Norma Jacobs & Charlotte Jacobs,
In relation to Tashina General & Sylvia Hill

Statement gathered by Kerrie Reay
II

NOTE

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**Statement Volume 608(a)**

**December 10, 2018**

**Witnesses: Norma Jacobs & Charlotte Jacobs**

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**Statement Gatherer: Kerrie Reay**

**Documents submitted with testimony: none.**
--- Upon commencing at 3:35 p.m.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. This is Kerrie Reay. I am a Statement Taker with the National Inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls at Ottawa in Ontario and today is December the 10th, 2018 and the time is 3:35.

Today I am speaking with Norma Jacobs. Norma is N-O-R-M as in Mary, A. Jacobs, J-A-C-O-B as in Bob, S. And, Norma, you are from the ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Six Nations.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** From the Six Nations. And you identify as?

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Haudenosaunee.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And I'll spell that. That's H-A as in Alpha, "D" as in Delta, "E" as in Echo, "N" as in Norma, "A", "S" as in Sam, A-U-N as in Norma, E-E.

And, Norma, you are here today to share about your granddaughter, Tanisha [sic] General.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Tashina.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Tashina. That's T-A-S as in Sam, H-I-N as in Norma "A". General, G-E-N-E-R-A-L. And she went missing in January the 22nd of 2007. And she was found deceased, murdered in April of 2007.

Also present in the room is Charlotte Jacobs
and Charlotte is Norma's sister. And, Norma, you are here voluntarily to provide your truth and you agree to the videotaping and the audio taping of your truth.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yes.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay. And as we talked about earlier, at the end of your statement we will talk about whether you would like it to be public or to be private.

So, Norma, this space is yours. The time is yours. When you feel comfortable, please feel to start and I am just going to go make sure that that door is properly shut, because it was actually supposed to be locked, so I'll just do that quickly just to make sure we're not interrupted again.

Okay, Norma, when you're ready.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Well, I'm here. It's 11 years later and since my granddaughter was murdered. And I've been -- I guess I think of her daily. And, like, right now I am thinking of going to a site where they had a memorial put for her that we -- you know, that we got for her. And it's located in the park, in Veteran's Park in Ohsweken. And we've planted some trees there. And so I drive by there almost every day.

And so I've been thinking a lot about here, even more so because it is the holidays coming up and it
was a special time for her. And so I've been thinking
about going there to, you know, to -- just to keep in with
the season, to, you know, decorate her place. And I know
that she would really appreciate that.

So it's always difficult. I think that, you
know, for myself I think that I've done a lot of work on
healing and tried my best to, like, to take that message
about how difficult it is to have to deal with someone
being murdered in your family. And try to, like, educate
people on knowing the feelings, the emotions and, you know,
all of the thoughts about her.

And she was so special in our life. And I
could still see her and hear her, you know, when she comes
to the house, comes bouncing in the door. She would run
into the fridge and say, "No food." And she always liked
for me to bake for her and she was always so happy when I
was cooking and she always liked, like, the pie.

And I just -- you know, I just miss her so
much because having to tell my grandchildren or see my
grandchildren still, you know, talking about her and how
much they miss her and what colour she liked and, you know,
what she liked to do and her favourite movies. And we all
miss her. She's always willing to help everybody and, you
know, she liked to have fun. She liked to play lacrosse.
She was very sports-minded. She was just -- just seemed to
lift everybody's spirit when she came, you know, to come
amongst her friends or, you know, our family.

And so I just come from finished ceremonies
that -- at one of the long houses there. And she sent me
home with her basket. And she said, "I'll pick that up
tomorrow." She said she had to go to work. So I brought
her basket home and the next morning it was still there.
So I called her and I said, "Oh, you left your -- don't
forget your basket's here." She said, "Oh, yeah." She
sounded, like, really, like, she wanted me to hurry up and
get my conversation over. And she says, "I'll just -- I'll
pick it up later." She says, "I'll get my mom to pick it
up."

So and then she never came after her basket.
And so I, you know, found out that her mother reported her
to be missing and to the police that she hadn't come home.
And she was pregnant. And she had all her medication at
home and her phone was home. And she -- you know, she
wasn't like that to, like, not have contact and I know that
her baby was so important to her. And, you know, so I
thought something was wrong because, you know, she never --
ever called anybody. And her medication for where -- you
know, when they give you medication for being pregnant, she
had left that home and her phone was home. And she hadn't
contacted anybody.
And so what -- my daughter had called the police and told them that she was -- you know, hadn't come home yet. And they didn't really seem to pay attention. And so it was quite a while after that when they had called and asked me if, you know, was she home now. And I said, "What? Like, you know, and we haven't seen her and yous [sic] haven't done anything." And they just said, "Oh, we were just checking to see if she came home now." And I said, "Well, people were saying that she -- you know, she was appearing here and there. Oh, I thought I seen her there and I thought I seen her in Syracuse. I thought I seen her, you know, in different places. And but they were never sure."

And so the police, you know, they just said that, "Oh, if somebody said they seen her over here, so we're going to, you know, just go and check that out." And I said, "Well" -- I told my daughter, I said, "I know that guy did something to her." I said, "And it's a feeling that I have."

And she had asked me to go with her when, you know, when Tashi didn't come home. And she asked me to go with her to ask him where she was. And I -- and at the time I was caretaking my other grandchildren and I had to take them home, so I told her I couldn't go with her. And I said, "Just go there and ask her -- ask him where she's
But she came there to his house and she said, "Where is Tashi?" And he just -- he said that, "I don't know." And she said and he came to the door and he was -- didn't have no shirt on and he just stood there in the doorway. And she said, "Well, I know that she left with you." And he said, "I don't know where she is." He said, "I dropped her off at work." And then he said, "So I don't know where she is."

But in the meantime too, after that, like, we still looked for her. My daughter was, like, checking everywhere, calling everywhere. And then the police came to my house and they said, "Oh, we just think it's some mother/daughter thing, and but we want to check behind your house to make sure that she's not back there." And so they questioned all of us, my family and my daughter, and we were the one who reported her missing. So, I don't know why they had to come to us to ask, you know, to question us. And they didn't go and question him. And when I say "him" I mean Kent Squire because he was going with her at the time and because she was pregnant.

And, you know, when she talked about her pregnancy she was, like, really happy. She even had a name for him. She knew it was a boy. And that was even before she had her, you know, the ultrasound, whatever they do,
that testing. And she knew that it was a boy before she had that done. And she had a name for him and he was supposed to be called -- what was his name again?

**MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS:** Tucker.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Tucker. And, you know, she was all happy about that. She -- after she had this -- those sonograms done and she would bring the picture and she says, "Look at here." And I still have the picture today that she gave to me of the baby, you know. And she was so happy about that and she would ask me to look for a name for him, an Indian name.

So, anyway, so, you know, the police, after we said, "Well, you know, we thought you were taking care of that." That was almost three months later. And we thought you were taking care of that. Like, we haven't heard from her. And every day I used to go stand outside and -- in the morning and go and pray that she would be all right. And, you know, I offered tobacco and asked for her safety. And I know that maybe today we'll hear from her, you know, but wherever she is, like, the medicines help her, whatever.

So and we were travelling everywhere because people kept saying that, you know, oh, we seen her over here. We thought we seen her here. And it was not in our territory. It was, like, far away. In Syracuse or, you
know, in other Haudenosaunee communities. And we were just
wondering, like, how was she getting around and she didn't
have no phone. She didn't have her purse or -- and she
didn't have no -- like, her medication.

And so I even went to the police and they
told me that, you know, they hadn't heard anything. And,
you know, they said that they did go and talk to Kent and
they asked him where -- you know, if he had seen her and he
said no. And he says, "I dropped her off at work." He
said, "Now, and I'll even do a lie detector," he said. You
know, because they were questioning him. And so they
didn't do one on him because he volunteered to do one.

And so and I said to the police, I said --
so they told me that they were -- the OPP were wanting to
help them. They said if they wanted help that they would
come in and help search for her. And I said, "So why
aren't you calling them then because it's obvious you guys
don't know what you're doing." They hadn't found her yet.
And I told them repeatedly that he had done something to
her and that they needed to go and talk to him. But as far
as I know that, you know, when they questioned him that he
-- you know, he denied. He just said he had dropped her
off initially that -- so she could go to work.

