

Statement of [REDACTED]

I, XXXXXX XXXXX XXXXXXXX of the City of Waterloo do swear that the following statements are true to the best of my knowledge:

1. I am currently 15 years of age and will be 16 years of age in about one month on August 7, 2010. Below is a picture of myself taken at my mother's home.

Photo Blacked Out



2. I attend Xxx Xxxx X. XXXXXXXX Secondary School in Waterloo, Ontario. and have just finished school for the summer holidays. Up until the end of this past school year I attend a special program called "life skills". I believe that some of the other kids in the class were from CAS as well as I overheard them speak about their foster homes.
3. On Friday June 25, 2010, voluntarily and of my own free will, rode my bicycle from the children's aid society foster home where I was residing and rode about a one hour bicycle ride to my mother's home in Waterloo with the full intention that I would never return to the CAS foster home again.
4. Up until that point I was living in the care of the Children's Aid Society of the Region of Waterloo and had been residing at XXXX XXXXXX Rd. Unit B, in Petersburg Ontario which is a rural community close to Kitchener, Ontario. I lived in the care of a single foster mother by the name of SXXXXXXXXX WXXXXXXXXX. I have been partly in the care of the Children's Aid Society since 2006.

5. I decided to leave the care of the Children's Aid Society of the Region of Municipality of Waterloo on my own accord and can only say that I hate it there and am fed up with being abused and my rights violated while in the care of the CAS. Nobody with the CAS seems to listen or really help do what is best for me. I have felt this way for a long time but have lived in fear of the CAS workers and what they might do to punish me and my family. My older sister Txx ran away from the same foster home under similar circumstances earlier this year in February and has been living with my mother since that time and is very happy. I wanted to be happy as well and to be living back home with my family.
6. While I have been fearful of the CAS workers for a long time and have been afraid to stand up to them in the past, since my sister walked out and is now doing much better living outside of the Children's Aid Society, I have now greater confidence to exercise my rights and to make decisions affecting my own life.
7. I was told by the CAS workers that in August I was to be taken away to some cottage in another town and that I would be spending my summer in other town. On another occasion, my sister and I were taken to a camp at Miller Lake for 10 days and during this time were not allowed to call our parents and the visits were stopped completely. I'm tired of CAS doing what it wants without asking me what I want to do for the summer. I also don't like CAS preventing me from me speaking to my parents over the phone.

Some of my experiences while living at my most recent foster home

8. I have been living in the current foster home at XXXX Xxxxxx Rd for about one year.
9. On numerous times I was prevented from calling my parents. Sometimes CAS workers would give stupid excuses such as me having my hood up on my sweater in the house and sometimes they would not give any excuses at all. Losing phone calls to parents was used as a punishment by the CAS workers.
10. Sometimes when I called my parents from the foster homes, I could hear pushing dialing buttons on a phone. I sometimes felt as someone was listening in on my

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phone calls with my parents.

11. I had an alarm put on my door and no one every told me why they had to do this.
12. Earlier this month and shortly after I had spoken to the Ontario child advocate the safe in my bedroom where I store my valuable was broken into by someone. A copy of the letter I sent my child advocate was missing along with \$57 of my money. When I spoke to the foster mother, Sxxxxxxx, she said that she would find out who took my money but she never did. I believe that the foster mother has a spare key for my safe and that she had taken my possessions. Why would someone want to steal my letter to the Ontario Child Advocate's Office. Certainly, the other kids would not want to steal my letter.
13. The two other kids in the house, Rxxxxxx and Axxx were being abused. I have seen Rxxxxxx get pulled to the ground and sat on by the foster mother and the staff and have at other times heard Rxxxxxx cry and scream and yell, "get off me". I told the Ontario Child Advocate about the other children being abused but nothing seemed to get done.
14. On a number of times, Rxxxxxx was taken from the CAS foster home and taken to the hospital. Usually she was gone for a few days. No one ever says why she has to be taken away.
15. At breakfast and at bedtime I see the foster mother give Rxxxxxx medication and then make her drink it with water. One day we went to McDonalds for supper meal and on the way back Rxxxxxx was laughing uncontrollably all the way home. Shortly after we got home she stopped and asked "where am I?" Rxxxxxx could not remember what had happened to her just a short time earlier.
16. Rxxxxxx has changed since she first came into care. She is not as cheerful as when she first came into the foster home. I believe that she is not happy with living in the foster home as well, especially with her crying and being sat on.
17. I used to have a lock on my door, so that I could have some privacy but the CAS workers removed the lock. Now Sxxxxxxx or the staff can come into my room whenever they want . Sxxxxxxx and the staff would often walk in into my room

without knocking on the door and on the odd time when they did knock, they just opened the door right away without waiting for me to say come in. I felt I had no privacy even in my own room.

