

00001:01 Interview 2005 January 20
02 Sandra Danchuk, Jordan Hardy, Don Christal
03 JH: Okay? You let me know when were on. Okay
04 it is 7:10 p.m. on January 20th, 2005. Im
05 with Sandra Danchuk. Sandra, do you swear
06 on the bible? Got it in the right hand.
07 Can you state your full name please?
08 SD: Sandra Danchuk.
09 JH: And you understand that this testimony will
10 be used in a public hearing and you
11 solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole
12 truth and nothing but the truth, so help
13 you God?
14 SD: Yes.
15 JH: I want to start by thanking you for meeting
16 with me today and agreeing to testify for
17 the purposes of our public hearing. I
18 understand that you currently reside in
19 Nanaimo?
20 SD: Thats right.
21 JH: And I understand that in January of 1969
22 you resided at 129 Avenue T South in
23 Saskatoon in a basement suite with your
24 husband Walt-Walter?
25 SD: Thats right.
26 JH: And how old were you at that time?
27 SD: Eighteen.
28 JH: Now I understand that you and your husband
29 were contacted by the police um, in or, or
30 around that time respecting an
31 investigation that was ongoing and were
32 going to look at some documents in, in that
33 respect in a moment but I was hoping that
34 you could give us your independent
35 recollection firstly Sandra, of the events

00002:01 of that morning, January 31st, 1969.

02 SD: Just the way that I remember that—

03 JH: Yeah—

04 SD: now?

05 JH: just the way you remember it, please.

06 SD: UmWally wouldve gone out to start the car

07 probably around quarter after 7. Um, and

08 then I think he came in the house to see if

09 I was ready and then we both went out and

10 um, the um, as he was backing out of the,

11 we, we parked the car in the back of the

12 house so we had to back it out into the

13 lane to get into the lane and I think as he

14 was backing out he, I think it got stuck.

15 I (unintelligible), I cant remember

16 whether it stalled or got stuck, it was one

17 or the other.

18 JH: Okay. Im gonna stop you there just for a

19 moment—

20 SD: Okay.

21 JH: Sandra, and refer you to a map that weve

22 been using in the hearing. I believe then

23 weve been referring to this as our Map A

24 and—

25 SD: Um hm.

26 JH: and document ID 031006.

27 SD: Okay.

28 JH: Now Ill just have you take a look at that

29 and see if you can locate your residence at

30 that time on Avenue T.

31 SD: It would be right there.

32 JH: Okay and maybe Ill just get you to mark

33 and X on that and then Ill describe it for

34 our purposes. And youve marked an X on

35 Avenue T and it looks like your residence

00003:01 was on the west side of Avenue T ah,
02 between the blocks of um, 21st Street and
03 22nd Street. Would that be correct?
04 SD: Yes.
05 JH: And I see that T shape on the map, would
06 that be a back alley ah, behind your
07 residence? Do you see in that block
08 theres a T shape.
09 SD: Thats the way that I would remember it.
10 JH: Okay, there, there was a back alley-
11 SD: Yes.
12 JH: behind your place, okay. And Im sorry, I,
13 I interrupted you so-
14 SD: Okay.
15 JH: you had back out and continue from there.
16 SD: We backed out and um, then I think that
17 either a car pulled up behind us or was
18 already behind us. Um, and I told, I told
19 Wally theres a car behind us andI
20 basically dont remember much after that.
21 He musta gotten out to see what the car was
22 doing behind us or maybe they came to see
23 if they could help and it was just so cold
24 I went back into the, into the basement
25 suite-
26 JH: Okay.
27 SD: and um, then I remember, I think Wally came
28 in and had said that we need to call a tow
29 truck and umone of the kids out of the car
30 came downstairs while I was still home and
31 I, and I think it was David Milgaard. Um,
32 well I dont think, I know that it, it was
33 David Milgaard now by you know what, what
34 wed been told. And um, he just ah, asked
35 for a glass of water. I thought they were

00004:01 just kids on their way to school, that,
02 well that was my first impression of them
03 just as a group of teenagers on their way
04 to school. Um, he commented, the one thing
05 that really sticks in my head is that he
06 commented that we had a nice place and I
07 was proud of that because we were just
08 newly married and we did um, try to have a
09 nice place so that really sticks in my
10 mind. And um, then I think David went back
11 outside and I dont remember this but I
12 must have gone to the lady that lived next
13 door to us and or she maybe came over to
14 our suite, I cant remember, and asked
15 whether I needed a ride to work or whether
16 we wanted to share a cab and I said yes and
17 then the last thing that I can remember is
18 going upstairs and seeing the two other
19 people that were with David Milgaard
20 sitting on the, in the stairwell upstairs.
21 And ah, passed by them, I dont think I
22 had any, any conversation with them and I
23 went to work and that was about it.
24 JH: And then I understand you woulda been
25 contacted by the police at some time
26 following that?
27 SD: Icant remember for sure but I think that
28 Wally saw Davids picture in the newspaper
29 and when I came home he said it, this is
30 the guy that was stuck in behind us and
31 then I, I dont know whether it was the
32 same day that we were contacted but I think
33 thats how we found out to—
34 JH: So—
35 SD: begin with.

00005:01 JH: so when the police then had initially
02 contacted you, you were already aware of—
03 SD: Aware of—
04 JH: David Milgaards—
05 SD: Yes—
06 JH: involvement?
07 SD: yeah.
08 JH: Okay. And do you recall your, in dealings
09 with the investigators at that time?
10 SD: Hardly at all. I think we went down to the
11 Saskatoon Police station and were asked
12 some questions but I dont really remember
13 much of what we were asked at that point.
14 JH: So, and, and try to recall as best you can—
15 did you have an understanding as to what
16 the investigation related to then at the
17 point that you were initially contacted by
18 the police?
19 SD: I believe we were told that it had to do
20 with um, the nurse—
21 JH: Okay.
22 SD: that was found.
23 JH: And prior to seeing the, the picture ah, of
24 David Milgaard as you mentioned, you had
25 heard then of the murder of Gail Miller?
26 SD: No we didnt, I, I dont thinkI dont
27 remember.
28 JH: Okay, no thats fine, thats fine. You
29 dont recall though ever associating prior
30 to contact with the police, ever
31 associating um, the death of Gail Miller
32 with the youths that had visited—
33 SD: Never.
34 JH: your home?
35 SD: Never.