And so they -- I don't know if they ever
went to question him because the other thing is that he was
a lacrosse player and that he was -- like, everybody was saying that he's a star lacrosse player and, you know, and that he was -- you know, he wouldn't do anything like that because he had his career in front of him. And everybody had put him on a pedestal because he was this good lacrosse player.

And even when we were in court and they were saying, "Well, he's a good lacrosse player." And I was like, well, you know, that doesn't mean that he didn't kill her, you know.

And so anyways, there's -- I'm forgetting now some of the stuff because I -- it's been so long. And now, you know, but I know that, you know, when he had been in trial that they said that he had said to my granddaughter, because it was on her computer that he had called her that morning and -- or texted her and said that -- I mean, emailed her and said that he was coming over and that he wanted to talk to her about what he wanted to do about the baby because he wanted her to get a abortion.

And so that was the morning that I spoke with her and she was really nervous. And so I don't know that they ever questioned him about that, what was his plan that -- because they never talked about it in court. And then he said that she fell down the stairs and she was mad at him and swearing at him and attacked him because she
fell down the stairs.

And I said, "Like, I don't think that was true, because she had been there before with her friend to his house. And she would have known that there were stairs there." And I think she was running away from him when she fell down the stairs or he pushed her down the stairs. Because when she got up if she was swearing at him and she said that, you know, he would -- she was going to tell a neighbour about what he was doing and what he had done to her.

And so I never found out if what he was doing or even if the police had questioned him or what was it that he was doing that he had to, you know, push Tashina down the stairs or even take her life because of something that he was involved in that involved one of the neighbours. So I don't have the answer to that and I'm still wondering about that, because there was something that he was hiding.

And so they -- it wasn't until about three months later when they did find her. And in the meantime, he had written a letter to my daughter -- not to my daughter, but I think maybe it was to my daughter because he had written in there that, "I'm okay" and "I had to go away for a while". And he pretended that he was my granddaughter and he wrote this letter to my daughter. And
he said, "I had to go away and I know this is really hard
and I -- you know, I just need to get away. And so I'm --
I'll probably come back sometime, but, you know, I'm
leaving. And I didn't realise this was so hard for
everybody that I would be gone."

And so he sent that letter and he took it to
a neighbour's -- well, our family name is on the mailbox,
but he put it in the next one, was actually one of the
workers at the unemployment office. And so she took that
letter and she gave it to the police. And then it was
after that that they, you know, started looking for my
granddaughter that this letter showed up and they took it
to her and they said that she had written it. And my
daughter knew right away that she didn't write it because
it was not how she signed her name.

So he wrote that letter. He admitted that --
to that in the court that he wrote it. And, you know,
and then he ran away. He took -- he went up north and
that's where they finally caught him was up north in a --
you know, in a cabin that was rented to a person on the
reserve that he -- you know, they were all sports people.
And so that was where they found him.

And in the meantime, he had always also been
trying to get across the border. And because of the
association of the police and the sports people that he --
this sports person was trying to get him across the border and then the police contacted him. Like, and I don't even know how they knew that he was transporting him. And they said, "You better not take him across the border because they're looking for him." So they took him back and that's when he went up north and they found him there in a cabin and they arrested him.

And the other thing is that while they -- when they arrested him that the police officer, who was supposedly a minister that went to -- you know, he did ministerial work I guess in the church and he sat him down in a car and he said he prayed for him. And I'm just like, so, like, that doesn't make sense to me why a minister, who's a police person and know that they were arresting him for murder, and he would pray for him in the car when he got in with him.

And so, like, all of those things that, you know, don't ring true for me and I have question about everything that they did and how they handled things, that -- and they told us that we couldn't talk to each other about anything that happened in court. So it divided our family because we had to be isolated from one another. We couldn't share what we heard or our feelings or our thoughts, anything like that, or anything that the police shared with us.
And so my -- you know, it's hard to -- even my brothers and my sisters, like, you know, they're didn't participate or even to make a comment, you know, to write a letter of support for us. They said, "Like, what do we write? We don't" -- like, they were still in shock, you know. And, you know, even to this day that it's a topic that we don't talk about, and, you know, with one another because it hurts so much. We don't know how to console one another, you know, just to express our feelings to each other about how hurt we are that -- that must take all of us to, you know, to stay away from one another. Even in our community, like, we seen somebody there. They wouldn't come at us, like, they would just cross the street because they didn't know how to speak to us or what to say because of fear of expressing their feelings.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Would you like to take a break? Would you like to take a break? It's 4:01.

--- Upon recessing at 4:01 p.m.

--- Upon resuming at 4:13 p.m.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. It is 4:13 and we are back on the record. And, Norma, we were just speaking off camera and you were talking now a little bit about the court proceedings. Would you like to share a bit more on that?

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Well, it was, like, when
we go to court, like, and they all had a special door
where, you know, where they bring in the prisoner. And one
day we ran into them and right away the -- like, the
officers just, like, surrounded him and, like, and it felt
like, you know, that they -- he had to be protected from
us. And then they would take him into the court.

And then his girlfriend that he was with, or
I don't know where she came from, but she would come to the
court every time. And when they would see each other -- or
I think that they were even, like, permitted time to -- you
know, to talk to the family, which I thought was not right
because we had, you know, we had a loss and we couldn't
talk to Tashi. You know, but he was permitted time to talk
with his family in the courtroom after, you know, our
questioning and -- I mean, after the, you know, court
proceedings. And they'd all gather around him and, you
know, offer him their support I guess. I don't know.

But and his girlfriend was there and, you
know, after that was done, like, they would always -- he
would turn around and look at her. And he would -- both of
them would mouth those words, like, "I love you", you know.
And then they'd take him out. And, you know, and I just
found that really upsetting because he was -- he had taken
our -- two lives, my granddaughter and her son. And, you
know, and yet he could have somebody, you know, I don't
know where he got her or when she came to be his girlfriend, but she was there and in the courtroom. And I just found that to be really, you know, showing, I would think, the court about his value of life, because he had no regard that we were in court for my granddaughter's life and here he's mouthing to his new girlfriend that he loves her.

And, you know, and then all the -- you know, they all blamed her that it was her own fault when people right in our own community and our relatives wouldn't, you know, wouldn't even stand up for her, you know, to say -- have something good. Oh, we supported him because that's my son's best friend, you know.

And it was just -- it's just really hard to, you know, create that great divide, you know. And, like, I could recognise it. Like, I've been working for a long time. And, like, in examining, like, how did we get to be where we are, like, from a judicial perspective, because I know what colonisation does to communities and families. And it's always been their goal to separate and divide, like, that's why we're located everywhere on the continent because someone's had to relocate us because, you know, trying to divide and conquer. So, I see that, you know.

With -- even my mom was in residential school and she would try to protect us by not allowing us
to go into, you know, to join different groups like Girl Guides or Brownies or those types of things. And she always told us to -- you know, when you're going somewhere, go there. When it's over, get home.

So, and, you know, being a, you know, a child of that kind of environment too, like, you know, we didn't -- I mean, we had fun in our family, but we didn't have a lot of conversation. But I know that my mom, through her experience in residential school, has devastated her life, you know, to the point where she would tell us that, "I'll never cry," she said. And I seen her when she lost her two daughters and, you know, and my sisters, and, you know, and then her grandsons. And she never cried.

And, you know, so we grew up in that type of environment, but we still know, as a family, that we were loved because we had a home and my dad worked and my mom worked. And, you know, we always had food. We always had good food and, you know, we had breakfast, lunch and dinner and we had, you know, desserts and everything that my mom canned, you know. She had learned that from her mother, you know, but she still kept us -- you know, we were all under one roof and she knew how hard it was to be away from her family when she was in the -- she was taken to be in the residential school.
So I know that those things had impacts. And then for my own relationship, because I thought my family was out of the norm because everybody else was drinking in our -- you know, and -- well, maybe not everybody else, but most of the people were drinking in our community and having parties and everything. And I know because I used to babysit. And so, you know, I know the effects that -- of those outside things, how they've influenced, like, with violence, you know, and always the women getting beat up, you know.

And so, you know, seeing and being in that kind of environment I've experienced how, you know, violence is, you know, it's active in our community and in my own relationship, because I thought that our family was out of the norm because they didn't drink. And, you know, and they kept to themselves and just went to ceremonies and, you know.

