

Domestic Violence Role Play Scenerios

Client #1: Liz

My husband, Edward, has abused me for five years. I am very scared and I can't take it anymore. Everything started when he got jealous of my friends in 2010. The last time we fought he told me he hated me and called me bad names. I called the police and he was arrested but released do to a lack of evidence. Edward won't give me money and I don't have keys to our apartment. I don't know where the money goes.

He is very abusive when he is drunk. We met at AA and he became really close with my two kids. I don't know who he is anymore and I don't know what to do.

Client #2: Gloria

My husband, Roberto, and I met through family friends. I have a green card but Roberto is a citizen. He doesn't work much but he gets money now and then. We have two kids together and we share an apartment.

I don't trust Roberto all the time because of how quickly his attitude changes. I feel like the kids and I have to walk on eggshells. If I don't have the errands run on time, he smacks me. If he doesn't like what I say he muffs me to keep me quiet. If he doesn't like what I wear out, he will bleach those clothes and ruins them.

I've never called the police because I can't get evicted. I have nowhere to go! And with my kids, they need a roof over their head. I think a neighbor called the police once but I told them I was fine and nothing happened. Roberto's brother lives upstairs and I didn't want him to hear me talking to cops. I know he will tell Roberto. It took me all night to convince Roberto that I didn't call the cops and he told me that if I ever did that he would lie to police and have me deported. What would my kids do then?

Client #3: Cher

It started with a verbal argument. Bart, the father of our daughter, threatened to lock me out of the house. Then he said he would take our daughter away and I would never see her again. The police were called and came to the house. I am afraid for my safety because Bart isn't taking his medication and his behavior has been scary.

Bart is always controlling and jealous. We had a fight last week where our apartment got trashed. Our daughter was very upset that night and cried a lot. I called the police that night too but no one was arrested, even though we were both bleeding. Bart works but my daughter and I don't see a dime of it and I have to go to the food shelf. He spends all of my County money on liquor and going to bars with his girlfriends. I have tried to keep what I get from the County but he's my ride to and from my

employment plan meetings so he knows when I have money. Bart is waiting for me in the parking lot right now.

He is very abusive when he is drunk. I do not want my daughter alone with him.

Client #4: Mai

I need to leave my husband Lee. We have three children together. I stay at home with the kids while Lee works for his cousin's business on the side. I don't know how much he makes. All I know is that I get \$50 a week to make ends meet.

Lee has always hit me but I am a strong woman. But when he hit me in front of my children I knew I had to leave. I never want to see the look in my children's eyes after they saw that.

My husband and I have gone to our elders several times about this and we get back together. His family promises that he will stop and mine tell me to focus on being a good wife.

I'm scared of leaving my husband. I don't know what he will do and my family... it's not an option.

Client #5: Esther

The father of my son, Mahmoud, is from East Africa. Even though we come from different cultural backgrounds we hit it off right away when we met at school. When I got pregnant I dropped out of school and got a part time job. Mahmoud stayed enrolled part time and worked part time. We were making it work.

He use to tell me how beautiful I was but now he calls me a fat cow and that I am lucky to be with a man like him. The verbal abuse got worse but I wasn't going to give it up.

This last weekend he dragged me into our bedroom and started kicking me in the stomach. He saw that I had bought pregnancy tests and was accusing me of sleeping around. While I was on the ground he grabbed our son's passport and locked me in the bedroom. He was yelling that he was going back home and that I would never see our son again. I didn't know who to tell.