

When I was 13 I first tried cannabis and continued dabbling in illicit drugs and alcohol until I was 17, until now I had an addiction to meth and alcohol and was dependant on painkillers. An alcoholic for 17 years, never managing to keep my life together for longer than a few weeks before making more wreckless decisions. I don't have a relationship with my parents or siblings. I ruined many relationships and friendships. My children resented me. I lost my driver's licence and still to this day don't have my licence back. I'm 36.

March 5th, 2018 signalled a new start to life. I quit alcohol. I haven't had a drink since. My depression and anxiety started running my life. Some days I couldn't get out of bed. Then there was the pain. The pains that I had were hard to deal with. I started using cannabis to help relieve all these issues and it did without affecting other parts of my life. Albeit I was using the illegal market, but where else was I going to get this help without a draw full of pills? So I continued using cannabis and am still using it do this day. Fortunately I have a script that I can access legal cannabis now. The issue is some days it's cheaper to go to the streets to get it again, and on a modest income, price does become a huge factor. Also availability is an issue as most chemists don't stock the product and have to order it in. While it's still illegal there is still a market on the streets and while I'm in pain and have my issues, I will get it from wherever I need to.