



Fact Sheet for Adopted People on the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes

1. The Commission of Investigation is not restricted to hearing evidence only from natural mothers. It is extremely important that adopted people give evidence, regardless of where you were born and regardless of your experience growing up. All experiences are important.
2. If you want the Commission's reports to reflect your experience as an adopted person, this will not happen if you do not submit evidence. Of course, we do not know what the Commission's reports will contain, but if you do not contribute, then you have no chance of being included.
3. If you need help with your statement, you can come to the Clann project for assistance (<http://clannproject.org>). Your information will be treated with the strictest of confidence and you are under no obligation to share your statement with Adoption Rights Alliance or Justice for Magdalenes Research. We will not see your statement unless you sign off to allow us to do so.
4. If your agency/institution is not on the schedule to the Commission's Terms of Reference or if your adoption was arranged by a private facilitator, Clann will still help with your statement and help you submit it to the Commission. And we can help ensure your (anonymised) experience is part of the public record if you share your statement with us (but again, you are under no obligation to do so).
5. If you would like to submit evidence to the Commission of Investigation but you cannot attend the Commission in person, Clann can help you compile a statement, which you can then swear/affirm and submit as evidence.
6. The Commission is operating a twin track process: The Confidential Committee and the Investigation Committee. The Confidential Committee is due to report in August, though we do not know if this report will be published on time. The Investigation Committee is the 'main' part of the Commission, and we understand that it is already behind in its work.

Therefore, it is not too late to give evidence.

- ✓ If you are fed up because your rights as an adopted person are non-existent
- ✓ If you are angry at how adopted people are portrayed as disruptive forces in our natural mother's lives
- ✓ If you are frustrated at not being a priority, at the endless waiting lists, at the fact that you have to go through a social worker for a simple piece of information about yourself

This is your chance to have your voice heard.

If we want equal rights as adopted people, we have to let the world know what is wrong with the way things are right now.

To learn about how to give evidence, please visit the Clann project webpage at <http://clannproject.org>