

Reflecting on Abuse and Neglect

Braden and Bethany's Story: Part 4

You have learned a lot in the past few lessons about the Miller family. Take some time to reflect on the story.

1. As a leader in the program, it is important for you to know that the staff members in these stories did everything they could to protect the children. They did everything right. What are some challenges you and staff members might face?

2. What can you do to make sure you do your part to keep children safe?

3. Imagine Braden, Bethany, and Caleb were children in your program, and you are a direct-care staff member:
 - a. Describe your emotions the first time you see a negative interaction between Caleb and Braden.

 - b. Describe your emotions when Bethany tells you about her "obedience tests."

 - c. Describe your emotions when you read Melinda Miller's blog about parenting.

 - d. Describe your emotions when the children are removed from the Miller home.

- 4. The previous question was an exercise in empathy. Think about these questions:
 - a. Why is it important to think about how mandated reporters might feel in situations like this?
 - b. How does putting yourself in a staff member’s place and trying to imagine how he or she feels impact your work with staff members?

- 5. Now think about all of the emotions and the reasons staff members might be hesitant to report concerns. Complete the table below.

Reason staff members might hesitate to report:	Reason I can share about why they should report or ways to solve the problem: