

Assessment Component 1

Case study - Supporting Paper

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Introduction

This supporting paper will discuss the case study of troubled family in Wakefield. The vulnerabilities and dangers that this mum and dad and two daughters aged 9 and 5 family faced will be examined and also the reasons and factors that led to this family's situation, including factors not seen in a typical family; the critical analysis of the process of intervention about how the health and social care agencies conducted, assessed and what kind of actions they took to help this family and, the evaluation of current policy and the roles of multi-disciplinary services within the case study and the potential impact of their actions on this family. For more improvements, it will be given recommendations to this family.

Case study: Wakefield

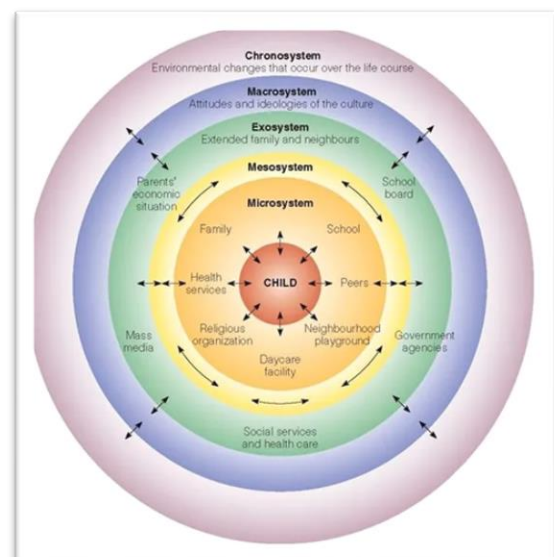
This troubled family faced dangerous and vulnerable situations such as parental substance misuse, involvement in criminal justice, disability, safeguarding issues, domestic and sexual abuse, financial issues, and mental health problems.

According to Public Health England (2020), a child can be in a vulnerable situation when they are more likely to suffer physical or emotional harm and/or poor outcomes as a result of one or more factors in their lives.

This family were in this position of vulnerability because of domestic abuse and drug addiction. Their father faced 23 criminal convictions and got into prison. By using cannabis on the daily bases, both mum and dad, had mental health problems dragging their family into poor condition of property and treat of eviction for rent arrears and, making them been in debt. The two young daughters were suffering from sexual abuse by the family members and consequently, the oldest one had mental health problems and needed special education. Another one had poor attendance at school and missed quite often the health appointments.

All of these factors significantly impacted the lives of these girls. They experienced conditions deemed miserable for a child's healthy development due to their parents' neglect and addictions. They were also sexually abused by family members who were supposed to be supportive and caring of them.

According to Bronfenbrenner's Five Ecological Systems Theory, the child's environment is made up of layered structures, which are all enclosed by the previous one. He arranged them according to the impact they have on children (Guy-Evans, 2020) and the microsystem is children's smallest and most immediate surroundings. As such, the children's microsystem includes their home, school or childcare, peer group, and community surroundings (Psychology Notes HQ, 2013).



These girls were in a vulnerable and depressed environment feeling anxious and insecure deprived from the love, care, protection, and affection of their parents. As a result, their physical and cognitive development is negatively impacted. Their performance at school is poor as it is their self-esteem.

Analysis

The social worker could assess this family utilising the assessment framework by focusing on three critical factors: Parenting Capacity, Child Developmental Needs, and Family and Environmental Factors.

She postponed their eviction order and made significant improvements in their home by making arrangements for the delivery of a skip so that garbage could be removed from the house and garden.

Then, she realised that the children were not receiving basic care; they were not being stimulated, they were not safe or stable; they were not receiving the necessary education; they were not being seen by the doctor on a regular basis, and that the parents did not work and were financially dependent on the housing. Realizing this, she needed to work with specialists such as psychiatrists, the school with SEN teachers, the GP, psychologists, parenting, mental health and rehabilitation counsellors.

She arranged a three times a week drug treatment programme for dad's drug abuse. For their mental health issues, mom and dad are working alongside with local services such as psychiatrists and psychologists. Special Education Needs teachers helped the older daughter to overcome her learning difficulties making her attendance improve. She was also helped by the mental health counsellor and being taken by her parents, to her health appointments on the GP.

This family was protected by Care Act 2014 which contributes to people's independence and well-being. It makes it plain that city councils must provide or organise services that help prevent people from acquiring care and support needs or delay people from deteriorating to the point where they would require continuous care and support. (Department of Health and Social Care, 2016); Children Acts 1989 and 2004: It is the duty of all individuals and organisations who work with children to support child welfare and safeguarding (Johnson, 2019); Children and Families Act 2014 that determines what particular assistance a child or young person needs with their education, health, and social care needs all at once, set up one



comprehensive evaluation, and ensure that several organisations collaborate to assist children and young people with special educational needs (Department of Education, 2014); The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 1992 which aims to recognise children's rights and ensuring their upbringing in an atmosphere of harmony, decency, tolerance, freedom, equality, and solidarity are the objectives (Together Scotland, 2019) and The Human Rights Act 1998 that gives all human being legal protection of human rights and ensures that every individual can live a life of dignity and a life that is worthy of a human being (Mind, 2020).

Evaluation

In this case, the social worker's and specialists' prompt response and involvement were both required and effective. Both health specialists and the local authority played critical roles in restoring this couple's and their daughters' well-being. Despite the positive outcomes, these same professionals should continue to assist this family until they are entirely confident and can integrate into the community without fear of being criticised.

Every period of life, from childhood and adolescence to adulthood, is vital for mental health. Both physical and mental health are crucial aspects of overall health (CDC, 2018). The older daughter should be assisted regularly regarding her mental health problems and her special education needs; the mother should be encouraged by the social worker to find a job and work on her physical health.

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