00006:01 JH: Okay.
02 SD: Never crossed my mind.
03 JH: Do you recall in particular which officers
04 you dealt with?
05 SD: No.
06 JH: You dont recall any names? Okay. Im
07 going to refer to some documents Sandra,
08 and some of these you wont be able to
09 speak to-theyre investigation reports that
10 were recorded at the time but Ill relay
11 the information and, and ah, perhaps get
12 your comment on that. And it starts with
13 a-Investigation Report dated March 7th and
14 the document ID is 106617 and its a report
15 by Detective Carst. And I dont suppose,
16 do you remember any dealings with a
17 Detective Carst?
18 SD: No.
19 JH: Okay. And if I just move this to
20 pagethree of that documentwhich is page
21 106619 and if I just read at the bottom and
22 um, its ah, thus far been a summary of ah,
23 Detective Carsts investigation into the
24 matter and he states at point number 10 as
25 follows: and one of the most important
26 factors to be kept in mind is the element,
27 is the time element involved as there is no
28 accounting for the time which they arrived
29 in the city which is approximately 5 or
30 5:30 by their own testimony and statements
31 and we cannot account for any of their
32 actions until approximately 20 minutes to 8
33 when they were stuck in a lane in the 100
34 block off of, south of 22nd Street between
35 Avenue T and U, this portion being covered

00007:01 by a further statement from Wally Danchuk
02 of 129 Avenue P that he states, I think he
03 means T, South, who had also observed these
04 person that morning. So thats an initial
05 indication in the reports respecting that
06 matter and again I dont believe you
07 probably have a comment on that but I
08 wanted to set that out for our ah,
09 background. And if I then turn to another
10 document Sandra, and its actually an RCMP
11 report and it is document ID 054697, and
12 the report is signed on the last page by a
13 D.A. Rasmussen and again Ill read a
14 portion of this onto the record. Beginning
15 at the bottom of page 054699, thats page 3
16 of the document, stated that when they
17 arrived in Saskatoon they started looking
18 for Albert Cadrains place whom he had met
19 before. They didnt know exactly where
20 Cadrain lived but knew it was in the
21 Pleasanthill area of Saskatoon. Stated
22 while driving around they became stuck in
23 an alley in that area however could not
24 give the exact location. Stated that as
25 they drove up the alley they came upon a
26 car ahead of them and when they tried to
27 give it a push they also became stuck.
28 This car was described as a 63 or 64 Ford
29 and was occupied by a man and a woman.
30 Stated the man called for a tow truck and
31 they all subsequently went into this
32 persons house and waited for it to come.
33 When it arrived the other vehicle was
34 pulled out but as Milgaard had no money the
35 tow truck left without assisting him. I

00008:01 dont think you can comment on the last
02 part of that but does that account sound
03 accurate—
04 SD: Um hm.
05 JH: otherwise?
06 SD: Yeah.
07 JH: To the best of your recollection—
08 SD: Yes.
09 JH: and your involvement?
10 SD: Um hm.
11 JH: Okay Sandra, Im, Im next going to turn
12 you to a copy of your written statement
13 that was given at the time so just me a
14 moment. Do you recall giving a written
15 statement to the investigators at that
16 time?
17 SD: Vaguely.
18 JH: Okay and where do you think that took
19 place?
20 SD: Think that was at the police station as
21 well.
22 JH: Okay. I ah, have a written statement here
23 in front of me and has a document ID of
24 006621 and youll see, Ill let you take a
25 peek at my copy here—
26 SD: Um hm.
27 JH: dated March 5th, 1969, at the top. The time
28 noted is 6:35 p.m., refers to Sandra
29 Danchuk at 129 T South. And it is a two
30 page document and I see there are
31 signatures at the bottom of—
32 SD: Um hm.
33 JH: both pages. Do you recognize that
34 signature—
35 SD: Yes—

00009:01 JH: as your own?
02 SD: yes I do.
03 JH: Okay and I see also a signature, a G.
04 Chartier-does that name ring a bell at all?
05 SD: No.
06 JH: Okay. Now Ill read this statement and
07 again for the record Sandra Danchuk of 129
08 T South states as follows: I recall 2 boys
09 and a girl being in our suite about January
10 31st, 1969. This involved my husband and
11 their car being stalled. Descriptions,
12 female about 5 feet tall, thin, straight,
13 long, dark brown hair with bangs to the
14 eyes, lot of make-up, age 14 years, navy or
15 black elephant pants with a pinstripe in
16 them, maroon double breasted T jacket with
17 gold buttons, O I think it says. One male
18 about 59, thin, age 17 or 18, dark, may
19 have worn a white or bl-white and black
20 toque, believe pants either checkered or
21 striped, corduroy jacket gold or dark
22 brown, probably pile lining and pile-I
23 cant read that next word, I dont know if
24 you can? Something-
25 SD: And-
26 JH: a-and I shouldve asked you his, does this
27 look your handwriting? Or does that look
28 like someone elses handwriting?
29 SD: Somebody elses hand-
30 JH: Okay.
31 SD: writing.
32 JH: Not sure what that word is-black and white
33 striped shirt with white collar, fair,
34 probably gold pants. Number one male was
35 downstairs three times, once wanted to use

