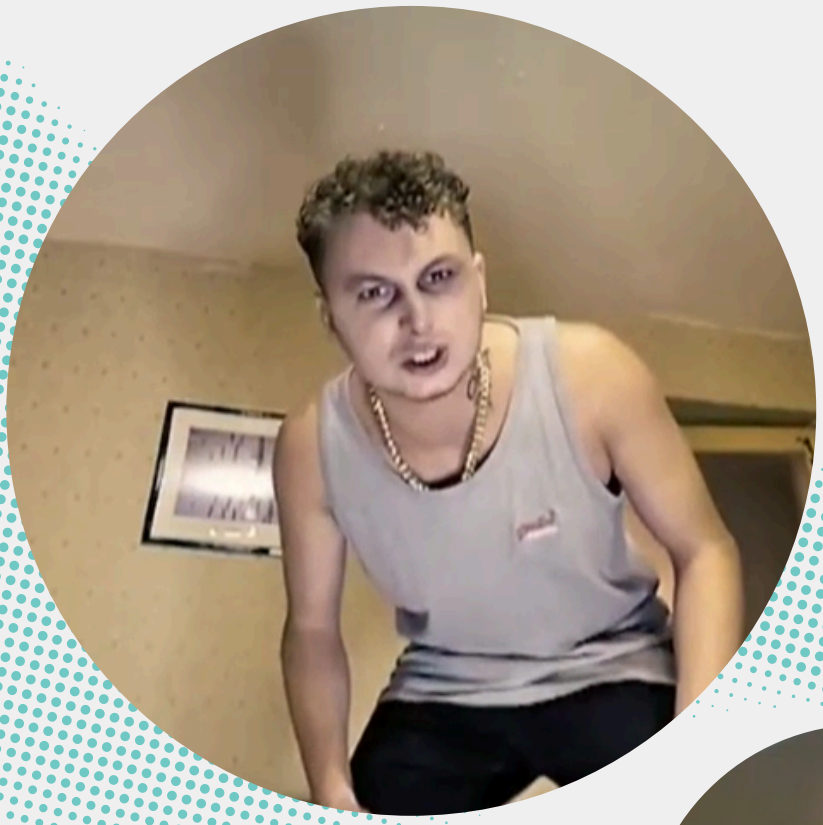
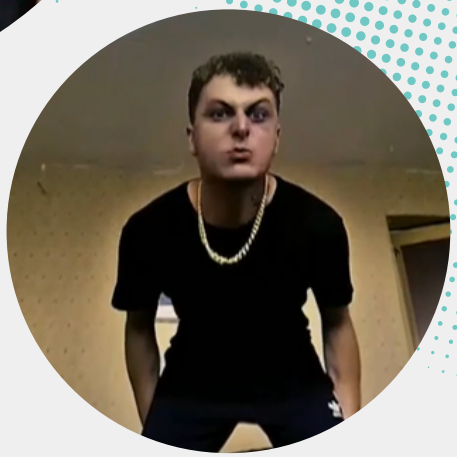
Charlie's Life Journey

His Life at a Glance







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Charlie was born to his mother Liz at 18. Liz and her partner separated, and Charlie did not know his father. When Charlie was 5 Liz started a new relationship with John. They had two children within two and a half years.

John lost his job and the situation at home became difficult. John became angry and aggressive becoming violent towards Liz. This was upsetting for Charlie who tried hard to protect his mum and younger siblings from John's violence.

John was also angry towards Charlie who he viewed as difficult and was not his child.

Charlie began having difficulties in the classroom, not doing as was he told, getting into trouble and having a number or exclusions.

At 9 he was transferred to the pupil referral unit. Charlie became friendly with older boys there. He began hanging out with them after school, staying out late and getting into trouble with the police.

At 15 he was sent to a young offender's institution. There he met a group of boys who were into drugs. When he was released, he met up with these boys who asked him to sell drugs for them. Charlie enjoyed earning the extra money so that he could buy his mum and younger siblings' food, clothes and toys. He was also taking drugs himself.

This resulted in many arguments at home, after one particularly bad argument when Charlie broke the furniture in his room Charlie was taken into emergency care.

He went into a children's home, where he met Jodie. He eventually went to live in a hostel for at time, where he continued his drug dealing and then got his own council flat.



Charlie loved Jodie and enjoyed treating her to nice things when he had money. He also saw his mum and siblings from time to time taking presents with him. He was pleased when Joe was born and loved his son.

He tried to stop drug dealing for a while but found it hard to manage without the money and returned to dealing. When Joe was 9 months old he went into prison. Things were difficult when Charlie came out of prison, they had money worries and were arguing. Eventually a neighbour called social services to complain about the noise and the crying baby. Joe was taken into foster care at 18 months old.

Charlie and Jodie stayed together. Charlie was very sad and angry when Joe went into foster care and began to take more drugs and dealing again so that he could afford the drugs. He went to prison again and discovered that Jodie was pregnant with another man's baby when he was released.

He and Jodie tried hard to care for the new baby. Charlie was angry that the baby was not his and the baby was hard to soothe. When they had money, things were easy and Charlie was generous to Rayleigh and Jodie. Without money Charlie became depressed and easily irritated by Jodie and Rayleigh, the mess in the house resulting in him shouting loudly at Jodie.

Social services became involved once more and the baby Rayleigh was taken into a foster to adopt placement.

