

Communications Lab 3, Case Scenarios for Activity 4

Handout for Person Playing Role of Parent

Case Scenario 1, Jones Family

DCF received an anonymous intake which alleged that Malika Jones, mother of three preschoolers, was constantly beating her -children. The anonymous caller alleged that she hears the children screaming and crying “all day long” and has observed the mother hitting the children on the buttocks and face with her hand. Yesterday, the oldest child was observed to have a bloody nose after being slapped by the mother. This is the first report received for this family.

Information ONLY for Person playing part of parent:

You are feeling overwhelmed as the single parent of three children under the age of four years old. You are furious that the CPI on your doorstep appears to be your age, and has no children! You feel that she could not possibly understand your situation.

The father of the children is no longer in their lives as he was physically abusive to you, and you got out of the relationship. He has been gone for the past 8 months, provides no support and shows no interest in his children.

You are struggling to make ends meet, to stretch the food stamps, and care for three active children. You were spanked with a switch as a child and see nothing wrong with “corporal punishment.” You do admit you’re your children’s behaviors seem to be getting more and more out of control

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Case Scenario 2, Olum Family

The hotline intake was based on a report made by an elementary school nurse, expressing concern that nine year old Billy, who is diagnosed with juvenile diabetes, is coming to school without the glucose testing kits that the school nurse is supposed to perform three times a day based on a written agreement with Billy's father and pediatrician. He is also coming to school with snacks that are high in sugar content which he not supposed to have. The nurse is concerned that Billy will soon suffer serious consequences if the diabetes continues to go unmanaged.

Information ONLY for Person playing part of parent:

You are furious that someone at the school called DCF, and you suspect that it is the school nurse. You are very persistent about wanting to know specifically who at the school called the hotline.

You recently lost your job that provided health care for you and your son. You are a single father as the child's mother died five years ago. You do not have the money to buy the testing kits that the doctor recommends be used five times a day. You do not have cooking skills, and are having a difficult time knowing how to prepare meals for your son that are not high in sugar content.

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Case Scenario 3, Juarez Family

The hotline intake was based on a report made by a law enforcement officer. Police were called to the home of the Juarez residence at 3:30 a.m. due to a neighbor calling and reporting that she could hear the mother's boyfriend yelling and threatening to hurt her. The law enforcement officer arrested the boyfriend when he got to the home because the boyfriend had shoved the mother against the bedroom wall bruising her back. The officer filed a report with the hotline based on "Family Violence Threatens Child." The mother refused to go to a shelter and remained in the home with her three children after the boyfriend was arrested.

Information ONLY for Person playing part of parent:

Your boyfriend is in jail, but is likely to be getting out soon and you know he will come back to your home as he will have no other place to go. He is also the father of your youngest child. You are extremely frightened of his violence, and know that if you reveal anything about him to the CPI that your boyfriend will be even more angry and violent towards you. You want to convince the CPI that everything is all right. You have been working hard to keep the house clean, and to fix meals that he likes so that he won't fly off the handle and hit you. You feed the children dinner before he gets home from work and put them to bed early in case he gets violent towards you. You don't think he would ever hurt the children.