



Case Study - Miss A – Exiting Prostitution Case Study April 2021

Miss A was referred to Streetlight via the Brighton YMCA.

initial contact was made Miss A phoned in to speak to a member of the team. Miss A is originally from Thailand, she married a British man she met whilst selling sex. He brought her back to the U.K to live 25 years ago. They had a child together. They divorced many years ago and she is now living in Sussex.

Miss A wanted to **exit prostitution but felt trapped** as did not fully understand the system and was in expensive housing.

Miss A had felt a calling to leave the sex industry and Streetlight had got in touch at just the right time. She had been escorting to support her family back home. She is the oldest of 5 siblings and had been sending money to them.

She had indefinite leave to remain but she had lost her original passport and only had a copy. She was advised that to get another she would need to go to Thailand to get this which she couldn't afford to do. **Streetlight were able to help her find solutions to this dilemma.** She was advised that she would be eligible to apply for benefits to help with rent, council tax and living needs and how to go about this. She was also advised her that she would be able to work in the U.K without her passport.

Streetlight were able to support Miss A in **finding new accommodation and moving on with her life. A is no longer engaging in prostitution.** She is happy to be out of the industry. She described escorting as a prison sentence. **She now feels like a bird that has been set free.** She is grateful that she doesn't have some of the issues that other women in the industry have meaning it was fairly easy to leave for her. **"Prostitution is very easy to get into and very difficult to get out of".**

Miss A is **now studying at a higher education institution** and would like to eventually go on and study for a degree. She definitely feels ready to take on new challenges. Miss A is in a good place emotionally and is in a season of working through her trauma which will lead to her healing.