

BEAUMONT GIRLS



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FREE

Dear Aliyah

I went to a club with my mates, one of them takes drugs. We saw some fit guys & they came up to us when we were dancing - my mate went off with one of them and left me with the other one. I went looking for her and when I found her asked her where she had been. She said just for a walk, I said what for, she said to get the E's and pulled some out and said come on take one of these with me, we'll have a great night. She took one and I took one and then we danced like mad all night. I couldn't stop drinking water, felt really hot and panicky, so went outside to get some air and then I just passed out. I was alright but it scared me. Since then my mates take it all the time and keep pressuring me to take it too, and when I don't want to they think I'm boring or I'm going to tell someone else they're taking drugs. So Aliya tell me what I should do - you're the only one I can tell? - (Anonymous - Leicester).



Dear anonymous

you are doing the right thing by not taking drugs just because your mates do. So what if they think you're boring, as long as you know you're not that's all that matters. Tell them that you're not going to tell anyone else what they're doing, but maybe they should think about how often they're taking drugs. They could ruin their lives by taking drugs, you've decided you don't want to ruin yours. If your mate said run in front of a car, would you do it? Make your own mind up instead of letting someone else do it for you. If your mates don't like it, they're not true friends.

Hi Aliyah

My problem is I have been pressured into having sex after drinking too much and now am pregnant. I don't know what to do; it was just a two day fling with my best mate's ex. I daren't tell my parents and I daren't tell my best friend. I don't know whether to keep the baby or not. I've tried telling the father, but he won't listen. I'm so desperate for some help. Can you give me some advice. Becky, 13 from Leicester.

First and foremost, you need to see your doctor and get some advice from someone you feel like you can trust and rely on. If you can't talk to your family or friends, how about a youth worker or teacher or a friend's parent. You're only 13 Becky, you need to think about the rest of your life - having a baby is a big responsibility, especially if you've not got the father there to support you. You need to think about the things you could miss out on like your education, getting a job and having fun with your mates. At the moment you're confused, guilty and scared - talking to someone will help to get it off your chest and to make the right decision about what you should do. Your parents might not be as angry as you think and would rather know so they can help and support you.



Local and National Helplines you can contact:
National Drugs Helpline 0800 776600
Drug and alcohol advice centre 0116 2229555
LEA Drug Advisers 0116 222 2624 {city} 0116 265 6321{county}
Family Planning Association 08453101334
Pregnancy helplines: Sex wise 0800 282 930
Surestart Beaumont Leys 0116 235 5213

BRENDA & CHARLIE'S STORY.....

(Charlie) If only mum knew what he was doing to me. Last night when mum went out to get a video he started on me again, he hit me then he started to abuse me saying I was fat and I had no mates and that I was a loner. I don't have any mates round because I'm afraid he will abuse them so I usually go round their house. When my mum came back she saw tears in my eyes and when she asked me what was wrong I said I tripped over. I think she has noticed that I am always crying or that it seems every time she leaves me with the menace she finds me very insecure about myself. I hear the menace screaming at my mum when he gets home from the pub but when Mum comes up to check on me I pretend to be asleep. He makes me feel ugly and insecure about myself. I want him to leave as he is frightening me and I'm sure he is scaring Mum though I do not know what he is doing to her but I have some idea. Please help me and my mum as he is the problem of both of our lives.



(Brenda) I hate getting beaten up I thought he loved me but that was just a lie. I'm glad my daughter is having a better life. I hope when she is older she finds someone who treats her with respect. I read magazines and I hear about a lot of women being abused, but they seem to be able to say something about it. My daughter Charlie knows about this type of abusing and I hope she will realise what is happening to me, though she may not know what to do. Charlie often has tears in her eyes and I wonder whether he is treating her right but I try to stay positive. Grant (and for this I am happy) is always down at the local pub, but when he gets home he is violent and shouts abuse which I hope Charlie doesn't hear. Some days he can be totally fine but other days he can be really bad, though I say to myself that he's had problems and because we live together he takes it out on me. I need help but I cannot bring myself to tell someone. I want to escape with Charlie but I know he will find me and the thought of him hurting Charlie is too painful to cope with. Please help me, I need advice. Help me escape.

Advice:

Daughter: You need to talk to someone you trust. You are what you are and no one can change that no matter what he says. Don't let him get to you as he is not worth it. Talk to your mum as if you know she is going through it she will understand. Talking through things can help to make things better.

Mum: There are women's aid groups that you can join and you need to talk to someone you trust. You also need to talk to your daughter and find out whether he is abusing her. Ignore whatever he says about you as you know what you are and no one can change that.

Hurt

*Fire burns up inside my heart
As a fist comes towards my face,
Every day I am abused
He says I'm a hopeless case.*

*The moon creeps into my bedroom
As I cry into the night,
My brain is still in shock
He gave me such a fright.*

*My mum has no idea
How much he abuses me,
I come up in bruises
And still she cannot see.*

STICKS AND ST



Here is Rose, She walks to school by herself to avoid other kids who pick on her.



This is what would would happen at breaktime.



Rose is very unhappy.
What should she do?



1. IGNORE THEM - If you ignore them they could go away but things could get even worse.

2.
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ONES

Rose is a 12 year old girl who has just started at a new school. She is being bullied because she is from another town and doesn't know anyone.



