

SUPPORT STATEMENT

SURVIVOR DETAILS

Survivor Name: Kevin Coburn

Date of Birth: 30/08/1975

Supporting Person Details

Name: Stephen Coburn

Relationship to Survivor: Brother

Length of Relationship: all my life

Purpose of This Statement

I am providing this statement in support of the above survivors Redress Scotland application. I know them personally and wish to offer information about their experiences they shared with me, and the impact this has had on their life.

What the Survivor shared with me

They used to lock him in cupboards. They used to hit him as well. I know that much and they never, a lot of the time they wasn't feeding them on time. They just, they was just being treated horrible, like inhumane, like no one should be treated. Being stuffed in cupboards was quite a bad one. Taping people over the mouth. That used to happen to me as well. It's not a nice thing when people do that to you. You can't breathe properly. It's not nice at all. Just being treated with disrespect. No proper schooling. It's really affected him.

He can't read or write properly. I mean, I've got to help him with that stuff. He must be embarrassed more than anything. It's such a shame. People shouldn't be treated like that, you know. You're put in there, it's supposed to be called into care, but you're not, are you? Well, maybe it's different now, I don't know but he, yeah, it was quite traumatising for him, to be honest. He definitely wasn't the same person, it definitely changes you, a hundred percent-moods, anger, you know, picked on by staff. It was just horrible, horrible thing to be part of.

I was in care myself and I can tell you it was horrific, he is my older brother, and we were in different facilities, we never got to visit each other so that had an impact too.

Impact to the Survivor that I have observed

He's got definite mental health issues. I'm trying to help him. He's got a mental health appointment on Tuesday. And I've managed to get the day off work so I can go with him, because he's got very similar symptoms to like what I've got, and I take antipsychotics. I've ended up in mental hospitals. And he's the exact way I was at the beginning of my journey now.

So yeah, it's definitely affected him a hundred percent. I'm trying to help him as best I can with hindsight, and I thought if I could go to the appointment with him to see if it would help, for me speak to the guards to explain to them, like, you know, what we sort of subjected to and hopefully they'll be able to give him the right medication, which is not the cure, but it definitely helps. yeah, that's why he's with me. That's why I pretty much said to him, you need to come. You need to get away from that. break that cycle and come be near us and be part of something as being part of something is better than being part of nothing and at least that way you can get the help that you actually need. I've got my own demons. I'm just in a slightly better place because I've got help sooner. That's the only difference. The only difference.

we just sort of know each other and you can just tell by looking at each other or looking at him, especially when he's struggling, you know, which he struggles every day, which is why I want to go to that appointment with him to try to see if I can get him the help that he needs I ended up in a mental institution three times. They sectioned me at one point. So, you know, same sort of thing. It's very similar story, isn't it and it's all due to the way we was treated when we were younger. It's not fair. It's not a nice thing to talk about. It's hard to even think about it and never mind talk about it.

Justice is what he needs. Like I said, it's not fair to be treated like that and put in cupboards and taped. It's something I hate. I don't even have a roll of tape in my house. You stick someone in a cupboard, who does that. to children. It's just not humane, is it?

My parents were terrible. They were terrible. They were worse than the other place. So it was the best of a bad situation. What would you do with that? you can't, there's nothing you can do. We just have to try to get on with it and basically it just affects your entire life, who you are, drug habits, you know, all sorts of stuff, drinking, violence, prison time, you know, it's all stuff that from both sides could have been stopped, you know, could have been prevented.

There was nothing. There was no help. So now, you know, where I'm in a better place than what I was, that's why I've reached out and tried to help him, you know, I'm not trying to hold his hand, he's a grown ass man, but if he needs my help, I'm here and I think he needs my help.

He seems to be alright, but obviously he's still got his own demons, he deals with them on a daily basis, the stuff that you don't talk about. We've all got that, everyone's got that, haven't they? Some just worse than others. You know, to have to keep reliving it all the time is hard.

Supporting Statement confirmation

I offer this statement to support the above survivor's application. Everything I have written reflects what they have shared with me and what I have personally observed during the time I have known them.

Name: Stephen Coburn

Date: 20/05/2026