

LEARNING

After working in the sex industry over the past ten years, 99.8% of my clients have been gentlemen.

One client proved a problem and began stalking me. I have met many men and I will never understand the mindset but I guess there are mental health issues across all social and cultural sectors and we don't often realise when one of clients is turning into the client from hell. The client became obsessed and the stalking behaviour began.

When I took control of the situation and spoke to the client, informing him that the police had been notified, he was shocked that I had spoken to the police and shocked that I was prepared to take out an intervention order against him. This would have impacted on his business, personal life and his wellbeing.

I now fully understand that we have to be firm and not accept this behaviour from day one.

Then we are not intimidated.

I am quite proud of being assertive and forceful with my intention and language.

Learning is that :

1. Women need to be assertive and courageous with this stuff and speak up soon. Not to cave in to the charm early on as that is what happened.
2. If it continues we need to let them know we won't tolerate it and end all contact.
3. If they persist be prepared to seek police advice.
4. Do not be afraid if they intimidate us with the fact they have our own photos and know we have worked. That was the biggest for me.
5. Psychological intimidation is pervasive and builds up and can continue even when the relationship is finished. I realise the cost of this is energy.
6. Do not cave in to their weak excuses of why they did it e.g. they are stressed, they were worried about us not being contactable.
7. Listen to your own gut feeling of feeling anxious and disempowered as it is the body's way of telling us something is not right whatever it may be.
8. The importance of having a close social network.
9. The importance of believing in yourself, knowing yourself worth and not tolerating things because of fear.

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