So, when I found somebody I found someone who I thought would protect me because I thought I needed protection because of my babysitting experience with other families. And that didn't turn out to be, you know, a protection for me because, you know, I was beaten, like, probably on a regular basis of once a month, you know. The scars would just disappear and then, you know, I'd get beat up again. And I wasn't doing anything. I was looking
after my kids and, you know, looking after my home.

But I know that too could have an effect, like, because I see my children after, you know, because my daughter said -- at one time she said, "I could just tell how my dad was coming up the stairs how that my mom was going to get beat up." And so she already knew that and she must have been, like, about seven years old then.

So, that was something that was, you know, in our family, like, the violence and then the protection and, you know, the really, like, really boundaries, you know, that our mom had established because we couldn't go stay overnight somewhere because she was afraid of what would happen because of what she experienced in residential school.

So, you know, being in that kind of relationship and I thought what am I doing, you know, to my kids? So, I separated from that and he burned our house down, which is, you know, another traumatic thing for my kids because they were there and they seen that. And, you know, and even, you know, to the point of being so afraid of my partner that, you know, there were probably times that I was raped because of my fear because he was drinking when he came home and that if he was fighting with somebody or, you know, if I said no, then something -- I would get beat up anyways. So, it was just like being raped because
it was not with my -- how a relationship should be, a
relationship should be, you know. So, there was, you know, that.

And I never realised that until after when I went into counselling and looked at my life and to see all of the violence that had been in my life that I never even recognised because I just accepted because that's what I've seen, that's what I seen happen, you know, when I was babysitting or when I was out in the community and, you know, people partying and, you know, and seeing all of that, women getting pushed around. And, like, I just thought that's the way that life is, you know.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** But you didn't have that in your own home.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Pardon?

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** You didn't have that ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** No.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- in your own home.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** No, I didn't.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so when you see it happening everywhere else ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** M'hm.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- babysitting and then in your own relationship, so you came from a really good home with no violence.
MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And your partner came to the marriage and yet so now we're seeing your children, even though you came from a good home, your partner -- so your children are seeing the violence, that intergenerational violence ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- but it's come through the father's generation.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Your husband, was he Indigenous or non-Indigenous?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And what about his parents? Did he go to residential school, or did his parents go to residential school?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: No, he was on a good -- well, his mother was a single parent too.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And she's -- you know, lives on a reserve and but there was a lot of, like, drinking there too on his side of the family, so, you know. And I imagine just from knowing the people that there probably was violence too.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.
MS. NORMA JACOBS: And because I seen some of those people at the places where I used to babysit.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: So, you know, all of those impacts of, you know -- I even went to school after to focus on mental health and addictions, because I wanted my life to be different. And so that led to my separation because, you know, I just seemed to get empowered by, you know, finding out that there wasn't any way that I could help alcoholism, because the persons who are addicted are the only ones who can deal with that.

So, after trying to -- I thought it would help my relationship, but it didn't help that. So I separated and I, you know, was in school and went to work after. And, you know, but that was my whole -- that's been my whole career is just to, you know, help people who, you know, need to be empowered the way that our teachings were from a long time ago that I learned from my mom and dad and other elders who -- you know, of our culture and, you know, and knowing how they had the resilience to be able to move out of those kind of relationships and, you know, and focus on, you know, the wellbeing of our community, which is, you know, what our teachings is about.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And the ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: So ---
MS. KERRIE REAY: --- wellbeing of your children.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yes.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I wanted them to, you know, have a better life and not to experience all of this violence, because I've seen where, you know, one of my sons had to go and get a dead carcass and, you know, and, you know, that smells bad and then it -- the body's deteriorating and my partner made him go and gather that up and to bury it. And he was, you know, seven years old. And how could somebody do such a thing and threaten my son, you know, with -- just being threatened all the time. And, you know, that he would kill him if he wouldn't do things or if he told me something.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So they lived in fear all the time.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Pardon?

MS. KERRIE REAY: They lived in fear. And you found the strength to leave. You did.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I did, yes.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah. And that strength came from your family, from how you were brought up?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah, that takes some --
takes a great deal of strength to be able to do that, to be able to stand up and ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** I was afraid for my own life, because of how he treated me. And, you know, even threatened to take my life and, you know, and my friend's life, people that I talked to. And when my daughter said that, I just, like, what am I doing to my kids? And I knew that I had to get out, but I kept hoping that -- you know, that things would change if I understood, you know, and if I did things better.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so that's you taking on the responsibility instead of him.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Yeah, I had to, you know. Back then we used to get a baby bonus and all that money that I got would go to pay the bills and, you know, and I had to make excuses why he wasn't paying the bills.

And, you know, I was always the one to be taking over that responsibility, you know, just because he wanted to drink and spend his money on that. Or then when asked him for money and ---

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** --- he would just throw it at me and I'd have to pick it up off the floor. And then when I paid the bills with it and then he'd be mad because I -- you know, I spent all the money. So I'd get
beat up for that too.

So, you know, like, my grandkids came out.

I always wanted something better for them. You know, and I encourage my family to go and get counselling, you know, too, because they had grown up, you know, with such violence in our home, and confusion.

You know, you see people living together and somebody walking around with, you know, being beat up and you wonder what's wrong with that because, you know, you talk and, like, have a normal conversation or, you know, try to do more for that person. And the confusion that it must cause for, you know, the children.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah. But you found the strength. And, you know, and I would -- I'm thinking that, you know, that was probably unusual at the time, you know, that era, for you to have that strength, but you did.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I know.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right? It was a -- and that strength, as we said, you know, came from how you were raised and you found it deep inside you that you were willing to make a difference for your children and it's something to be proud of, you know. It really is. Takes a lot of courage and a lot of strength to take that kind of a step.

And you have a daughter and a son.
MS. NORMA JACOBS: I had a -- like, I have three daughters and I have three sons.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And do they all live on Six Nations?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: No. I have -- my son lives up north and my one son lives in Toronto ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and the other one just came home. He was living out in B.C.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Well, everybody -- my two daughters live on-reserve and one lives in London.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So, you have lots of support around you.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. Mostly people that I know in, like, in services, like, in health and wellbeing and just because I -- just because I'm a cultural person -- -

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- that I have -- and I can do a lot of work, like, in healing and wellness or, you know, environmental, whatever, is, you know, helping us to survive in this earth that there are many different circumstances and many different issues. But because of our teachings that we are able to, you know, translate
those into -- or transfer that knowledge into other -- into all things I guess. And so I get to go out and talk a lot about culture, to do workshops and, you know, and I've been doing that for probably 40 -- over 40 years.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So having a big impact on -- for women and ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- for future generations.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. So I do -- yeah, I do a lot ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Well, that's nice.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- of work with women. I actually wrote poetry and talked a lot about those things, you know.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Just family things and environmental things.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So, did you find the poetry helped with the soul and your healing?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I was just surprised how easy that it came.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: You know, because maybe I was feeling that way and I would just, like, write that. I
would just come and I would be done, like, in two or three minutes and write a whole page and ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Oh, wow.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and it was just, like, wow. I didn't know I knew all that, you know. And I'd share it with somebody and they'd say, "Oh, yeah, that's really impactful. You know, you should publish this." And but I never did. But it was amazing to me to see how those words just came and, you know, I could put it on paper and it had value.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: You know.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And part of your healing.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm. I didn't write a lot about my healing. After my granddaughter it was mostly, you know, trying to make sense of lots of different things and putting, like, the Inquiry, you know, putting things together. And I actually, like, told them that I knew what caused all the issues was because of the settlers and how they came and brought that violence with them because it's in our stories. And that, you know, and that would have an impact because we have our whole -- what do you call them -- prophecies and that everything just fits into all of that because they said that our people would be in jail and they would come addicted to alcohol and there
would be all this violence. So I already knew about that. And so and I could see it play itself out in our communities.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Do you still see it playing out in the community -- in your community? Are you seeing it ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** But I think that with the awareness, like, with the Inquiry and lots of different things that I've been involved in that I could see the change. And I facilitated a journey -- the journey of the peacemaker, like, probably for seven years. And even from that time I can see the difference in people, like, because they are being reconnected to the land and they have an identity and they know that our stories are true, like, and they -- we can follow in the footsteps of the peacemaker. And we can still find our answers because everything is out there for us to, you know, to be helpers to us, to guide and direct us.