00010:01 the phone to get a tow truck and the other
02 two times to get a drink of water. This
03 boy was very polite. I believe I left for
04 work sometime between 9:10 a.m. and 9:20
05 a.m. I felt the girl looked tired and
06 scared because-because when I looked at her
07 she looked down. She giggled a lot when
08 she first came in. And Sandra, does that
09 sound like an accurate account of the
10 information then that you wouldve provided
11 to the police at that time?
12 SD: Yes.
13 JH: And do you have any comment then on that
14 statement or did you want to make a-
15 SD: No.
16 JH: comment on that statement? Okay. Maybe
17 you could just let Walter know-
18 SD: Um hm.
19 JH: that were interviewing. Im just worried
20 that thats gonna (unintelligible) on the
21 microphone.
22 (unintelligible)
23 JH: And I know this is difficult ah, to recall
24 Sandra, and just bear with me and do your
25 best. After that initial contact with the
26 police you did testify then you recall at
27 the trial of David Milgaard?
28 SD: Yes.
29 JH: Okay. And do you remember prior to
30 testifying but after that initial contact
31 with the police, did you have any other
32 contact p-with the police in that interim
33 period?
34 SD: Not that I remember.
35 JH: Okay. And how would you se-assess your

00011:01 dealings with the police during that
02 investigation?
03 SD: Ive never had dealings with the police
04 before so I dont know.
05 JH: Okay.
06 SD: I-businesslike.
07 JH: Okay. You didnt have any comment then on,
08 on how you were treated or otherwise?
09 SD: I dont remember like I, it must,
10 everything mustve been fine-
11 JH: Okay.
12 SD: because I dont remember anything negative
13 or anything that stands out in my mind as
14 being uncomfortable or-
15 JH: Okay and as I say we know that you did
16 testify at the Preliminary Hearing. Do you
17 have any recollection of, of preparations
18 for your testimony there? Did you meet
19 with the prosecutor for example?
20 SD: I dont remember.
21 JH: Well just turn to your preliminary
22 transcript or the transcript from your
23 testimony at the Preliminary Hearing of
24 David Milgaard and thats document ID
25 007498. Ill get you to peek at the
26 document with me again. I see the top of
27 the second page, 007499 refers to Alicia
28 Alexandra Danchuk and that is yourself?
29 SD: It is.
30 JH: Examined by Mr. Caldwell. And I dont
31 propose to read the entire transcript but I
32 will read some portions of it for your
33 recollection. Ah, Im turning to page
34 007501 beginning at line 19 and Ill read,
35 Question: I see, and was it still darkness

00012:01 at the outset of this incident? Answer:
02 Yes it was quite dark, yes. And anything
03 else in particular about the weather with
04 visibility that morning? Answer: It was
05 foggy. Question: And so then what
06 happened when this other vehicle, did you
07 see it as being a car by the way? Answer:
08 Yes, it was a car. Question: What
09 happened when it got behind you? Answer:
10 They started pushing right away. I dont
11 even think my husband got out of the car,
12 Im not sure though, but he started pushing
13 and all of a sudden I guess their battery
14 went dead or something. I dont know what
15 it was but my husband told me to go into
16 the house. And Ill stop there. And
17 thats an accurate account to the best of
18 your-
19 SD: Um hm.
20 JH: recollection?
21 SD: Yes.
22 JH: Okay. Im moving down the page, same page
23 that we just ended there at, at line 31,
24 Question: What was the next you saw of
25 any, your husband or anybody else? Answer:
26 I, I think my husband came down next and he
27 told me that-Ill move to the next page,
28 continuing on at line 32 on page 007503-
29 Question: Did anyone else come down?
30 Answer: I guess the driver of the car came
31 down and he asked for a glass of water.
32 Question: Now this was downstairs into
33 your suite, was it? Answer: Yes.
34 Question: Did you understand the person
35 who came down to be the driver when you say

00013:01 I guess the driver came down? Answer: It
02 mustve been because he asked if he could
03 use the phone to call a tow truck.
04 Question: I see, and did you allow him to
05 do that? Answer: Yes. Question: Did you
06 hear him talking on the phone? Answer: I
07 cant remember. Question: I see, alright.
08 And then what happened? Answer: And then
09 he asked for a glass of water and he went
10 upstairs. Question: Yes. Answer: And he
11 came back down again to give me the glass
12 back. Question: Right. Answer: Again,
13 thats all I saw of him. Question:
14 Alright. Now did you know that person
15 before at all? Answer: No, I didnt.
16 Question: And can you look around the
17 court please, and tell the Court whether
18 hes in the room here today? Answer: Yes,
19 he is. Next page, continuing on-Question:
20 Which person is it? Answer: Its the man
21 sitting in the box. Question: Seated in
22 the box here in the goldish sweater?
23 Answer: Yes, it is. Question: And I take
24 it you have not seen him since until today
25 then? Answer: Thats right. Question:
26 Did you have anymore face to face viewings
27 with this man? Answer: No, I didnt.
28 Question: Just the two trips down to where
29 you were? Answer: Yes. Does that sound
30 like an accurate account then of-
31 SD: Yes.
32 JH: your recollection of the information-
33 SD: Um hm.
34 JH: provided? Ill move forward then to page
35 007506, just reading a couple of question

00014:01 and answers from that page beginning at
02 line 61. Question: Do you recall anything
03 about how the accused person you have
04 identified today was dressed on that
05 occasion? Answer: Well I can only
06 remember that he was wearing a toque. I
07 can hardly remember anything about what he
08 was wearing now. I could probably tell you
09 before but its been such a long time, I
10 cant remember. Question: Alright but you
11 say you can only remember that he was
12 wearing a toque as one specific thing?
13 Answer: And his jacket was open, I think.
14 And again does that sound like an accurate
15 account of the information provi-you
16 wouldve provided?
17 SD: Yes.
18 JH: Moving forward we then get into the cross-
19 examination that was conducted by Mr.
20 Tallas and if I turn to page 007510, Ill

21 begin at line 21. Question: Now I gather
22 from what youve told my learned friend,
23 that David, this boy here in the box, spoke
24 to you when you were in your suite?
25 Answer: Yes. Question: And as, as I
26 understand it he came down and among other
27 things asked for your permission to use the
28 phone to call a tow truck, is that correct?
29 Answer: Yes. Question: And I think you
30 mentioned that he asked for a glass of
31 water, which you gave him. Answer: Yes, I
32 did. Question: And as I understand it, he
33 took the glass of water upstairs. Answer:
34 Yes. Question: And then brought the glass
35 back? Answer: Yes. Question: Now I

