

Audience Groups 2-6 (Working Together 2010)

Methods Small groupwork

Preparation

You will need copies of the Evans and the Henderson/Miller/Taylor family case studies, and copies of Liam and Michelle's stories:

- F1.0 Evans family case study
- F1.3 Liam's story
- F1.6 Liam's history
- F2.0 Henderson/Miller/Taylor family case study
- F2.3 Michelle's story
- F2.6 Michelle's history
- F2.7 Michelle's chronology

You may also want to play Liam or Michelle's story to the group:

- M1.3 Liam's story
- M2.3 Michelle's story

Ensure that you have copies of the

- **Adolescent Wellbeing Scale**

which can be found in the folder further reading/Cox & Bentovim (2000) Family pack of questionnaires and scales (Assessment Framework).pdf.

Further reading for participants on young people and the impact of neglect can also be found in Further Reading. See page 2 of the exercise guidance for recommendations.

Links to Common Core

Common Core 2 Child and young person's development (skills: observation and judgement). Understand that babies, children and young people see and experience the world in different ways.

Common Core 5 Multi-agency working (skills: communication and teamwork). Provide timely, appropriate, succinct information to enable other practitioners to deliver their support to the child or young person, parent or carer.

Childhood Neglect: Improving Outcomes for Children

Learning Outcomes

To assess the nature and extent of a child's developmental needs.

Process

This exercise aims:

- To enable participants to better understand neglect and its impact on young people.
- To improve skills in assessment and analysis of information.
- To promote multi-agency information sharing and working.
- To raise participants' awareness of local support services.

Trainers may want to localise information with references to names of local police teams, shops, GP surgery for example.

Split the participants into 4 or 6 groups, preferably of mixed disciplines. Give half the groups the Evans family case study and half the Henderson/Miller/Taylor family case study. Ask them to read the case study and to see if they can use it as a basis for completing the Adolescent Wellbeing Scale (Birleson 1980), which can be found in the Family Pack of Questionnaires and Scales (Department of Health, Cox and Walker 2002). Ask them to consider how earlier experiences may have affected current functioning.

Continued ↘

Time

Total : 1 hour

Small group discussions 20 mins

Large group feedback 15 mins

Audio 5 mins

Large group discussions 20 mins

further

Assessing adolescent wellbeing

G17 1

Process Continued

Play them the audio of each young person's story from their perspective and continue the discussion in the light of the additional information.

For Liam's story, ensure feedback includes references to:

- Better information sharing between children's social care, school, police, Youth Offending Teams, Health, Youth Services – draw out other relevant agencies.
- Assessment of developmental need, including risk and protective factors based upon information from agencies, parent and young person.
- Referral to appropriate support services and positive activity providers for Liam.
- Parenting support and advice for parents.
- Ask Liam what he wants!

For Michelle's story, ensure feedback includes references to:

- Consideration of which agencies are already involved with Michelle and her family and whether there are other agencies that could be important to involve, social care, health, further education, housing, benefits advisor.
- Consideration of how best to engage with Jim.
- Assessment of developmental needs, including risk and protective factors in place for Michelle and for her unborn baby, based upon information from agencies, parent, other significant people and young person.
- Referral to appropriate support services and positive activity providers for Michelle, such as support services for young mothers, further education opportunities, parent and baby groups, befriending.
- Consideration of Michelle's role with regard to her siblings, including assessment of the attachment relationships and ongoing relationships.
- Ask Michelle what she wants and needs!

Further reading recommendations

Rees, Gorin, Jobe, Stein, Medforth and Goswami (2010) Safeguarding Young People - Responding to Young People aged 11 to 17 who are maltreated. London: The Children's Society.

Stein, Rees, Hicks and Gorin (2009) DCSF research brief-Neglected adolescents literature review. London: Department for Children, Schools and Families.