

Introduction: Students will choose a family scenario and then analyze the collective and individual issues and needs of the family members. The multiple influences on development and learning will be integrated and discussed, utilizing the Bioecological Model of Human Development. Students will also identify the strengths of the family, including those of individual members, as a group, and as influenced by extended family, peers, and the community.

Goals: As a result of the analysis of the chosen family, students will be able to provide appropriate community resources to help meet their needs, based on Internet and print research. Students will demonstrate skill in identifying family strengths, as well as explaining the importance of doing so. Students will also be able to substantiate, in detail, the ethical responsibility of early childhood professionals to advocate for and provide support to families.

Guidelines: Choose one of the 10 Case Studies in your textbook (Chapter 10, p. 365-67).

Be sure to carefully complete EVERY section of this assignment, because each is graded separately towards the possible 110 points. It is suggested that you type your responses to each item directly into this document, double spaced, so nothing is overlooked. Please create a title for this assignment.

First, in your own words, summarize the details of the scenario.

I believe that Pam, being a child that has always done what's right now is very disappointed in herself, and believes her family is going to think less of her due to her accidental pregnancy. This is always hard on a family due to the obvious financial obligations that an unintentional pregnancy brings. I am a woman of the Christian faith and the recommendations that I will make to this family and the help that I will be

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incorporating are not only from what the community has to offer, but the way I believe to be the right way to do things. My help will be to this family as a whole not just for Pam and her unborn child.

Then:

1.) Carefully define the needs and potential issues of each family member.

There may be one family member in particular who has an obvious need, but in a family, all of its members will have needs of their own in relation to that member and to each other. Aim for 10 needs and or issues.

- a.) Pam will need prenatal care for herself and her unborn child.
- b.) Pam and her family will need counseling to restore and rebuild their relationship, and to prepare for the birth of a new family member.
- c.) Pam will need to continue going to school so during the final months of her pregnancy. She may need tutoring to keep her grades up. Also, she is still very young and probably only a sophomore in High School so I will include contact information about a place that can help with childcare and a place to get your general education diploma (GED)
- d.) Pam will need to apply for Medicaid to help pay for her medical care during the time of labor and delivery and the babies post-delivery care.

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- e.) Pam will need to incorporate the financial help of the child's father and depending on the situation, she may need to apply for WIC and or food stamps to free up funding for non-food items such as wipes and diapers.
- f.) Pam and the child's father will need to come to an agreement about what financial responsibilities belong to each party. Legal assistance may be needed to determine this.
- g.) Child care will be needed when the child is born so Pam can return to school or find employment.
- h.) The baby will need a car seat and a safe crib before returning home.
- i.) The entire family could use some help learning safe sleep techniques and infant CPR.
<http://www.firstcandle.org/new-expectant-parents/>

There are many helpful tests on this website that I could share with them and then moving forward. The contact number is 1-443-640-1049 to talk to a representative about safe sleep classes and get a safe crib for the child to sleep in.

2.) Think about the integral parts of the Microsystem:

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Think of ways each of these will be involved in this family's needs and issues. Explain in detail.

- **Community**

I'm going to consider the family's church home part of their community. If they don't have a church home then we are going to find them one.

They are also going to find out that there are many community resources to help with each of the needs. Listed under each need is the resources that are available to provide assistance with each need.

- **Media**

This is going to surround Pam and her family. There will be TV commercials and other advertising about many ways to look at pregnancy options. We are not going to give into abortion rights etc...

Each child whether planned or unplanned has a right to life. However, adoption is still an option for Pam and her unborn child.

- **Peers**

At Pam's young age this could be anything from her good friends to people that make fun of her, or look down on her to the baby's father and his friends.

We will take advantage of the help from peers if offered and will counsel Pam

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away from any negativity in her life as she prepares to bring another precious life into this world.

- **Family (in the home and the extended family)**

Pam has brothers and sisters that will be very closely involved in this situation. She may have grandparents the scenario doesn't say. We can't forget about the baby's father and his immediate family

- **School**

Since we have already covered the friends at school we are going to consider this Pam's education and the childcare needed after the child's birth in order for Pam to continue to finish high school. This will include the option for getting a GED or a general education diploma.

A.) Pam will be able to look into many community resources that can help her with medical prenatal care of herself and her unborn child. The website for Hamilton County health clinics for low income families is:

http://www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/clinics_in_noblesville_and_ham.html

The personal at this health clinic will help Pam file for Medicaid to take care of the birth of her unborn child. This health clinic can get her started on her prenatal care.

Riverview Hospital, Riverview Community Health Clinic

Main address - 601 A Westfield Road

Noblesville, Indiana 46060

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Dial (317) 776-1071

The onsite clinic can help the needy and low income. A fitness center is also on site. Get education and other health care here

B.) Counseling for Pam and her family is found within the walls of their new church home. If this is not something they are interested in then planned-parenthood is an option. Any Pro-life organization is acceptable.