00015:01 gather that your recollection is that he
02 was quite polite to you when he spoke to
03 you? Answer: Yes, very polite. Question:
04 And his conversation was in a quite, in
05 quite a normal tone? Answer: Yes.
06 Question: Now you mentioned I think, that
07 you can recall him having a jacket on but I
08 think you told my learned friend and I hope
09 I heard you correctly, that the jacket,
10 jacket was open as you recall it? Answer:
11 I think it was, yes. Question: And I
12 presume that he had some sort of a shirt or
13 something underneath it including the
14 trousers and so on? Answer: Yes.
15 Question: Now I take it the only thing of
16 any consequence that you can recall
17 clothing-wise is the toque? Answer: Yes.
18 And I take it you noticed nothing unusual
19 down the front of his clothes? Answer:
20 No. And well move forward to the next
21 page, page 007512, beginning at line 35.
22 And Ill pause for a moment, that last
23 portion I read, does that sound like an
24 accurate account of the information-
25 SD: Yes.
26 JH: you would have provided as best you can
27 recall? Moving then to page 007512 at line
28 35. Question: And I presume that in due
29 course a police officer would get in touch
30 with you? Answer: Yes. Question: Now do
31 you remember what day it was that the
32 policeman got in touch with you? Answer:
33 No, I dont. Question: Well would it be
34 the same day that those people were there?
35 Answer: No. Question: Or the day after?

00016:01 Answer: It was about a week, maybe two,
02 Im not sure. Question: In any event do
03 you remember the police officer who you
04 were talking to? Answer: The one that
05 came? Question: The name of the
06 policeman. Answer: That came into the
07 house? Question: Yes. Answer: I wasnt
08 home. Question: I see, well did he take a
09 statement from you at any time? Answer: I
10 had to go down to the police station.
11 Question: Oh, I see and what did you see
12 at the police station? Answer: I cant

13 remember his name. Sorry, and who did you
14 see at the police station-Answer-I cant
15 remember his name. Question: I see. In
16 any event, you did give a statement in
17 writing? Answer: Yes, I did. Question: A
18 few days after this in-incident? Perhaps a
19 week, is that correct? Answer: A week or
20 two. Question: And I suppose that at that
21 particular time you would be asked whether
22 or not there was anything unusual. Answer:
23 Yes. Question: And you were specifically
24 asked I suppose, whether or not there was
25 any blood down the front of this man, blood
26 on his clothes or anything like that?
27 Answer: A policeman phoned back and asked
28 if we noticed any blood in the sink but he
29 never asked me about any blood on the
30 clothing. Question: I see. In any event,
31 you didnt notice any blood in the sink?
32 Answer: No, I didnt. Question: And you
33 certainly, as youve probably, properly
34 told me, you didnt notice any blood on his
35 clothes? Answer: No I didnt. Question:

00017:01 And of course if you had remembered seeing
02 any blood on his clothes you wouldve told
03 the policeman at that time? Answer: Yes,
04 I would. And does that sound like an
05 accurate account of the information
06 provided? And does that help you remember?
07 It sounds like youre speaking of a, a
08 second conversation with the police during
09 that investigation-a telephone call. Do
10 you have a recollection of that, Sandra?
11 SD: No.
12 JH: Okay. Ill move forward then in this same
13 document to page 007514. Its the re-
14 examination by Mr. Caldwell after Mr.
15 Tallas-was finished his cross-examination
16 and he says beginning at line 1, Mrs.
17 Danchuk, I think I asked you something
18 about the clothes the accused was wearing
19 and you recalled him wearing a toque and my
20 learned friend has asked you some questions
21 concerning what may have or may not have
22 been on his clothes. I think he asked you
23 but you noticed nothing unusual down the
24 front of his clothing. You answered no and
25 later on you didnt see any blood on his
26 clothes and you answered no, I didnt.
27 Those are just what you said now. Im
28 wondering in view of what you said about
29 noticing that he was wearing a toque, did
30 you direct your attention at the time to
31 like specifically to look his clothing over
32 for what may or may not have been there?
33 Answer: No. When he spoke to me I looked
34 at his face and naturally I saw the toque
35 on his head but as far as clothing I didnt

00018:01 pay much attention to it really. And I
02 take it from what youve said either to
03 what the items were or to the condition.
04 Answer: Well just ordinary clothing like a
05 school boy would wear. And actually there
06 is one continuing portion, theres some
07 discussion between counsel and the court
08 and Mr. Caldwell then concludes-firstly the
09 Court states, Mrs. Danchuk, now theres
10 going to be one question asked of you and
11 you think of the question before you
12 answer. And then Mr. Caldwell states the
13 question, just the one thing, Mrs. Danchuk,
14 talking still about the fellow who you have
15 identified here today. What observations if
16 any did you make of the front of his
17 clothes? Answer: Well if there was
18 anything unusual I didnt see it. Now in
19 terms of those two sections Ive just read,
20 would that be an accurate account of, of
21 what you indicated at that time—
22 SD: Yes.
23 JH: to the best of your recollections?
24 SD: Yes.
25 JH: Okay. So that was the Preliminary Hearing,
26 Sandra, and well move forward to the trial
27 and again a difficult question but do you
28 remember whether you had any dealings with
29 the prosecutor or any-anybody else prior to
30 testifying at the trial and after the
31 Preliminary Hearing? Do you remember
32 preparing with a prosecutor at all for your
33 testimony? And if you could state—
34 SD: I dont.
35 JH: yes or no. Okay.

00019:01 SD: I dont, no.

02 JH: Okay. So Im going to take you to the
03 trial then, Sandra, and the transcript from
04 that trial and again I dont propose to
05 read out all of the testimony for the
06 record but I have chosen some portions and
07 do you have a recollection of testifying at
08 the trial?

09 SD: No.

10 JH: Not really? Okay.

11 SD: I thought—

12 JH: Nor—

13 SD: I thought I just testified one time, I
14 guess it was twice. I, its such a long
15 time ago.

16 JH: I understand, sure.

17 SD: And it wasnt anything that was relevant to
18 me you know, I justhm, I just didnt feel
19 anything was really a big deal and so I,
20 nothing really stuck in my mind you know.

