



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

SAMUEL KWASI GYIMAH

1908216

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LECTURER: BIANCA SANFILIPO

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Introduction

This report examines a family experiencing challenges in their life. For example, challenges may include substance misuse, domestic violence, and involvement with the judicial system in various crimes. In addition, what would happen to the children and young people in such families would be addressed. A specific case study would be at the centre of the discussion, and various legislations and policies that would call for the intervention of different agencies to assist this disadvantaged family would also be in the light. The word family means a group of related people: a mother, a father, and children (Cambridge Dictionary, 2019). To fully understand family, we need to apply the Systems Theory (Seifer et al., 1994). When used in social work, systems theory is a practice that helps professionals holistically deal with service users' conditions and environmental conditions better understand why they face challenges. The family as a social system recognizes the interdependence among the roles and functions of all members. For example, the children's emotional security depends on the quality of the marital relationship. Likewise, the life of children in a family depends on the health of the marriage (Online MSW Programs, 2020).

Vulnerability

Children in families with such risk factors as domestic abuse or violence, substance misuse, and involvement in judicial crimes are vulnerable. Vulnerability is the inability to resist a hazard or respond when a disaster has occurred (Merriam-Webster, 2019). Thus what goes on in the family affects, primarily, the children and then the young persons confirming the social system theory.

CASE STUDY

This case is about John, Bridget, and two children Jayden and Erin. John is in his early thirties, Bridget in her late twenties, Jayden in junior school age, and Erin, primary school age. John was a school dropout. He has no qualifications and has been out of work. A man with a family without a job is susceptible to crime. John has been in the criminal justice. He is at present serving a 2+ year sentence with additional time on license. There is no work narrative about Bridget, and Jayden, the junior school age, is diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). For about a year, Social Services under Sheffield Council, involved with this Needy family.

Vulnerability risk factors

John, the head of the family, had involvement with social services when he was a child. The Social Workers have been helping John's family for the past year. They realized the need to have John's children (Jayden and Erin) on the at-risk register. In England, the name of this register is the 'Child Protection Plan' (CPP). It is a provision of the Children Act 1989. The child involved under the protection of the Children Act 1989 is Needy and needs the Local Authority to prepare a Care Plan for their future care. However, the child is labelled (Parliament UK, 2012). At the end of John's term of sentence, his wife and children with the

Social worker welcomed John home. The social worker showed a high profile of professionalism to assure John of peace at home. In collaboration with the social worker, John started a new life by taking on courses for behavioural change. The programme John attended indicates that there were such risk factors as domestic violence, uncontrolled anger, and alcohol misuse in the family.

Impact of risk factors on children:

Domestic Violence:

These are the violent behaviours seen within families. They may be physical, sexual, psychological, or economic. Child abuse and intimate partner violence may be part of the violent behaviours. When exposed to domestic violence, children and young people get the harm in a remarked way. The impact is still felt even after the intervention by the social services. For example, children and young people could have mental issues. However, timely interventions and purposely targetted responses can help build the child's resilience (Holt et al., 2018). Children's psychological abuse can be harmful in their childhood and also later in their adult life. The effect of psychological abuse could damage the way children feel, express, and control emotions. Later in life, the child exposed to emotional abuse would find it difficult to make and maintain a healthy relationship. Older children may be lacking social skills and would be using language not expected of them at their age. Babies and toddlers would not go close to parents but outsiders. Such babies would be aggressive towards their peers and animals (NSPCC, 2019; Holt et al., 2008)

Alcohol misuse:

Alcohol misuse means there is a drinking behaviour causing harm or danger to others, especially in a family. This behaviour can negatively impact children in a family. Children from such an environment can be at risk of being exposed to drugs or criminal activity, performing poorly at school, not having good attendance and being separated from parents. Children and young people facing such risks need a timely intervention of the Local Authority (NSPCC, 2019b).

Anger

John has a problem with uncontrolled anger, a probable reason he went to prison. His behaviour could be unbearable to other members of the family. John's offence could be due to a hangover from previous excessive drinking. John could shout in a change of behaviour, ignore people, start fights, break things and self-harm. All these horrible attitudes could frighten the children in the family (NHS, 2021)

Statistics

The police recorded 844,955 offences hailed as homegrown maltreatment related in the year finishing March 2021. The figure presented addresses a 6% expansion from 798,607 in the earlier year. There were 672,383 brutalities against the individual offences hailed as homegrown maltreatment related, a 7% increment contrasted with the year finishing March 2020 (Office of National Statistics, 2021). In the children in need found in 2016 and 2017, one in five had a condition due to alcohol use. All the needy children have poor results at every stage of education (Gov.UK, 2018)