This is the one I like because it gives many other resources to answer the basic question

“When does life begin?”

<http://nrlc.djcweb.net/abortion/wdlb/>

National Life Center *a national, toll-free hotline*

24 hours a day. 7 days a week. Every day of the year.

(800) 848-LOVE

The National Life Center will provide counseling to Pam to help her make a pro-life decision about her pregnancy. Adoption is an option and they will provide information to Pam about when the life cycle begins.

C.) I have found several options for Pam to get the tutoring she needs. Sylvan learning center is one option, however the high school has a whole list of tutors they refer to people that ask. The community is full of people that will tutor for a fee. I am now going to refer Pam to her church home, where there is usually tutoring done free of charge to teens in her present situation.

D.) The website to get information on Medicaid for pregnant women is:

<http://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Population/Pregnant-Women/Pregnant-Women.html>

Any information about eligibility and how to apply can be found here.

Because her unborn child counts and one family member, and Pam lives with her mom and two siblings she has a 5 member family unit. The household income can be up to \$4838 per month.

Also, the Noblesville Health Center listed above will help her file.

E.) The WIC office in Hamilton County is located at 942 N. 10th Street and the phone number is 317-776-3445.

Pam will qualify for milk, cereal, juice and other things from the Women, Infants, and Children office in their local area.

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F.) If at any point in time there are legal services needed; Pam and her family can utilize the Legal Aid Administration. The closest I office I could find is located at:

7998 Centerpoint Drive Indianapolis, IN 46256. The phone number is 765-733-0810

G.) CCDF Voucher program- Hamilton County representative is Lyndsey Lamb. She is in Noblesville office on Wednesdays from 8:00-4:00 her number is 317-776-3461

H.) The Children's Bureau of Indiana is a for sure way to get lots of helpful resources and organization lists with contact information for all of them.

I can help her pull up a list of childcare providers from this website by putting in her zip code and getting a whole list of providers. Then we can call them and go visit them together to choose the best one.

I.) Mary, Pam, all her siblings, and the father of the baby plus his family should all take safe sleep classes and basic infant/pediatric CPR.

First Candle has a safe sleep video on their website and American Red Cross offers Infant CPR.

<http://www.firstcandle.org/new-expectant-parents/>

Explain how some of these parts may interact with each other (family with school, school with family, community with family, family with community, peers with family, etc.). (Mesosystems)

Family –School and School - Family

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The family will have to meet with the school administration to find out if there are any special considerations to be made for a pregnant student. Pam's doctor may put restrictions on her, especially in her final trimester. The school system should be made aware of Pam's present situation for many reasons. They may be able to help and they are responsible for her while she is in attendance.

Community –Family and Family –Community

If Pam and her family find a good church home there are always church members that simply want to help anyway they can. Some have food pantries. Some will offer to care for the child. Some will offer good used clothing from previous children.

There are many community offered services that Pam can look at to decide (per her individual decision) what she thinks she and her other family members need.

The unborn child will need to be cared for and the family (both her and dad's immediate family and their extended family) may need to help provide care while Pam and her mother are trying to work and / or go to school. This can

4. Explain how the Exosystems might affect this family (as a whole and individually) by means of any of these that may apply:

- Social services

Social services are very helpful in this case. Anytime there are children involved the community as a whole will usually rally around the family that requests help.

- **The employment of family members**

In this case Mary is the only one that is working and this will actually help them qualify for many services.

The unborn child qualifies already as one family member when applying for Medicaid.

- **The school board**

The school board may have issues with Pam being at school during her final trimester. See above for the school administration phone number to schedule a meeting for informational purposes.

- **The community government**

Each state and county government is different. Some provide more and some provide less services for cases like this. Our local government in Hamilton County is wonderful.

- **Federal and State government**

State and federal governments go through periods of more and less help for low-income families. Usually it the income guidelines for qualifications that vary from year to year.

5. How could the Macrosystems affect this family (as a whole and individually) by means of:

- **Science and Technology**

Science and technology is up to date on many issues about pregnancy due to the controversy about abortion. The medical world has come a long way to provide quality care to pregnant women.

- **Culture and Ethnicity**

In America pregnant woman are in a class of needing to be cared for just like children and the elderly.

- **Economics**

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When you have one person working in a family of five. A pregnancy will qualify most families for all the help that is available.

- Politics

In the political world it would be very easy to justify an abortion in this case. Many times the family needs to hear it from a professional about what is right even though insurance and society supports abortion. It is proven that the long term physiological effects of abortion are to be considered.

- Religion

Religion supports life. Creation came from somewhere and conception played a big part of that. Religion will support adoption for families that are determined to not keep the baby.

6. How might society as a whole (Chronosystem) affect this family?

Many people look down on a teenager that is pregnant. They might also look down on her family values. It is sad because teens make mistakes like everyone else. There are not many that are perfect in this world.

