



Client Story: A Plan for the Future

After nineteen years of marriage, Pauline and Robert knew that the marriage was over when Robert's violence went over the edge from verbal to physical. They had two teenage daughters. Over the years, Robert had insisted, against Pamela's wishes, that she not go to University. So, when they divorced, she had no real skills to support herself and the girls. Robert argued with each lawyer he spoke to when they told him that he had to pay support to his ex-wife and the children. When the judge awarded support to her, Robert completely lost control of his temper.

This was the unpleasant situation that I helped Pauline deal with when she asked for my help in planning a financial future for herself and her daughters. Pauline had been convinced after many years in an emotionally abusive relationship that she wasn't entitled to an education or financial independence. Together we took stock of her existing financial situation. Next we talked about what she really wanted to do with her life. She wanted a home for herself and her children. She wanted to set a good example for them by standing on her own two feet and creating a satisfying career for herself. She also wanted to experience the joys that life and the world had to offer. You might ask what all of this has to do with money, but the reality is that without a vision of what the future could look like, it's difficult to do the work required to climb out of a major life transition like divorce and into a new, successful reality.

Pauline accomplished all of her goals and more. Keep reading the next installments of this story and you will learn how she did it.