And so just try to I guess when I went to school for mental health, which I did when I was 40, and since that time, like, and being able to see -- because I, you know, I have some language too, so understanding the ceremonies and, like, I could see a lot of spirits and lots of different things that other people didn't see. So just being able to utilise that and to teach people about that --
MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and reconnect and begin to find a value within their own life. And, you know, these are the helpers that we have. And, you know, and they're constantly working. I'm still working. And, you know, trying to raise the awareness and trying to use different tools that I've learned from, you know, the birds or the trees or whatever ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and to provide that help for people.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And then helping the next generation, trying to break that cycle.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Break that cycle of violence.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And so with my own healing too I -- just, like, to think that it's helping my mom and, you know, my dad and all the people before them, my grandmother and my auntie. And, you know, because I could see how much in isolation that our people were. You know, in relationship there is no communication, you know, and they can be married and live together, but they don't talk to each other, you know, about things.
You know, because when I think about my grandmas and how they used to look after themselves. And, you know, they used to bundle everything during the day, what they had experienced, and what was not good they'd brush it out of their hair and, you know, and just keep brushing until they had that resolved in themselves. And then start to braid it because now they had shared their truth and their wisdom and wrapped their hair, you know, and they were at peace when they sent to sleep.

And watching my grandmother do that and I realise that, you know, from being with her son, who was in the army ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- that she was, you know, carried a lot of fear for him. And when he came out, because he was sick from what he had experienced, and he wouldn't go back to ceremony anymore because he didn't know if he had killed somebody, you know, through the service, like ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- if they threw a grenade or, you know, if they went in firing or, you know, in these little places. And he says, "I never know if there was somebody that we left there, you know, and I don't think I deserve to go to ceremony." That's how
devastating that those impacts of all of the violence that came over in the ship.

   MS. KERRIE REAY: And like you say, you know, so many people who went to war, when they came home they were silent.

   MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

   MS. KERRIE REAY: They did not want to share.

   MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

   MS. KERRIE REAY: And again, another form of trauma that creates a silence ---

   MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

   MS, KERRIE REAY: --- in a family, not violence, but there's a silence and then it comes back to --

   MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

   MS. KERRIE REAY: --- what you say, you know, that lack of communication and people coming home and children not understanding why their dad is not talking ---

   MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

   MS. KERRIE REAY: --- and quiet and what did I do wrong. And again you start to see those cycles; don't you?

   MS. NORMA JACOBS: But I think that, you know, since all the work that I've done and, you know, and
I see, like, my counselling that I went through and even though I had some conflict with the counselling because of what I know and what I've been taught, and but I always have to make sense out of it before I can utilise it because I need to know that I understand it completely before I send it to somebody else.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** And, you know, and if it helps them then, you know, I know that I've done my work. And so, you know, I see a lot of change and I -- like, even in my own perspective is, you know, looking at people and I know that they have -- they do have good in them, you know.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** And it's just the influences from outside and, you know, and in their past life, you know, what they've experienced. Like, all of those things have been impacted.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** And if we could only, like, have a thread that we could start on and try to sort out all of those knots and ---

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** --- you know, and find those good things in there that we would begin to be really appreciative of what we have and, you know, and be able to
enhance other people's lives as well.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And help them explore their skills ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yes.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- so that violence is no longer ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- a part of how they cope or how they deal with what is upsetting ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- or what has made them angry and just being more kind.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. Because I know that's, like, one of the teachings that, you know, that once we begin to understand ourselves and to understand our gifts, then we can also see it in others, you know, and that helps to raise their vibration ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- of energy so that they can look at themselves in a good way too.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And be healthy.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm. And every time when I feel low or, like, this time of the year, I said -- I always think back to when I first heard that my granddaughter was dead and where they found her and that I
thought I would lose my mind. And I struggled with that.
And I was lucky that my son was home and his partner and
they helped me, you know, to -- just to tell me everything
will be okay. And that was my granddaughter. She used to
always tell me that whenever something was happening and I
would share with her and she'd say, "Grandma." She'd say,
"You know, it doesn't have to be this way."

Even, you know, for her to find, you know,
balance in her life and to listen, you know, and to --
because she used to babysit for me because I have my
grandchildren that they might be, because I was out working
and I used to get her to babysit while I was teaching or --
and she'd babysit the kids in a hotel. And she would see
the things that I struggled with.

You know, or she would come to the
university when I was talking and she'd listen, do her
homework and sit in a corner, you know. She was always
there and she was learning about culture, you know. When I
lost her I didn't know where to turn to, you know, to pass
on that knowledge because there was such a big gap in --
you know, in the other -- my other grandkids and I didn't
know how long I was going to live to. I thought that she
would be next one to carry on with that knowledge.

You know, even today when I go somewhere to
talk I look for her to be there, you know. And she might
be sitting in the corner over there. I can just picture her paying attention and taking notes. And I just have to imagine that she's there, you know, wherever I go and, you know, because I always talk about her.

MS. KERRIE REAY: She's with you.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I always find dimes sometimes when I'm -- you know, and I know that she's near. And I find these dimes and -- actually, before I came here I was coming out of the bedroom and I was walking and I kicked something and I looked down and it was a dime. And I thought, 'Oh, that's Tashi. I got to go. I got to go to Ottawa.' So but I did pick it up and I went back in my room again and I came out again and I kicked that same dime. I was, like, 'Okay, I'm going to go so.' So, here I am.

(LAUGHTER)

MS. KERRIE REAY: Well, you know, it takes a phenomenal amount of courage, you know, to come and share and to be so vulnerable again, you know, with all that pain.

I'm just wondering if I could ask a few questions, because I think when you -- you know, when you were sharing about the policing there was some real concerns raised for me in terms of the experience the family has had. Would you like to take a break first or --
MS. NORMA JACOBS: No.

MS. KERRIE REAY: You're okay?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay. If you do, just you can ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Okay.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- take a break.

So, one of the things that I heard you say was she didn't come home from work. So, apparently, according to the boyfriend, he dropped her off at work. She didn't come home and your daughter reported her missing the next day. It sounds like it was quite some time before the police actually started to look for her.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Well, they said that when she reported that she was missing ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and they said that, "Oh, she's probably just partying." And but it was, like, they didn't go look for her right away. And it wasn't until -- you know, because people were sharing stories that they had seen her here and there and but I think it was just part of the setup that people were -- knew that she was gone ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: And then the will ---
MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- by his friends and then they just created all of these stories that they see.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So you had mentioned that the OPP said that they would come and help. So which policing was ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Six Nations.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So is it -- it's the Six Nations Tribal Police? Or Six Nations ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Like, I don't know ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: It's not the RCMP?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- if it's called the Tribal Police, but I know ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- that they're -- what do they call them there? They were self -- what do they?

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Policing?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah, they were ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: But it was the Six Nations that ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- it was their police force.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Not the RCMP, not a city police. Okay.
And so Six Nations Policing -- are the members of Six Nations Policing from your community? So they're hired from within your community?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And so do you think it was a week or two weeks or a month before they started to take this seriously?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I think it was even longer than that.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay. And Tasha went missing in January?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And so in March or ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And we were -- like, because lacrosse was going on; right?

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And so my son used to play lacrosse ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- so we would be following the team.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: So because they never reported back to us and they said, you know, they seen her here and there. So we just continued on with our, you
know, with our journeys, what we were doing. And my
dughter, I didn't know that at the time, but she had --
she would go out every night and go look for her, you know,
because she didn't hear from the police.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Right. And the family --

like you said, her medication was left behind ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Yeah.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- which was essential

for her.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Yeah.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And her phone.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Yeah.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And nobody really goes

anywhere without their phone and their purse.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Yeah.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so the experience from

the Six Nations Policing really wasn't there for the family

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**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** No.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- at all.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** No.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And so then they did get --

- eventually they did get involved. Your daughter was out

looking for her every night.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Yeah.
MS. KERRIE REAY: And they did find her remains in April ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- of 2017. And can you -- are you -- can you share how they found her remains or where they found her?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Well, they had ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: And who's "they"?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: They were -- they found her because the OPP were out and they went with a dog and -- because they had sent the helicopter with that whatever --

MS. KERRIE REAY: Oh, that heat sensor?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. And so ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Or something.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- they seen something there I guess and that's when they -- this guy came in the back waiting for police and they had a dog and that's where she was under a pile of brush. And ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Close to the community?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Close to her -- the guy who murdered her. It was on his property in the bush behind his house.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And do you know how the OPP got involved? Did your daughter ask them to get
involved or did Six Nations Police?