7. Carefully analyze this family and create a detailed list of all the strengths it has. We need to identify a family's strengths before we can determine the best ways to help. Think about elements in the community and the family members (including the extended family) that could be considered strengths. Aim for identifying 8.

Explain in detail why it is important to support the strengths a family does have.

The family strengths are:

- 1.) The siblings are close and care for one another. This is for moral support and help in care of the child later.

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- 2.) Mary has not had trouble from Pam so she is not a rebellious child. This will be helpful when trying to make a decision about what is best for the family as a whole.
- 3.) The size of the family is large enough to qualify them for maximum monetary support. They will need to apply for several types of services and because they are a family of 5 now they will qualify for more.
- 4.) The siblings are old enough to help care for the child. If the time come that Mary has to work to help support the family or needs to take classes in the evenings or on the weekend the siblings can share responsibility for baby.
- 5.) All the family members are in good health. In any case good health can be a blessing or a curse.
- 6.) Pam has had good friend relationships with good people. She may be able to incorporate the help of some of her friends when needed and they are more likely to provide moral support if they are good people.
- 7.) The chances of the baby's father helping out is better if he comes from a good family.

The baby has a father and a mother and although they are too young to get married they are not too young to help share the responsibility of raising a new child.
- 8.) Mary has had a good relationship with her daughter up until now so the chances of Pam taking advice from her mom is good. If you build a good relationship early on then when a crisis happens it won't be as bad and likely won't cause the family to fall apart.

8. Locate and list community resources that could help this family. These should be local agencies in your particular community! Remember to consider the needs and issues of all family members (go back to item #1).

Choose resources in your particular community. Do an extensive search and don't be limited to just one source of information. Aim for 10 resources.

Your listing should include the following information about each agency:

- Name of agency
- Address
- Phone
- Hours
- Services provided
- Eligibility
- Fees (if any)
- Area served

NOTE: Provide detailed information on each agency. Don't just provide a website or other general information that would require the family to do their own research and hunt for help on their own. Also, do not assume the family has Internet access. If you were actually going to give these resources to a real family that was going through some troubling issues, they would appreciate the fact that you already did the necessary legwork and got all the information they needed. This is what it means to be an advocate for families.

1.) Riverview Hospital, Riverview Community Health Clinic

Main address - 601 A Westfield Road

Noblesville, Indiana 46060

Dial (317) 776-1071

2.) National Life Center *a national, toll-free hotline*

24 hours a day. 7 days a week. Every day of the year.

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(800) 848-LOVE

3.) The WIC office in Hamilton County is located at 942 N. 10th Street and the phone number is 317-776-3445.

4.) Legal Aid Administration. The closest I office I could find is located at:
7998 Centerpoint Drive Indianapolis, IN 46256. The phone number is 765-733-0810

5.) CCDF Voucher program- Hamilton County representative is Lyndsey Lamb. She is in Noblesville office on Wednesdays from 8:00-4:00 her number is 317-776-3461

6.) Hamilton Southeastern School Administration- 13485 Cumberland Rd. 317-594-4100

7.) **Trinity Free Clinic**

Address: 14598 Oakridge Road

Carmel, Indiana 46032

(317) 819-0772

8.) **Hamilton County Division of Family Resources**

1101 S. 10th Street

Noblesville, IN 46060

Telephone/Fax Number: 1-800-403-0864

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

9.) Hazel Dell Christian Church

14501 Hazel Dell Pkwy. Carmel, IN 46033

317-846-9828

10.) Quiet Streams Counseling

14074 Trade Center Drive

Suite 225

Fishers, Indiana 46038

(317) 204-3589

9. In your conclusion, explain in at least one paragraph, why it is important for early childhood professionals to assist families in locating resources and help they may need.

Use examples from your own experience in working with families or experiences you have had personally needing assistance to further substantiate the importance of early childhood professionals advocating for families and providing support in times of need. Find specific Ideals and Principles in the NAEYC Code of Ethics that back up your reasoning for supporting families.

It is my job as an early childhood professional to guide and protect the children and their families that I serve. I have the responsibility to use my knowledge from education and experiences to help children by

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providing their parents with all the information I can gather to help in each individual situation no matter what their race, color, creed, or culture they come from. Every child is special in the eyes of God and in my eyes.

10. Create a detailed listing of the sources you used to locate the helpful resources and agencies to help this family. Include the website URLs and the titles of publications that include the agencies that published them. Aim for 4 sources.

Hamilton County Indiana clinics. (n.d.). Retrieved December 7, 2014.

http://www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/clinics_in_noblesville_and_ham.html

Family and Social Services Administration. (n.d.). Retrieved December 7, 2014.

<http://www.in.gov/fssa/2552.htm>

"YP.com - Yellow Pages, the New Yellowpages.com." YP.com - Yellow Pages, the New Yellowpages.com.

Accessed December 7, 2014.

<http://www.yp.com>.

"Google." Google. Accessed December 7, 2014.

<http://www.google.com/>.

