



**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
UCD Human Research Ethics Committee
Information and Consent Form**

STUDY TITLE: **The Magdalene Institutions: Recording an Oral and Archival History**

My name is Dr Katherine O'Donnell, from the Women's Studies Centre, School of Social Justice, University College Dublin, and I would like to invite you to participate in this study. Please read this information sheet (or listen to the following information) carefully before taking your decision; it contains valuable information about this study and your rights as a participant.

What is this research about?

You are invited to add your story to the Oral History of Magdalene Institutions. We are collecting accounts from survivors who worked and lived in these institutions, relatives, members of the Religious Orders, regular visitors and anyone else who has a story to tell that relates to these institutions. These will be made accessible to anyone who is interested in gaining an understanding of the Magdalene Laundries. The information collected may be used in a variety of ways by the people who access the collected stories and may form the basis for future essays, books, documentaries and creative artworks.

Why are we doing this research?

The overall objective of this study is to contribute towards a better understanding of the system of Magdalene Institutions that existed in Ireland through the gathering and study of testimonies from people who are directly or indirectly related to these institutions. Your interview will help contribute to this knowledge.

The interview process

If you decide to participate, an interview will be arranged and conducted by a member of the research team. The interview will focus on your opinions and experiences of the Magdalene Institutions. Due to the nature of this interview, it is very difficult to state how long it will take because this will depend on how long you would like to talk. It will be recorded with your permission and you can ask the interviewer to stop the recording at any time. The recording will be deposited and typed out for the archive and we will then send you a copy for your approval. At this point you may wish to remove something from your transcript or send in other material (such as photographs etc.) or written statements. When your typed transcript is finalised, you will be given a copy in paper form as well as an audio CD, by hand if you wish or through the post otherwise.

There are a number of choices at your disposal for how you might allow the public to hear your story:

- 1. You may wish to use your real name and any details that identify you or you may wish to use a pseudonym and have all identifying details edited out.**
- 2. You may wish to have your story made available to the public with the audio included (with or without identifying details edited out).**
- 3. You may wish to have a delay on the release of the story and/or the audio (e.g. after a number of years or in the event of your death). We will ensure that no public access will be granted before the agreed date. This release can include audio or not, depending on your wishes.**

We would like to stress that your participation is voluntary; you are free to withdraw from the research at any time without any disadvantage to you.



Confidentiality: how will your privacy be protected?

We recommend that you use a pseudonym to safeguard your privacy for all future occasions. We make a distinction between privacy and secrecy and don't consider that pseudonyms mean that the person giving their story is ashamed or living in secrecy. However, if you do wish to use your real name we will facilitate this request but we will not use any details that might defame or libel any person (even if they are deceased) or reveal any details that might identify people who have not agreed to participate in this project.

The information gathered during the interview process will be kept under the strictest confidentiality and a series of procedures will be used to ensure this:

- 1. You will be asked to provide a pseudonym on the day of the interview (unless you decide to identify yourself).***
- 2. Consent forms containing your personal details (name, date of birth, address) and your desired pseudonym will be kept in a locked cabinet located in the office of the Principal Investigator in University College Dublin. A database will also be maintained containing the key to pseudonyms and the identities of interviewees. The database will be password protected and access to this and the hard copies will be restricted to members of the research team.***
- 3. Audio files and transcripts will be labelled with your chosen pseudonym and not your name or other personal identifiers.***
- 4. Individuals who are named by informants will also be given pseudonyms.***
- 5. Identifying information will be removed from the transcript and also from the audio file. The latter will be done by the research assistant on this project, who is qualified in sound engineering and thus able to use software to remove sound bites that contain identifiable information.***
- 6. Locations and dates will be accurately transcribed, except where this might impact on a vulnerable interviewee's identification.***
- 7. Once final submission has been agreed the audio files and interview transcripts will be deposited securely with UCD and the Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA).***
- 8. The interviews will be made public only in the manner to which you agree on the consent form.***

Research Benefits

There are no direct benefits for participating in this study. However, there is an indirect benefit, which is to contribute towards a better understanding of the life and experiences of women in the Magdalene Laundries. It is vital that society learns of the lasting effects these institutions had, and you will play an important role in this.

Research Risks

There are no anticipated risks for participating in this study except a minimal risk of being identified. However, as noted in detail above, every effort will be made to avoid any violation of confidentiality. You may also experience anxiety when discussing your experiences. Should you feel uncomfortable in relation to anything that is asked during the course of the interview, you are not obliged to answer. Should you experience distress about any issues that are discussed we can provide you with the details of counselling services in your area.

Results of the research

If you would like to find out about the results of this project, please contact Dr Katherine O'Donnell (see contact details below). You will be also invited to attend a seminar once a significant amount of interviews are completed.

