

Social Work Department

Case Conference held at Nimmo Place, Children's Home Perth,
on Tuesday 23 September, 1980 at 10.30a.m., on David Tarbett (d.o.b.
Tommy Tarbett (d.o.b. 16 3 73) and Lisa Tarbett (d.o.b. 7 8 74).

<u>Present:</u>	Mr. and Mrs. Dingwall	Officer in Charge
	Mrs. Christie	Staff - Nimmo Place
	Mrs. Stewart	" "
	Mr. J.R. Anderson	S.S.W. Kirkton
	✓ Mr. B. Hinnie.	S.W. Kirkton.

Background reports had already been supplied to the conference in advance of the meeting. Please find attached to this document copies of same. This background information, as can be seen, illustrates the contact between the family and the local authority, and also the R.S.S.P.C.C., and goes back to 1969.

Approximately 12 days before the childrens admission to care Mr. and Mrs. Tarbett had persuaded the Children's Hearing to return David and Derek to their care, consequently the panel varied their order from a 44(1)(b) to 44(1)(a) home supervision.

Mr. Anderson and Mr. Hinnie were in attendance at the Reporter's office on the evening of Monday 15 September, and when we arrived we were informed that Mr. Tarbett wished to speak to Mr. ^{Hinnie} as his wife had deserted the family home and this would necessitate him placing the children in our care. As Mr. Hinnie had two Children's Hearings to deal with Mr. Tarbett was interviewed by Mr. Anderson when he clearly stated that he was unwilling to look after all four children. As a direct result of this Mr. Anderson made contact with Roineach Mhor Assessment Centre and the four children were initially placed there on an emergency basis. Due to the fact that there were no vacancies locally in the Dundee area it was necessary to move David, Tommy and Lisa to Nimmo Place Perth and this took place on Friday 19 September. Since the children's recent admission to care it has been explained to Mr. Tarbett that in the opinion of this department these children are developing into 'yo-yo' kids, and he was pressed by Mr. Anderson and Mr. Hinnie in interview to declare his interest in looking after them on a permanent basis. Mr. Tarbett clearly stated, at this juncture, that he was still unable to look after the children, and in the opinion of this department unwilling. He was duly informed therefore that we would be looking at the care of the children on a long term basis. However, as soon as Mrs. Tarbett is traced and she eventually returns to the family home, apparently will once again demand to have their children back. In an effort to gain some protection for these children the Reporter to the Children's Hearing has been alerted and at the time of writing I am advised that a Children's Hearing will take place on the 15 October for David and Derek, but no confirmed date has yet been set for Tommy and Lisa.

At to-day's discussion Mr. and Mrs. Dingwall and their staff indicated that there appears to be little reaction by the children at their reception into care, however, it is early days. Lisa apparently seems to be taking each day as it comes, while Tommy impresses as being deeper and could possibly be suffering more. He also blames the social work for their current predicament. David is something of a substitute father figure in relationship to the two youngest children. He has long confabs with brother Tommy and the staff feel that he may well run once he gets his bearings in the locality.

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There seems to be some pairing between David and Lisa as well as between David and Tommy with David as co-ordinator and indeed the one who calls the 'shots'. It has been observed by the staff members that the children enjoy tactile contact with each other. David has been rather protective towards Lisa, and this may be an indication as to the type of role that he fulfills within the family home. He has just started at the local secondary school which is placed some distance from the Children's Home, but already has made contact with two local youngsters and appears to be moving towards finding friendships outwith the children's home. Both Tommy and Lisa are enuretic and this appears to bother Tommy quite considerably. Lisa was stated as sleeping well, and at the time of writing all three children were behaving in a manner that is considered to be too good! It was felt by all concerned that their true characters may be more forthcoming once they settle in these, still unfamiliar, surroundings.

In conclusion, it was agreed that we should use the time the children remain at Nimmo Place to assess their needs both individually and collectively and hopefully incorporate our findings in the panel report for mid October. At this stage it can only be stated that we must look at the prospects for long term care for the children for the reasons stated at the beginning of this review. More specific information concerning the family can be made available from the case worker, should it be felt necessary.

The date of the next review is Thursday 9 October, 1980 at 10.30a.m. at which it is hoped Mr. Steven will be able to attend.

John R. Anderson

Mr. J.R. Anderson,
Senior Social Worker.

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