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Report Date 6/28/07   Interview of [REDACTED]

Today's date is 6/28/07 and this interview is being done in Roger Hoole's Office in Salt Lake City. The time now is approximately 1:35 p.m. Arizona time.

GE: Would you please state your full name.

LJ: [REDACTED]

GE: And [REDACTED], what is your date of birth?

LJ: July 24, 1991.

GE: And where were you born?

LJ: Hildale, Utah.

GE: And did you live in Colorado City also?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: For how long?

LJ: Eleven years.

GE: And who is your father?

LJ: Merrill Jessop.

GE: And Merrill is currently down in Texas now?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: Okay, and when was the last time you saw him?

LJ: About two years ago, I'm not quite sure.

GE: Okay, and when was it, about two years ago when I kinda met you?

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LJ: Uh, I don't know. I don't keep track but when I did go down there, he wasn't there. I haven't seen him at all.

GE: I was curious if he was there because I ended up talking to him on the phone.

LJ: Yeah, you probably would have talked to him face to face if he was there.

GE: Well I've been told that you may have some information on some of the issues that have taken place in the home there at 90 West Academy.

LJ: Yeah.

GE: Can you tell me which, let's start with the first incident, what it was?

LJ: Well it's just like me and my sisters were hanging out and my little sister came in and she told me that Dan had done things to her and I told her that she should go tell my dad. Like I had no clue what he had done, like she explained, but I had no clue what it was, but I could tell it was wrong, and like I told her to tell my dad and she kinda brushed me off because she was scared. Then like, I was like how many times has he done this to you and she's like a lot. And, then I think she told me again another time but I Mares I never knew what happened to her until a year ago.

GE: Which sister are you talking about?

LJ: Maryann.

GE: How old is Maryann?

LJ: I think she is 11 or 10, maybe 12, I don't exactly remember.

GE: And who is her mother?

LJ: Mother Barbara.

GE: Mother Barbara? And what was she saying that happened to her?

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LJ: That he like, he told her to rub his back and he made her rub his butt, and then his penis, and just like, I don't think he actually raped her but he molested her.

GE: And, when did she tell you this?

LJ: I don't remember, probably six or seven years ago.

GE: Okay. Would there be any dates or physical happenings like weather, summer time or winter time that could help you pin point it down?

LJ: No, not really.

GE: No holidays?

LJ: It may have been summer.

GE: Summer six or seven years ago?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: And who did she say was doing this to her?

LJ: Dan.

GE: Daniel Jessop?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: How old is Daniel, do you know?

LJ: He might be 21 or 22.

GE: Now?

LJ: Yeah, now. I'm not sure.

GE: Do you know where he is now?

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LJ: I think he's in Texas.

GE: What makes you think that?

LJ: Because I've seen pictures of him in the newspaper opening the gates for the Sheriff down there.

GE: Oh, okay.

LJ: So, yeah, I'm pretty sure he's down there unless they've moved him.

GE: And what was the name of your sister again?

LJ: Maryann.

GE: So Maryann is your half sister and her mother is Barbara?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: What's Barbara's full name? Is it Steed?

LJ: Barbara Steed Jessop. I don't know if she has a middle name.

GE: Okay. I imagine that Steed was her maiden name, is that right?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: So Maryann told you this about five or six years ago and you thought it was when again spring or fall?

LJ: Summer.

GE: Summer, that's right, Summer. And, did she give you any further descriptions or tell you how many times this might have happened?

LJ: No.

GE: How many times did she tell you about this?

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LJ: About two or three.

GE: Two or three times? And each time you told her to go to your father?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: But she never did that you know of?

LJ: I think she was afraid to talk about it because we couldn't say words like that and so you know, I don't know. I think it was just mainly fear talking around him like that.

GE: Around her father?

LJ: We all thought if he knew about it, he would do something. But, it was just the fear of like talking about it.

GE: The fear of being misunderstood or

LJ: Just talking about those kinda parts on his body you know.

GE: So it's fairly well frowned upon them to talk about those kinds of things then?

LJ: Yes.

GE: So if you had to explain something like that, how would you do it?

LJ: I don't know. No one ever did.

GE: Do you think that's why a lot of sexual assaults and that type of thing isn't reported?

LJ: Yes.

GE: Do you know where Maryann is now?

LJ: She might be in Texas.

GE: Do you think most of this family went down there?

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LJ: Yeah. I think my whole family may be down there. They could be separated though.

GE: Not necessarily living in WFC but

LJ: Like in other compounds.

GE: Which other ones do you think they would be in?

LJ: I don't know. I've heard of them around the country but I don't actually know where they are. I only know where the one in Texas is.

GE: Do you know of the one in Colorado?

LJ: I heard of it.

GE: How about the one in South Dakota?

LJ: Yeah, I've heard of all of them, they sound familiar, but I forget where they're located.

GE: I understand. So Maryann, did she describe in detail what types of things she was making her do?