18. While in the foster home I had a lot of colds. The house was very cold in the wintertime. I had to wear sweaters to bed to help me keep warm.
19. One time Axxx told me that she found rat feces in her dresser drawer. My sister had found a dead rat on the floor as well. While in the foster home there were a lot of bugs in the house such as fruit flies, black flies, lady bugs and ants in the house.
20. One day coming home from school I saw rodent exterminators come into the foster home and saw them take pieces of the wall out in different places. When the exterminators were at the foster home, the foster mother told me that I was not allowed to call my parents. I believe that Sxxxxxxx did not want me to be saying anything to my parents about the exterminators being in the house.
21. One time Rxxxxxx opened the furnace air vent in the living room floor and found a bag with purple stuff inside of it. She removed the bag from the vent. The foster mother, Sxxxxxxx told Rebecca that it was poison and to give her the bag.
22. On a few occasions I could hear Axxx screaming and fighting with staff.
23. When my sister walked out of the foster home in February of this year, the foster mom forced me to go into her church where as before I was allowed to stay in the other room with my sister. One time I fell asleep during the church and for punishment, the foster mother, Sxxxxxxx, made me stay in my bedroom and I was not allowed phone calls to my parents. I did not like going to the church with the foster mother but was forced to against my wishes. If I had been given the choice, I would have preferred to do to the church which my parents to their church. I like the church my parents go to much better.
24. One day I overheard one of the CAS workers, Bill, tell my sister that the Church that my parents go to was no good. It is not right that he say things like this.

Only allowed one glass of milk a day

25. I have been told that I suffer from a medical condition which causes me to need to drink more milk. My parents have told me that this is called metabolic disorder. When I don't drink enough milk I feel myself shaking. When I drink lots of milk the shaking goes away.
26. In spite of my need for milk I am only allowed to have one glass of milk at breakfast and not at other time of the day. Canada's food guide says that teenagers are supposed to have 3 to 4 glasses of milk a day yet we were only allowed on glass a day.
27. In spite of needing milk, the foster mother, Sxxxxxxx, does not put any milk in my lunch for school and I am not given money to buy milk at school. At school, I eat my lunch with my friends and go over to my sister to pick up money that my parents give to my sister to give to me at school for milk.
28. I have many times asked my foster mother, Sxxxxxxx, as well as the other CAS workers for milk, but Sxxxxxxx and the other staff have repeatedly told me that I cannot have any more milk to drink.
29. At one time I remember that my father would bring milk for me to drink at access visits because CAS was not giving me enough milk.
30. One day I left the foster home shaking and arrived at my mother's house shaking badly. I had a severe headache and felt bad. My mother gave me Advil, my father cooked me some scrambled eggs with milk in it and I drank lots of milk. An hour later I was feeling better. I did not need any more Advil the whole weekend. The only problem was the shaking, but it did get better.
31. When I am at home on weekends with my mother and have milk to drink I have no problems with my shaking.
32. In regards to my lunches, I did not like the kind of bread that my foster mother, Sxxxxxxx used to make my sandwiches. It did not taste good. Even though I told my foster mother that I did not like the bread, she never listened and never bothered to use bread that tasted better. She did not seem to care about what I

thought. One time the foster mother, Sxxxxxxx, put an orange in my lunch which was old and dried out with bluish green colour on the inside. It was disgusting.

33. The foster mother had money to go to Germany on a vacation but not enough money to make sure the children in her care were being given the correct amount of milk. In fact, the foster mother was on another one of her vacations in Germany when I ran away from the CAS just three days ago on Friday.

Problems with my first CAS foster home placement as well

34. In the first foster home I was placed into by the CAS it was even worse than my last CAS foster home. The first foster home I was put into was on a street which I believe was called Springmount and the foster mother's name was Axx Kxxxxxx.
35. One time my sister and I both had lice in our hair. When at the foster home Axx, called my mother a pig just because we had lice. Lots of kids have lice, yet the foster mother blamed it on our mother and said this to me.
36. In the first CAS foster home, I used to be called stupid all the time. Many days I was called this. I have a bladder problem which causes me to sometimes unintentionally wet my bed at night and I was always called a pig and made fun of every time I had an accident. This made me feel very bad.
37. In the first CAS foster home, the CAS foster mom used to drink alcohol and smoke in the house every day. At Easter one time, I remember her drinking so much that she bumped into the walls and talked funny. The CAS foster mother could not take care of us, yet the CAS called it a home.
38. At Christmas, the foster mom gave alcohol to all the kids at except me and my sister, because we refused because it is against the teachings of our church. At the time one of the kids was only about 12 years of age. His name was Brian but I am not sure of his last name. I thought that it was against the law for alcohol to be given to children.
39. During one time I recall, my sister Txx and I were not allowed to see or talk to our parents for over a month and yet nobody at the CAS told us why. Both my sister

and I were upset and missed speaking to our parents.

