

RATH-01

Kōrero from Anne Hakiwai, a Nanny, of Hastings

1. I believe that I lost my son when he started taking the drug 'P'. We did have our problems before this, but this drug changed who he was. He became paranoid, had severe mood swings, and was more aggressive and abusive. Even my moko started picking up on his changing moods.
2. He went from being argumentative to using physical violence to tormenting me. He was also starting to get aggressive and abusive to other whānau in the community and strangers to the point where police were called in.
3. Christmas time of 2016 will always remain in my memory as one of the most horrific times in my life. It was a time that brought on huge changes, not only in my life, but my whānau around me.
4. I believe my life at this time was a living nightmare. My son's behaviour had started to get out of control. The situation got so bad that I believed this was the end of mine and my granddaughters' lives. They were seven and ten years old.
5. It was during Christmas Eve and Christmas Day where it all started to come to a head. I was living under my son's threatening and abusive behaviour. This went on through to New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. It escalated as each day went by.
6. What we went through was four days of terror. I did not know if my moko would see 2017. I wanted to protect my moko from their father's violent and abusive behaviour.
7. My son's abusive behaviour had been an ongoing issue over the years before our nights of terror began. But I swept it under the carpet. I gave into his threats for the lives of my moko.
8. I kept hiding the issue thinking that I was doing what I thought was best for my moko. Most of all I struggled to believe my son would deliberately want to harm us. I was wrong, and this was the hardest thing to take –

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that my son would do these things to me and my moko, his own daughters.

9. But the time had come for this to stop and for me to do something. There was to be no more hiding the issue and, for the sake of my moko and my whānau, I involved the police and others.
10. Even though people around me were telling me that was the right thing to do, I still felt quite guilty. This is my son and I still had love for him. He was my baby of 12 children. This is the raw emotion I still deal with every day. You can't just wipe away your emotions.
11. The only people and help I could turn to was Nga Kairauhii. I told them my story and, from there, things started. Other nannies talked about their problems and before long it escalated.
12. No nannies should have to go through any problems of being ridiculed or abused by a family member - or by anyone.
13. It is time for all of us nannies to stand up to this vicious drug that's destroying our families and our communities. We must stop this trouble drug once and for all. We don't have all the answers to combat this drug but we are ready to stop this cycle of abuse that this drug and the persons partaking thrives on.
14. We need to be able to provide protection for our whānau, especially our moko and all nannies. We just don't see enough assistance for the nannies coming from the Government. We can't do this alone.
15. We need to form a group or safe place for nannies who are:
 - a. suffering in silence;
 - b. who fear to speak out because it's a loved one causing the abuse;
 - c. who have been suppressed by their own family member;
 - d. who are imprisoned in their own home by their family member;

- e. stood over for their money;
 - f. who are too embarrassed to speak to anyone because it's a family member; and
 - g. who are continuously emotionally blackmailed by their grown-up moko to gain access into their bank accounts. These moko are usually the ones that the nannies have raised from birth, and the drug P has taken control.
16. We need to form a group where nannies can feel safe to kōrero their sufferings and ordeals. Because nannies struggle with fear of repercussions from their own whanau, it is crucial we offer them trust and security as part of the core kaupapa. This will be the beginning of the healing. The healing will be done in stages and eventually get to where they are strong enough to stand up to anything. However, this time they will have support. We need to ensure that our culture, tikanga and aroha will be part of the healing.
17. We need to protect our nannies and most of all our mokos. They are the future generation of Rangatira.