had me for, like, nine months, they loved me.  
24 So I was treated -- I was around -- I was 16, so they were,  
25 like, they treated me different, right. Like, I was, like

1 -- I even asked to be on the locked ward, they're, like,  
2 "No. We're not putting you on the lock ward. We're  
3 putting you --" You know, like, they just, like, were  
4 really good to me.

5 And I -- I didn't want to go back to Thunder  
6 Bay. But what had happened was, the young offender  
7 probation officer showed up, and they're, like, "Why are  
8 you down here?" Because the police didn't tell the judges,  
9 anyone. They actually, for my own sake, brought me to  
10 treatment. So there I am back in the States in treatment.  
11 And I'm, like, "I don't want to go back to Thunder Bay."  
12 And they -- they -- it was, like, a big, big scandal.  
13 Bridget's in -- in -- but the reason why that cop did that,  
14 why she brought me there, was because she knew the Crown  
15 attorney bullshit, and she was trying to keep us away from  
16 him. They were trying to build a case.

17 So I -- I went back in and I had to go to,  
18 like, I got sent back home. And I remember going up -- I  
19 had been raped the year before by a -- by a man on Simpson  
20 Street, and it was a brutal rape. And brutal enough, that  
21 I had to receive I think it was 32 stitches inside me. He  
22 ripped me open. His name was [N.D.]. I didn't know him as  
23 a trick, he wasn't a client, a sex buyer. I knew him from  
24 -- I actually babysat his kids. They were -- they lived  
25 around the corner from my parents. And all of a sudden,

1       like, I guess, he was -- lived somewhere else, and he had  
2       seen me on Simpson and said, like, "What are you doing?"  
3       And then I was, like, "Oh, I'm just looking for my friend."

4                       And he sexually -- he held me captive for 43  
5       hours. And his plan was to kill me. He had lye, he had  
6       wire snips. I tried to talk him out of -- like, at one  
7       point, I was, like, telling him, "What about your kids?"  
8       Like, "You know my parents. They're going to miss me,  
9       right?" Like, you know, that's what you -- you know, no  
10      one prepares you how to talk your way out of getting  
11      murdered, right. And he was so angry, and he strangled me  
12      with his gun. He -- I had had in -- because I was flying  
13      in and out from Toronto, blonde extensions sewn in and  
14      glued in. He had ripped them out with parts of my scalp.  
15      And he -- you know, he was -- it was brutal. Like, I've  
16      never experienced something like that. I was -- I really  
17      thought, "That's it. I'm dying." Like, you know?

18                      Like, and my parents aren't going to find me  
19      because this guy's a bush man, and he has lye. So, like,  
20      so there I am, and it -- I escaped. The whole way --  
21      reason why I escaped was because CAS -- he had a visit that  
22      weekend with his kids, which he had sent them away. They  
23      were supposed to come in and do a pop-up visit, and I guess  
24      they -- they had -- had done some, and some visits they  
25      didn't come. Well, I guess he got comfortable, and it just

1 so happened to be that visit they were popping in.

2 And it was -- it was [SOCIAL WORKER] (ph)  
3 from Thunder Bay Children's Aid. And I remember he -- at  
4 one point, I hid in the bathroom. Like, I -- but he had  
5 ripped apart the bathroom door. So I had, like -- I was  
6 lying beside him, and I could hear him sleep. Like, you  
7 know when you hear someone falling asleep, like, his  
8 breathing was getting -- and he was starting to snore, and  
9 I knew. But, I -- also, I swear, I'm, like, okay, like,  
10 I'd ask God, like, "Get me out of here."

11 I heard someone knocking. I was, like,  
12 "Fuck, someone's knocking." And I ran out. And there was  
13 my worker. I opened the front door, there was my social  
14 worker, [SOCIAL WORKER], who was his social worker, and I  
15 ran, and I jumped in her car. And she -- and he heard me  
16 going down the stairs. He came flying out. There she was,  
17 standing there. He ran back upstairs. She slammed the  
18 door. She jumped in her car, but her car was broken down,  
19 it had stalled. But she had already called C -- CAA, and  
20 she was, like, CAA's coming. And I seen a tow truck  
21 driving. I jumped out of that car. He was coming out the  
22 door, but the tow truck driver stopped, and I, like, opened  
23 up the tow truck, and I jumped in, and I'm butt naked. And  
24 the tow truck driver grabbed a wrench, like, a big thing,  
25 and he said -- and buddy ran in the house.

1                   And it was a big biker from Thunder Bay's  
2 Satan's Choice. So I'm, like -- he's, like, "Bridget?"  
3 Like, what the -- the worker jumped in, she's all scared.  
4 Like, the hell, and I'm bleeding everywhere, like, I'm beat  
5 up, but he knew it was me. And he put his jacket over me.  
6 And the cops came. And you know what the cops did?  
7 Thunder Bay Police put me and that [N.D.] in the same  
8 cruiser. They put him in the back, and me in the front.  
9 And he's, like, "I'll --" And he was, like, insane, like,  
10 headbutting it. And the tow truck driver opened up the  
11 door and pulled me out, put me back in the tow truck. And  
12 he said, "No." And he was, like, "No, no, no." And he  
13 was, like, "I'll kill you." Like, the tow truck driver was  
14 telling him he was going to kill him. And I'm, like,  
15 freaked right out. Like, just, like, get me out of here.

16                   And they took me to Thunder -- [HOSPITAL  
17 NAME] to do my rape kit. It was weird because in Thunder  
18 Bay they only have two rape nurses, it just happened to be  
19 my friend, [NURSE]'s mom, and my family doctor, her  
20 husband, was the emerg doctor. So he called his wife in  
21 'cause he seen me, [DOCTOR 1], so she did my rape kit, and  
22 my friend's mom was the nurse.

23                   So after treatment -- like, so I, like, in  
24 that process, I'd went to Toronto, got -- Oshawa, got  
25 pregnant, went to treatment. In that process, I guess,

1       they were looking to -- for me for that trial, and I'm  
2       pregnant. And I went -- they found me in Minnesota,  
3       brought me back. I had to do that trial. And I remember I  
4       was so big. Like, I was so big with that pregnancy that  
5       they had asked -- they -- like, I didn't even fit clothes.  
6       Like, my -- I had to wear my dad's, like, sweatpants and a  
7       men's shirt. Like, I didn't fit female clothes. And I  
8       went to trial, and it was Agnew. And I had seen Agnew,  
9       like, Agnew was my client. And Agnew had paid to have  
10      sex -- he wanted to have sex with a pregnant kid, so he  
11      paid to have sex with me.

12                   And we were going into trial, and he said,  
13      "Bridget, I'm going to have to send this to my co-worker.  
14      I can't -- because I love you." And I was, like, "What the  
15      fuck? Well, if you love me, you --" And he goes, "No, no,  
16      no." He won't get time if -- and, I guess, Agnew had  
17      gotten information that he was being investigated, and he  
18      wanted that man to go to jail. And he said, "But I will be  
19      at the court with you." Fucking Agnew Johnston sitting  
20      with my mom in court, like, explaining her the process.

21                   And my dad, [FATHER], came. And we were in  
22      the Federal Court, and for some reason, like, they were --  
23      they were, like, he ended up coming face-to-face with my --  
24      and -- the man that raped me, and I'm big and pregnant.  
25      And that was the year they couldn't use, if you've had a



1 sexual -- like, if you were a prostitute, or any of your  
2 sexual -- that year, it changed, in '93. It was in  
3 January. And my dad -- the guy, [N.D.], told my dad, "I  
4 screwed your daughter in the ass, and she squealed like a  
5 pig." And my dad was, like, "What the fuck?" Like, my --  
6 they had to restrain my father, who, like, if anyone knew  
7 him, he's very stoic, and he's a kind, good, man.

8 And the trial, they lost all the evidence  
9 that they gave, like, all the rape kit. Like, how the fuck  
10 does Thunder Bay Police lose a rape kit? It -- if it  
11 wasn't for the nurse who knew me from kindergarten, and my  
12 G.P. doing my rape kit, he wouldn't have gotten sent away.  
13 His lawyer kept on bringing it back that I was in  
14 prostitution, which wasn't the case. That -- that  
15 shouldn't have even been brought into court. He only got  
16 two years for what he did. And because of what he did, I  
17 couldn't give birth to my son.

18 I had given birth -- I gave birth at 35  
19 weeks to my son, and he was 11 pounds, 15 ounces. I had an  
20 incompetent cervix. And to go through what any of us on  
21 the streets had gone through, to even have to sell sex when  
22 you're pregnant, is the most humiliating thing. Your  
23 pregnant body is supposed to be sacred. You're giving --  
24 you have baby in you, and you're still turning tricks. And  
25 I still worked. I worked up until I was seven months --

1 'til -- and then I saw Agnew, and I just got money out of  
2 him. But I could barely even stand up, I was so big. I  
3 had a big, big baby. And I gave -- like, I worked up until  
4 about 30, 32 weeks, and then I had to get sewn up. And I  
5 remember just, like, being so big. And going through,  
6 like, you know, like, it just was horrific, like, you know.  
7 And then I couldn't push him out 'cause by then, I had  
8 damaged my body. Like, I have an incompetent cervix. And  
9 the -- I have trauma womb, you know, so my body doesn't  
10 work like how women's bodies should work.