40. Just like in the foster home I just fled, I was only allowed to have one glass of milk in the morning with my cereal. Sometimes we were not allowed milk to drink at all.

Four children had to share the same bathwater

41. In the first foster home all the kids had to share the same bath water. The foster mom would put water in the bath once. While sometimes I was the first to use the bathwater, on other occasions I did not want to get into the dirty water that the other kids had bathed in however, I was forced to use the same water. This was gross and disgusting. I think the foster mother was just being cheap.
42. The first foster home was overcrowded. I slept in one bedroom with two other boys, Brandon and Brian. Brandon was older and Brian was younger.
43. One night one of the foster kids in our bedroom turned on a flashlight. Brandon and Brian took off their clothes. They tried to get me to take my clothes off well but I would not because I knew what they were doing was wrong. I reported what happened to the foster parents and the police came to the house. Brandon was taken away and I was left to sleep with Brian in the room.
44. Brandon came back in the foster home after about 2 weeks. When Brandon came back he said that had a "good vacation". Although Brandon was in the same home, he was made to sleep downstairs.
45. The bottom line is that my experience with the CAS since I was first taken into care has not been good. I hate living in the care of the CAS and I don't certainly feel safe there with CAS workers threatening and bullying not only me but the other children in the CAS foster home.

My wishes and preferences

46. My wishes and preferences are as follows:
 - a) I do not want to ever go back into the care of the Children's Aid Society.
 - b) I don't want to be threatened and bullied by CAS workers or by uncaring

foster parents anymore. I don't want to be forced to live in an environment where workers don't listen and where workers just cover up the bad things that are happen inside the foster homes. I don't want to live with the CAS where I am abused and see other children being abused.

- c) I don't want the CAS threatening me and my parents with being arrested by the police as they attempted to do when my sister Txx left the CAS foster home earlier this year.
- d) I want to live with my mother in her home where I feel very much safe and happy. I have my own room and my mother cares for me very much. While my mother and father are separated, my father loves and supports me as well. I want to live with my mom where I have a REAL home and to live with family who I know really care about me.
- e) I plan to continue to go to the same school as I presently go to in the fall of 2010. Moving to my mother's home will keep me within the same school district. I will get to school by bus with my sister who goes to the same school.
- f) I do not want the CAS workers harassing or intimidating me at my school as they have already done to my older sister, Txx after she fled from the CAS. I want my rights to my privacy at school respected.
- g) Most of all I just want my freedom back and to have my rights back, especially my right to be happy. The CAS has done nothing to help me be happy and if anything CAS has only tried to control my life and to treat me like less of a person I am. I am tired of being like an object and not a person by CAS workers.
- h) I want my clothing and my money returned to me, including \$65 and my Walmart gift card which was in the safe when I left the foster home.
- i) I would like my health card returned to me by the children's aid society.

My understanding and consent

47. I acknowledge that I have had a child advocate assist me to prepare this statement based on information that I have provided to the advocate.



48. I have reviewed all of the statements in this document for accuracy and so that I fully understand the contents. I understand that I am signing this statement of my own free in the absence of either one of my parents and that nobody has told me that I must sign this document. I have also placed my initials on each page of this statement as was suggested to me by my child advocate as proof that I have reviewed each and every page of this document.
49. I also acknowledge that I allowed the child advocate who reviewed this document with me, to videotape me while reviewing and signing this document and that I provided my informed consent to the child advocate to videotape me.
50. I am willing to personally go to the court and to speak with a judge at the court should this be necessary to get CAS out of my life and to have them stop harassing and threatening me anymore.
51. It is my hope that my statement will assist the truth to be known about how I have been abused while in the care of the Children's Aid Society and how other kids are being abused as well while in care of the CAS. Hopefully my statement will help to put an end to other children being abused.

[Redacted Signature]

June 28, 2010

Dxxxxx Dxxxx Dxxxxxxxxx

Date

[Redacted Signature]

Advocate signature (witness)

[Redacted Name]

Advocate's name (printed)

Additional witness to child's signature (optional)

Relationship to child

Additional witness name (printed)