

Alice #50

We had been married 5 days when it started. I was trapped 6 weeks later when I found out I was pregnant.

He was a violent alcoholic, of course it was my fault, everything was always my fault. I'd apologise and try to do better each time. I knew it was wrong, but who could help me? No-one I knew, I mean am I just complaining, I mean it was my fault. I'll just keep trying to make it through.

So many incidents happened, everyone knew he was beating me. Where was I going to go. After he was arrested for Common Assault, he nearly ended up going to prison, I perjured myself in court because he made me. He finally stopped the physical abuse. He found other ways: verbal, financial, mental etc.

I left a few times, but where could I go? In a few years ago, after throwing him out, leaving with my kids again, I decided I had to do something. I told my sister, my uncle, my friend. I asked for help (which believe me was extremely hard to do). None of them cared enough to help.

What do I do?

I live in a different state to my family, so where was I going to go? He wasn't going to let my kids go with me. I HAD TO DO SOMETHING...I was beyond rational thinking. He was drunk and he would turn the kids against me. I now was the raving lunatic!!!!!!! I did the only thing one does when they have lost everything; I took an overdose. I was done!

They called an ambulance.

They bundled me in and raced off down the road. Then they stopped and apologised, but they were frightened of my now EX. What do they think I'd put up with? Well, I did mandatory time in a Psych ward where they told me that they would not release me until I had accommodation. I called the three refuges daily to no avail. I couldn't get a rental, I had no money. I was put in a motel for 4 days then they needed the room, I had to go back and beg to stay (it was Easter).

It wasn't nice but I got a private rental 5 days later and moved out. My kids wouldn't have anything to do with me. My mother and brother flew down when I was in hospital, my Ex convinced them it was my fault and they refused to even help me. My mother gave him \$5k to pay the debts we accumulated because he was too drunk/hung-over to go to work. The phone, internet, electricity, cars were all in my name. My mother bought me a \$20 recharge for my phone. I was in debt up to and over my eyeballs. He had \$5k to piss up the wall.

I am now back on my feet, getting married, have two of my children with me. None of his children have anything to do with him - their choice. I still ask my youngest if he wants to see his father; I do this regularly, but he says no. I won't keep them from their dad. I got counselling, I know now it was the best thing I did for me and my kids. It was so hard especially without an ounce of family support.

But I survived, I have become a WARRIOR. I DON'T AND WON'T EVER BE ABUSED BY ANYONE. YOU CAN DO IT. I AM HAPPY TO SUPPORT ANYONE WHO NEEDS A FRIEND WHO UNDERSTANDS, HAS BEEN THERE AND WHO SURVIVED.