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T-262 P.002/002 F-711

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Mr Tom Kitt TD
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Ref: 0904695 SR

23 September 2009

Dear Tom,

I refer to my letter to you of 4th September in relation to the Magdalene Laundries. You were making representations on behalf of Mr. James Smith, Associate Professor, Boston College.

As you are aware, in that letter I referred to the women who worked in the Magdalene Laundries as "employees". I deeply regret any offence caused by my use of the term 'employees' when referring to these women. I fully acknowledge that the word 'workers' would have been more appropriate.

I would be obliged if you could please pass a copy of this letter on to Mr. Smith.

Yours sincerely

Batt O'Keeffe TD
Minister for Education and Science

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