

Silberman School of Social Work



**Child Welfare Practice I**

**Session Ten**

## Today's Class

### Review of Chapter 10 in Lukas - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

### Interviewing

1. Use technology ethically and appropriately to facilitate outcomes
2. Critically choose and implement interventions that achieve practice goals and enhance capacities of clients and constituencies
3. Negotiate, mediate, and advocate with and on behalf of diverse clients and constituencies

#### To Do:

Read: [https://cascw.umn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/CW360\\_2011.pdf](https://cascw.umn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/CW360_2011.pdf)  
“Child Welfare and Technology”

## Review of Chapter 10 - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

- Disease or Consequence of Social Ills or Moral Flaw
- Distinction between use, abuse, and dependence
- Regardless of definition, substance abuse plays a significant role in destructive and self destructive behaviors
- It affects parenting ability, relationships, job performance.
- Homicide, suicide, and physical abuse of adults and children.

## Review of Chapter 10 - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

- Substance abusers often do not want others to know of their habit
- What role do alcohol or substances play in this person's physical, social, and professional life
- Ask in your initial assessment about how often do you drink, how much, how often do you use substances, what kind?

## Review of Chapter 10 - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

- How does the use of these interfere with your life (functioning).
- How does your use effect your ability to parent?
- If client acknowledges use, for how long have they used is the next question and how recently have they used?

## Review of Chapter 10 - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

- Have other family members had substance abuse issues?
- How do you address a client who is using substances right before the session?
- Stop, continue, proceed forward as if they are not high.
- Cultural phenomenon of drinking and substance use

## Review of Chapter 10 - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

- Willingness to stop or to cut down
- Abstinence vs Reduction
- Assessing risk – wine at dinner every night vs getting totally smashed every weekend

## Review of Chapter 10 - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

- When the client uses – Why do they use?  
What are the feelings, situations behind use
- What happens when they use?
- What effect is substance abuse having on their lives, the lives of their children, partners?



## Review of Chapter 10 - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

- Do you want to stop/reduce use?
- Have you ever tried to stop/reduce use?
- How have you tried to stop/reduce use?
- Did it work?

# Review of Chapter 10 - How to Determine Whether a Client is a Substance Abuser

## Questions to ask yourself

- What substances does the client use?
- How recently have they used them?
- How much do they use?
- Why do they use?
- What happens when they use?
- What effects is the use having on their life?
- Do they want to stop; have they tried; how; did it work?
  
- Review pp.136-137

## Vignette #1 - Shantel

Shantel is an African-American 28 year old single mother of three children, ages 4, 6, and 8 years.

Shantel was sexually molested by her mother's boyfriend from the time she was 6 until 15 years old.

Shantel has been addicted to heroin, meth amphetamines, and wine since she was 15 years old. She uses almost every day.

Her children have been going to school, late, with dirty clothes, and their hair uncombed.

ACS has been called by the school; you have been asked to come and interview Shantel and make an assessment of her substance use history.

## Vignette #2 - Samuel

Samuel is an African-American 46 year old divorced, dad.

Samuel has a beer or two every night when he comes home from his job.

He recently went to a court appointed therapy session as part of his divorce agreement and the worker smelled beer on his breath.

When the worker started to ask about his alcohol use, Samuel said – I don't drink alcohol.

The worker proceeded to inquire about his use and Samuel feels that the worker was making a big deal out of nothing.

How do you proceed?

## Vignette #3 - Martiza

Martiza is a 40 year old Latina mother of two children, ages 12 and 16 years. She has never been married and does not date.

Martiza works full-time as a nurse's aide, she has her own home and prides herself on being a good mother to her children.

Martiza's 16 year old daughter, Maribel has been dating, keeping late hours and not adhering to Martiza's house rules.

After one late night, Martiza confronts her daughter when she comes in at 2 am. Martiza has been smoking a blunt, and unbeknownst to her, Maribel films their argument and posts it on Instagram

Everyone, including administrators at Maribel's school sees it the next day and the school contacts ACS.

How do you proceed when you talk with Martiza?

## Vignette #4 - Destiny

Destiny is a white, 20 year old trans young person.

Her mother with whom she lives, is very concerned that Destiny, in her opinion, has been drinking a lot.

Destiny says that she only drinks on the weekend, and never has more than one or two cocktails. She acknowledges that she occasionally does cocaine.

How do you assess her for substance abuse?

How do you proceed?

## Next Week's Class

### Goal Statements and Need Statements

1. Develop mutually agreed upon intervention goals and objectives based on the critical assessment of strengths, needs, challenges with clients and constituencies
2. Focus on Sexual Abuse issues
3. Read Lukas Chapter 11 – Assessing for Neglect, Abuse and Sexual Abuse