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11-19-2013

Statement by Deborah Yarmal collected by Rachel George on November 19, 2013

Deborah Yarmal

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General Information

Private or Public Statement? - Private
Statement Provider: Deborah Yarmal
Date: November 19, 2013
Location: Sipayik, Maine
Previous Statement? No
Statement Gatherer: N/A
Support Person: Esther Attean
Additional Individuals Present: N/A
Recording Format: Video
Length of Recording: 5:03

Recording

RG: Okay, so I'm going to start. My name is Rachel George and I'm here with Esther Attean. Would you mind stating your name?

DY: Debra Yarmal

RG: The file number is S-201311-00001. And this is Nov. 19, 2013, and we are in Sipayik, also known as Pleasant Pt. So, I am going to ask you if you've been informed, if you've understood and if you have signed the consent form?

DY: Yes, yes, and yes. *(laughs)*

RG: Perfect. And I have to advise you as well that any information that is disclosed in the statement that indicates that a child is in danger or in need of protection or that there is imminent risk of death or serious bodily harm to a person, including yourself, or a group that that might not be protected as confidential.

DY: Okay. Yes, understandable.

RG: So I want you to start wherever you feel most comfortable. And we can be here for hours if that's what you want.

DY: No I don't feel like talking today... I really don't. I just got done with the news guys and that just... Not right now. But, whenever... Another time would be perfect. But not just after all this.

RG: Of course. Is there anything you want to say for this recording specifically?

DY: I'm just really glad you guys are here for support. Cause this is . . . really makes a difference. I didn't want to have to go home and then have to deal with everything. You kinda let it settle a little bit . . .so it's not all right in the front, forefront. So I just want to say thanks, for being here.

EA: Thank you.

RG: Thank you for being here.

DY: You said 3 in the morning! *(laughter)* *(DY reaches over and gives EA a kiss on the cheek)*

EA: Yep, anytime. Anytime .

RG: Do you mind if I just ask you 2 questions?

DY: All right

RG: They'll be easy. I promise.

DY: All right.

RG: What does reconciliation mean to you?

DY: It means. . . that making people aware of what kids went through. And to make sure that they're safe now. And still cared about and not just left. It's just a big jump that I wished we would've had when we were kids, somebody protecting us. That's what I feel it is. Like a protected program so kids wouldn't have to go through and live like this and deal with life, whatever life really is.

What's your second one? *(Laughter)*

RG: What do you want people to know about your experiences?

DY: That nobody should have to go through this. Nobody. And I'll let you know when the time is right, cause you're going to get me crying again.

RG: I don't want to make you cry.

DY: I already threw my last tissue in that basket. *(laughter)*

RG: I want you to know that I'm going to be available when you feel ready. Also, I should say, if you don't feel comfortable with me as a statement gatherer . . .

DY: I feel very comfortable with you. Very. I do.

RG: I just want you to know, as well, there are other people that you can speak with.

DY: I don't want to speak with nobody else. I don't want to start all over. I'm comfortable with you. You made me feel that way, so . . .

RG: I'm glad

EA: And you'll be here for 3 days

RG: I will be here for 3 days.

DY: See. That will be perfect. Within the next 2 days, I'll be fine. Honest. That will be perfect.

RG: That's great. You just let me know and we'll set aside a time.

DY: Well, right now. 2 days in the afternoon. That's the time because I'm not a morning person.

RG: No. Me either.

EA: We're People of the Dawn.

DY: Yeah. I stay up til dawn and then I go to bed (*laughter*).

EA: There you go!

DY: (*Stands up*) Stay up til dawn. That way maybe I'll be showered, and my right make-up on. (inaudible). Do I need to shower? Am I going to be in the camera? (*Laughter*)

EA: 59 Clark Street right? Someone is asking me.

RG: Yes, 59 Clark. It might be road, Clark Road.

EA: Alright, so now we have to wait. Do you shut that? You never shut that thing off.

RG: Yeah, I'm going to turn it off.

EA: I have to tell Kathleen that she needs to come get her stuff and find out from Didi...

[END OF RECORDING]