



Tayside Regional Council
72/74 Haldane Terrace,
DUNDEE.

Social Work Department
Dundee Division
Area 2.

JW

SOCIAL BACKGROUND REPORT

The following person:—
Surname.....

JONES

Surname.....

Christian Names or forenames.....
2) Andrew
3) Sarah Jane

Address.....
8 Balgowan Place, Dundee.

Presently in Roineach Mhor Assessment
Centre.

1) 2 4 67; 2) 26 12 69
3) 15 7 72.

Date of Birth.....

Religion..... Protestant

Occupation..... School children

Marital State..... N/A

is to appear on 9 January, 1981 at Dundee Children's Hearing Court in connection
with the crime or offence of 2.45 p.m. 32(2)c Alleged lack of parental care and 32(2)g Alleged Offence (Christine).

Previous Appearances as known to the Officer making the Report:

Since the last appearance on 31 October, 1980, quite a lot of progress has been made with this family. All three children continue to do well at Roineach Mhor and have started to have over night stays at home as well as other visits home. For a short time it was planned that all three should go home together but problems arose especially between Miss Mill and Christina. The latter seemed unwilling to have anyone else at home when she visited and she seemed to resent, in particular, the occasional presence of [redacted] Miss Mill's former paramour. It was felt then that all three children should be treated as individuals in the time they spend at home and that when they eventually go home permanently it will be at different times.

Currently Andrew goes home every Tuesday evening and returns to Roineach Mhor on a Wednesday evening. Sarah goes home for tea on a Wednesday and also spends Sunday afternoon there with Andrew and Christina. Christina goes home on a Saturday and returns to Roineach Mhor on a Sunday evening with Andrew and Sarah. All three children were at home from the 25 - 27 December and the 4 - 6 January. These visits are closely monitored by myself and the Roineach Mhor staff and any problems have been picked up quickly and sorted out at an early stage. There have also been two family therapy sessions along with Dr. Lewis, Child Psychiatry. These have proved most useful in helping to bring the family together and to discuss their difficulties. Although the last session highlighted a lot of bitterness between Christina and her mother, the very fact that this bitterness was expressed has helped to bring about progress for the eventual re-uniting of the family.

Andrew:

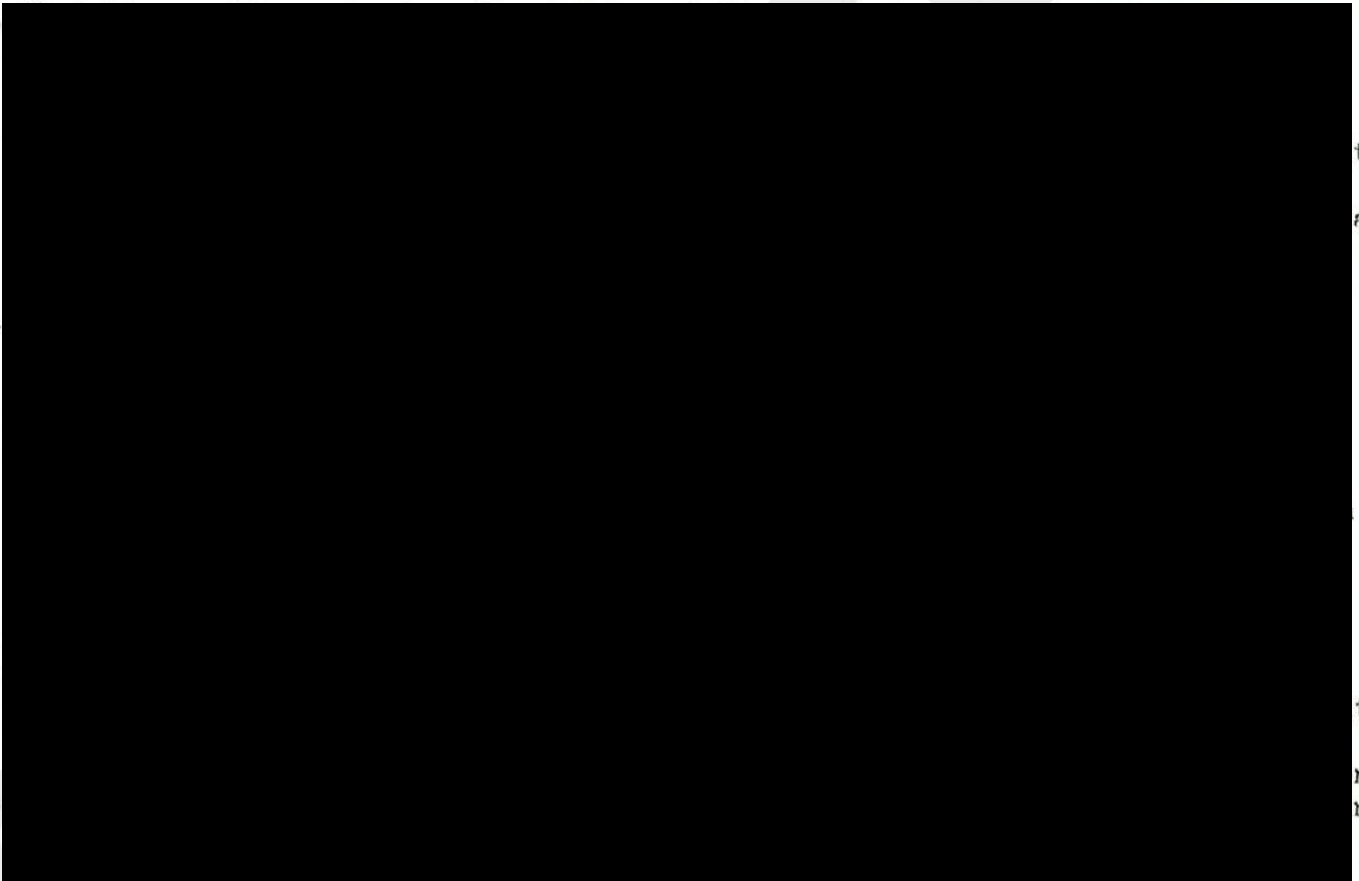
Andrew was the first of the children to have an overnight stay. He enjoys his visits home and is always looking forward to these times at home. He does well at Roineach Mhor and also at Westmarch Primary School although his work there could be greatly improved. He still attends the Boy's Brigade. It is likely that of the three children he is the one who could return home first.

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Sarah Jane:



Christina:



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Ann Mill:

Miss Mill is continuing to do very well. She is coping well with her limited finances and is no longer in debt. She also managed to save enough money to ensure that her children received Christmas presents. Her family continue to be supportive and have helped her and the children a great deal. Her former boyfriend [REDACTED] no longer is on the scene and she has taken up with another man. Her new boyfriend has met the children and has been very good to them by giving them presents and taking them out. It is his intention to move in with Miss Mill. It is still too early to say how successful this will be but if the relationship lasts there is now the basis for greater stability at home both financially and emotionally which will help the children in the long term.

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Miss Mill has co-operated very well with our plan of gradual reintroduction of the children at home. She is aware of the difficulties Christina is going through of accepting what is happening at home and realises that she may not want to return home immediately. She has very strong feelings towards her children and this bond is becoming stronger.

Assessment and Recommendation:

Over the past weeks it has become clear that with the progress that has been made and the difficulties that have become apparent and overcome, we are at last beginning to see a definite solution. It is the eventual aim for all three to return home but it is likely that this will be achieved at different times to meet the individual needs of the children and Miss Mill. There is still a long way to go before the family will be stable enough to cope permanently and everyone still needs reassurance that once they are reunited the same problems will not recur.

Each stage requires to be supervised and monitored closely and I would therefore recommend that a period of compulsory supervision under Section 44(1)(b) be considered with the children remaining at Roineach Mhor. Meanwhile efforts to reunite the family will be continued on an individual basis. On discussion with the staff at Roineach Mhor and Dr. Lewis of Child Psychiatry we all agree that compulsory supervision will help to provide the stability required to reunite this family permanently and successfully.

E. Titterington
Mr. E. Titterington,
Social Worker.

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I will attend the hearing.

Section 44(1)(b) approved.