21 JH: Okay. Ill read you some portions from the
22 transcript from the trial. And ah, at
23 document 005655 and if we go in a few pages
24 to page 005657 begins at um, approximately
25 line 3. Question: Did any of the
26 ocuments-occupants of the other car come in
27 the house? Answer: I think one of the
28 boys asked if the girl could come into the
29 house because she was cold and I think the
30 boy and the girl both came in but they sat
31 down on the steps upstairs. Question: Now
32 do you know they came in of your own
33 knowledge or not? Answer: (excuse me)

34 Answer: Yes, I saw them as I was leaving
35 for work. Question: I see, this would be

00020:01 a little later then? Answer: Yes.

02 Question: Alright and that was one of the
03 boys and the girl and I think you said sort
04 of in the back porch, did you? Just in the
05 back door? Answer: Yes. Question: And
06 did you have any direct dealings with those
07 two for instance? Answer: No. Question:
08 And did you have any direct dealings with
09 the other boy? Answer: He came down and
10 he asked for a glass of water. Question:
11 And did you give him a glass? Answer:
12 Yes, I did. Question: And where would he
13 get that? In your suite? Answer: Yes, in
14 our kitchen. Question: The glass or?
15 Answer: The glass of water, he came into
16 our kitchen. Question: Alright, now are
17 any of that group of three in court here
18 today? Answer: Just one that I can see.
19 Question: Alright, which one can you see?
20 Answer: The one in the box. Question:
21 The man in the box to my left? Answer:
22 Yes. Question: Which of the ones was he?
23 Answer: He was the one that asked for a
24 glass of water. Question: And he was down
25 in your suite, eh? Answer: Yes.
26 Question: Alright and when he got this
27 glass of water I presume he went back up,
28 did he? Answer: Yes. And is that an
29 accurate of-account of information as best
30 you can recall-
31 SD: Yes.
32 JH: as you provided it? If I flip forward to
33 page 005659 starting again at the top
34 approximately line 3. Now, can-Question:
35 Now can you tell the court Mrs. Danchuk,

00021:01 what if anything you noticed about the way
02 that any of these three people were clothed
03 or dressed and to the extent you can
04 recall. Answer: You mean a full
05 description orQue-question: Yes, as much
06 as you know. Answer: Well they were just
07 dressed like school kids, nothing
08 different. I didnt really notice anything
09 in, well I dont know how to put it really.
10 Question: Do you remember specific items
11 of clothing on any of them or not? Answer:
12 Well I thought one of them was wearing a
13 toque. Question: I see. And did they all
14 have some sort of outer winter coats or
15 what have you? Answer: Oh yes, yes. And
16 then it looks the court, the judge had a
17 couple of questions for you. Question:
18 Which one was wearing the toque, do you
19 know? Answer: The one that asked for the
20 glass of water. Question: Was that the
21 accused in the box? Answer: Yes. Is that
22 an accurate account of information as you
23 wouldve provided as best you can recall,
24 Sandra?
25 SD: Yes.
26 JH: If I move forward, I apologize, this next
27 bit is a little bit lengthy but we s-we go
28 to page 005661 and we start near the top at
29 about line 5. Question: But you didnt
30 spend a great deal of time with the people
31 upstairs, that is the group. Answer: No,
32 no. Question: But as I understand it I
33 believe you may have mentioned this, the
34 boy in the box here when-Ill call David-I
35 think he came down and spoke to you in the

00022:01 suite? Answer: Yes. And I should mention
02 this is during the cross-examination by Mr.
03 Tallas. Um, continuing-and what-Question:
04 And was your husband there at the time?
05 Answer: No, he was outside. Question: He
06 was outside and did he come down and ask
07 for permission, permission to use the phone
08 to call a tow truck? Answer: I think he
09 did but Im not sure. Question: I see but
10 in any event it was at that time that you
11 gave him a glass of water. Answer: Either
12 around then or shortly after. Question:
13 Now I gather that your recollection is that
14 David was quite polite when he spoke to
15 you? Answer: Yes, very. Question: And
16 his conversation was, was in quite normal
17 tone? Answer: Yes. Question: Now I
18 dont know whether you mentioned it in this
19 court or not but I believe it is fair to
20 say that he was wearing a jacket? Answer:
21 Yes. Question: And I think that as you
22 recall it the jacket was open. Answer: It
23 was partly opened I think. Question: When
24 I say Answer: In a V. It was I think
25 just halfway zipped up or buttoned up,
26 whatever. Question: I see and now you
27 noticed that he had on, he was wearing
28 trousers? Can you recall the colour of
29 them by chance? Answer: No. Question: I
30 see and I suppose youve been asked this
31 question many times. Answer: Yes, I
32 thought I could shortly after but Im not
33 sure at all. Question: Fine. Well now in
34 any event I take it you noticed nothing
35 unusual down the front of his clothes?

00023:01 Answer: No, I didnt pay much attention to
02 the clothing. Question: But as I
03 understand it not too long after this
04 unfortunate incident that is the subject
05 matter of these proceedings, you were
06 certainly asked whether or not you noticed
07 any blood on anyones clothes. Answer:
08 Yes, I was asked. Question: And you
09 indicated at that time as you have on
10 subsequent occasions that you did not see
11 any blood on anyones clothes that morning.
12 Answer: I didnt pay that much attention
13 to their clothing that I could see
14 anything. Question: In any event if you
15 had remembered seeing any blood on any
16 clothes you wouldve certainly told us
17 about it. Answer: If I wouldve seen it,
18 yes. Continue on the next page. Question:
19 Yes, and as a matter of fact you were also
20 asked whether or not youd seen any blood
21 around the sink. Answer: Yes. Question:
22 And that is in your bathroom? Is that
23 correct? Answer: Yes, we were asked.
24 Question: And you didnt see anything of
25 that nature at all? Answer: No, I didnt.
26 Question: I think at the Preliminary
27 Hearing you told my learned friend that
28 Davids jacket was opened to the best of
29 your recollection. Answer: It was either
30 opened or part way opened. I cant recall
31 really. Question: You cant be sure
32 whether it was open or not? Answer: Im
33 sure part of his shirt was showing.
34 Question: I see. Answer: But I cant
35 remember if it was opened or not. And then