Compensation

There is no payment or other kind of compensation for participating in this study.



Contact details for further information

If you have any additional queries and want to discuss the research, my contact details are listed below:

Dr Katherine O'Donnell,
Women's Studies Centre, School of Social Justice,
James Joyce Library Building
University College Dublin
Katherine.odonnell@ucd.ie
Telephone: 01-716-7804



**The Magdalene Institutions: Recording an Oral and Archival History
DECLARATION
Voluntary Participation**

I have read the information sheet and have had time to consider whether to take part in this study or not. I understand that my participation is voluntary (it is my choice) and that I am free to withdraw from the research at any time without disadvantage.

I understand the purpose of the study and research procedures. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and have received satisfactory answers. The explanation I have been given has mentioned both the possible risks and benefits to participating in the study and the alternatives to participation, level of confidentiality and contact information.

I understand that my name and the names of other people mentioned during the course of the interview will not be identified in this study and I agree that the data can be published in the manner that I agree to below.

I also understand that by taking part in this study I will be asked to recount some potentially sensitive events. However, I do not have to answer if I deem it to be overly sensitive. I will also be provided with details of counselling services after the interview should it be necessary.

I understand that I will receive and may keep a copy of this information and consent form.

A. Identity

I would like to:

- ❖ Be identified immediately
- ❖ Use a pseudonym
Pseudonym _____
- ❖ I consent to my identity being revealed after thirty years: Yes No

B. Interview and audio release

I would like my typed transcript to be:

- ❖ Released immediately
- ❖ Released at some time in the future (state number of years) _____

I would like the audio to be:

- ❖ Released immediately
- ❖ Released at some time in the future (state number of years) _____
- ❖ Destroyed on completion of typed transcript



Please state any other wishes you have in relation to how your interview is transcribed and/or released:

The following named person(s) is/are authorised to act on my behalf in the event that I am unable to do so:

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



SUPPORT RESOURCE LIST

There are a number of organisations listed below that provide a range of supports that might be of interest to you. Should you find it necessary, the researcher will help you to identify the relevant institution(s) and support service(s) for you.

National Counselling Service

The National Counselling Service was set up by the HSE and was established initially to provide counselling to adults abused as children in state institutions but also offers support to adults abused in other settings. The counselling service is free of charge.

North East:	1800 234 117
North Dublin:	1800 234 110
North West:	1800 234 119
West:	1800 234 114
Mid-west:	1800 234 115
Midlands:	1800 234 113
Dublin South West/Kildare/West Wicklow:	1800 234 112
South Dublin & East Wicklow:	1800 234 111/1800 234 116
South East:	1800 234 118

Samaritans

Samaritans are available 24 hours a day to provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress or despair, including those which may lead to suicide.

Telephone:	1850 60 90 90
Text:	087 2 60 90 90
Email:	jo@samaritans.org
Website:	http://www.dublinsamaritans.ie/



Citizens Information

The Citizens Information service provides information on the social and civil rights of everyone in Ireland.

Telephone: 0761 07 4000
Email: <https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/contactus/>
Website: <http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/>

Justice for Magdalenes (JFM)

Justice for Magdalenes seeks to promote and represent the interests of the Magdalene women, seek justice for the women formerly incarcerated in Magdalene Laundries and to seek the establishment and improvements of support as well as advisory and re-integration services provided for survivors.

Telephone: 086 4463057
Email: info@magdalenelaundries.com
Website: <http://www.magdalenelaundries.com>
Postal Address: Crocknahattina, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan.

Aislinn Centre

The Aislinn Centre provides a mixture of certified, therapeutic, and recreational adult education classes to survivors of institutional abuse and their families.

Telephone: 01 8725771
Email: aislinned@eircom.net
Postal Address: Jervis House, Jervis street, Dublin 1.

Family Resource Centres

The aim of the Family Resource Centres is to help combat disadvantage by supporting the functioning of the family unit. Centres provide services and supports to families, lone parent families, men, women, youth, the elderly and others in need of support. Many Family Resource Centres also provide counselling services or can refer enquirers to appropriate services.

Telephone: 01 4200580
Email: info@familyresource.ie
Website: <http://www.fsa.ie/services/family-resource-centres> or <http://www.familyresource.ie/centres.php>



Health Service Executive (HSE)

People without medical cards can still access a wide range of community and hospital health services, either free of charge or at reduced cost. The HSE website contains a detailed directory of the services and information on how to access them.

Telephone: 1850 24 1850
Email: infoline1@hse.ie
Website: <http://www.hse.ie/eng/>

Aware

Aware provides support groups for people with depression through its program '**Aware Defeat Depression**'. Aware's support groups are nationwide for both individuals with depression and also family members and friends.

