

I came to the Guyana Legal Aid Clinic in October 2010 because of domestic violence issues I was having with my reputed husband. I had seen an ad for legal aid on television and had also been referred by Help & Shelter. I decided that I finally needed to get him out of my life.

I came to legal aid hoping that the process would be fast so I could be free and get on with my life. It was good, the process was good, and I had no problems. When I got to court I was happy that the Magistrate told him that he had to stay away from me. I thought I would finally be free.

Unfortunately my reputed husband did not listen. Even after we went to court he came back to my house, broke in and attacked me. Shortly after this my house was burnt down. I have not seen him since.

Although all of this happened I still believe that I made the right decision going to legal aid. I think that if I had not taken a step at all, he would have killed me. Things had to happen the way they happened and I have learned to accept it. I know had I not gone ahead with my plan for a restraining order I would have been a dead woman. There would have been nothing left for him but to kill me and my child.

I may have lost things, but that does not matter. I am happy. I am happy to see my son doing better. He is small and I didn't think he knew what was going on in my life, but he did. I did not want my child to grow up in a violent home because I grew up in a home like that.

I am now finally free of my nightmares and my fear. My mind is at ease and I am living my life independent and free. I have told others in similar situations to come to legal aid because they will get help. I just hope that they will take that step.

I am looking forward to the future, to buying land and building a house and opening a clothing business. Everything is good now, and I know that God will continue to open doors for me.