

SESSION 5 REDD CASE

Dilemmas/Solutions Worksheet

The purpose of this activity is to think critically about potential dilemmas you may find yourself faced with when working on a case. It's also an opportunity to think about the solutions that you may want to implement.

Instructions:

- 1) Read each situation below
- 2) Identify the “crux” of the dilemma in 1-2 sentences
- 3) Identify possible consequences to the child, family, the CASA/GAL volunteer and/or the CASA/GAL program.
- 4) Write down at least one possible solution for each dilemma.

Dilemma #1

As a CASA/GAL volunteer, you are on your way to your very first visit with a 9 year-old girl named Susan. Right before you leave, you call the paternal grandfather, who is caring for Susan, and find out that she just had some teeth pulled and some other dental work done. He mentions that the dentist prescribed some mild painkillers and antibiotics. He has already phone them into the pharmacy but doesn't have a car to go get them. Since you pass the pharmacy on the way, he is wondering if you could swing by and pick them up. Why not also pick up a milkshake for Susan? Susan's mouth is going to be sore from all the dental work, and this would be a great way to start out your relationship as her volunteer advocate. What do you do?

Crux Of The Dilemma

Potential Consequences

Dilemma #1

Solution(s)	
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Dilemma #2

You have developed a great working relationship with Michele, the birth mother in your case. The case is going well and there is talk of returning all four of her children home and reunifying with their mother. At this time, the agency's only concern is that Michele's budget is very tight; she will have to maintain employment in order to make ends meet. She has an unsteady employment history and has previously disclosed that she is stressed about the idea of having all four children return home at once. One day you are meeting with Michele when she leans in close and says she has a secret. She asks you to "pinky swear" that you won't tell anyone. You really want to find out what the secret is, but you also don't want to break Michele's trust. She leans in to tell you that she is expecting another child and will have to leave her job to prepare for the birth of the new baby. What do you do?

Crux Of The Dilemma	
Potential Consequences	

Dilemma #2

Solution(s)	
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Dilemma #3

You have been appointed to the case of an 8 year old boy who was recently placed into a group home due to destructive behavior. The social worker advises you that he is in a three-week black-out period, during which he can neither have visits nor participate in any outside activities. You think this is grossly unfair to the child. You've addressed your concerns with the group-home staff, the caseworker, and the child's attorney. You've even included it in your court report, to no avail. You tell the social worker how disappointed you are that they aren't doing their job. The conversation goes nowhere, and you are even more frustrated. You go home and while searching the internet you come across a Facebook page for child advocates. You think to yourself that this would be a great opportunity to voice your frustrations to other like-minded individuals, but you know you can't provide any information that would compromise confidentiality. What do you do?

Crux Of The Dilemma	
Potential Consequences	

Dilemma #3

Solution(s)	
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Dilemma #4

You have been working with a teenage sibling group for almost a year. Yolanda, the youngest of the four siblings, is at a local youth shelter after running away from her former placement to see her sisters, who are all placed in another county. You are at the shelter for a visit and a team meeting with the shelter staff to discuss Yolanda's case. During the meeting Yolanda becomes so upset that she runs out of the shelter and goes to her sister's foster home nearby. You accompany staff to the foster home in an effort to persuade Yolanda to return voluntarily to the shelter. Yolanda agrees to cooperate with the staff, but upon her return, she confides in you that she is lonely and doesn't have anyone to talk to. She isn't allowed to use the phone after a certain hour, and she'd like to have a cell phone to stay in contact with her sisters. She asks you to purchase one for her. What do you do?

Crux Of The Dilemma	
Potential Consequences	

Dilemma #4

Dilemma #4	
Solution(s)	