11 It -- I had my baby, and as soon as I  
12 stopped bleeding, I was standing on a corner. You know,  
13 never mind, like, you know. And these men that feel privy  
14 to buy women, they don't care if you're, like, nursing.  
15 Like, I didn't want any men touching my breasts, so I'd  
16 wear a double bra with my breast pads. And they didn't  
17 care. I remember -- though I had some regulars that were  
18 good, like, they would drop off formula. But, like, there  
19 was just that no care.

20 I had seen some stuff -- I had been almost  
21 murdered twice. And when I say that, the second guy that  
22 went after me had -- yeah.

23 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** Before we get into  
24 that --

25 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** I --

1                   **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** -- do you want to  
2                   take a break?

3                   **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** I have to pee,  
4                   actually. I'm kind of going (indiscernible).

5                   **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Yeah, I had to. I  
6                   didn't want to --

7                   **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** All right. Then I'm  
8                   just going to shut this --

9                   **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** It's the pee break  
10                  time.

11                  **UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER:** Yeah.

12                  **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** And I might need a  
13                  cigarette.

14                  **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** Okay. And it's --  
15                  --- Upon recessing  
16                  --- Upon reconvening at 12:46 p.m.

17                  **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** Okay. It's on. And  
18                  that's on. So we were on a break. It's 12:46 p.m., and  
19                  October 11. So we're going to continue with the statement.

20                  **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** So when I -- I was  
21                  talking about, you know, my sexual assault case, and the  
22                  Crown attorney in Thunder Bay, and how that man only got  
23                  two years. And the only reason why he got two years was  
24                  because my family doctor and the nurse knew me and were  
25                  able to come and testify.

1 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: And this is [N.D.]?

2 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: [N.D.] (ph).

3 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: Yeah.

4 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: -- -[N.D.].

5 MS. FRANCINE MERASTY: -[N.D.].

6 MS. BRIDGET PERRIER: -[N.D.]. And he -- so  
7 he went and did his two years. I gave birth quite a few  
8 weeks after testifying. And I gave birth and -- to a -- a  
9 huge -- a 11-pound, 15-ounce baby boy named -- and who I  
10 named Tanner. He was the light of my life. He was  
11 everything. And even though I was stuck in prostitution,  
12 you know, and told what a bad person I was by everybody, he  
13 was something I did in perfection. He had this big head of  
14 dark hair, and these beautiful brown eyes, and these big  
15 chubby cheeks. He was like a little -- I can't, you know,  
16 we always say niche babies with the big hair, and the -- he  
17 had that. Like, he was just, like, you just wanted to bite  
18 him.

19 I -- I loved being a mom. My son's father  
20 was abusive, and he was young himself. And he was spoiled,  
21 and privileged, and he acted like a jerk. And that's when  
22 I knew I didn't want to be with him. After I had Tanner, I  
23 had to go back into prostitution because I couldn't live on  
24 800 or \$900 a month back then, or I think it was more than  
25 that. But I just -- it wasn't sustaining me. And, you

1 know, I would -- I would leave him at the sitters. I would  
2 drive, drop him off.

3 He had a babysitter. She was an old  
4 neighbour of mine, and she had watched me go out, so she  
5 would take him. And she would make sure that we'd come get  
6 him. Like, she knew. I told her that if I didn't come  
7 back, that I'd probably be dead. Like, she either knew I  
8 was partying because I hung out with her kids too. So --  
9 but, you know, and I -- I always gave her strict orders,  
10 "Don't give him to my parents."

11 And my Uncle [Uncle] -- I had a -- my  
12 biological uncle, he was a -- he worked for the -[Personal  
13 Information], and he always checked on me. I -- he had no  
14 kids, I was his little brat. He was my birth mom's bio  
15 brother, and he always, always, you know, showed me, you  
16 know, love, unconditional love. [UNCLE] , everyone knew  
17 who [UNCLE] was. All the girls out there, that I hung out  
18 with, he was all of our uncle. He always made sure, you  
19 know, everyone -- he'd take me and all the girls out for  
20 dinner. He was an awesome man. He loved us, you know,  
21 unconditionally. And that was what he said would get me  
22 out free.

23 By then I was protected by organized crime,  
24 so I was owned by the bikers. And I was able to do  
25 whatever I wanted. I was a renegade. I could go wherever

1 I wanted without worrying about being kidnapped by another  
2 pimp 'cause no one wanted to screw with the bikers. And  
3 I -- during my time in, like, my son was, like, little, it  
4 wasn't just, you know, the streets we had to fight, we had  
5 to fight social services too, so that was Children's Aid,  
6 especially. So even though I still was a child, they  
7 should have been protecting me, they were there trying to  
8 take my privilege as a mother away from me.

9 And, I don't know, one time they -- they  
10 did -- they -- they would -- she, the worker, would come  
11 over, and she was, like, 26, and she was, like, very  
12 privileged, white privileged. And back then they had these  
13 blue, like, folders, like, file folders. And you knew if  
14 they had the blue thing, that they were CAS. And she  
15 knocked on my door, I was living in the east end, and she  
16 came in, and she said -- she wouldn't sit on my couch.  
17 She'd never sit on my couch, she'd stand there with her big  
18 ass diamond ring. And, you know, I don't think she even  
19 lived life. I think she married -- she was Italian, so she  
20 married the guy, her first boyfriend. Like, and, she'd be,  
21 like, "Oh, your baby's really cute." And, like, she  
22 wouldn't even hold him.

23 And one time she came over and I said to  
24 her, "He doesn't --" He was really cranky, and he wouldn't  
25 settle. And she came up to me and said, "He -- I need to

1 check him." So I said, "Yeah, because he has bruises."  
2 And she looked at my baby and you could go like this to his  
3 cheeks and he would bruise. And he had handprints from  
4 burping on him. He was around six months. And I -- he  
5 wasn't sitting up, he was still really, like -- and he was  
6 big. So -- and I was nursing. So she was, like, writing  
7 down in her little folder. I wanted to bonk her in the  
8 head with it. And so I showed her the bruises, and there  
9 was a red rash on him. And she said, "I have to -- oh,  
10 I -- I just got to go in my car for something." And we  
11 seen her on the car -- the cellphone. And there was one  
12 car -- per car -- four cop cars showed up. I knew. They  
13 were taking him.

14 They apprehended Tanner. And I called my  
15 [UNCLE]. I didn't know what to do. They took him. They  
16 wouldn't tell me why they took him 'cause he had these  
17 bruises, so they -- which they thought were -- I assaulted  
18 him. And -- and I -- I was nefarious for being the baby  
19 whisper. I could put any baby to bed. I was good with  
20 babies. I'd raised many babies from my adopted family, so  
21 I was always -- you know, I liked to babysit. Like, I  
22 loved children. So I was, like, "What the --" Like, they  
23 were painting me as a monster.

24 And we went through court and that, and the  
25 judge said -- my uncle came to court. And [R.H.] came to

1 court with me in Thunder Bay. And these are judges that we  
2 know in a different level. So, like, I can't even, like --  
3 so, basically, the judge said -- my uncle stood up and  
4 said, "I'm taking her to Red Lake to live on McKenzie  
5 Island." And [R.H.] said, "She's not abused the baby.  
6 We've noticed that he's, like, a little bit lagged on with  
7 the -- with development. And we know --" Like, they  
8 vehemently came on my side. So the judge said, "Okay. You  
9 go to Red Lake, Bridget, and I'll give you your son."

10 So my uncle moved me to Red Lake. And I  
11 even went to high school. So my uncle was traditional  
12 and -- very traditional. And they were doing stuff, like,  
13 shaking tents and stuff. And he had a sweat lodge on our  
14 property, and I was, like, "Oh, God." I would wake up,  
15 sunrise ceremonies. So I was introduced to ceremony. And  
16 I knew better, you know. I knew I came from a, you know,  
17 an uncle that really -- he worked with the Jesuits before  
18 he worked with this fancy job. And my uncle always, like,  
19 he would always stick up for me.

20 So, you know, there I am, and they had --  
21 they were, like, he knew about the Crown attorney. He had  
22 actually picked us up from his house. So he was all, like,  
23 he -- he hated him. So he would say, like, you know, if  
24 there was ever at man in my house, he'd be, like -- an  
25 [UNCLE] never swore, and when he did, it would meant when



1 he was mad. So he's, like, thrown out johns out of my  
2 house, a few that worked for MNR that were known in the  
3 community, Native men. A Chief from [FIRST NATION  
4 RESERVE], he threw out of my house because he was all high  
5 on drugs, and my uncle was, like, very stuck to his ways.