Telephone: Dublin: 01 661 7211
Cork: 066 7194 713
Email: info@aware.ie
Website: <http://www.aware.ie/>

GROW

GROW is a mental health organisation that helps people with mental health problems. It has a national network of over 130 Groups in Ireland.

Telephone: 1890 474474
Email: <http://grow.ie/contact/>
Website: <http://www.grow.ie/meetings.html>

Postal Address: Dublin: **167a Capel Street, Dublin 1**
Donnycomey Community & Youth Centre, Collins Avenue East, Dublin 5 (use the Clan Carthy Rd entrance).
Fettercairn, Fettercairn Community Centre, Jobstown, Tallaght, Dublin 24.
Cork: **11 Liberty Street** (Beside St. Francis Church).



Shine

Shine provides support to reduce the risk of suicide through confidential counselling and special education initiatives such as Life Hope and ASSIST training.

Telephone: Dublin: 01 8601620
Cork: 021 4929210

Email: <http://www.shineonline.ie/index.php/main-contact>

Website: <http://www.shineonline.ie/index.php>

Postal Address: Dublin: 38 Blessington Street, Dublin 7
Cork: 32 South Terrace, Cork

Drugs.ie

Drugs.ie is an independent website managed by The Ana Liffey Drug Project. Its mission is to work with people affected by problem substance use - to reduce harm, improve overall quality of life and promote human rights.

Telephone: 01 878 6899

Email: info@drugs.ie

Website: http://www.drugs.ie/find_services/

Postal Address: **The Ana Liffey Drug Project**, 48 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin 1.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

Telephone: 01 8420700

Email: gso@alcoholicsanonymous.ie

Website: <http://www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie/>

Postal Address: General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous, Unit 2, Block C, Santry Business Park, Swords Road, Dublin 9.



Barnardos

Barnardos runs the Origins service which is for people (and their families) who spent all or part of their childhood in an Irish industrial School and are interested in tracing information about their parents, siblings or other relatives. The service is available to people in Ireland and abroad.

Telephone: 01 453 0355 Callsave: 1850 222 300
Email: origins@barnardos.ie
Website: <http://www.barnardos.ie/>
Postal Address: Barnardos, Hyde Square, 654 Sth. Circular Rd. Dublin 8

Adoption Rights Alliance

The mission of Adoption Rights Alliance is to advocate equal human and civil rights for those affected by Ireland's closed secret adoption system. Natural parents (those who lost children to adoption) are welcome to get in touch. Tracing Handbooks that provide a step-by-step guide to the tracing process are available to download from the website.

Email: info@adoptionrightsalliance.com
Website: <http://www.adoptionrightsalliance.com/>
Postal Address: The Mill House, Millview Road, Malahide, Co. Dublin

Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS)

The Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS) is a free, confidential, independent and non-judgmental service for people in debt, or in danger of getting into debt, in Ireland.

Telephone: 0761 07 2000
Email: helpline@mabs.ie
Website: <http://www.mabs.ie/>

Dublin Rape Crisis Centre

The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre is a national organisation offering a wide range of services to women and men who are affected by rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment or childhood sexual abuse

Telephone: 1 800 778 888
Email: rcc@indigo.ie
Website: <http://www.drcc.ie>
Postal Address: 70 Lower Leeson Street, Dublin 2.



UK Based Resources:

Irish Survivors in Britain

Website providing links to UK based survivor groups.

Telephone: 0121 622 4169
Email: info@irishsurvivorsinbritain.org
Website: <http://www.irishsurvivorsinbritain.org/survivors-networks-and-support-services-in-britain/>
Postal Address: Irish Survivors in Britain Project, Suite 211 Keys Court, 82-84 Moseley St, Digbeth, Birmingham B12 0RT

The London Irish Centre (Survivor Outreach Service - LISOS)

LISOS supports individuals who suffered abuse as children in Ireland's industrial schools. Also includes the Irish Women Survivors Support Group which is open to all women who were in Irish Institutions in Ireland as children, including women who were in the Laundries.

Telephone: 020 7916 7300
Email: lisos@irishcentre.org or marieaubertin@londonirishcentre.org
Website: <http://www.londonirishcentre.org/welfare/london-irish-survivors-outreach-service>
Postal Address: 50-52 Camden Square, London, NW1 9XB, UK.

UK Citizens Advice Bureau

The Citizens Advice Bureau provides free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. It values diversity, promotes equality and challenges discrimination.

Website: <http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Rape Crisis (England & Wales)

Information and support for those affected by rape and sexual abuse.

Telephone: National Freephone Helpline 0808 802 9999
Email: info@rapecrisis.org.uk
Website: <http://www.rapecrisis.org.uk/>
Postal Address: Rape Crisis (England & Wales), BCM Box 4444, London, WC1N 3XX.