LJ: Not much.

GE: Okay, just basically what you told me?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: And, did you get an idea of the time period that this was taking place?

LJ: When she was younger.

GE: How old was she?

LJ: She was like first, second grade.

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GE: So what she would be six, seven, eight years old?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: Did you know Daniel very well?

LJ: Yeah but we didn't really have a relationship. He didn't like me, especially when I found out what he had did.

GE: Did you confront him?

LJ: No, but like, I definitely give him the cold shoulder, like I'd sit there and just stare at him and I think he could tell that I knew, and so he kinda avoided me.

GE: Had you ever heard of him doing this type of thing before?

LJ: No.

GE: Maryann was the first one that told you about it?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: No one else had ever said anything about him doing this until your little sister spoke up?

LJ: Uh huh.

GE: When it was happening to your little sister, I don't know how much you know about this but, but would that have been the same time that it was going on with Maryann?

LJ: M [REDACTED] e? Yeah, I think it may have, like

GE: Been real close?

LJ: But the thing about M [REDACTED] e is that she told him that she didn't want to do it, so he just, she said he just backed off. Maryann, I don't think she ever said anything, I think she just did it.

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GE: She just did it because she didn't know any better or

LJ: She was scared. She was probably afraid that he would hit her and yell at her if she said no.

GE: Was he known for that kind of thing?

LJ: He had a temper.

GE: Did he? Was he known for beating up on his siblings?

LJ: Mostly the boys. The girls, he would just yell at them. Like me, he would always yell at me, all you ever do is gripe and complain, I hate being around you. Just always putting me down.

GE: How did that make you feel?

LJ: It didn't get to me but I definitely didn't like him.

GE: Do you know, and you may not know, so just say so, but do you know where in the house he used to take Maryann?

LJ: His bedroom.

GE: Into his bedroom?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: And how do you know that?

LJ: Because she told me.

GE: Okay. So she told you that he would take her into his bedroom and there he would make her touch his body parts?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: And again, go through it again for me, which parts?

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LJ: His butt and his penis. And, he'd make her rub his back too.

GE: Did she ever say that he made her do anything else?

LJ: No.

GE: Did she ever say that he made her have intercourse with him?

LJ: What does that mean?

GE: Sex with him, I'm sorry.

LJ: Oh, no. I don't think he did, but I could be wrong, I don't know.

GE: Well this happened a while ago and you're just trying to recall it, I understand. Did she ever say anything else about him having any fluids having come out of his penis or anything like that?

LJ: No.

GE: Have you ever had any types of problems like that with anyone touching you when you didn't feel comfortable?

LJ: I had a run in with him once, but he didn't get anywhere. He was in the bathroom and he just opened the door with his pants down, but like I didn't see anything, because I knew what he had done before and he was like you want to see something neat and I was like no and I ran off.

GE: How old was he when he was doing these types of things?

LJ: Sixteen or 17, I'm not sure.

GE: Was that the only time he ever tried anything like that?

LJ: Yeah.

GE: Has anyone else ever tried to touch you or expose themselves to you?

LJ: No.

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GE: Has anyone else ever tried to get you to touch them?

LJ: No. I don't think any of my brothers really have that problem except him. I mean if they really wanted to get a hold of someone, they'd just go find a girlfriend secretly. I don't know what his issue was.

GE: Having a girlfriend in that community was kind of tabu thing wasn't it?

LJ: Oh yeah.

GE: Not allowed to court or date, or talk?

LJ: But like there were a lot of parties, like out in the bushes. All my aunts and uncles always had boyfriends and girlfriends and I'm sure a lot of my older brothers went through that where they'd go out and party and probably dated a few girls.

GE: Did you ever go to any of those parties?

LJ: No. My mom left when I was 11 so, no.

GE: You didn't miss anything?

LJ: No.

GE: Um, tell me what you would do if someone did try and touch you inappropriately? Who could you go and tell?

LJ: I probably would have went and told my mom. I was really close to her when I was really little, so, I basically told her everything.

GE: Anybody else, say on the outside of the family would you feel safe telling?

LJ: No.

GE: Not a school teacher or anything like that? How about outside now, in this community?

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LJ: Maybe, like friends or something, yeah.

GE: Has anyone ever shown you explicit pictures or anything when you were younger?

LJ: No.

GE: Is there anything that I may have not asked you that you may feel it's important that I know?

LJ: I don't think so.

GE: Okay. Do you have any questions of me?

LJ: No.

GE: Okay, well I'm going to give you my card and if you do think of something that you think I should know, please don't hesitate to call me.

LJ: Okay.

GE: I'm here to try and help you as well as everyone else I can, and I work on the Colorado City side, Mohave County. But, if you have problems, I do have a lot of connections through the years I've been doing this, so if I can help you, I sure will.

LJ: Okay.

GE: Okay. Thank you very much.

LJ: Thanks.