

UNITED NATIONS
TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS
OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



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Victims Voices: Lyn

Lyn received assistance through the NGO 'WOTCLEF' in Nigeria



I am Lyn, I am a 15 years old indigene of Owai, in the South of Nigeria. My father passed away some years ago. Sadly, my mother struggled to raise my four siblings and I by selling bananas. Living was hard and we could barely afford a meal. My aunty who lived in Abuja with her husband and children invited me to live with her and I was promised to get an education. In my aunty's house, I had to cook, wash, and carried out domestic chores. Each day, I woke up very early to prepare her two children for school before being able to go to school myself. My stay in my aunty's house turned sour when her husband raped me. This ugly incident happened when my aunty was travelling to the village for a family program. That night, her husband came to the room where I was sleeping and held a knife and threatened to kill me and himself if I refused to allow him to have sex with me. I started crying and he used the knife to beat me. He asked me to strip naked. I continued crying and trembling, he beat me more, pushed me on the bed and raped me. The most painful part of this hellish experience is that I became pregnant and dropped out of school to deliver a baby girl. I was in the second year of my Junior Secondary School. I stayed away from school for one and a half year and this was the darkest period of my life. Thanks to Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (WOTCLEF) and the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, I was able to pull through. Today, I understand that I am not guilty. It is not my fault that my aunty's husband raped me. I am happy because I managed to go back to school. At the WOTCLEF shelter, I am able to focus on my study in order to complete my Junior Secondary School. WOTCLEF has enabled my daughter to be placed in an institution run by Catholic sisters and also took up the case with the Police to obtain justice. In the future, my dream is to become a lawyer to be able to help trafficked, abused and vulnerable children and obtain justice for them.



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