Intervention

John got himself involved with criminal justice. Bridget had no working history and, according to Children Act 1989, this family was in need. Social workers intervened through the Children Act 1989 legislation. The basis of the intervention was the Assessment Framework. In this

case study, parenting capacity was almost absent. John was in prison and was without work when he came out. Family and Environmental Factors: family did not have any good history, no income, no employment, and the family's social integration was on the rocks. For the Children's developmental needs, 'Working together to safeguard children: Statutory Framework' guidance, which covers the legislative requirements, is deployed. This framework guidance makes it mandatory for three local safeguarding partners: (the local authority, the clinic and the police). At this instance, these three make arrangements to work together to safeguard the Needy children. The guidance applies to all agencies and organizations which have something to do with children (working together online, 2018). The social worker, with the manager, would conduct a need assessment based on Section 10 of the Children Act 1989. The two children in this case study need the intervention of the Local Authority. Parental capacity is non-existent. The practitioners justify the position of the children. Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 asks whether the children in question are in need. The assessment framework guidance is applied. Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 tests the professional duty of candour of the social worker and their manager. Sections 47 and 31A of the same legislation prompt the practitioners to confirm if children have all their needs covered.

Legislation

Every stakeholder applying the policy must strictly respect the laws that gave birth to it. Equality Act 2010 is a piece of law protecting the family's human rights and dignity. There is no class A nor B citizen. We all, as human beings, have equal rights to services. The United Nations Convention on the Child's Rights (UNCRC 1991) is an international agreement for child rights. All multi agencies involved in the children's care are to acknowledge the children's rights. The social worker, together with justice personnel, the rehabilitation centre, the NHS, the police, the school and all other members of the multi-agencies working together under the 'Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)', handled John and the family for ten months.

Whole-family approach

The multi-agencies intervened to alleviate the challenges of the family with the mind to keep the family together. The social worker educated John and Bridget about parenting responsibilities even before John left the prison. In prison, John had some visits from the social worker. According to Maslow's hierarchy of needs, John felt loved and had a sense of affection. The social worker easily won the trust of John and the family in general. John consented to have the training to control domestic abuse, alcohol misuse and uncontrolled anger.

Children Act 2004 modified the Children Act 1989 and brought about the Children's Commissioner, whose primary function is to promote and safeguard children's rights spelt out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (Children's commissioner, 2017). "Working together to safeguard children" is statutory guidance based on two principles: 1, Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility; 2, The wide range of organizations and services which contribute to this agenda should have a child-centred approach. The child-centred approach is a process of care that has the child at the centre of every procedure. Depending on the age of the child, they would be involved in all decisions about their care. The principal characters involved in the welfare of the child, the young person and the family with challenges strictly follow the rights the children have through UNCRC, 1991. The National Health Services (NHS) with private healthcare providers, Local Authority with all those involved in children service, and the Police officers and other agencies like youth offending service work to protect the child's rights (working together online, 2018)

The practitioners dealing with John's family respected the rights of children, the young people and the family as laid down by UNCRC, 1991.

Article 9 of UNCRC, 1991 does not allow separating children from their parents against their will unless it is in their best interest. For example, if a parent is hurting or neglecting a child. Children whose parents have separated have the right to stay with both parents unless this could cause them harm. John changed behaviour and lived happily with his wife, Bridget and the two children.

EQUALITY ACT 2010:

This Act prevents discrimination in the workplace and broader society. Accordingly, once John had served his sentence, the practitioners dealt with him with respect and dignity.

ARTICLE 24 of UNCRC 1991

Article 24 seeks good quality health care for every child. Governments must provide clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being for children to stay healthy. The NHS provide free health care to the two children. Free prescription, free dental care, free eye care making the children enjoy good health.

ARTICLE 26

Every child has the right to benefit from social security. Child benefit, Child tax credit, Free school meals are government policies that make financial provisions to avoid poverty and malnutrition.

ARTICLE 28

The Children have the right to education. However, the local authority is responsible for the school system.

Intervention results:

After ten months of support, John and his family enjoyed a positive turnaround. They did not have to rely on social services any longer. John's attitude changed completely and turned into a role model to others going through challenges. Morally John became an angel. He had nothing to do with criminal justice. John completed NVQ Level 2 qualification and now has full-time employment. Bridget is also in a full-time job. However, the two children are now champions in their classes.

EVALUATION

Many different professionals working in a strong team under the Working Together framework brought a growth mindset into John. He noted the potential in him that could be reached. It is right to say that Maslow's hierarchy of needs is good and effective during this intervention. The social worker did a great job when they visited John at the prison. (Dweck, 2017)

CONCLUSION

The families of children are not always capable of caring for the children. In such situations we see how vulnerable these children are. When we have permanent and universal structures that would cater for every child, then in the UK, all would be well with the children. Here we see the theory of Bronfenbrenner, which states that it is not only the family that impacts a child. Social services, healthcare facility and welfare systems available also make a difference in the child's life.

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