

## **Fiona's Story**

Fiona was very worried about her son Greg who is being abused by his wife. The couple, in their late twenties have been together for seven years and have two young children.

Greg's wife does not allow him to work anymore because she says he would spend all day looking at other women. He had worked previously but gave up due to the stress his wife was putting him under. His work colleagues had been so worried about him coming to work with bruises that they contacted Fiona.

He is no longer allowed to use a mobile and has to secretly use a phone box if he wants to speak to his mother. When he had a mobile, his wife would take it and pretending to be Greg send Fiona abusive text messages saying how much he hated her.

Recently, Greg's wife told him to take their children out and when he was out of the house, she locked him and the children out and called the police, falsely alleging that Greg had been abusive.

His wife has made other false allegations during their relationship, telling the children's nursery that he hits the children; on one occasion he turned up to collect them but the nursery refused to allow him to take them.

His wife is also physically abusive, on various occasions dragging keys down his face, blacking both eyes, breaking his front tooth and hitting him with a curtain pole. She has even attacked him when he has had their children on his lap. Both his parents have witnessed many of his injuries and have taken photographs of them.

Whilst he tried to leave on a number of occasions he always returned, worried that in his absence his wife may harm their children and prevent him from having access to them.

In the end, Fiona and her husband Stephen took matters into their own hands and used their two spare bedrooms so Greg and his children could live with them. Stephen would take the children to school while Greg went to

work. After much cajoling, Stephen did that and now he and his children are safe.