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** I think that because they were -- had -- well, they had talked to the Chief of Police at that time and they had said that they would -- you know, we can help out if you want. And I said, "So how come you're not asking them to come in because it's obvious you guys don't know what you're doing."

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** And then it was just not too long after that when they said the police -- but we had lots of searches in the community, but the police shut us down.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** They wouldn't let us go out and because they said if we found her that we could, like, disrupt the grounds or whatever.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** But they weren't doing it.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** But they weren't doing it. And so they had -- there was stories even that they had found somebody behind this restaurant and everybody got all excited about that and here it wasn't even true, but somebody was just, like, spreading rumours.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** And then I said when they found her behind his house and my daughter was even -- she
Norma & Charlotte Jacobs  
(Tashina General & Sylvia Hill)

said, "It's not her." And I said, "Well, who else has been reported missing?" I said, "It has to be her." And I said, "You know, she's been gone for so long now that, you know, she's never gotten in touch with anybody. And, you know, we haven't seen her nowhere and that's not like her."

And so, you know, she's -- we went there and -- well, I -- Denise actually told me at the police station that she said it was her. She said, "Come on." She said, "We got work to do." And that's when we had to start getting things ready for the funeral and all of that and --

MS. KERRIE REAY: And you mentioned this fellow, Kent, actually went to court. He ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: He went to court.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And he went to jail because they found him guilty of second-degree murder. And he was given a sentence of life sentence. And that there was no mention of the baby that he had taken two lives. And even -- when we went to court and my daughter had a little shirt, Indian shirt made for him, and we hung that in the room with, like, Tashina's dress.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And we talked about it because he was -- you know, as the way that we're taught
that as soon as the baby is conceived that he's alive. And so we tried to explain that to the court and -- but they wouldn't have it because they said that in their way that a baby is only counted for when they're breathing. So, it was, like, well, that's your way of understanding, but this is the way that we understand. And I said, "And that's valid for me and that was two lives that he took. And we're showing it by his shirt and her dress." And but still he didn't get charged for that, but he got a life sentence.

And then he appealed after he was in for I think not too long. And they refused to give him an appeal. And then he went to prison and he was in there and he must have been in there about seven, eight, seven years -- eight years I guess. And then he appealed again and he got an appeals lawyer and they found that the police erred in, you know, because they didn't get search warrants for to go onto the property.

So I don't know if that was -- if the OPP or if the Six Nations and if they both have to get search warrants, I don't know, unless they're hired under the Six Nations. But anyways, they didn't get a search warrant to go on the property where they found her, which even is even more sickening because, you know, if they found her there, he's the one that took her. And then he had admitted to,
you know, all of that, but all of that was put aside because they couldn't use the evidence because they didn't have a search warrant.

And then the judge erred in his direction to the jury, and so they couldn't use that information. And so he got out on those two things that didn't follow through that is part of their procedure for ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: And so ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And so ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- he's out?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: He's out. And they banned him from our community. And he went -- I don't know how he got over the border, because, you know, he would have had to have a criminal record and they don't usually let felons into the States from here or vice versa, but ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: They -- maybe they didn't check him; right?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: But and they were saying that maybe he used his status card to go across the Mohawk border because that's where we heard that he was over there and that he was trying to play lacrosse over there. And as soon as they knew who he was they said, "No, you're not. We know who you are and you're not playing lacrosse."

MS. KERRIE REAY: So is he still in the States?
MS. NORMA JACOBS: He's still in the States, as far as I know. I don't think he dares to come back to this side, because, you know, there's -- our communities we don't lock up him. And even over there in the States we have lacrosse and we have family over there too.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: But he tried to get in over there and they said, "No, we know who you are and you can't play for us."

MS. KERRIE REAY: And when we were off the record you were describing -- you actually sat through the whole trial.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I did, yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And so you've heard everything.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And it's pretty traumatic what you have heard about what he did to your granddaughter.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And that is something that you have with you every day.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And I just -- you know, for many the -- there is no trial ---
MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- but you've had that experience. And as the grandmother to a young promising woman, you've heard some horrific, horrific evidence.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: I'm not going to ask you to share.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: But I think it's important that, you know, Canada understands that with such a violent taking of a loved one that the family that sits through that trial, the trauma that comes from that ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- as well, hearing information ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- that a grandmother should never hear.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm. M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Sorry, Charlotte, did you want to say something?

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yeah, I just wanted to confirm if you remembered about the judge who - remember when we went to meet with him. That was after and he --- that was the final one when they said they want to strike
up a deal so that he would get out, that the lawyers --
about this -- the two points that you brought up was the
judge erred ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Oh, yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- and that the
lawyers told him -- the judge erred in explaining to the
jury. Do you remember the detail of that?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I don't, no.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: But they -- the
lawyers told him not to say that to the jury, but he did
anyway.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And I can't remember
specifically what he directed the jury to do on an
explanation or something like that.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: So that was another
reason why he got out. He got ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: So, was there just too
many things for them not to be able to charge him again,
like, to retry him? Like, was there any compensation with
the family from the prosecution about what the options
were, or was it just he was going to get out ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Well, they said that he
was going to get -- he's released because if they went to
court again and he wouldn't have -- like, and if he won, like, he wouldn't have no record. But this way he's still got a record because of it was on, you know ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: So there's some sort of technicality there ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- that the charge of second degree murder is still on his record?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm. It is still today. But, like, if -- he said if we go to court again and -- or we appeal the decision that he could walk away with no record.

MS. KERRIE REAY: That must have been a tough situation for the family to be in, to have and to know that sort of arrangements are being made that he's actually going to ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- walk free. And then the question is, is do you want him to have a record or not have a record?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: That's -- that must have been pretty hard for you.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: An error of the
police ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- that they

wouldn't -- didn't they get a search warrant or what

happened there?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I don't know the details.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Like, they would only

---

MS. KERRIE REAY: So ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- tell us so much.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So, Norma, are those
details you would like to know as to ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I would like ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- have access to that

information?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- I would like to know

because there was just so many questions that I still have
today. And like I mentioned earlier about so what was that

that she was going to tell her neighbour about him ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- what he had done.

Because from -- and from just from knowing that family and

---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- knowing the father of
him ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- of, you know, of Kent, like, [one sentence redacted - Rule 55].

MS. KERRIE REAY: And what was Kent's last name?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Squires Hill.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Squires ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- Hill?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: I think there's no "S" on Squires.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Squire.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Like Squire.


So are -- have there been any other women that have gone missing from Six Nations?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: There's been people who got murdered, but they've got their -- they got their -- the person who murdered ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- them.

MS. KERRIE REAY: I'm just wondering when you said that she had something to tell, it just kind of
makes you wonder if he said something to her in violence to sort of, you know, say, "I can do this because I've done it before" or something like that.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: No.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: For me I thought he punched her or something in the belly. He must have did something to her to try and have her have an abortion.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And the night that she was going to be running away that she was running from him at that time.

