

I gave evidence at the Hobart hearing of the above inquiry.

If I may, I would like to provide the following further information:

1. On the issue of an apology we were asked to give some thought as to what could be done. I think a Remembrance Day with a ribbon is a great idea as it would get the message right into the public eye, and also the idea of a gallery is a good one. Social networking is a good idea but not everyone accesses it or has access to it - especially older people. An apology on its own does not seem sufficient to me, in fact the word "sorry" on its own would have a hollow ring to it.

2. I gave birth to my baby at the Queen Victoria Hospital in Launceston. It had a separate ward for unmarried mothers. At the Inquiry only Hobart hospitals were mentioned.

3. I am very curious about how the system of adoption Australia wide seemed to be the same and wonder how this began and came to be. Doctors, to staff in the hospitals and welfare workers, lawyers performing the same practices. And how did the nurses know we "weren't allowed to see our babies"?

4. During Major McClymont's (Salvation Army) evidence it became clear that he was unaware of the Salvation Army's Rocklyn Home for Unmarried Mothers in Launceston (page 14 of Hansard).

I have since been advised that there was a second home for unmarried mothers in Launceston. This information was given to me by a friend who is an adoptee and who used to deliver meat to this home in the late 1960's. It was in High Street and he thinks it was called Hillcrest Home. He was aware of Rocklyn Home also because his friend's girlfriend went to Rocklyn! It appears that Hillcrest was run by a community board of management. I can find very little information on it; only that there was a Hillcrest Girls Home, but am passing on this information in case it has been mentioned elsewhere in the Inquiry.

Thank you for privilege of my giving evidence.