

Making the Disposition: Practice with Assigning Levels

1. Read each FOUNDED scenario carefully.
2. Pick a LEVEL (1, 2, or 3) for each disposition and write a few sentences to support why you picked that level. Remember, there must be a disposition for each child/abuser/allegation. Use CPS Guidance Manual to guide your decision-making.

Hint –“Determine Level of Founded Disposition” is in Section 4

Note: Do not attempt to determine RISK – you do not have enough information on these cases to determine the risk level!

Report A:

Michael is the 6 year old son of James and Donna Jones. FSS Evans observe two non-patterned areas of blueish bruising, each approximately 2 inches by 2 inches on Michael’s upper left thigh. Michael stated that his father spanked him for “being bad.”

Mr. Jones reported that he “swatted” Michael as discipline for “messaging with the computer.” Mr. Jones stated that he used an open hand on Michael’s buttocks/upper thigh area. Mr. Jones stated that he did not intend to injure Michael, but he believes that children need firm discipline to ensure good behavior.

Assign a Level to this Founded disposition of Physical Abuse and use the information in the guidance manual to support your decision.

Report B:

Jaleesa is the 9 year old daughter of Veronica and Marcus Foster. Jaleesa has 3 siblings, including Jermaine and Jeremiah (7 year old twins) and Imani (6 months). Jaleesa is required to “tend to” the twins every day after school. The children arrive home from school at approximately 3:45. The parents arrive home around 6:45.

The twins are described as “rambunctious” by neighbors. Jaleesa is responsible for prepping for dinner before her parents get home from work. Jaleesa told FSS that she did not know how she would access help in the event of an emergency. Jaleesa stated that it is okay when her brothers are watching television, but she is sometimes afraid that one of them will get hurt because they are so rough when they play.

Imani is typically cared for at a local day care center but is not allowed to attend when she is sick. Twice, when Imani had a fever, Jaleesa was kept home from school to care for her because their parents were unable to miss work.

Assign Levels for these Founded dispositions of Physical Neglect and use the information in the guidance manual to support your decisions. Remember to determine a level for each child and each neglector.

Report C:

Emilio, age 8, is the son of Juanita Cruz. Ms. Cruz, Emilio, and his 10 year old sister, Natalia, all stated that he is made to eat his meals in a separate room away from the family because of his “barbaric” table manners. Ms. Cruz also admitted

to calling Emilio derogatory names and stated that he “deserves” to be called names because of his awful behavior.

Emilio was referred by the school for testing due to learning difficulties and his aggressive behavior in the classroom. It was during the psychological testing that the mother’s rejecting behaviors were discovered. The psychologist determined that Emilio’s behavior issues are directly related to Ms. Cruz’s actions.

Assign a Level to this Founded disposition of Mental Abuse and use the information in the guidance manual to support your decision.

Report D:

Malik is the 3-year-old son of Rashid Aziz. Mr. Aziz has weekend visitation with his son at his apartment. Malik has stated that his father has licked his “pee-pee” and put his finger in his “butt.”

Malik is able to describe sexual acts that a child his age would not normally have knowledge of. His statements have been generally consistent with the forensic interviewer and the doctor. Malik recently started wetting the bed after being potty-trained for almost a year. Mr. Aziz denied any sexual misconduct with his son.

Assign a Level to this Founded disposition of Sexual Abuse and use the information in the guidance manual to support your decision.