



Jules Cooper: Probation Officer

I am Jules Cooper, age 35. I was born in South Carolina. I am currently a Probation officer. I also do volunteer work at the local Juvenile facility, doing intakes and mental health counseling. I earned my BA in Criminal Justice and am currently working on a Masters in Human Services. I was a police officer for 5 years in the community.

I see first hand what these kids are up to. Many of the kids confide in me. I am never quite sure if they are telling me the truth. But I keep what they say to my self. I figure that these kids are troubled and their parents are probably the reason why. They need someone to talk to. Why not me? I have, on rare occasions, divulged some of this information to community leaders but never used names. I am aware of suicidal kids, drug dealers, kids who are prostituting, and kids who are violent to their boyfriends and girlfriends. I feel that I was called by God to do this work. I am passionate about these kids.

I have 5 kids of my own, 3 of whom attend Wadesville High. Two are honor students. One is pregnant. The twins, age 5, were born HIV positive. I am HIV positive. It's a long story about a relationship gone wrong. I am on a regimen and doing really well.

I made a lot of bad choices in my life. I want to help the kids that I am in contact with to see the error of their ways. If my experiences and education can help one kid, then I will feel the HIV is my burden to bear in lieu of that help.

I want to get that Masters degree in order to open my own Christian Counseling Center. I have been diagnosed with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and had some substance abuse issues. I am getting treatment at the Free Clinic. I can overcome these obstacles and use my experiences to help others.