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Mr Tom Kitt TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

Our Ref: 0904695 SR

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23 September 2009

Dear Tom,

I refer to my letter to you of 4<sup>th</sup> 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

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Batt O'Keeffe TD  
Minister for Education and Science