00024:01 the Court had a couple of questions for
02 you. Question: Did he have a sweater on
03 underneath his coat? Answer: I think it
04 was a shirt. Question: You think it was a
05 shirt? Answer: I think so. Then Mr.
06 Tallas continues, Question: Well do you
07 remember being asked by Mr. Caldwell about
08 that at the Preliminary Hearing? Answer:
09 About this? Question: About the jacket?
10 Answer: I was asked by one of you, I cant
11 remember which one. Question: Well do you
12 remember at that time saying that your best
13 recollection was that, was that his jacket
14 was opened? Answer: I can remember saying
15 it but now that I have thought about it I
16 really cant be sure. You cant be sure
17 one way or the other? I take it, I take it
18 that the lighting in your house was good.
19 Answer: Yes. Apologize, that was a long
20 portion. Is that accurate to the best of
21 your recollection in terms of the
22 information you wouldve—
23 SD: Yes.
24 JH: provided? And you dont have a
25 recollection then Sandra, of discussing
26 your testimony with anybody between the
27 Preliminary Hearing and the trial?
28 SD: I dont.
29 JH: Okay. So you dont remember whether you
30 were influenced in any way in terms of your
31 testimony by anyone or there were any
32 discussions of that nature?
33 SD: No, I think I wouldve remembered that.
34 JH: Okay. So after you testified in the court
35 proceedings, do you remember what your next

00025:01 involvement wouldve been then in this
02 matter?
03 SD: No I dont.
04 JH: Do you, and ah, do you have recollection of
05 any further involvement?
06 SD: Ahyou mean with any people that--
07 JH: Any--
08 SD: (unintelligible)
09 JH: anybody, yeah of authority that was dealing
10 with the David Milgaard matter or perhaps
11 anybody even working on behalf of the
12 Milgaard family or otherwise?
13 SD: The only thing that I remember is Davids
14 mother phoning us and I think we were
15 living in Kelowna at that time--
16 JH: Okay.
17 SD: but I dont even remember what year it was
18 or how long it was after the trial.
19 JH: And I have a transcript from a conversation
20 that apparently took place between yourself
21 and Joyce on the telephoneand you believe
22 at the time you were living in Kelowna?
23 Did I hear you correctly?
24 SD: I think so.
25 JH: And, and does that help you then determine
26 when that wouldve been? When
27 approximately you wouldve been contacted?
28 SD: I think we lived there nin-between 1980 and
29 1985.
30 JH: Okay, so some time during that period you
31 would guess?
32 SD: Im guessing.
33 JH: Okay and Im not going to-I have a
34 transcript here and its document ah, ID
35 048577. Again I dont propose to read all

00026:01 of this. You had a chance though to review
02 it—
03 SD: I read—
04 JH: Sandra—
05 SD: I read the whole thing.
06 JH: And does that sound accurate in terms of—
07 its partly a conversation between yourself
08 and, and Mrs. Milgaard and partly a
09 conversation between your husband and Mrs.
10 Milgaard in terms of your discussion does
11 that um, sound like an accurate account—
12 SD: Yes.
13 JH: of the information that you wouldve
14 provided? And do you remember very much
15 about that conversation?
16 SD: I dont, no.
17 JH: Just that it had taken place?
18 SD: Yes.
19 JH: And do you remember when your next contact
20 then wouldve been with anybody in relation
21 to this matter?
22 SD: Ah, we were living in Nanaimo um, probably
23 1996 or 1997.
24 JH: Okay.
25 SD: Couldve been l-later than that. And I
26 think it was by phone call. I dont
27 remember who it was but again it, it had to
28 do with the David Milgaard trial and they
29 wereinvestigating something, I cant
30 remember what it was.
31 JH: Okay. Now we do know um, from the
32 proceedings that the RCMP conducted an
33 investigation in 1993 or approximately
34 thereabouts and I have notes that would
35 indicate it looks like they contacted you

00027:01 here in Nanaimo. Does that sound correct to
02 the best of your recollection?
03 SD: I thought it was later than that.
04 JH: Okay.
05 SD: But if thats when you have it thats when
06 it mustve been.
07 JH: I do have a document and maybe Ill refer
08 it to youits document 035351 and it has a
09 date on the first page I believe of May 6th,
10 1993, and these arent your words Sandra,
11 but Ill perhaps read some of this document
12 if this refreshes your memory at all and
13 Im starting at page3 of the document,
14 which is page 035353, start at the top.
15 Looks like Constable Cunningham and I
16 attended the Danchuk residence in Nanaimo
17 where we met with Mr. and Mrs. Danchuk
18 together. They were most cooperative and
19 willing to discuss this matter and did not
20 hesitate to respond to any questions put to
21 them. Although their memories were somewhat
22 weak in certain areas, generally they had a
23 good recollection of the circumstances
24 especially when given their testimony and
25 statements to read. The ge-the Danchuks
26 stated the following. They both adopted
27 their testimony and statements as being
28 accurate. Mrs. Danchuk recalled other
29 events, some of which are not previously
30 mentioned, which will be described below.
31 Im going to move forward to the next page,
32 page 035354 starting at the bottom of the
33 page. The Danchuks state they were treated
34 well by police and not questioned
35 vigorously. Continuing on the next page,

00028:01 page 035355. Mrs. Danchuk confirmed that
02 Milgaard was wearing a toque when he
03 attended their residence. It is her
04 feeling that it was a navy coloured toque.
05 Im just gonna pause there for a moment
06 Sandra. Does this help you recall this
07 conversation at all? You have no
08 recollection of it?
09 SD: Can you tell us where we were living at the