6 So there I am in McKenzie Island, and I'm  
7 normal. For those three months, I'm normal. And I'm going  
8 to high school, Tanner's coming to live with us. And one  
9 weekend, he's, like, "We're having a sweat. We're  
10 having --" And he was -- oh, he had a girlfriend from -- I  
11 think she was from north. She's Oji-Cree, she didn't speak  
12 English. The only -- how we talked was through soap  
13 operas. She'd say, "Tansi." and point to the T.V., and I'd  
14 turn on. We watched General Hospital, Y and R. And she  
15 would talk to me in Oji-Cree. It drove me nuts, but she,  
16 you know, and she'd show me stuff, like, how to make food.  
17 And she'd always laugh at me. And we'd go to bingo. She'd  
18 sneak me into bingo with her. So there I am in bingo with  
19 her. And her name was [UNCLE'S GIRLFRIEND], and I liked  
20 her.

21 And they were doing these ceremonies so  
22 that -- she was getting me ready to help them with the  
23 ceremony, so I did, like, the -- the feast food. And,  
24 like, it was normal for Uncle to drum in the house, and  
25 water -- like, that was just normal. It embarrassed me,

1 but it was normal. So I was getting ready, and they were  
2 preparing the moose heart and all that. It was so gross.  
3 And I, like, she would just laugh, her and her sisters  
4 would just laugh at me because I'd be, like, gagging. And  
5 they'd be, like, "Stop." And I'd be, like, "I can't help  
6 it." And, you know, and they -- they were laughing because  
7 she want -- she wanted me to show her sister my butt. I  
8 have an eyeball tattoo on my -- and she was, like, it was  
9 big, like, you know, these old Cree ladies laughing at my  
10 tattoo. And, like, they were just amazed with it and,  
11 like, just, you know. So we had a good laugh with these  
12 ladies. And they were preparing for a shaking tent and  
13 sweat.

14 And I was all right with the sweat, making  
15 the stew and all that. And they -- like, they would speak  
16 their language, look at me and laugh. And I'd be, like,  
17 "Fuck, they're laughing at me." And she made me beautiful  
18 moccasins and she had my regalia beadwork done. Like, she  
19 would just -- I would come from school and my beadwork  
20 would be all laid out. I'd be, like, "[UNCLE'S GIRLFRIEND]  
21 what the hell?" And she just -- you know, and giggle away.

22 So there I am, and the ceremony starts --  
23 the shaking tent starts, and I mean, it was dead calm. We  
24 lived on McKenzie Island, it was calm, and all of a sudden  
25 it was windy. And I swear I seen something, and I ran back

1 into the house, and I said, "It scared me." And I went to  
2 bed. And I'm sleeping, and my grandmother who passed away,  
3 my [UNCLE]'s mom, visited me that night. And she said,  
4 "Tansi," You know, "You think the world -- the road is not  
5 like this, what you want, straight. It's like this and  
6 like this. Your son needs you, go to him."

7 That morning, I woke up, my uncle was fully  
8 dressed, and he said, "I'm driving you back to Thunder  
9 Bay." And I was, like, "Okay." He's like, "My mom  
10 visited. I can smell her perfume." And that night -- he  
11 dropped me off in Thunder Bay at my sister's, and we went  
12 out to Simpson Street to the -- that was the track where  
13 all the prostitution happened 'cause I needed to make money  
14 'cause he only left me with 80 bucks. But he was smart  
15 'cause he knew we partied. And I could, if I needed  
16 anything, he would just send me the money. So and I didn't  
17 want to overwhelm him. But it was weird, that drive home,  
18 we didn't even, like -- I was so quiet back to Thunder Bay  
19 that day, like, it was not his usual -- he used to let me  
20 listen to whatever I wanted to. We listened to pow wow  
21 music all the way back. And he was, like, "Just be safe,  
22 my girl. Be safe."

23 And that night, when we came home from  
24 prostitute -- from out, we -- me and my sister were going  
25 back to the apartment, there was police outside, and I

1 thought -- my sister looked at me, and she said, "Who did  
2 you rob?" And I said, "Who did you rob?" And we're  
3 arguing about who -- what we both did, what we didn't do.  
4 And they had said, "Bridget, there -- your son." And I  
5 knew, "Oh, shit. Here we go."

6 These were cops that abused us, ritually,  
7 you know. We would be abused, shaken up, forced to do  
8 things with them. They -- I could tell in their faces,  
9 there was sadness. And I asked them, "Is he -- is he  
10 dead?" And they said, "No, he's alive." And they went to  
11 the hospital, the Port Arthur General, with their sirens on  
12 with me in the car. And when I walked into the pediatric  
13 unit, they were pushing platelets in my son. And my son  
14 was diagnosed with leukemia. So those bruises were not  
15 because of child abuse, they were a sign of acute  
16 lymphoblastic leukemia.

17 And I phoned my [UNCLE]. [UNCLE'S  
18 GIRLFRIEND] had answered the phone, and he wasn't home yet.  
19 And that was the first time she ever spoke English to me.  
20 She said, "Holy shit. Okay. I will tell him." She had  
21 done that, so she could bring back the -- the language back  
22 to me. And we were airlifted back to -- down here, down  
23 south to Toronto. And I was brought to the oncology unit  
24 and, you know, Tanner went through chemo, and all that, and  
25 radiation. His cancer went testicular and he had radiation

1 on his little man parts.

2 And -- but you would think that I'd be stuck  
3 in the hospital with my child. I was, all day. But at  
4 night, I would go down and I would go and -- out to high  
5 track and prostitute myself because I couldn't live on the  
6 \$20 a day I was given by the Northern Travel Grant for  
7 food. And I didn't, like, they arranged for me to eat  
8 meals at the hospital. Well, you can only eat hospital  
9 food so much. And I -- I would work and -- so that me and  
10 Tanner had whatever we needed. And I would go out -- and  
11 it -- and when I say, work, it's not like going out to your  
12 job, but at that moment, that's what I felt was my job. I  
13 didn't realize doing what I was doing, I could expose him  
14 to illness that could kill him.

15 But I had to do -- and the security guard at  
16 Sick Kids, he knew what I was doing. So he would hold my  
17 normal clothes, like, my pajamas. So I would leave, get  
18 dressed in the bathroom down in the atrium, give him my --  
19 my duffle bag with my normal clothes, and he'd have a cab,  
20 and I'd go out, and I'd prostitute. I'd leave at, like,  
21 11:30. And I would go out and I would be back by 5 in the  
22 morning. During one of these times, I was picked up by a  
23 police officers, and they were going to bring me down to  
24 Cherry Beach. And they had told me, "Put out or get out."  
25 So I got out. And they were going to hurt me. They were

1 actually known, even other cops knew what they were doing.  
2 And I remember selling, my grandmother was in my ears  
3 telling me, "Get the fuck out. Run." And I -- they didn't  
4 think I'd get out. They thought I would put out. And I  
5 got out fast, and I got my high heels off, and I darted.

6 And back then I was smaller than I am now.  
7 And it -- there was a junkyard, and I slid through the --  
8 through the gates. They were chasing me, and they couldn't  
9 catch me. And I slid through the gates, and they -- all of  
10 a sudden, there was -- I look, and there was, like, these  
11 big ass dogs. And I'm, like, "Fuck, I'm dead." Like --  
12 but the dogs, like, went at the cops and were going crazy.  
13 And the one dog came, and I held onto it, and it took me to  
14 that little house in the junkyard down at Cherry Beach.  
15 And the old man, he was an old black man, he said, "Just  
16 stay here." You know, "You got to hide because the last  
17 girl didn't almost make it." And I was, like, "Shit." And  
18 they left. They finally left, and he got me out of there.  
19 I got to the hospital and I was all scared. He even gave  
20 me money.

21 And then I went back out again, and I got  
22 arrested. And I had a parent's pass, and they were going  
23 to charge me for stealing out of Sick Kids 'cause I was  
24 scared to say anything because I didn't want Child Welfare  
25 to be called. I ended up, like, I knew that Tanner was

1       having a procedure the next day that needed me to sign  
2       for -- for him to have anesthetic. So I finally told --  
3       and it was the morality unit, and I told them that I had to  
4       sign to get the -- to call his nurse and get the forms  
5       faxed. They released me because that nurse, that was  
6       Tanner's nurse, was their lieutenant's wife, and I was  
7       released.

8                       And the next day, they showed up at Sick  
9       Kids, and they asked me where Bridget was. And I was,  
10      like, "I'm right here." And they were, like, "You're a  
11      little kid." And, you know, that was the first time I had  
12      a positive dealing with police. And one of them was -- his  
13      name was [DETECTIVE]. He was a dick. He was known to be  
14      mean to us girls. Like, he would, like, prevent us from  
15      getting in cars and pull us over. But he never did it with  
16      me. He liked me. He -- he liked -- he liked the fact that  
17      I knew hockey, I knew about fishing. And, you know, he  
18      would talk to me about the men, the men that I seen. And I  
19      would tell him things, like, "They're weird." Like, you  
20      know, you go to some man's house and, you know, he'd tell  
21      you he has a kid the same age as you, or you'd see their  
22      pictures of their spouses.

