

ADDICTS CAN RECOVER. WE DO FEEL AND WE ARE ENTITLED TO LIVE

I am an addict. I have used drugs and alcohol for most of my life. It was in May last year when calamity hit. I had been abstinent from opiates for 18 months and was just smoking cannabis and using a rare valium when I could get it. I couldn't get any cannabis that day but I managed to get some valium and popped the lot and then I did something insane, I injected heroin.

As soon as the barrel on the syringe was down I was gone. Luckily I wasn't using alone and my friend called the paramedics. I remember briefly coming round after the first shot of Naloxone in the ambulance and then again after the third shot in hospital.

I see Naloxone as my miracle, my chance to be a good parent, partner, son and brother. Without this drug I wouldn't be here writing this. I am now totally abstinent. I have started a degree course at the Open University, I'm a recovery coach and I'm taking my driving test soon. I have an amazing sponsor and for the first time in my life I feel that I have the power to choose whether I use or not, rather than how long I can hold out for.

I want to train to administer Naloxone and campaign for all governments to fund this wonder drug. Addicts can recover. We do feel and we are entitled to live.

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All names have been changed and actors have been used to protect their

Naloxone Action Group Brigland