You know, we -- what happened -- what transpired for the things that we heard and what he admitted in court, we had to kind of put things together. What he would tell and we had to try and read between the lines what he actually told us.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Because that's right you did say that he did say some stuff. He did give a statement. Was that -- I don't know if it was an actual statement, but he did share some things that troubles you --

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Still.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- greatly.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.
MS. KERRIE REAY: And so it's -- must be extremely hard to know that he's basically admitted to taking her life ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: He knows -- yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- and yet he has walked away.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: He knows what happened; right?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And I know that when he -- because he lived with our relatives in the States when he was going to school out there.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And he had at one point had the sister of one of the boys and he was holding her down in a chair and nobody ever talked about that until after and then our cousin was telling us that he seen that. And he said, "How would you like it if somebody did that to you?" So even ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: So you can see the violence there.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. And I know that kids in school, after the trial was over ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- they talked about him and how they -- how he was when he was in school. Like,
and none of those people -- and this is another weird thing
is, like, that teacher from Syracuse that he was going to
the school there, college there, that she gathered her
students and they came over here to testify what a good
person he was.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Really? And he admitted.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: It was difficult
because -- it was difficult to watch because ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Oh, sure.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- of the dynamics
of who -- they buddy up, right ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- to these players, buddy up. And then our family was involved in lacrosse.
Our cousins were supporting him and we were on this other
side. I sat on that side because I wanted to watch the
reaction between them. I didn't sit with my family. I sat
on the other side. And that's what I observed.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And so this Kent was a
popular -- what I'm hearing is Kent was a popular and very
successful lacrosse player and that was more important; is
that what I'm hearing?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Than the life of your
granddaughter.
MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: It came out that way. But you know what? We have a lot of men that are talented, but it just came out that way because of what media does. Even today you would -- if somebody asks, they'd probably say that he was a star and he -- at 21 he had just -- there were many boys at that age that had the same prospect ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- of ability to advance. He was just one.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: But it just comes down to that's how the patriarchy works is that they support and uphold men's behaviours. I mean, we see it today, like, in government. Like, look at all those men who were accused of -- or government people who were accused of, you know, sexually assaulting a woman, you know, by whatever means, and then they deny it. And the woman is called a liar.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yes. Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: You know, so and it comes from having that patriarch. Like, I've studied all of that stuff, you know.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm. M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And I can see it right in front of me.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Such violence against
MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. It just happened to me not too long ago and a guy from -- he's a retired member of parliament and he's Native and he came to the university and he wanted -- the paper wanted to take a picture of -- with him with somebody from the university. So I was just there and sitting there and this guy comes up to me and he says, "Do you want to be famous?" And I said, "No, I don't." And he said, "Well, I do," he said. And he pulled his chair, and it was even still slightly in front of me. And he leaned over and somebody said something and I was laughing at that and it looked like we were having a conversation of some sort. And I felt really uncomfortable with that because I told him I didn't want my picture taken with him.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And he didn't listen.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And he didn't listen. So and I thought about that for a while because I couldn't figure out why it made me feel so -- like, it made me feel yucky. And so I thought about it after and it was because when you say no it means no, but he didn't take it that way. He just -- because he's a male and he thought he could make me famous.

MS. KERRIE REAY: He ignored your wishes.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. So, you know, so
those kind of -- and I don't know if he's conscious of that ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- like, that behaviour himself ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- because he's also into himself.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: So I can see how all these things, like, in -- you know, when these women are violated ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and then the men say, "No, that didn't happen."

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right. And even in something just as simple as saying I don't want my picture taken. Like ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- and he had no respect ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- for you and your wishes ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.
MS. KERRIE REAY: --- at that time.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: I have another thing that's troubling just because -- like it troubles me because I have a daughter.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And I can't stop her from being the person that she's going to explore and go out and be with friends. And I can't -- I don't know how much I can share with her to be so, so, so careful on who she chooses to be with, even if it's girls.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yes.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: You know?

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yes.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I think that's -- like, from the trauma too is, you know, being trustworthy and knowing what happens out there, like, from all of this education that's happening all through the Inquiry, and even our own what we see and hear on TV or media, wherever, and it raises that trauma, you know, that fear, and it just passes down because, you know, now we can see more clearly how it affected people before us ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and how it affects us
now ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and how it affects into the future. So it's like that -- I think it's called "vicarious trauma".

MS. KERRIE REAY: Trauma. M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And, you know, and it's really hard because I have a granddaughter and, you know, and, well, I have several granddaughters and, you know, and they're, like, out and I was, like, "Well, you know, you got to be really careful." Even my grandsons, like, even them, like, I worry about them because my grandson plays lacrosse and he's travelling across the country. And, you know, it's, like, you got to be aware of, you know, the racism out there and, you know, and how you could get treated and how people could, you know, trick you into being part of their little group and then, you know, do something to you that you never expected. So you have to be cautious.

And I -- and it's something that, you know, we have no control of and, you know, and we're -- like, instead of, like, to share trust with them and to love them and everything, like, to -- it's out of that love and that fear that we try to protect them, but they're still making their own choice. And, you know, and luckily there's
nothing that's happened to them, but, you know, there's always that chance because you don't know who is -- you know, belongs to different groups of people who are very racist but can be nice to your face and then do something that's underhanded to you.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** But what of -- you know, I just listening to you both talk, but what a difficult way to have to live, to -- as Indigenous women ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** M'hm.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- to have to fear for your children and your grandchildren because they're Indigenous ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** M'hm.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** --- because of the colour of their skin. Like, that just is -- that's heartbreaking.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** M'hm. M'hm.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** It's very, very heartbreaking.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Yeah. Because you want them to experience life.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** You want them to be safe.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** You want them to experience, you know, it in a good way ---

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Yeah.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** --- and to be safe.
MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: You know, but it's raised a lot of -- like, through the loss of my granddaughter and learning about racism and, you know, all of these things, and, you know, and I physically experienced all of that in my community. Like, you know, being on OW or, you know ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: OW sorry?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Like, Ontario Works or welfare.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And how, you know, they treat you like, you know, you're nothing. And they're our own people, you know, but that's how the affects of colonisation has done is to deteriorate our -- you know, our meaningful, our family relationships and how we're supposed to be as those people of this land is to have that kindness and compassion and love and caring and, you know, being supportive and being encouraging and, you know, helping one another.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And it's not.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: You know, and -- but it's just, like, everybody's put down because, you know, especially, like, for being traditional people.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: You know, you get put
down because, you know, you just carry that label of being lazy and drunks and, you know, you can't raise your own kids.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And in terms of your own community, do you have any difficulties with trying to maintain a traditional lifestyle with the younger generation? Like, are they following in your footsteps or do you find that colonisation is attractive to them out there? What I mean, that like the -- having all those toys in that way of -- that way outside of the traditional culture.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** I think everybody's influenced by that because it's so prevalent. You know ---

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** --- you got to have a car or you belong in sports, you got to -- like, lacrosse is really big in our community.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** You know, they travel everywhere. They, you know, they're winners. They're -- you know, everybody talks about them. You know, but to be influenced that way is not about having value and what the game is really about. It's about competition and it's about rising against everybody else and being on that pedestal. Like, Kent Squire thought he was up there ---
MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- and what it does to the value of life. So, you know, and, you know, it's in our stories about having reflection ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm. It's important.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- you know, to be able to evaluate my own life and not somebody else's.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: You know, to have honour for other people's lives because you would learn that from having that respect for yourself.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Another thing that comes to mind for me as a -- the result of Kent Squire's actions has taken our family through -- he's -- he took our family thoughts through all that process of what happened --

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yes.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- what he did. And how does a killer think? And how -- I have to watch this movie because I got to figure this out. You know, what makes a person do that, because I want it answered. But because of his actions and my response, that's where it hurt me. He's in our heads.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Oh, dear.
MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And our emotion and our non-communication, the silence that they talk about.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And that's where we are. His actions brought us there. So it's kind of -- it's an anger as well.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right, because how do you take that in? How do you have that in your mind and it ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And process and ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: And process, right.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- try to live a life that's -- that should have been happy ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- you know, as much as we could have been in -- without it.


MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Because we have that in our history now.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Our family history.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And that's what Norma was talking. It's like you'll never get that out of your mind, out of your head what he shared. Devastating.

And did you find the prosecution, like, were
they helpful to the family? Were -- was there Victim Services? Was -- did you have the support going through the trial?

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** I don't think that they were helpful because I had a lot of questions for them and they were not answered in -- like, to explain things.
Because when I talked to the Crown attorney ---

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** M'hm.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** --- and she was a woman and I said, "Like, so" -- I said, "This isn't right. This is -- like, this whole process is, like, it's wrong. You know, we're not -- we're -- it's not helping us." And she said to me, she says, "Well" -- I said -- and, you know she claims that she was Indigenous. And I said, "And you're being our Crown attorney and seeing that the law is not right, like, how come you haven't done anything to change that, to try to change that?" And she said, "Well," she said -- she says, "The law right now is as good as it's going to get." She says ---

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** That was her answer.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** That was her answer.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Was this after Kent was -- it was determined he was going to be released or was it ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** No, that was ---

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Did you have ---
MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- during the ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: During the trial?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. Because we did

talk about a lot of things, like, what was going to happen
in court, you know, and -- because we know he did it. He
confessed to it, you know, when they picked him up and he
told her story. He's -- while they were -- you know, they
locked him up and they interviewed him and all this, you
know, but I always felt it in my own being that he had done
something to her when she didn't come home that night. And
that was in my mind from the beginning.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So that just reminds me,

there was one question from the beginning that I was quite
-- and that was he -- at the beginning when she went to
work, like, did the police ever call her, like, within
those first couple of days? Like, did anybody call the
employer to see if she actually arrived at work?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: My daughter just said

that she wasn't supposed to go work. That's what caused
the question was ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Oh.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- that's not true

because she didn't go to work.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay. Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Because he told her that
-- he told them that he dropped her off. Like, and he
changed his story of -- every time that he was telling it.