23                      You know, one time, I was picked up and the  
24      guy was smoking crack. And I -- I heard, like, cooing and  
25      there's a little, like, two-year-old in the car seat. And

1 I'm, like, "What the hell." So I got him to pull over, and  
2 he had no pants on, and I, you know -- and I told this  
3 detective about this story. 'Cause what had happened was,  
4 I flagged down a policeman, and I stole buddy's phone. And  
5 he was all high. And I had the little baby in my arms.  
6 And I'm standing there in big hooker heels. They're, like,  
7 looking at me, and I've called already his wife. And  
8 she's, like, "Oh, you're not the first one." And I said,  
9 "You better come."

10 So they were going to charge me for  
11 kidnapping. And they were, like, trying to -- and I  
12 wouldn't give them the baby. I just hung on. I knew if I  
13 gave them the baby, I was in problem, like, there was going  
14 to be a problem, so I held onto that baby. And that baby  
15 was screaming. The man had locked himself now in the car,  
16 and he's, like, still smoking crack. And I'm, like -- it  
17 was bizarre. And [DETECTIVE] came. [DETECTIVE], like, "No,  
18 no, no. She's not at fault." And he got really angry at  
19 them. He's, like, "Why are getting mad at her?" He's,  
20 like, "She did a good thing." And the wife came and, you  
21 know, that was how our dealings were.

22 Some of these police officers would, like,  
23 pull over and, like, want to check what we're wearing, or,  
24 like, they'd frisk us and, like, molest you, put their  
25 fingers inside you. It was weird. Like, they weren't



1       there for -- as police officers, they were terrorizers.  
2       And if you didn't give them what they wanted, they could be  
3       very, very violent. And, you know, like, I, one time, got  
4       pulled in for a police party, and it was brutal. Like, I  
5       had to, like, it was, like, I almost had to fight my way to  
6       get paid, to fight my way to, like, you know, like the way  
7       they had sex with us was horrible. You know, spitting in  
8       our face, and stuff like that.

9               The johns did damage to me, you know. The  
10       johns, the sex buyers, they weren't, like, I -- I can never  
11       say I ever felt how I feel like when I'm intimate with my  
12       spouse. There was never that moment. It was disguising,  
13       it was dirty. I hated them. To this day, I hate them.  
14       There's nothing good about these men. They are parasitic  
15       in my eyes. I, you know, they knew we were being  
16       trafficked. They seen the bruises on us. They never once  
17       said, "Are you safe?" You know, the guilty ones, you know,  
18       you'd have ones where you'd have sex with, and they cry  
19       after, and you're, like, "Fucking weirdos." Like, I hated  
20       them.

21               And another thing I hated about standing on  
22       a corner was, the people who drove by us and looked at us  
23       like we were shit, are the kids at grad in their stupid  
24       limos. You know, I -- I hated prom season. It was  
25       hazardous. They'd throw piss balloons or pennies at us,

1       you know, drive by in their limos. One time, I jumped in  
2       the limo, and I made them call their parents, and I made  
3       the parents give me money. I said I was going to take  
4       their kids out. Their -- this one girl, I was, like,  
5       "She's gone. You better come give us money."

6               The women that you prostitute with, you  
7       develop a sisterhood. But even in that sisterhood, if her  
8       pimp told her to beat you up, she's still going to have to.  
9       We would fight each other because of our pimps or what  
10      happened on the corner. We called it the corner rules.  
11      But there was a sisterhood, and we always got along. Like,  
12      when I would hide from the pimps, we'd hide with the  
13      trans -- the tranny stroll. So we'd go out -- 'cause none  
14      of the black pimps would go near them, so we were able to  
15      still sell sex, but we were protected. There was never  
16      this divide that there is today.

17             I hated prostitution, and I became something  
18      I hated. I became an addicted prostitute. I ended being  
19      fed Percocets because I have physical issues, uterine  
20      fibroids and that, due to being used so young by men. I  
21      once was picked up in Thunder Bay by a man, he was -- what  
22      was he, Egyptian, in a Mercedes Benz, and I had been in  
23      that car. I've been in that car. Not with him, with his  
24      wife, who was -- she worked for [FAMILY CENTRE] with  
25      babies, like moms and babies program coordinator. And he

1 was a -- he was [PERPETRATOR 5], he was -- worked for  
2 [SCHOOL NAME] He was probably one of the worst dates. He  
3 was -- he hated women. He was Muslim. He was plan -- he  
4 had actually harmed and raped a few other girls. He got me  
5 in his car, and I fought back. And I see a police officer  
6 came and intervened. And he  
7 was -- his plan, he was going to hurt me.

8 During this time, I had lost my best friend,  
9 two of them, in a month span. Jamie McGuire was killed  
10 outside Winnipeg, and my best friend Stephanie (ph) was  
11 found dead in the east end. She had been beaten. They had  
12 to wait for her hands to defrost. It was a really, really  
13 cold day that year, and I had flown in from Toronto. My  
14 mom had flown me in for my son's first birthday. And we  
15 had driven, all the girls, we had some -- we had just said,  
16 "Screw it. Let's all just go out drinking." We had money.  
17 I had made -- we all made money. And we thought it was a  
18 new girl, but it was her. She had went from blonde to  
19 brunette. And we had drove past her, and I wish we had  
20 stopped because she was murdered that night.

21 The man who murdered her had raped his wife  
22 prior. And the only -- so the reason why I'm bringing her  
23 and Jamie up, is they found Stephanie's killer because she  
24 was white. But Jamie McGuire was found pantless in a  
25 ditch, and they still haven't found her killer. But we

1 know who killed her. We knew it was the bikers in  
2 Winnipeg. We knew because she had HIV, and it was told to  
3 some of us. It was told to me. I had dealings with one of  
4 those bikers, and he had actually told me he had killed  
5 her. And I have talked to the ICE Unit in Winnipeg about  
6 what I had experienced with Jamie, hearing about her  
7 murder. See, I grew up with Jamie McGuire. Jamie  
8 McGuire's parents were -- lived down the street from my  
9 adopted family. She had come on camping trips, had come  
10 out to the cottage. She went to school with my older  
11 sister. They were friends. Jamie McGuire and me did some  
12 modelling together. Like, her older sister babysat us.  
13 So, like, you know, her dying, and it was, like, Stephanie  
14 got a whole page, and Jamie got a little page.

15 And -- and it -- you know, it always pissed  
16 me off about that because they both were beautiful women.  
17 But I knew the difference. I knew the difference from when  
18 one of the Asian girls down here got murdered to one of the  
19 white girls that got murdered. I knew that there was  
20 racism in the sex trade. And knew right in the beginning,  
21 when I was getting paid, and I would never disclose my  
22 heritage because it could be life and death for me.

23 I hated the men so much that I became very  
24 brutal. I -- I was known to be very -- I hated them. I  
25 would have temper tantrums. I would -- I started drinking

1 heavy. I started to use cocaine, abuse Percocets. Because  
2 the Percocets were given to me by a doctor in Thunder Bay.  
3 You know, he was writing me scripts out, 300 a month. I  
4 was only 18, 19. My mom actually came to the doctor's with  
5 me and said, you know, "Why are you giving my daughter  
6 this?" You know, "Let's try giving her surgery, or  
7 something, laser." But I had such bad endometriosis. And  
8 what I know now is because of the sex trade, because of  
9 being harmed, you know, it threw -- it threw me off.

10 I ended up, you know, losing my son. And on  
11 his death bed -- well, just before his death bed, I had  
12 been incarcerated about a -- before he died. We were  
13 actually planning to go on the Wish -- his Make a Wish from  
14 Wish Foundation, and I got arrested for extortion, and just  
15 stupid stuff. And to humiliate me, they -- they did some  
16 horrible stuff, and I -- I was abused by the guards. And  
17 they put me in isolation, and I started losing my mind. I  
18 started to the point where I was, like, you know, like, I'm  
19 not a religious person, but I had to pray because it was  
20 the only thing that was keeping me safe.

21 And the guards were -- were brutal. And  
22 they would come in and they would take away my mattress,  
23 and they would take away my clothes. And they would have  
24 me sitting there naked. I'm naked, and I would pray at  
25 night that they wouldn't come and hurt me. And there was

1 times that, you know, stuff would happen, being dragged in  
2 the shower by my hair and, you know, like, put in the  
3 scalding showers and stuff like that. That wasn't normal.  
4 And, like, to know, like, you know. They would put me in a  
5 regular range, and then they'd pull me out again because I  
6 would -- wouldn't rat out the bikers. And, you know, and I  
7 was going through a stressful time, I knew my kid wasn't  
8 doing well.

