

I am uploading/writing this on my mother's behalf.

Through a teenager to now my Mum has tried to get help for family violence, but has been mistreated by those supposed to protect her; police, counsellors, schools etc.

My Mum is afraid of revealing details because nigh everyone she has opened up to has called her a liar and this has caused a very strong paranoia.

The results of this meant that she was unable to get a good education.

She married my Dad who was also violent. She split from my Dad when my brother and I were very young.

Mum wants my brother and I to change our last names when we are 18 so we don't have to have lives in the shadow of her legacy.

I have grown up without anyone to look after me apart from my Mum who has no support.

No family members or friends to lend an aid. When Mum gets sick, my brother and I are the ones who have to look after her. My brother has jumped around schools and now does distance education because of 'social phobia'. He falls behind in his work, and I have to help him out. It's a similar situation with my Mum. She didn't have a good education and whilst her English skills are exemplary, her mathematics leaves a lot to be desired, leaving me to teach her skills year 8 students would know on the back of their hands.

If anything happens to Mum than my brother and I are in danger, there isn't anywhere we could be safe. Mum is stuck on welfare and is according to the government, a burden to society. I feel bad I can't get a job to help out financially. We have gone without a car, have gone without heating for years and when we finally got heating we can't afford to use it, we can't afford to eat properly. We are in an invisible poverty. This is the economic legacy of family violence.