

Trainer Handout 3-1C: Family Story: Paul Mason

Directions for Strengths and Family Story Role Play: Father

As a group, review the role play card description for the father. Discuss your impressions of the father so you can all play the role in a similar manner. How can this father be portrayed in a manner that stays true to who he is?

Also, discuss how he views the purpose for the agency intervention, i.e., the family story. How would he explain the family's situation? Is the exception on the role play card realistic? Can you think of a better one to use? If so, agree as a group to use the new exception. Is the miracle question realistic? Can you think of a better one to use?

When you join the role play groups, assume that the CPI and counselor have already established rapport with you and you are starting to feel more comfortable with them. You are a little surprised to be talking about your strengths.

Strengths

- You love your wife and try to make her happy
- You love your children
- You see yourself as a good father
- You work hard to provide for your family
- You have skills in several areas and are good at fixing things around the house
- You are close to all of your family, especially your brothers
- Your family is willing to care for the children when needed

Family Story

- You are concerned about Mary because she seems so sad recently
- You know Mary doesn't want another baby, but you want a large family like the one in which you grew up
- You are tired of Mary accusing you of affairs all the time
- You have been involved with a couple of women, but it didn't mean anything
- You would like to get a job making more money so you could get a better home
- You like spending time with your brothers even though Mary doesn't approve
- You like going to the Elks Club to have a few beers and play pool
- You sometimes help out with the children when Mary nags you about it
- You know that Mary doesn't like your family, and that her mother does not like you
- You blame the investigation on Mary because she should have realized how bad Bobby's rash was and taken him to the doctor

Exceptions

Before Mary began to change and became depressed she always provided great care of the children.

Miracle

Mary would be her old self, the house would be clean and the children well cared for. You and Mary would be having fun together again.