

## CASE STUDY THREE

### SUPPORT WORKER AT A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

Mende is originally from Sudan and has three children, aged 18 months, 3 and 7 years old. She fled from her violent relationship six months ago and has applied for leave to remain.

It took Mende a long time to leave her husband, as she did not speak English and had no family or friends to turn to.

Whilst with her husband Mende was made to use prescription drugs; these made Mende subdued and very withdrawn.

Her husband would often drink too much and fail to give any attention or support to the children. She was also forced to drink on occasions when her husband was drinking and feels she is becoming dependent on alcohol too.

Mende feels very isolated and would also like to reduce her reliance on prescription medication and alcohol.

She is currently housed with her children in a refuge.

(Case study provided by the Stella Project)