



# BREAKING POINT

## how bullying left one girl stranded

Bullying at school made Alison's life a nightmare. In this story she talks about the cruelty of young people, her despair and how she used the experience to become a stronger person.

### ALISON'S STORY

It all started at school with my best friend Georgina. I had been invited to her birthday party which was the next day. I met her the next day in the hall and then she said she didn't want me to go to her party because she wanted some different friends to go. I didn't make a big deal about it but I felt miserable and hurt for the rest of the day.

After the weekend when we went back to school I sat down in the hall with Georgina and her friends who I normally hang around with. They did nothing but brag about how good the party was, leaving me out completely. I couldn't stand it so I stopped hanging around with my so-called friends. From then on they called me names and threw things at me in lessons. Soon it was all around school. No one would talk to me or even

say hi!

I was alone with no friends. I became very depressed so the doctor gave me permission to stay off school for two weeks. My mum said I didn't have to go back to the school if I didn't want to but when we went to talk to the school they said I had to go back and stand up to the bullies. Once my two weeks were up I went back to school yet nothing had changed and if anything it had gotten worse. I was in my science lesson and the throwing and name calling started, however the teacher did not do anything. I asked to go to the toilet; I was going to phone my mum.

As I walked up the stairs to the English corridor where the toilets were a boy came up behind me and he got me into a headlock and strongly squeezed my breasts. I cried and ran to the toilet

as fast as I could. I then phoned my mum and she told me to just walk out of school and go to the place where she worked; which was only 5 minutes walk away. When I got to my mum's work she phoned up the school to let them know where I was and told them I would not be going back to the school.

I stayed at home for over 4 months having home tuition. Then finally after my mum had appealed for me to go to Coombe Girls school I was accepted. Now I have been at Coombe Girls school for 9 months and I have lots of new friends. I'm very happy. The **bEND** thing I could ever have done was to leave my old school when I had the chance.