MS. KERRIE REAY: I was just thinking at the
very beginning when, you know, your daughter reported her
missing to the police that if any -- if the police had
phoned the employer to find out if she showed up for work.
It's a part of a timeline.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: You know, like, if they're
doing their job, they should be doing a timeline to see
where she was and who was the last contact.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: But that night when she
gave me her basket from the ceremony she was going to work.
That's why she left her basket with me.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right. But that was the
night before.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. And she did have
to go to work, but the next day she was home because I had
called her at home and she was waiting. She didn't tell
me, but she was waiting for Kent to pick her up. And if
Kent didn't make a mistake and knock at the wrong door, we
wouldn't have known that he had taken her, but our cousin
answered the door where he knocked and he said, "Oh, she
lives next door."

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.
MS. NORMA JACOBS: And that was not -- and
that was unusual because he had been there before to pick
her up, so he knew where she lived. But it was weird
because if he didn't knock on the wrong door -- and I don't
know if he was drinking or if he was high, like, we don't
know any of these things.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah. Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Because they didn't go to
him right away.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So what I'm going to do,
and I'm -- I do not know whether the Commissioners have the
authority with Six Nations Policing -- if this had been a
city police or the RCMP the Commissioners have the
authority to subpoena those files. I am going to ask, as
if it was just like any other policing organisation in
Canada, that we subpoena those files for the Commissioners
to take a look ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- and to take a look at
the Crown file, because, as you've shared, somebody who's
confessed to the murder of your granddaughter is walking
free over a technicality.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: M'hm. Yeah.

MS KERRIE JACOBS: And so I think that
that's really important.
The other thing that I can do is there is FILU, the Family Information Liaison Unit in Ontario. We have them in all of the provinces. And that -- what their role is, is to help you get access to government documents so that you can get -- there may be some that you can't for legal reasons, but any documents that they can get for you that will help answer some questions or perhaps give some understanding to something, they're there to help you and I can make that connection for you to bring you together.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** M'hm.

*Registrar’s note: 132 lines removed pursuant to Rule 55*.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Is there anything else you would like to share?

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** I don't know. I guess, you know, when you were talking about feeling guilty and, like, I feel that too, because, like, you know, what would have -- what could I have done, you know? Maybe I didn't teach enough, maybe, you know, I didn't do something enough. And maybe it was my fault.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. And maybe Brent [sic] did it. Brent's [sic] responsible.

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Kent.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Brent [sic] is ---

**MS. NORMA JACOBS:** Kent.
MS. KERRIE REAY: Brent [sic] is the --
Kent, sorry. Kent is the one. You know, he made the
choice. He made the decision. Nobody could have changed
that.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Nobody could have changed
that.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I said that to him when --
- at the last day of the trial is, "You know, like, I'm not
going to carry this anymore, that, you know, this is your
responsibility, you know. You did this. You took two
lives. And you can sit here and, you know, with a straight
face, you know, and, you know, be in denial of what's
happened, you know." And just, like, even in the media how
they -- you know, they said that he, you know, showed this
remorse. I never seen him show no remorse ever.

MS. KERRIE REAY: They actually said that --
him and the family. And this was when we were off the
record. You were just sharing. I believe it was off the
record you were sharing just how he and his family would
just glare at you like as if it ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- like as if you had
done something ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.
MS. KERRIE REAY: --- wrong. And the family was the same.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. And I think that it was about being accountable, you know.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And that's all I want is I want him to be accountable for that and to quit denying and to try to manipulate the system, you know. And that's exactly what he did and they let him do it.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: You know, he played the game and he won.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: In his eyes right now.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: In his eyes right now.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: He won in his own eyes I think.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm. M'hm.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: But really he hasn't won.

MS. KERRIE REAY: He'll have to live with it at some point. He may not now, but at some point it will
be his to own.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And that's a difficulty too, this understanding that how do you tell kids that don't -- well, that haven't thought that ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- that way, because her sons get pissed off ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- when they hear stuff about him.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And what message does that send to other young men ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- in the community where, you know, you were speaking earlier about that -- there's still that continuation of violence in one form or the -- or that, you know, the difficulties with substance abuse or being able to use that as an excuse and no being accountable.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: What message did this send to them?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And what message did it send to women and the young girls ---
MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- in terms of the justice system?

Well, it's taken a lot of courage to share what you've shared. I know I said that earlier, but it truly is. It's -- what you've shared today is heartbreaking. I can feel it. I can see the pain that still exists for both of you in terms of what you've shared and the loss of your granddaughter and your own personal experiences. And any -- is there anything else that you'd like to share before we go over the consent?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I just know that, like, our whole family suffers still ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- from all of that. And, you know, and I wish that we could talk about it openly and to be supportive of one another and, you know, like, because, you know, it's not going to go away.

And for me, like, I think that I have good supports, like, because I did go to counselling and I did find out a lot of things about myself and my past. Like, you know, what I've endured and, you know, and I believe that -- I think that I was the first one to come forward to make this awareness about the women and murders.

And so after that, like, I -- a lot of
people came forward. And, like, all of the deaths of women
that have been violated on our -- violated and, you know,
killed on the reserve, that their families started to step
forward and, you know, say this is what happened to me.
And they found out that there was a lot of deaths that had
occurred that police just said it was suicide or ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- you know, and not
really do any investigation as to what was really
happening.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So you've become a ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: So ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- voice that's allowed
them to have theirs. They found theirs.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. So, you know,
even, like, I heard of this one older woman who was
violated and they raped her. She was an older woman. And
the message that they used I don't want to talk about
because it's scary. But after, you know, they shared that
story and, you know, that she was murdered. You know, and
in that process, like, it just escalated to that.

So, you know, and there's other women who
have come forward, have shared their story about, you know,
the violence that occurred and the murders and how the
police have treated it as just oh, yeah, it was domestic
or, you know, it was alcohol-related. And but there was no
saying that it was murder.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So was this still the Six
Nations Policing or was this another, like, RCMP prior to
that?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: No. So ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Six Nations?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Six Nations.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: I'd like to comment
on another one. It was one of my sisters, who was born
after Norma.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: She also was in a
violent relationship. And they said she committed suicide,
but there's things, again, that we heard after that even
came from the ambulance. We don't talk about that much
either anymore, but she's always in the back of my mind.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And your sister's name?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Sylvia.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And I remember
hearing this from my mother that they were told by the
ambulance people not to look into it because they won't
like what they would find. So ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: And the paramedics said
that?
MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yeah. So that was it. They didn't do anything. They didn't look into it. They didn't question it. Oh, she committed suicide. She was shot in the back of the head. Like, that's -- and I don't have the evidence to that. You know, there was nothing ever given to my parents I don't think that would say that that's the report, that's what they found, that's what the pathologist found.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Can I ask how long ago that was?

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: That was in 1972, 1973, around then.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And Sylvia had two kids. Hill. She was married to her partner.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And can you give me Sylvia's date of birth?

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: August 8th. I don't know the year.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I don't either.

MS. KERRIE REAY: So how old ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: What was on that thing that ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I just seen that on the grave marker.
MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Oh, did you?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah, I can't remember.

MS. KERRIE REAY: She was younger than you --

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- Norma?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah, she was probably two years younger than me, so probably around 47.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: She had two young kids, one who was -- one was ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Only three months old.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- 15 months old.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: And her -- she had just --

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: That was three months old.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And where did this happen?

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: It happened on the reserve.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Six Nations?

