



ACT!

AGAINST
VIOLENCE
AND SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION

WEBSITE



Profile of the victims: NAOMI

Naomi 13 live on the East Coast of Demerara (Guyana) (not her real name). She became a mother at the age of 12yrs old and were also a single mother to her baby. Naomi stole her cousin's identification card and got a job at a hotel on the East Coast of Demerara.

After working there for a while, a woman who frequent the hotel, promise her a better paying job in the interior of Guyana.

Naomi travelled to the interior with the woman, where on arriving she was given a room and met other girls like herself and others from Venezuela and Dominican Republic. She assumed that they were all doing the same job which entailed cleaning rooms, serving guests and booking rooms.

She asked the other girls what will be her duties and was told to ask the boss first and he would give her duties.

In the mean while Naomi had no contact with the woman who took her into the interior, but a few days later, she was introduced to a man who is not the owner of the hotel but told her he would be her boss and explained to her what were her duties. At that point she attempted to leave, but was warned by the other girls that she would be in grave danger if she attempts to escape.

She was forced to sleep with men in exchange for money which she was given a percentage of the sum, she was able to send money for her child up keep but were not allowed to do it herself.

She was also not allowed to make contact with her mother who was looking after her child.

Naomi was closely watched every time she had a client.

To make matters worse, every wrong move or complaints the boss received about her put her in huge debt and other forms of punishment.

After being in the interior for a year, Naomi had made some friends and planned escape, but words get back to the boss about every escape she attempt to make and the boss will threaten her or starve her of food and cash.

Naomi stayed in the interior for two years, she said she became used to the sex work and the abuse "so why escape now when I'm already in it and don't know anything else besides this".

Naomi eventually got the courage to leave and finally escape.

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