

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

MOTIVATION

Mr and Mrs C have made a previous unsuccessful application to Lambeth to be considered as a permanent family for two children (siblings) - ^{Child}aged 8 years, and ^{Child}aged 6 years - who were living in the children's home run by Mr C in 1986. Their application to Croydon was for an 11 year old, male child, featured in the local press. The sibling group were eventually placed with a couple who had no prospect of having natural children of their own. Mr and Mrs C feel strongly that every child should have the opportunity to experience family life. Mr C's

Irrelevant

Irrelevant

deep-rooted in his desire to offer children a home and family environment. Mrs C

Irrelevant

Irrelevant

I did not go into any depth on skills re child care because of their background and experience already working in residential settings.

CONCLUSION

Mr C has found this assessment stressful, frustrating and difficult at times. Role reversal - being a client with its dependency to that of his senior professional manager role and in control - has been further difficult. Mr C has made me aware, when issues arose in the assessment that he felt unhappy about, of consulting with his own senior management peer group in Lambeth for direction. The couple further informed me about the boys pursuing grievance procedures about the delay in placement with Mr and Mrs C. From an assessment worker/client relationship, this was slightly unusual in the mainstream of assessment work.

On conclusion of the assessment with the couple, I made them aware that I felt unable to support their application. Understandably, they were very upset and angry. Mr C expressed a view that it was related to his conviction, and he felt I did not understand the needs or experiences of

REFERENCES

Miss V Rodgers

She is known to Mr C as a co-worker within Lambeth. She made it clear that she had no knowledge of the couple's personal life and relationship nor their home circumstances. She was aware of Mr C's conviction. She had also been the social worker for the sibling group Mr and Mrs C originally applied to foster. She described Mr C as having a natural manner with children and both loving and nurturing, someone who is able to set limits and controls and can be slightly authoritarian. She felt able to support their fostering application while stressing and emphasising she had only a professional relationship with Mr C.

Reverend P

He has known the couple together since their courtship days, and has known Mr C for ten years. He, however, did not attend their wedding. He met Mr C originally through a common interest in youth work. He described Mrs C as a caring, sensitive person who he felt would be a very good parent, Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

He described Mr C as a very committed and able person, but could also be "sharp-tongued in anger." He described the couple as having lots of friends who

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

He appeared to know very little about the couple's personal life and relationship, despite the years of knowing Mr C. He agreed with my observation that the couple appeared not to share a lot with him other than on a superficial level.

Mrs O'Brien

She has known the couple for the past 13 years. They have all trained and worked together, including she being the head of the children's home where Mr C has been the deputy for some years. She describes Mr C as having changed over the years she has known him, to being less selfish, more nurturing and caring, with a slightly authoritarian approach. She describes Mrs C as Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Sensitive/Irrelevant

She was aware of Mr C's conviction and takes the view, as does Mr C, that it was part of his adolescence and growing up, relating it also to the oppressive environment in which he grew up. Her overall view of the couple was that she had no hesitation in supporting their application to foster these two boys whom she also knew through her work in Lambeth.

SS/AFU/BK/GK
19.8.88