

Scenario Session 1

Group 1

Two deaf children have been removed from the home of their deaf parents because of neglect & have been placed in the home of the hearing foster parents who do not know American Sign Language. The children's doctor says that the children would gain partial hearing if they were given cochlear implants. The parents want their children to remain immersed in the deaf culture & are strongly against the implants. Your supervisee wants to recommend the implants as she believes implants will enable the children to communicate better now with their foster parents, as well as prepare them to be productive members of society.

Group 2

One of the parents you are working with confides in you that she is afraid she might be a lesbian. She is no longer living with the father of her children & is troubled because she has far more intense feelings for women than she does for men. She is troubled by her own self-assessment because her religion teaches that homosexuality is immoral. She wants you to refer her to a therapist who can "repair" her.

Group 3

You are the supervisor of a social worker is conducting an investigation on a new family. In the course of the initial conversation, she discovers that the family is of the same religious faith as she (although they are in different congregations). This particular religious tradition has a long-standing reputation of taking care of its own & being there for its members when they are in trouble or have needs. Without seeking the clients' consent, the worker decides to approach the head of the church in that area & seek his help in intervening with the family & providing resources.

Group 4

A female client who is also a social worker has revealed that she has engaged in dual relationships with her own clients. In one instance, the social worker client hired a former client as a secretary. In another, she invited a client to attend a professional social work seminar & gave the client a ride to the seminar. The social worker client also recently revealed to the caller that she had engaged in a romantic relationship with a former client as well.

Scenario Session 2

Group 1

Gail & Louisa are domestic violence workers who provide outreach services at the local court house. Because of the lack of an available private office, they conduct their peer supervision at a local coffeehouse, being careful only to identify their clients by their first names.

Group 2

You are a social worker assessing an allegation of physical abuse. The child clearly has bruising on the back of the legs & on the buttocks. His parents are quite open about having used "physical" discipline with the child. They claim, however, that such practices are justified in different sections of the Old Testament. You are convinced that your clients are quite sincere in their religious beliefs & do not wish to dishonor their spiritual tradition.

Group 3

A foster care worker has been working for months to earn the trust of the birth mother on one of his cases. He has finally made some inroads in this regard. One day, she tells him that she has some things she would like to share with him, but before she does so, she wants him to promise not to share what she has to say with anyone (including his supervisor) & not to record it in the case file.

Group 4

A school social workers provided services to a 12-year-old boy. The boy's mother told the social worker that the boy seemed to be struggling with sexual orientation issues. The mother asked the social worker to keep this confidential. One week later, the principal stopped by the social worker's office & mentioned that she had received a complaint from another student that the social worker's client had harassed the other student. The principal wanted to know "what was going on" with the social worker's client & asked to see the social worker's notes.

Scenario Session 3

Group 1

You are a child welfare supervisor in a fairly remote, rural location, & there are only two other child welfare workers in your office. A 15 year old girl in long-term foster care recently disclosed that she was pregnant & desires an abortion. Both of the social workers you supervise have told you that they are morally opposed to abortion & are not comfortable working with this teenager.

Group 2

An allegation has been made regarding educational neglect of five brothers aged 9-16. None of the boys has ever been to school & all are unable to read or to do all but the simplest math problems. The parents are both college graduates. Their reasons for not sending their children to school: both parents are firm believers that schools harm children by requiring conformity & believe that their children will be better moral citizens by avoiding school. The parents are also opposed to the concept & practice of home schooling & refuse to participate in any state requirements for home schooling parents. The boys are well-fed, polite & friendly. The social worker assigned to the case is seeking guidance.

Group 3

A social worker working at a school with students with serious physical disabilities learn from the parents of one of the social worker's clients, an 11-year-old girl, that they sleep with their daughter. The social worker expressed surprise & shared her concern about the sleeping arrangements. The parents explained that in their native culture it is common for children to sleep with their parents.

Group 4

As social worker, you were called in because it is suspected that a child has been deliberately burned by his parents. The school reported the child coming to class with circular burn marks on one arm. Upon meeting the family, you learn that their cultural healing tradition includes the practice of "coining", in which a hot coin is placed on the area of the body in which the person is experiencing pain. The heat from the coin, according to their tradition, draws out whatever is inside the body that is causing the pain.

Scenario Session 5

Group 1

You are a child welfare supervisor in a public child welfare agency. You have a number of young case workers in your unit, who you know are all active in using text messaging & social networking to communicate. One of your supervisees just invited you to be her "friend" on a social networking website. Curious, you view who her friends are on the website & are surprised to recognize two of her "friends" are her former clients.

Group 2

A social worker shares with you that she routinely searches social media sites for information about her clients. She states this allows her to have greater knowledge of her clients & makes her better prepared to work them, as well as helping her see if they are applying the skills focused on in sessions

Group 3

A social work researcher and educator, has an online professional social media page, where he posts interesting articles, new research and advertise professional development events. This is a public site and people can comment on things posted. Recently, an ex-client found the site and posted a comment asking the social worker how he was and referred to our past therapeutic relationship.

Group 4

A social worker, who is the risk manager of a large facility, received a birthday card & check for \$5.00 from an employee. The social worker & employee were members of the same church & though they have never exchanged birthday gifts, they have been exchanging Christmas cards for over a decade.

Scenario Session 6

Group 1

The judge this afternoon continued a court hearing until 8:00am tomorrow so the six-year old foster child can attend. She lives in a foster home, approximately a three-hour drive each way from the county seat, where the worker lives & the hearing will be. The foster parents are unable to transport, so the worker will have to do so. Under the best of circumstances, if he left now, he would be back in the county seat by 11:00pm, which the worker decides would be a better course of action than leaving his home at 1:30am in the morning & picking the child up at 4:30am. Rather than try to arrange a one-night stay in a foster home or the children's emergency shelter (which is on the opposite side of the city), he decides (with his wife's consent) simply to take the girl to his home, allow her to sleep there, feed her breakfast, & get her to court on time from his home.

Group 2

A client who has her own kiln, brings her social worker a ceramic bowl she made. The bowl is given as a parting gift at the client's last session with the social worker.

Group 3

The supervisor of the county's therapeutic foster home program works closely with a local child psychologist who is on a year-to-year contract to provide testing & therapeutic services for children in the program. At Christmas, the psychologist gives the supervisor a gift certificate to a local restaurant. While the child welfare program manager is ultimately responsible for awarding the contract each year, the supervisor has significant input into the decision.

Group 4

A rural social worker who provides clinical services at a nursing home has agreed to assume medical power of attorney for a number of patients who have no other appropriate resources. The social worker differentiates the roles, never providing counseling to the patients for whom he has the fiduciary role & responsibility. One effect is that clients to whom he provides counseling can never have the opportunity to select him as their legal representative, & clients for whom he has power of attorney cannot receive clinical services.