This is what would happen if she walked to school early.



School starts at 8.30 so she is late.



By the end of break she is crying.



She won't talk to anyone, not even her mum, because she is afraid that it will get worse.

STAND UP TO THEM - if you do these things will get worse and you may get hurt, upset and feel more isolated.

3. TALK TO SOMEONE - this is one of the best options talking to someone you trust like a teacher or youth worker could help sort everything out.

SEARCH

WORD

S	W	I	M	M	I	N	G	P	O	O	L
G	E	U	M	B	R	E	L	L	A	M	R
C	A	T	R	I	E	T	B	I	E	A	R
B	A	C	T	E	R	I	A	F	L	N	E
L	D	L	K	T	F	G	E	E	P	D	W
P	O	O	P	E	T	E	L	P	F	E	O
D	G	C	E	E	T	R	E	T	F	L	T
Q	M	K	N	E	L	S	O	N	J	A	X
C	A	B	B	A	G	E	P	E	A	P	K

REAL GIRLS

Have you ever noticed porcelain dolls? You should look at them, they are tiny and have perfect make-up. Girls try to be like them to get noticed but sometimes they're called a tart and a slut. It's like tryinG to be something that you're not. Not being yourself is hard work - but then you might get made fun of because you don't look like a doll. Are you happy being just who you are, because being an individual is what life is all about - just be yourself.



1. YOU WEAR IT IN THE WINTER AND YOU WEAR IT IN THE SUN BUT IT IS FUN. 6 LETTERS
2. I'M SMALL AND CUTE. 3 LETTERS
3. I'M WARNING YOU MY BARK IS WORSE THAN MY BITE. 3 LETTERS
4. I'M INVISIBLE TO YOU BUT I CAN GET YOU BACK. 8 LETTERS
5. I'M HUGE AND CUTE SO WHAT AM I? 5 LETTERS
6. YOU USE IT WHEN IT RAINS. 8 LETTERS
7. YOU EAT IT AND IT'S GREEN. 7 LETTERS
8. IT IS BIG WITH WATER AND A SLIDE. 8/4 LETTERS
9. A BOYS NAME. 4 LETTERS
10. LEICESTER CITY CENTRE MEETING POINT. 5/5 LETTERS
11. WE DON'T KNOW WHEN IT'S GOING TO END. 4 LETTERS
12. LEICESTER PARK NAMED AFTER A FAMOUS FREEDOM FIGHTER. 6/7 LETTERS

What young girls think about life in Beaumont Leys



Ria - Age 11

Are you making friends? **Yes**
Do you get bullied? **No**
Do you feel safe where you live? **Yes**
Do you join in any activities? **Yes I'll be joining a first aid group soon.**
What are your hopes and dreams for the future? **To open a creche**
What do you like or dislike about where you live? **There's lots of girls my age where live who are really friendly.**



Siobahn - Age 11

Are you making friends? **Yes**
Do you get bullied? **Sometimes**
Do you feel safe where you live? **Yes**
Do you join in any activities? **No**
What are your hopes and dreams for the future? **World peace, no fighting and everyone getting on.**
What do you like and dislike about your area? **There's not much to like, I hate all the vandalism and graffiti in Beaumont Leys and Stocking Farm.**

These interviews were carried out by the Girls Talk Group at the Beaumont Shopping Centre during the Summer holidays.

This is what the Group have to say about living in Beaumont Leys:

...It's too boring – there's not enough activities for young people around here. It would be great to have a new youth centre and more access to computers and the internet. We'd like to be able to go on more trips and residential – that's what we really enjoy doing.

...We need more youth workers who can organise activities for young people, we like having good relationships with youth workers.

...We don't always feel safe in Beaumont Leys, especially the Black Path on Beaumont Walk, which is scary at night. More police on the beat would make us feel safer. We don't use the parks very much either as there is vandalism and were worried about some of the people who hang about there.

...I like living in Beaumont Leys because my Mum works on a local forum and helps to make things better around here.

...We all like the Shopping Centre and Leisure Centre being so close to where we live.

Thanks for contributions from: Sarah Graham, Lexela Ahearn, Angel, Rachel Smith, Mecia Hubbard, Goddess, Sarah Maloney.

Activities and Groups in Beaumont Leys

Barley Croft Youth Centre - 0116 2221090

Babington Community Technology Centre - 0116 2221616

Beaumont Leys Young People's Project (BLYPP) 0116 2340037

BLISS - Independant support Services - 0116 2254780

Mowmacre Youth & Play Association - 0116 2355668

STRonG Project (Health Related) - 0116 2252224

Positive Streets - 0116 234 0826

Stocking Farm Youth & Community Centre - 0116 2995650

The Barn - 0116 2708410

Beamont Leys City Learning Centre - 0116 2347820

ABOUT THE GIRLS TALK GROUP

There are 7 girls in the group and 2 youth workers.
We meet every Friday to have fun.

We go to really cool places and hang out together
to do stuff.

Because we have done this group we have met new
people and made new friends.

Over the Summer we made this magazine about
issues which affect young girls in Beaumont Leys.

We hope you enjoy our mag.

by the girls from the girls talk /bye.