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: The reason I ask is I can have -- I can ask for a subpoena and we'll see what records they can bring forward ---

[Registrar’s note: 27 lines removed pursuant
MS. KERRIE REAY: So I can ask for a subpoena for the Commissioners to take a look at what happened in 1972 or 1973. And, you know, we could probably with the FILU, if those are things that you would like to see or to be aware of, we can see whether or not we could get that information for you, should you choose.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And but I'll leave that between you and yourselves ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- to decide. And sometimes too, FILU has the experience of -- like, sometimes you don't know what you don't know, so you may not know what documents to ask for.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yes.

MS. KERRIE REAY: They can help. You know, you can say, like, is there -- when you sort of provide the information that you're looking for and what happened, they may say, "Oh, you know, well, maybe we could get this document" or something like that ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- to help you should you wish.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: M'hm. Okay.
MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay, so anything else?
Anything else you want to share?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Jus that we're trying to
go on with our lives and I guess to try to be happy, to get
that happiness.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I think that's part of,
like, a resiliency, you know, to even know that all of this
has gone on, you know, and ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- like, and, you know,
because of how our mom was raised that we don't -- I mean,
because she was in residential school that she didn't talk
about a lot of things. But ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- for me, when I --
like, when I would have a conversation with her or when I'd
go to a workshop and I'd come home and I'd, like, do you
think -- you know, what do you think about this? And she
wouldn't answer me right away, but -- and I always watched
her, you know, after I would share something with her and I
would see how it troubled her. And but I wanted to know.
And, you know, so -- because she wouldn't tell me ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- I had to go by the
stories that were -- that I had heard and then match that
behaviour and those kind of conversations with my mom, you
know, and what's -- how her behaviour was and how she
reacted to ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: What you shared.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- certain things. And
so I found the answers that would contribute to, oh, now I
understand how come she's like this because this is what
she experienced in that school.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: So and then it was okay
for me to, you know, to understand, like, why she did
things the way that she did.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Why we had no
conversation because, you know, of the strapping or the
punishment they got ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- for using her
language or, you know, not eating all her food that was
before her or, you know. And it just shaped her character,
like, so she would, you know, make sure you eat all your
food, you know, even if, you know, we were full. Make sure
you eat all that because in the residential school if you
didn't eat it and the next meal it wouldn't be there.
MS. KERRIE REAY: Right.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: So it shaped a lot of, like, of that. And so we were, you know, shaped by that experience too.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: So we carry some of that. And I just remember my son saying to the kids, he'd say, "And you don't have to eat all that either." You know, I -- and that really would, like, snap me into another place, because if he understood that, you know, and what was I doing, you know, that he would have a comment, like, to the other kids why you don't -- you don't have to eat all of that. You don't have to, you know. You can leave it if you want to. So but ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: So breaking that cycle.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Your teachings, your voice. And what I've heard today is you found your voice. Your -- you know, you went out and you actively educated yourself to understand and now you've shared that understanding and you've given voice to other women ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- through your sharing. And that is how we start to break that cycle. That is how we start to empower other women ---
MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- and girls. You know, teaching girls at a young age, violence in a relationship is not acceptable. That's -- you know, it's about respect for yourself as well.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And so you've had a voice and you've shared that voice.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: But I think too that it's -- like I was thinking about this on my way up here. It was because, you know, I get to go to a lot of cultural things and people are, you know, doing ceremonies all the time and our stories that we share. And, you know, and I get to listen and I hear a lot of things that, you know, oh, yeah, I remember this, you know.

And I was thinking that, you know, like, today our women, like, they're really becoming, like, you know, raising their voice and using their voice. And I thought, oh, that's just -- reminds of, because this one man was sharing. He said, "You know, our people were real fierce." I was, like, "Yeah, I know." Because, like, my friend, that's what she used to say. I'd say, "How you doing?" She says, "Oh, I'm fierce."

You know, and I think that our people were all very fierce when it came to protecting our families
because we're women and we know what it's like to birth a child. You know what you go through. You know the changes your body goes through. You know, you know, when you're in labour and how long that lasts and that you can't yell out, you know, to holler because you know it's a gift ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- you know, to be able to give life. And I was, like, oh, yeah, like, we are too. We're real fierce. And I was, like, and I need to let people know that. Like, we're really a fierce people, but because of our principles that were given to us through spiritual teachings, we learned how to control that. Like, we don't have to, you know, go out and slam somebody around, you know, and be those violent people because we were given a gift of principle and value, relationship and we had, you know, those teachings, but we can be fierce if we're pushed into a corner. And we can show that fierceness. We still have it in us to show that fierceness if we need to. And if we're not going to get help to do this, then you better get out of our way because we're going to do it. We're going to show our voice. We're going to show you how fierce we can be. And, you know, and I think that a lot of our women need to realise that we are a fierce people.

MS. KERRIE REAY: It comes back to how you
feel about yourself.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: If you don't feel good about yourself, perhaps that fierceness, that voice doesn't know how.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And you're lending that voice, you're -- through your teaching and your sharing with the women and the girls that they will find that voice.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm. M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: You know, and I think that brings hope.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: It brings hope.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Our mother shared a lot of culture with our -- with each one of us.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Bits and parts of because she was brought up by her grandfather who was -- would tell her those principles that she talks about, their value, every day.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And so bits and parts
she shared with each one of us ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- that we put
together sometimes when we remind each other about ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- remember when mom said this?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah, we laugh about our mom a lot.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: She was a smart lady and very funny too at the same time.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And sounds like all from a great home. She was fierce.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And -- after her childhood.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah, she was fierce.

She would fight for us.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: And we didn't deserve this.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And so just as a question that just sort of -- I actually thought about it earlier, but you didn't go to residential school then and that was
because your mom said no or did ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Well, she didn't make us

go to school. They wouldn't let us -- like, if we didn't

want to go, we didn't have to go. She said, "I didn't want

yous [sic] to go." My dad was against education. But we

had a good home. Like, my ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yeah ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- dad had a job and my

mom had a job and, you know, we were disciplined.

MS. KERRIE REAY: M'hm. Yeah, it's just

because from -- I've heard from many that if -- when the

police knocked on the door to say the children were going
to go to school, if the parents pushed back that they would

say, "Oh, they're coming" and the children would be taken.

But that wasn't ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: I think that's a
different era I think at that time. Like, I don't know ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: I think that was probably
during my mom's growing ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- up time.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Because we didn't ever

have nobody from the school or anything to come and ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.
MS. NORMA JACOBS: They had a [sic] Indian agent, but I think those times were already gone by by the time we were, you know ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: And ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: We took a different venue -- I don't if venue's the right word, but we took a different ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Path?

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- path to still affect us.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Yes.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yes.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And what era for schooling? Like, what -- how -- what, was it the '50s you would have been in school or the '60s?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Well, I was born in 1945, so they didn't have to go to school until they were 7.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay. Oh, okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Not now. They got to go to school when they're ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Six.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- in daycare.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Well, yeah, kindergarten starts at five; right?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah. Even earlier than
MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: She told her you don't have to go to school.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: M'hm.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: But she told me, "Go to school. Go to school. One day they won't pay for this." That -- those are her words to me.

MS. KERRIE REAY: One day they won't?

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: They won't pay for it.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Oh.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Because that's one of the treaties is that they're supposed to pay for our education ---

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- because they brought that. They said we had to go to school, so they said, "Okay, then if you're making us go to school then it'll be at your cost."

MS. KERRIE REAY: Oh, okay. And just because we're on the record is that including, like, after high school, like, college and ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: --- university?

MS. NORMA JACOBS: It's education.
MS. KERRIE REAY: Education.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: I think so, but I think I ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Yeah.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: --- made those choices myself it seems, you know. I guess ---

MS. NORMA JACOBS: But her schooling was paid. Your schooling was paid.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yeah, my -- yeah, yeah. I went to school forever.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: Because they paid. They used to even pay for her clothing ---

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Clothing and house.

MS. NORMA JACOBS: --- when they went to school.

MS. CHARLOTTE JACOBS: Yeah.


So we're at that point about whether or not you would like what you've shared as either public or private [...] [Registrar’s note: an off-the-record discussion ensues regarding the informed consent of the witnesses.]

--- Upon adjourning at 5:57 p.m.
LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST’S CERTIFICATE

I, Janice Gingras, 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.

Janice Gingras
January 24, 2019