10 time?
11 JH: It sounds like you were living in Nanaimo,
12 I believe thats what it stated in the
13 first paragraph-and I attended the Danchuk
14 residence in Nanaimo where we met with Mr.
15 and Mrs. Danchuk together. I just dont
16 recall that.
17 JH: Okay. No memory of that. Here Ill read a
18 little bit more to you. Umreturning to
19 that paragraph Ill just read the end the
20 (unintelligible) its, its her feeling
21 that it was a navy coloured toque. Do you
22 remember giving anybody a description of
23 the toque in that respect?
24 SD: No I dont.
25 JH: Do you, and I just want to step back from
26 the documents for a moment. Do you have a
27 memory of the toque at all um, that has
28 been indicated in the documents that David
29 was wearing?
30 SD: I dont know. When you, when you tell me
31 there was a toque I seem to remember that
32 there was a toque but I dont know whether
33 Im just, its churning it in my mind or
34 whether there really was one, I cant say.
35 JH: Okay but again ah, in terms of your

00029:01 independent recollection as best you can,
02 do you remember a toque or, or not?
03 SD: I think he was wearing a toque.
04 JH: Okay. And do you have a description of the
05 toque in your mind?
06 SD: No.
07 JH: Okay. Now continue forward then on that
08 same page. Both Danchuks confirm that
09 Milgaard was very polite, did most of the
10 talking and did not act unusual. They also
11 confirmed that there was no sign of blood
12 on any clothing and Ill move forward to
13 the next paragraph. And it states, Mrs.
14 Danchuk vaguely remembers the girl looking
15 scared. I think there was some reference
16 to that perhaps in your original statement
17 and Im gon-again I know this is difficult
18 but steppe-stepping away from the
19 documents, do you have a memory of the girl
20 from that morning?
21 SD: No I dont.
22 JH: Okay.
23 SD: This transcript that youre reading, is
24 that the W-5 segment-or not the W-5 but The
25 Fifth Estate?
26 JH: No, it wouldnt be. No, this would be
27 notes that the RCMP officers were taking
28 during a meeting with you. So I take it
29 the, there was a, a separate contact in
30 relation to The Fifth Estate?
31 SD: Yes.
32 JH: And when did that take place?
33 SD: I thought it was around 1993, thats why I
34 now, I ah, somethings coming back to me.
35 JH: Okay. But no recollection of thi-this-

00030:01 SD: I dont-
02 JH: this meeting.
03 SD: I just-
04 JH: Okay. And does this sound though like
05 information you wouldve provided?
06 SD: Yes.
07 JH: And you would adopt it then as accurate as
08 provided at that-
09 SD: Yes.
10 JH: time? Okay Ill continue, continue on.
11 Both Danchuks were treated well by the
12 Crown and at no time did he or the police
13 suggest what they should say in their
14 statements or on the stand at court. And
15 that, would that be accurate?
16 SD: Yes.
17 JH: And then if I continue on further down the
18 page, page 035356. At the conclusion of
19 the interview I asked the Danchuks whether
20 they would like to add anything or whether
21 there was anything that was of concern to
22 them. There were two issues raised. First
23 Mrs. Danchuk stated that it is their
24 recollection that they were under the
25 impression that the police were
26 investigating the three young people for
27 drugs, not murder. And Ill pause there
28 for a moment. Do you have a recollection
29 of, indicating that?
30 SD: Actually now I do, yes.
31 JH: Okay and yeah, I think you had told me
32 earlier in, in your testimony today that
33 you had believed that it, you had known it
34 was in relation to murder during the
35 initial contact but you remember

00031:01 discussions otherwise with the police at
02 the time?
03 SD: The, the time frame of sequences or the
04 sequence of the time just, thats whats
05 confusing me. I um, now that you read that
06 statement I do remember them saying that
07 they were investigating them for possibly
08 drugs or something drug related—
09 JH: Okay.
10 SD: and then maybe we saw the newspaper article
11 after that.
12 JH: Okay. And I take it then that would be
13 somewhat speculation on your part, you
14 cant recall for certain?
15 SD: I cant re (unintelligible).
16 JH: Okay. The document continues on ah, the
17 notes um, Mrs. Danchuk recalls that the
18 police advised them of this and to date
19 they cant understand why they wouldve
20 been told this. We discussed this part at
21 length including the Danchuks attending the
22 Preliminary Trial and admitting the police
23 asked them about blood on clothing. There
24 was no explanation as to the Danchuks
25 recollection. And does that sound accurate
26 in terms of information that you wouldve
27 provided—
28 SD: Yeah.
29 JH: in 1993? And then if I continue on down
30 the page. Second, Mrs. Danchuk stated that
31 when Milgaard came into her residence she
32 was under the impression that he had
33 recently had a nose bleed. She has
34 absolutely no idea as to why she formed
35 this opinion but she recalls this to be so.

00032:01 In fact Mis-Mrs. Danchuk informed the
02 police at the time that she felt he had a
03 nose bleed but that she wasnt sure why she
04 felt that way. Mrs. Danchuk was told that
05 if she wasnt sure as to why she felt that
06 way then that information would not be
07 incorporated in her statement. Of note,
08 Mrs. Danchuk states on page 261 of the
09 Preliminary transcript that a policeman
10 asked her if she noticed blood in her sink
11 after the visit. She told Constable
12 Cunningham and I that when Milgaard first
13 came in he also asked if he could wash his
14 hands. He apparently did so. Perhaps
15 dealing with that first portion, Mrs.
16 Danchuk, would this have been accurate in
17 terms of the information you wouldve
18 provided the RCMP in 1993?
19 SD: Thats the part that I remember most of
20 all.
21 JH: And maybe Ill let you tell me about that
22 in terms of that recollection.
23 SD: Just exactly as it was stated there. I,
24 when they asked me if I noticed anything
25 unusual about him, I thought that they were
26 school kids and for some reason I thought
27 he had a nose bleed but I cant remember
28 why. I dont know whether I saw maybe a
29 drop on his upper lip or whether I saw it
30 on his hand or whether it was down the
31 front of his shirt, I cant remember.
32 JH: Okay.
33 SD: Like Ive wracked my brain so many times
34 trying to, to remember why I wouldve
35 thought that and I just, I cant-

00033:01 JH: Okay.

02 SD: I dont know.

03 JH: But you adopt and you do have a clear

04 memory of providing that information to the

05 investigators at the time of the 19-

06 SD: I do-

07 JH: 69 investigation?

08 SD: yes.

09 JH: Okay. And do you remember what their

10 response was?

