

I am writing to state officially that I was abused at Hephzibah house from Feb. 1981 to July of 1983. I realize that this is far in the past and nothing can be done, But it has come to my attention that there are girls there right now suffering. The state of Ind. investigated while I was a student but we were hidden in a dark church while they came through. I was beaten with a paddle until I was black and blue. My skirt was pulled up and I was laid on the floor. One adult sat on my back and held my arms while another sat on my feet, a third wielded the paddle. I was paddled nearly every day the first 3-4 months I was there. After that, I was sufficiently broken and docile and only recieved 2-3 per month.

I was so hungry. The Williams ate very well but we were denied sufficient food. I lost 40 lbs. in 4 months going from a normal 128 lbs. to merely 88 lbs.

I was menstrating normally before arriving at heph. but ceased menstrating until I left in 83.

I did heavy, back breaking labor.

I suffered emotional abuse in the form of humiliation and isolation. I was not allowed any contact with the outside world. Letters to and from my parents were censored and the rare phone call home was tightly monitored. The saddest thing is that they convinced me that they loved me, They taught us that we would go to hell if we ever betrayed them or "raised up against Gods man". Williams contacted me last Thursday. I was shaking when I heard his voice. He asked me to write a letter to his lawyer stating that I was never abused nor had witnessed any abuse. I send this letter to make my complaint official and in the hope that someone will step in to defend these girls that cannot defend themseves. This should not still be happening 25 years later.

Susan Grotte > Susan Doebbeling
8179 Elmer RD.
Meadowlands MN. 55765
218-427-1055
cell 218-341-8707