

Case Study Dilemmas

The following cases are from P.M. Click and J. Parker's *Caring for School-Age Children*, 6th ed. (Clifton Park, NY: Delmar Cengage Learning).

CASE STUDY: AYESHA

Ayesha is a 9-year-old who has gotten along well with those in her child-care group. She has several "best friends" and is often included in games, dramatic play, or other activities. Recently, though, her behavior has changed. She is gradually becoming withdrawn and tells others that she doesn't want to play. She will go to the reading corner and take down a book to read or put on earphones and listen to a book on tape. Occasionally she has burst into tears over trivial events that wouldn't have bothered her in the past. Her caregiver, Melanie, has been supportive and tried to make time to be alone with Ayesha, hoping that she would talk about what is bothering her. So far, Ayesha says she is fine and that she just wants to be by herself.

DISCUSSION

1. What do you think are some possible causes for these changes in Ayesha's behavior?

2. What would you suggest to Melanie to help Ayesha?

3. Would you talk to Ayesha's parents? If so, what would you say?

CASE STUDY: MRS. ENDICOTT

Mrs. Endicott, the parent of 8 yr. old Brianna, angrily stormed into the director's office and immediately started criticizing one of the volunteers. She said she had observed Norman, a college student, hugging the girls and felt that his behavior was inappropriate. She went on to say that her daughter talked constantly about Norman, saying she loved him and was going to marry him when she grew up. Mrs. Endicott said this disturbed her, and she felt that Norman should not be allowed to work with the children.

DISCUSSION

1. What is your reaction to this information?

2. If you were the director, what would you do about Norman?

3. What would you say to Mrs. Endicott?