11 SD: They asked me where I saw the blood, I

12 remember them asking me that and because I

13 couldnt specify exactly where I saw it, if

14 I saw it, they told me that if I cant

15 remember seeing it then I shouldnt include

16 that in my testimony.

17 JH: Okay so and I, Im sorry, I just want to be

18 clear on this. Were you indicating to them

19 at the time that you, you had seen blood or

20 that it was more so that you thought he had

21 a nose bleed and you werent certain why?

22 SD: I exactly told them, I thought he had a

23 nose bleed but I dont know why I thought

24 he had a nose bleed.

25 JH: Okay. And you recall this second portion

26 about the question about ah, a policeman

27 asking you about blood in the sink then?

28 SD: And I also remember David asking to wash

29 his hands. I remember that part so well

30 and yet I never said it in the testimony

31 anywhere. I just asked, or told them that

32 he asked for a glass of water and I dont

33 understand why.

34 JH: And, and do you remember when it was that

35 hed asked to wash his hands?

00034:01 SD: It was the first time that he came down
02 because I remember that he was really cold
03 and I thought maybe he wanted to wash his
04 hands to warm his hands up.
05 JH: And was that at the same time he was also
06 asking for a glass of water?
07 SD: No, I think that he came down again and
08 asked for a glass of water when he ah,
09 another time.
10 JH: Okay. And so how many times ah, to the
11 best of your recollection did he come down
12 d-into the suite that morning?
13 SD: I think he came down twice.
14 JH: And I think thats, I think youd indicated
15 twice during your testimony. Im going to
16 continue reading on page 035358. We
17 departed the Danchuk residenceactually I
18 think there forward its just comments by
19 the investigators um, no longer in-
20 information being provided by you but in
21 terms of the information that Ive read to
22 you that has been indicated was provided by
23 you to the officers at that time, you would
24 adopt that as an accurate account?
25 SD: Yes.
26 JH: And do you have any other comments in
27 relation to that information?
28 SD: No.
29 JH: Anything else from my reading of the
30 testimony to you today that wasnt included
31 in the testimony that you recall telling
32 the police during the investigation?
33 SD: No.
34 JH: Okay its just those clarifying points?
35 SD: Um hm.

00035:01 JH: I take it you had an opportunity to review
02 your transcript previously, have you of
03 the—
04 SD: Yes.
05 JH: testimony from the Preliminary Hearing and
06 the trial?
07 SD: Yes.
08 JH: And, and you adopt that then for todays
09 purposes as accurate?
10 SD: Yes.
11 JH: Okay. And the same with your written
12 statement that I read to you at the outset?
13 SD: Yes.
14 JH: Okay. Okay. And just a couple of
15 clarifying points on, on that again going
16 back to the toque. Um, I believe you
17 describe the toque initially in the written
18 statement as, as black and white and later
19 we see in the 1993 account given by the
20 RCMP a description of the toque is navy.
21 Do you have any explanation for the
22 discrepancy today? Okay and you dont have
23 an independent recollection to inform us on
24 that aspect today?
25 SD: No. If I told you one or the other it
26 would be speculation.
27 JH: Okay but you do, nonetheless in, um, agree
28 that that wouldve been the information
29 that you provided on both of those
30 occasions to the ah, investigating
31 officers?
32 SD: Wellit doesnt make sense that I would say
33 that it was black and white one time and
34 navy the, the next time. I think that I
35 wouldve remember so thats confusing to

00036:01 me.

02 JH: Okay and you dont have any explanation for
03 that then?

04 SD: I dont.

05 JH: Okay. You dont recall providing the
06 information about the toque being navy in,
07 in 1993?

08 SD: I dont. I, I dont know how I wouldve
09 remember it then if I couldnt remember it
10 closer to the trial. How on earth would I
11 remember it 20 years later?

12 JH: Okay. And following, IjustI dont know
13 what that means, Don.

14 DC:Five minutes.

15 JH: Five minutes left on the tape? Okay.

16 DC: On the audio tape. Actually less than five
17 now.

18 JH: Okay. Do you recall any further dealings
19 on this matter in the last 10 years for
20 example?

21 SD: Just when Wally was called to testify at
22 the Larry Fisher trial but I dont know,
23 was that, that may have been almost 10
24 years ago?

25 JH: That was, that was in 1999.

26 SD: Oh okay.

27 JH: And you werent called to testify then at
28 the Larry Fisher trial?

29 SD: Ah, no.

30 JH: And did anyone contact you at all in that
31 respect or was there a possibility that you
32 were going to testify?

33 SD: I think there was a possibility but we
34 owned a business and I, only one of us
35 could go. I think thats what it was.

00037:01 JH: Okay. Don if were gonna need s-change the
02 tape lets pause it there. Im through my
03 questions and um, I want to take a look at
04 my notes though and um, I think there are a
05 few follow up questions that Ill have so,
06 DC:Okay.
07 JH: if we wanna stop it at that point-
08 DC:You bet.
09 JH: How are you doing?
10 (tape off/on)
11 DC:Its ah, 8:15 p.m. on the 20th of January.
12 I just turned on the audio tape. Ah, were
13 gonna finish off with the last part of the
14 audio tape and video tape ah, and Ill
15 start this video tape now. You want to
16 just mention that were continuing on with
17 the same tape?
18 JH: We are continuing on with the same tape.
19 We had paused there for a moment thinking
20 that we were at the end of the tape but ah,
21 I believe we can fit this on to the end of
22 the tape. Sandra, ah, do you have anything
23 else to add that we havent covered um,
24 respecting information that you either
25 provided to the police at the time of the
26 inve-investigation that I havent noted um,
27 or other new information?
28 SD: No.
29 JH: Okay. Thank you very much for testifying
30 today for our purposes and that concludes
31 ah, my questions.
32 SD: Thank you.
33 DC: There. I just wanted you to sit-
34 SD: Um hm.
35 DC:nice at the end there-

00038:01 SD: Okay.

02 (tape off)

03 1

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