9 And one night, I prayed 'cause we -- what  
10 was going on, it was, you know, horrible. And I -- I don't  
11 talk about God in my -- in my -- like, I'm not someone  
12 that'll go to church. Believe me. Like, you know, I'm  
13 pretty angry at him. And he -- he told -- basically, I had  
14 a conversation with him. He sat with me. He was in my  
15 cell with me. And he told me, "Bridget, you have to be  
16 silent, and you have to listen, and you have to pay  
17 attention. And there is purpose for you in this world."  
18 'Cause I was going to end it. I was done.

19 And I went to court the next day, and I was  
20 already pled, so they gave me bail. And, you know, my mom  
21 had to fight. She had to pull the -- I -- I'm lucky  
22 because I have that privilege. I had privilege. I had  
23 parents that were white, and that were well respected. And  
24 I got out of jail that day, and I got to be with my son.

25 And I'm lucky I got to meet with him



1 know. Everyone around should have known that I was going  
2 through hard times having him. They shouldn't have locked  
3 me up. They should have worked with me. I had three days  
4 with him, and I asked him -- I told him I was sorry. And  
5 he said, "It's okay, Mom. Pinky swear you'll never go back  
6 to work." So I told him, "I'll never go back." You know,  
7 and I didn't. And I pinky swore with him. And he died  
8 three days -- he -- the night he was -- the night before he  
9 died, we watched G.I. Jane, and he said, "Mom, tell those  
10 men with big muscles and wings to leave me alone." And I  
11 went, "What?" And he said, "Tell them to leave me alone."  
12 And I knew there was -- he was dying. And I took him back  
13 to his -- back to the hospital, Mckellar, where he was  
14 born, and to his nurses that he could swear at, they never  
15 judged him. And he passed away.

16 And he -- it was hard. And when he died,  
17 they wanted to arrest me. They were going to put me back  
18 like a caged animal. And I -- I told that cop, she had --  
19 female police officers were horrible to us. And she wanted  
20 to arrest me because the bail order was that I was to be in  
21 arms length of my mother, unless we were at home. And my  
22 mom had to stay with the body, and they had to give me,  
23 like, valium or something. And it was with two people,  
24 like, a biker and his wife. And they were in emerg and  
25 they were going to arrest me. And that biker, he pressed



1 the button on the elevator. The cops were there. And his  
2 wife was, like -- I was sitting in a wheelchair, just lost  
3 my child. I was only going there to get the medication, so  
4 I wouldn't go psychotic. And he pulled me in the elevator  
5 and slammed it on the police. They came up to arrest me at  
6 the pediatric unit. And at that point, I was back there  
7 holding my dead child. They photographed us at this  
8 funeral. They, like, it was like a bunch of criminals.  
9 They had no business.

10 So what I did was, I ran. I ran away from  
11 Thunder Bay. I left, and I called [DETECTIVE], and I went  
12 to treatment. I went to treatment out in Winnipeg, but it  
13 wasn't, like, it was fucked up because I thought  
14 I -- "Okay, this is it. I'm going to heal." And I  
15 couldn't heal because I went to the [TREATMENT CENTRE], and  
16 what had happened was all the --  
17 the -- I told them, like, this was it. I was going to go  
18 on and live honestly. So I told them, "I have a drug  
19 habit." 'Cause, and they go, "How?" And I said, "Well, I  
20 prostituted myself." And they were, like -- and all of  
21 sudden, the female staff treated me like shit, and the male  
22 staff were trying to abuse me, rubbing up on me. So I took  
23 off to my friend's house, her house. I took off. I just  
24 walked out. I told Tony, I said, "I can't. I can't stay  
25 here." Like, it's fucked up.

1                   So I went to her house in Winnipeg and  
2                   stayed there, but I was really home sick, and I went to my  
3                   uncle. And I met a guy in Timmins and he was Arabic, and I  
4                   ended up hooking up with him. And I found out I was  
5                   pregnant again. And I knew I couldn't go back to Thunder  
6                   Bay. I knew that if I went to jail, I was going to die. I  
7                   knew. I knew that if I went and did my time, I was going  
8                   to die. So I came to Toronto, and I started over. And I  
9                   also knew that I couldn't tell people what had happened to  
10                  me. So what I did was, I just basically said I was  
11                  escaping a domestic violence situation -- a violent  
12                  situation.

13                  And I -- I went to a shelter that was run  
14                  through the YWCA. And they were really good, but they  
15                  could only keep you so many months. And they wanted to  
16                  keep me forever. And I -- I knew I couldn't go to rehab.  
17                  And I was honest with my obstetrician that I was fleeing.  
18                  And he said the warrant wouldn't touch me down here. So I  
19                  was able to use my health card. And he followed me, and  
20                  I -- he said, "There's a flag." They had a flag on me.  
21                  That if I was to give birth, they were to take that child.  
22                  And he goes, "I don't believe in those because you've been  
23                  honest from the get-go." So I was so honest with him. And  
24                  I ended up getting into transitional -- in Native housing  
25                  here through on Diane (ph).

1                   And I gave birth to a baby very early. She  
2                   was the best thing. She was 19. And it was hard because  
3                   I -- you know, straightening out. Now, I have to live.  
4                   Now, I have to either figure it out fast, so I'll -- I -- I  
5                   just complied exactly with every rule. I didn't want to  
6                   get kicked out. I didn't want any rejection. And I would  
7                   see some shitty things staff did, the lateral violence.  
8                   But I had an Elder. And when I had [DAUGHTER], I couldn't  
9                   hold her. I could hold her, like, you know, burp her, but  
10                  to nurse her, it was, like -- and the Elder saw that. And  
11                  she said -- asked me, "Where you sold?" And I told her my  
12                  story 'cause I knew you're safe. And then she told me,  
13                  "Don't tell any of these staff. They're dysfunctional  
14                  here." And I didn't tell. Actually, I -- she knew, and  
15                  they had a sexual abuse counsellor that ran a group, and I  
16                  went for therapy.

17                         I ended up meeting my part -- my ex when I  
18                         was living in this place, and he was a single dad with two  
19                         little girls. And I became, you know, I became their mom.  
20                         What had happened was, they -- he had come back from out  
21                         west, and I was introduced to him because I needed a job,  
22                         and his mom was dying of ALS. And I was -- I knew how to  
23                         do feeding tubes, and I knew how to do care lines, and I  
24                         knew how to clean them from having a son. So I became his  
25                         mom's caregiver. And he had these two little girls, and

1       they were really cute. And me and him became in a  
2       relationship. And his mom passed away, and me and him  
3       started dating. And my daughter -- his daughter, older  
4       one, she was around six, and she would ask me stuff, like,  
5       "Are you Catholic?" Where the hell do you get this? But I  
6       fell in love with his children.

7                       And their mom was out west. And he would  
8       say some horrible things about her. And I knew that that  
9       was his anger to her. And my -- I would tell them, "Your  
10      mom loves you." And I got contact with Brenda Wolfe, and I  
11     told her the first time I spoke to her was, "I'm not here  
12     to take your place. I'm here to love your daughters. And,  
13     Brenda, you can abuse me all you want on the phone right  
14     now, but after we're done this, I'm going to bathe your  
15     children. So how you treat me, you don't want me  
16     frustrated and carrying that to your children." I just  
17     wanted her to know that, you know, I got it. I understood  
18     she was sick. And she was, like, "You're right." I said,  
19     "It has nothing to do with me and him. It's the fact that  
20     your little girls cry for you, and they love you. And I've  
21     told them that, you know, that you love them, and that  
22     you're not -- you're just sick right now. You're sick."  
23     Like, you can't explain to a six-year-old and a two --  
24     three-year-old about addiction.

25                      So my little girls, I had them, and I was

1 pregnant again with my -- my other little girl. And, you  
2 know, we would have these calls, and we would do them  
3 sneaky. So I got a 1-800 number, so she could always call  
4 me and call her children. And what had happened was, the  
5 calls stopped. So I had to tell my ex, like, you know,  
6 Brenda's calling, and I allow her to talk to the kids.  
7 And, you know, by that time, he was a little bit more  
8 understanding. And I said, like, you know, "I'm watching  
9 them talk to their mom. Like, she not saying anything --  
10 she's asking them about Dora." Like, I said, "But, like,  
11 the calls just stopped. She hasn't called in, like, three  
12 weeks." And he said, "She's probably in jail." And I  
13 said, "No. We have a 1-800 number." And he was, like,  
14 "What?" I said, "So if she was in jail, she would have  
15 access to call me whenever." I had a 1-800 number. She  
16 would be calling more. And he said, "I don't know. Maybe  
17 she's missing."

