

Ethical Dilemma Presentation



By: Linnea Puckett

Ethical Dilemma

“A mother has come to me privately and informed me that she is going through a divorce with her husband. I have often met her and her husband in our community and church. She mentions how he has been distant towards her, and her older daughter (who is nine) seems to be deathly afraid to be alone with him. She doesn’t share more, but she asks me to ensure the father does not have access to the daughter's records and that he does not pick her up from school.”(Linnea Puckett,Ethical Vignette Paper).

Step 1: Identify the Problem

Main Problem: The main problem is Legal. The mother wanted to keep the father from having access from the records.

Secondary Problem: Because of the connection outside of the School, there is a problem with dual relationship. So it is also a professional problem.

Step 2a: Apply ACA & State Codes

- ACA Code of Ethics I.1: A.1.a and A.4.a. promotes the client's welfare by respecting their dignity and avoiding the issue of potential harm. (ACA 2014). This could go in the mother's favor as she stressed how her daughter felt uncomfortable around her father.
- ACA Code of Ethics: A.6.a and B.3.a. A.6.a The dual relationship aspect. B.3.a taking steps to ensure the school comply to confidentiality. (ACA, 2014)
- ASCA Ethical Standard: A.1.g Balance the confidentiality of the student with the parent's legal rights. (ASCA,2022).
- ASCA Ethical Standard: A.5.c. Connect students to services provided and remain aware of the state laws and local district policies. (ASCA, 2022).

Step 2b: Apply ACA & State Codes

- Revised code of Washington, Title 26 (Domestic Relations) Chapter 26.09, Section 26.09.225, (Access to child's education and health care records), Part 1. Both parents must have access to student records. (Washington State Legislature, 1991).
- Title 26, Chapter 26.09, Section 26.09.013, Part 6.a If father is found to be abusive, then records can be kept from him.
- Title 26. Chapter 26.09. Section 26.09.225, Part 1. Father can bring a civil suit against mother if information is held from him without court ordered justifiable cause.

Step 3: Nature and Dimensions

ACA Moral Principles present: Beneficence and Nonmaleficence



Step 4: Potential courses of action

Step 5a: Potential Consequences of actions

Step 5b: Action Chosen

Step 6: Evaluate course of action

Step 7: Implementation

Reference

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- American Counseling Association. (2014). 2014 ACA *code of ethics*.<https://www.counseling.org/resources/aca-code-of-ethics.pdf>
- American School Counselor Association. (2022). *ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counselors* (American School Counselor Association, Ed.) [Review of *ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counselors*]. Wwww.schoolcounselor.org; www.schoolcounselor.org. <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/getmedia/44f30280-f6e9-4b41-9ad8-f15909c3d164/EthicalStandards.pdf>
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References Continued

WA Revised Code of Washington. § Title 26 (Domestic Relations), Chapter 26.09, Section 26.09.225 Access to child's education and health care records, Part 1 (2012)

The date is the date enacted or revised.

WA Revised Code of Washington § Title 26-Chapter 26.09 Divorce Proceedings-Legal Separations- Section 26.09.013. Part 6.a. (1991)

The date is the date enacted or revised.

WA Revised Code of Washington § Title 26. Chapter 26.09. Section 26.09.225, Part 1 (2008)

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Cohen, G. J., & Committee on Psychosocial Aspects of Child and Family Health. (2002). Helping children and families deal with divorce and separation. *Pediatrics, 110*(5), 1019-1023.

Forester-Miller, H., & Davis, T. (2005). *A Practitioner's Guide to Ethical Decision Making*.

https://www.counseling.org/docs/ethics/practitioners_guide.pdf?sfvrsn=2