18 And I -- it just didn't sit with me.  
19 Something wasn't right, you know. My kids were suffering,  
20 they were crying for their mom. At least they had her --  
21 Brenda calling them. And I tried to ask her family, and  
22 her mom was very angry and has issues. So I said -- I knew  
23 her birth date was October 20th. I didn't know what year  
24 it was, but I knew it was October 20th. So I called  
25 Vancouver Police 'cause they had a missing women task

1 line -- no, they had a line that you could call. So I  
2 called the police in downtown B.C., and as I gave them my  
3 name, so this detective gets my name. And I'm giving him  
4 my name, I give him her name. I go, "But I don't know what  
5 year of birth." But by this point, he's pulled up my  
6 criminal record. So he's, like, "And why are you calling?"  
7 He's like, "You won. You have her kids. Like, who cares?"  
8 And I said, "Because her kids are missing her, and it's not  
9 like her." Because I had called the Balmoral Hotel, and  
10 they said we hadn't seen her for a few months. Like, by  
11 this time, and it -- now, it's coming on with a month -- a  
12 few months. And they said that there was a welfare letter.

13 So I'm, like, "Somethings not right." Plus,  
14 I knew she took Tylenol 3s, so I'm, like, "Well, call  
15 the --" You know, and I said, "Well, she hasn't picked up  
16 any of her scripts, like, you know." He told me, "Listen,  
17 lady, you're sounding crazy. Don't -- don't worry. Her  
18 kids deserve better, and maybe --" He goes, "And as I'm  
19 looking at your -- your record, you're somewhat better."  
20 And, you know, "But you're not a junkie. So just leave it  
21 be." And it bothered me. And it bothered me because my  
22 daughters were suffering. Like, they were angry and, you  
23 know. You know, my three-year-old daughter would call me  
24 step-mother -- step-mozer (ph).

25 And one day [DAUGHTER 2], she woke up and

1       said, "Mom --" She started talking to us, me -- my family  
2       and I, about people knocking on our door with a shiny tape  
3       recorder. And I'm, like, "The hell you talking about this  
4       dream." Like -- like, she said, "Yeah, and they put it  
5       right here on your table." And my mom and me were, like,  
6       "Ah, kids tell the damn -- darndest story." And I'm, like,  
7       huge and pregnant. And sure enough, knock, knock, knock.  
8       And, like, about two weeks later, and it was a missing  
9       woman task force. Exactly what [DAUGHTER 2] had described.  
10      They had showed up, and they wanted DNA from the kids. My  
11      dad was, like, "Hell, fucking no. Get back to Toronto."  
12      And, actually, they had pulled my dad aside and said,  
13      "Bridget has a warrant here in Thunder Bay." And I had  
14      just been in -- we were in Thunder Bay for a funeral, for  
15      my grandfather's funeral. And my dad's, like -- and  
16      they're, like, "She's to deal with this, or we're bringing  
17      her in."

18                   And, like, already the kids have lost their  
19      father because I split up with my ex 'cause of addictions,  
20      'cause he was using again, and I got the kids. And my  
21      parents were, like, "What the hell?" So I had to go and  
22      deal with all my charges, which was a good thing. They  
23      told my nine-year-old daughter about her mom's jawbone  
24      being found in a pig trough. You know, [DAUGHTER 2] used  
25      to draw pictures of, like, pig troughs, like, and draw

1 bones. Like, and she wanted to know everything about it.  
2 And we let her. I came and lived in Toronto to assume a  
3 new -- new life, which I tried my hardest. Very hard  
4 raising kids in that spectrum. We also were battling CAS  
5 on a constant. They had taken [DAUGHTER 3] from me, the  
6 younger sibling, [DAUGHTER 2]. They took the kids from me.  
7 And at -- [DAUGHTER 2] ran away, was missing for two months  
8 and had found me. And we were not giving [DAUGHTER 2]  
9 back. I -- I told the workers to shove it. And that their  
10 laws didn't pertain to us because the damage that was done  
11 to those kids in  
12 care -- she was sexually abused, she was -- and I'm, like,  
13 "Are you joking?" And the reason why they didn't want me  
14 to have the kids was 'cause I had a prostitution  
15 background.

16 But by then, I was doing really good in  
17 University and not -- [DAUGHTER 2] was missing for two  
18 months. I knew that there was problems in the whole trial.  
19 We had went through that as a family. And I suffered a lot  
20 of the effects, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. I never,  
21 you know, and when my daughter started high school, I had  
22 went through a lot. I'm not here to tell Brenda's story,  
23 but I'm here to tell my child's story too, and along with  
24 mine. It's bad enough when your child comes home and is  
25 not, you know, "I can't play with so-and-so because my



1 mom's a hooker -- a dead hooker." I fought -- I would go  
2 right to the school and, you know -- I -- I kept -- I lived  
3 in an area in Toronto that was not downtown. Not the area  
4 I live in now. I lived at Yonge and Finch, very prominent,  
5 upper class. A lot of Iranians and Koreans. So very well  
6 to do. But we still suffered because of being the  
7 Indigenous. So going through high school, these little  
8 shit heads would have parties. My kid would get blamed  
9 because she was the only Indian kid, you know. And I, you  
10 know, I turned into, you know, like, this, you know, there  
11 is a purpose. There is a purpose because I, you know, I  
12 had to raise these kids without letting that systemic  
13 circle hit them again and with breaking that cycle. And  
14 with breaking that cycle, I had to keep them away from  
15 biological grandparents, biological fathers, and to raise  
16 them in a feminist forefront.

17 I've went on and -- and gotten my degrees, a  
18 master's degree. I'm probably, you know, like, I speak on  
19 behalf of Indigenous women. My children are all, like,  
20 in it -- like me, like they don't keep it in. I sat  
21 through one Inquiry with my daughter, with my oldest, and I  
22 watched her fight to erase that, you know, her mom wasn't a  
23 prostitute. Her mom was a drug addict with mental health  
24 issues. Her mom was a human being. She was a human being,  
25 you know. I also had my -- [DAUGHTER 2] was faced -- she

1 was sexually assaulted. And we were on vacation, I had  
2 been on vacation and came home to her saying, "Mom, like, I  
3 can't go to the police. I'm Native. They're not going to  
4 believe me." And I said to her, "No, you're going to go to  
5 the police 'cause they are going to believe you." You  
6 know, I fought to keep my kids out of those same systemic  
7 barriers that I went through. You know, I always gave them  
8 everything they wanted. I, you know, took them out of the  
9 country, took them out -- all over globe trotting.

10 They all know my story. They all know that  
11 I still sleep with the lights on. I also, you know, my  
12 dealings with police and law enforcement, the last time I  
13 dealt with the cops in Thunder Bay, I had a officer punch  
14 me in the face and tell me, "I can't wait to tell your mom  
15 that you've been murdered. When you're dead, I can't wait  
16 to be the one to notify her." And I thought, "Fuck you."  
17 And that stupid bitch social worker, I found out years  
18 later, the reason why she never sat on my couch was she  
19 thought that there was male ejaculate on my couch, on my  
20 furniture. She wouldn't sit on my furniture. Like, she  
21 thought I let men pull one off on my couches.

22 I went back to change that because I went  
23 back to Thunder Bay to speak at that fucking officer, that  
24 stupid social worker, they were both there. And I don't  
25 believe in revenge. I told my kids, "Revenge isn't a part

1 of us. We're not vengeful people, but karma is a bitch."  
2 And I'll tell you something, I told that cop, "Thanks.  
3 Your words -- your words made me who I am today." And my  
4 mom was sitting there, and I said, "When you punched me in  
5 the face and you put out my tooth, 'cause I have half a  
6 tooth, you told me you can't wait to tell my mother I'm  
7 dead. Well, my mother's sitting right there." And I  
8 thought, oh, my God. My mother was going to jump out of  
9 her chair and strangle him. He couldn't even look at me.

10 And then that worker was there. It was,  
11 like, in one dish, I said, "[SOCIAL WORKER 2]" And she  
12 thought I was going to say, "You're a great worker." And I  
13 said, "When you wouldn't sit on my couch 'cause of male  
14 ejaculate --" Her boss, made her go and get retrained.  
15 Because that's what we had to face with. That's what --  
16 where I came from, that was what was there, you know.

17 So I taught my children to stand in their  
18 truth, never to get revenge, karma always wins. But I  
19 fought for this, for this Inquiry. We fought for this as  
20 families. We also fought that this, survivors, our voices  
21 have to be in this. You know, I've survived. I'm alive.  
22 I can sit here and say, "I'm here with my mind, my body, my  
23 spirit intact. I have all my teeth. I'm not strung out."  
24 But I also have sisters that are strung out, you know. I'm  
25 the first survivor of exploitation to be able to adopt a

1 baby, which I adopted a baby from Thunder Bay, born to an  
2 addict. He's six. He's going to be seven tomorrow. I  
3 never thought I would, you know, would ever, ever -- if you  
4 would have asked me, you know, "What do you see your life  
5 being?" I didn't see me living past 30. I'm 42. I've sat  
6 at nine panels at the United Nations. I've been  
7 everywhere, you know, talking about this issue. Talking  
8 about, you know. Like, my sisters that haven't, you know,  
9 aren't found, or whatever.

10 I also, you know, my sister that introduced  
11 me to be exploited, she survived Robert Pickton. He picked  
12 her up. She said, "Grandma was -- Grannie was talking in  
13 my ear." Same thing I've went through, she went through,  
14 "Get the fuck out of his car." She got out of his car, and  
15 he told her, "It's your lucky day. Today's your lucky  
16 'effing day." And she -- and she talked him out the car.  
17 And you know how we knew she was telling the truth?  
18 Because we actually were privy to what car he was driving,  
19 and I -- my daughter, [DAUGHTER 2], was, like -- like, you  
20 know. No one could tell my daughter [DAUGHTER 2] anything  
21 about my sister, she gets venomous.

22 My daughter's now missing herself, right  
23 now. Like, struggling on the streets on drugs. You know,  
24 she's not doing good, you know. But, you know, she knows  
25 that she has a mom that loves her. And that, you know,

1 even though her birth mom's dead, you know, she has me.  
2 You know, I've tried my hardest, my hardest to not let  
3 psychos hit again, which they have perpetrated. And that's  
4 why I fight so hard for our women.

5 I'm fighting everyday, you know, my old  
6 demons, like, you know. Like, I still sleep with the  
7 lights on. I still can't go in a elevator and a white man  
8 walk in. I'm getting off at the next stop. Like, I will  
9 get off. I can't stand them. If I'm alone, I can't be  
10 with a Caucasian man because of all the damage. You know,  
11 my partner's black because at least black men didn't damage  
12 me like that and kill my spirit. But I'm still here. I'm  
13 still thriving, and I'm still here with all my teeth. But,  
14 like, you know, like to look at it, you know, people are,  
15 like, amazed, you know.

16 I -- a lot of my tears are I didn't get to  
17 do the things I wanted to. I didn't want to -- I wanted to  
18 be a nurse. I wanted to work with handicapped kids. You  
19 know, I didn't get that. Now, I'm a social worker. You  
20 know, and I'm a -- you know, that's hard-enough work. But,  
21 you know, I have opportunity. You know, the thing that  
22 saved me, I guess, was, you know, having that white last  
23 name, and having those parents. You know, they wanted to  
24 dangerous offend me. I was a dangerous offender when they  
25 didn't even look at it. I was going through, like, I look

1 at it like this, a year of my life was, like, torture. I  
2 was tortured. Like, you look at people in military, like,  
3 the tactics that they use in war were tactics they -- that  
4 are used on prostitutes. You never knew what was coming up  
5 in that car or in that hotel room. You never knew, you  
6 know.

7 The worst is when, you know, the people that  
8 are put in place to protect you aren't protecting you. You  
9 know, I go home and there's a school named after that Crown  
10 attorney. He went to jail for what he did to us. There  
11 was a scandal. They made us look like we were the ones  
12 that ruined him. Even to this day, I get -- people go,  
13 "You know, you ruined the Crown attorney." No. He was  
14 supposed to protect us. He ruined himself. There's a  
15 school named after him. Like, you know, he hurt us. You  
16 know, he did stupid weird shit with us.

17 You know, every day, you know, I get up, and  
18 I thank the Creator that I'm here today, and, you know,  
19 what my purpose is. My purpose was to do what I have to  
20 do, and if it is to bear my soul and my -- my hurt, and my  
21 pain by preventing one girl from going out there and living  
22 this life, I know I -- my job's going to be done. I don't  
23 see myself that much longer in what I'm doing because it's  
24 taken it's toll on my body. I have chronic pain. But I'm  
25 here, I'm alive.

1                   You know, I was given an award, the Woman of  
2                   Distinction Award, very high from the YWCA here. So I'm  
3                   given this fancy hoity-toity Woman of Distinction Award in  
4                   2006, and we're standing in there. My kids are there, and  
5                   my parents are there. Like, family members flew in. My  
6                   parents, like -- like, for a table, it was, like \$8,000 or  
7                   something, 10,000. The head of [Bank], who was a trick, a  
8                   sex buyer, shows up. A former client of mine is -- and  
9                   comes up and congratulates me. And I'm, like, you know.  
10                  Every day, you know, people go, well, you know. He was  
11                  there. It was like having the offender in the room. Like,  
12                  might as well just have him and all the other men that  
13                  victimized me.

14                  I go to give birth in Thunder Bay, one of my  
15                  clients is there with his wife, looking all scared at us.  
16                  You know, I have men that email me and say, you know, "I  
17                  was with you." And live -- like, you know, my -- I'm  
18                  writing my book, and my mom's, like, "What about their  
19                  families?" I said to my mom, "What about your family?  
20                  What about me? Did they knock on your door saying, "Can we  
21                  pay your daughter to abuse her?" I don't care about their  
22                  families. I don't really care 'cause they know what they  
23                  did. They know what they did wrong when they email me and  
24                  ask me not to say their name in my book. I make sure I put  
25                  a note down who their name is. You know, and exactly, I am

1 going to. Because I just think that there is so much  
2 damage done. I still sleep with the lights on, 42, unless  
3 my partner's there. She sleeps in the room next to me.  
4 One time, she turned off the lights, I jumped right up,  
5 turned it back on. I can't sleep, unless my spouse is with  
6 me.

7 That's the worst thing. The worst thing is  
8 having to learn to be intimate. Having to learn to, you  
9 know, let a man love you. My husband loves me. He's  
10 patient and he's just a good man, you know. But he had  
11 to -- I had to learn to let him in. And even now, he gets  
12 shut out. He knows. When I go and bare my -- when I go  
13 and bare my soul, he knows that I'm not going to sleep with  
14 him. He knows to ask.

15 I can't even handle surprises, you know.  
16 There's damage. There's damage. You can't sit there and  
17 say -- people can't sit there and say that, you know,  
18 I'm -- 12 years in the sex trade, that there's no damage.  
19 I can't be surprised. One time, my child surprised me. I  
20 punched her. She was six years old. I felt horrible. You  
21 know, my parents had a surprise birthday party for me, I  
22 turned around and walked out. I was mad at them and sat in  
23 the car and cried. And they didn't get it. They -- they  
24 don't get it, you know. I can't be surprised. I have to  
25 know my surroundings. I'm weird now. I don't like certain



1 things. I -- you know, there's things that that bubbly  
2 Bridget will never be.

3 But I will always make sure that, you know,  
4 I said, "Over my dead body will legitimize misfortune and  
5 pain because it's safety." 'Cause there was nothing in  
6 safety, you know. We called them tricks because we have to  
7 trick them. We, you know, can't wear your hair down 'cause  
8 they'll strangle you with it. You can't wear long earrings  
9 'cause they can tie them around your neck. You know, I  
10 used to go to hotel rooms, drop something, so I could look  
11 and make sure that there was no one under the bed, or no  
12 one hiding. You know, you never got into a car that was a  
13 van because there could be other people hiding. You had to  
14 be aware of your surroundings. And even being super, you  
15 know, vigilant, you still were at risk of, you know, being  
16 destroyed.

17 I look at my older sister and who is, like,  
18 a year older than me, and she looks about 50, 60. And who  
19 just shoots up every day. You know, I look at my son whose  
20 mom came from Thunder Bay, and who just was destroyed by  
21 drugs. And, you know, his little eyes that shake because  
22 she's a part of that problem. You know, she's a part of  
23 that whole thing. And that, you know, his little brain,  
24 will it ever be normal? I don't know. He also was -- had  
25 his neck broken. I also look at those social workers that

1 allowed all this shit to go down. That, you know, play  
2 people against each other when, you know, there's this big  
3 white elephant in the room. And the elephant is that our  
4 community is really fucked up.

5 You know, even to this day, I still get used  
6 by my own people. I'm the token prostitute, right, that  
7 made it. I got a master's degree. You know, I'm not owned  
8 by anyone, but still, they fight over, you know, who has  
9 Bridget, and who's -- you know. It's hard. But that  
10 fighting spirit's still in me. And, you know, I might be  
11 known to say, you know -- I can speak for myself. And then  
12 I look at the men in our -- from our community that are  
13 part of the abusing us, these Chiefs. Like, I used to make  
14 the most money at -- when all the Chiefs would have their  
15 Chief meetings. They would fly us all in. So how can we  
16 go to the people that are put in place to protect us and  
17 ask them -- when I see them sitting at these panels for  
18 murdered and missing women, and I know [one sentence  
19 removed pursuant to Rule 55].

20 I was in [FIRST NATION 2] speaking, and I  
21 told the Elder, I -- I was stayed -- it -- it was a Chiefs'  
22 -- all the Chief, it was a addictions conference. And I  
23 got physically -- I was, like, "Oh, my God. There's a few  
24 here that I serviced." And I got scared, and I talked to  
25 the Elder and his wife, and I told them. I said, "I just

1 want to go home." And he said, "Why?" And I told them the  
2 truth. And he said -- and I said, "Guaranteed, when I  
3 speak, they'll stand up, the ones that had abused me, and  
4 will want to leave the room." And he goes, "Well, that's  
5 not going to happen." So him and his wife stood at each  
6 exit. And I'm speaking, one goes to get up, and he goes --  
7 and the guy sits down. And one of them said, "I'm guilty  
8 for hurting you." And there's, like, a CBC reporter, and  
9 she's watching this all go down (indiscernible). And  
10 she's, like, "Holy shit." And she said, "You know, like,  
11 it's own men that flawed us. Like, we're worthy. We're --  
12 we're the real warriors."

13 You know, I go to that missing woman thing,  
14 and we got a Chief that I know he's abused women. I know  
15 he's abused tons of prostitutes because, like, his name  
16 comes up. And I called him out. I called him out. I  
17 said, "No, no, no." I said to him, "[CHIEF], stop buying  
18 sex." I said, "Stop buying pussy from our girls. Stop  
19 taking it and buying it." He was, like, "(Unreportable  
20 Sound)." And the -- the people at the event were, like --  
21 so, you know. That's the issue right there is these men  
22 are put in our communities to protect us, and they're the  
23 problem. And now, they're a part of this. So who do we  
24 trust?

25 I have a lot of balls to stand up and go --

1           because, you know what? I have good men behind me that  
2           say, "Bridget, do it. Do it. It didn't kill you then. It  
3           ain't going to kill you now." Even when I testified at the  
4           standing committee for Bill C-36, the stupid Liberals  
5           invited the -- the Dancers' Association of Canada, [Rule  
6           55]. I had threats. I had to get my kids out of my house.  
7           My kids had to be taken to safety. And I had to be -- I  
8           was treated like, "Whoa. Like, do you want to still  
9           testify?" I still testified because I know what I have to  
10          do is I have to do this because there's so many elements to  
11          this. I call it like an onion. Like, you know, each  
12          layer.

13                        You know, I'm here today because this had to  
14          be told. And I didn't -- last night, I didn't want to. I  
15          was, like, "(Unreportable Sound)." My mom was, like,  
16          calling me, saying, like, "Please don't paint me as this  
17          bad mother." Which I try not to do because she did some  
18          good to me. You know, they just didn't know -- they didn't  
19          have the tools. They didn't know how to deal with -- with  
20          that. You know, one thing my parents -- my dad told me  
21          was, those years I was out there standing on a corner, he  
22          never had sex with my mom because he couldn't do what was  
23          being done to his little girl. And they suffered. Their  
24          marriage -- they're still together, but that's a real  
25          bad -- he couldn't have sex because he knew what was going

1 on to his daughter. It was in his head.

2 You know, I'm sure he -- I bet you he's  
3 thankful I'm gone -- like, I'm off the streets now. But,  
4 you know, even when I won my award, I called my dad collect  
5 'cause I didn't have long distance on my cellphone. And he  
6 thought I was in jail. He's was, like, "Oh. Oh, no,  
7 [MOTHER], here we go. She --" And I could hear them.  
8 I'm, like, "Oh, shit. He thinks I'm in jail." And he's,  
9 like, accepts, and he goes, "How much is it going to cost  
10 me?" And I said, "Don't worry. I'm not in jail. I won an  
11 award." And he was, like, "Whoa." And then he, like,  
12 laughed about it. But imagine living with that, that your  
13 child, if she calls you collect, she might be in jail.  
14 Like, that's not normal. Like, you know, I -- you know,  
15 my -- they're so proud of me, you know.

16 But that's it. That's all I have to say is  
17 that I really hope, you know, that we really need to  
18 practically look at what is really going on. Is that we  
19 are so fractured from colonialism and -- and that legacy  
20 that, you know, is that we have fractured people that are  
21 there, that don't speak their truths, that hide their  
22 deviance, and they sit there and then they try to justify  
23 what's right for us. You know, I know where I am and what  
24 I stand for on a daily -- daily basis. You know, I know  
25 that when I leave here, I'm going to go get my nails done.

1 I'm going to phone my partner. I'm going to go eat a steak  
2 somewhere because I have to do something for my soul. I'm  
3 going to have to smudge out the house, you know. But I  
4 know what's -- what's meant to be was me being here, even  
5 though I felt very scared to come.

6 I just hope that, you know, the  
7 Commissioners know that there's a lot of hurt out there.  
8 And I can't even put a -- you know, to sit with a  
9 therapist, believe me, they cry. They can't handle  
10 something like what we've been through. So what I do is I  
11 have my network of survivors, my sisters out there. But  
12 right now, I'm the one that's the most healthiest, so  
13 they're all, like, looking at me and it's hard. It's  
14 scary, you know. It's scary. You know, I'm -- soon, I'll  
15 be on a beach in Barbados, and I know that that -- I have  
16 to look forward to that.

17 But there's even, like, you know, a lot of  
18 trashing out here, and people hurting people. I don't --  
19 you know, I never -- I can be a bitch. I try not to be,  
20 you know. I'm -- you know, but I've had malicious, mean  
21 things happen to me, and it -- I just -- I don't fight back  
22 for that. I don't feed it at all. If they want to do  
23 whatever they want to do, trying to expose me or whatever.  
24 They think my life is so easy. I just laugh at them  
25 because, you know, there's nothing.

1                   You know, I go home and I'll paint. We  
2                   paint sugar head skulls. So we can, you know, feel good  
3                   and, you know, it's our therapeutic painting, you know. Or  
4                   I hold my puppy for four hours, you know. I -- my life is  
5                   very -- from doing my activism, I'm very simple. You know,  
6                   once my husband comes back, it'll be all right. Things  
7                   are -- will be all right. I'll be able to sleep in the  
8                   dark 'cause I know he's there. But believe me, I sleep in  
9                   the -- like, and people don't -- they don't get it. They  
10                  don't get it. I have to have every light on. I don't go  
11                  in the basement. I won't even go in the basement. I'll,  
12                  like, send the seven-year-old down there. "Okay. Go look  
13                  in the basement." 'Cause that's where the abuse happened.  
14                  Basements scare me. Like, big crowds scare me. I can't be  
15                  confined. If I were to ever go to jail, I'd probably die.  
16                  I know, like, where, like, I get scared.

17                         Last week I was in the emerg. Blood  
18                         pressure was 220 over 117. They were, like, "What the  
19                         hell? Why are you so --" Like, everything -- like, all my  
20                         blood work, sugars, were normal. They were, like, "What's  
21                         wrong?" And I -- I was, like, "Oh, I'm under stress."  
22                         Because I was scared to come here. This was, like, really  
23                         hard 'cause usually I never cry. I never -- I rarely --  
24                         because I listen to these stories like mine every day. And  
25                         it's, like, I'm the one that, you know, helps girls escape.

1                   And I don't call myself a saviour. I'm  
2           far -- I don't rescue girls. I just give them  
3           practicality, how to get out without dying. And that's a  
4           big thing. And I see big -- I see people get big money for  
5           the -- and -- and it not working. And then there's my  
6           little org, and we're doing big things. And, you know  
7           what? I'm grateful for that. I'm grateful because, like I  
8           said, my spirit stayed intact. And that was, you know,  
9           very, very important to -- to do the work I'm -- I've done,  
10          was to keep our spirit and our lives intact. You know, and  
11          you can see when women lose their spirit. You see it.  
12          It -- that was when -- whether when -- mass addiction. You  
13          could look at their eyes and see it. I can see it. I've  
14          seen it lots when they're just so lost. But I kept my  
15          spirit, and I kept my spirit alive because I had helpers,  
16          my grandma, my son, and my sisters that I lost before me.

17                   And I always knew that, you know, I never  
18          thought I'd make it to this. I never thought I would make  
19          it to this. I -- everyone thought I would be jail -- in  
20          jail for murder or something, you know. But I made it.  
21          And then I fought, and I fought hard. Going to school --  
22          going to school, being normal again, you know. Having  
23          money is hard, you know. Everyone, like, was, like, "How's  
24          she going to do it? Is she going to be all right?" And  
25          I'm -- I'm here. And I still get judged. If I go to



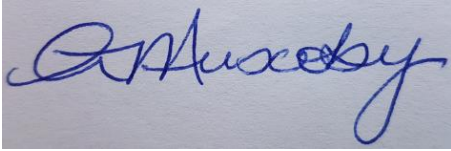
1 Jamaica, "Oh, you're out there --" No, I'm not there  
2 partying. I'm actually sitting on a beach getting sun  
3 therapy because I'm -- it's the only way I feel healed is  
4 going and listening to the reggae and -- and eating, you  
5 know, sitting with a Rasta. And, you know, I have friends  
6 in the Caribbean and -- and seeing people that struggle.  
7 So I'm here now, and I can't wait. We're going to  
8 Barbados. But I'm done with my statement.

9 **MS. FRANCINE MERASTY:** Okay. Well, it's  
10 2:08 p.m., and she's completed her statement. Thank you.

11 **MS. BRIDGET PERRIER:** I want to blow my  
12 nose, but I'll wait for the --  
13 --- Upon adjourning at 2:08 p.m.

LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Amanda Muscoby, 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.



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Amanda Muscoby

November 5, 2018