

The Lake Assignment

Follow this link to listen to the Podcast: [Criminal: The Lake](#)

This podcast focuses on child neglect, social justice, and the nurse's role in involving the state. After listening, answer the following questions completely. You must include at least 1 scholarly source within the last 5 years that addresses child abuse or removing children from parental custody to support your opinion in at least one of the questions. This source must be properly cited with in-text citations and the full citation must be provided in APA format.

1. Do you think that investigators (DCFS/police) made assumptions based on the social status of Amanda and Maurice?

I think that initially, the investigators made assumptions based on the social status of the two. The investigators seem to put words into Maurice's mouth while interviewing him. Maurice has a long history of priors, according to the podcast. Amanda Hamm's failed drug test following the incident also painted a not-so-great picture of her as a mother and was used against her. One investigator explains how the situation looks from the outside and explains it, making Amanda cry, which escalates the interview. The prosecutors claimed Maurice to be demoted because he was unable to work a cash register. Going through this process after the death of three kids has to have been a hard time for Amanda and Maurice. The jury could only convict murder and not involuntary manslaughter, which is also not fair. A juror even said they did not think Maurice acted maliciously but did not use good judgment.

2. Based on your knowledge of psychotropic medications, do you think it was appropriate for investigators to interrogate Amanda after she received 3 different medications while admitted in an inpatient psych unit? (this occurs around 11 mins in).

Psychotropic medications can alter mood, behavior, and memory. Asking an individual to remember specific events or using what they say while under the influence of psychotropic medications later on is not fair to the defendant. Psychotropic medications can also have side effects, and the more psychotropic medications an individual takes at once, the more likely the medications will interact and cause side effects. One of these common side effects is suicide. After losing three children, taking psychotropic medications did not put her in a good clear-headed space to answer essential questions about the situation (Good Therapy, 2021).

3. Based on Maurice's testimony (about 15 mins in) regarding his behavior with Amanda's children, do you think he was acting maliciously or using poor judgment during the day of the accident?

I believe that he was acting using poor judgment on the day of the accident. He stated that he always messed around with Amanda's kids and that it was all in good fun. He stated he did not realize how slick the dock was. One of the jurors even stated that they thought he did not act maliciously but was using poor judgment that led to the death of the three children. The decision to not let manslaughter be a punishment option and skipping directly to first-degree murder is jumping the gun when there is not enough evidence to prove it absolutely.

4. Do you think there was a racial bias that impacted Maurice's sentence more than Amanda's?

Yes, I think that he had the priors and the background that he has affected how he was painted to the jury. The defense lawyer discusses how he too believes that his conviction was because he is an unemployed black male dating a white woman with three children. 40% of incarcerated inmates are black in the U.S. The incarceration rate of African American men is 2,306 for every 100,000 compared to a white rate of 450 per 100,000. If Maurice was white, involuntary manslaughter would like to be the punishment on the table, but he was sentenced to life for three murders.

5. Since Amanda was convicted of child endangerment, do you think she has the right to have additional children after serving her time in prison?

I do not think that she will have the right since she has a history of endangering children. The lawyers said that Amanda's importance in life is the first four letters of her name, A Man. She serial dates men who are abusive. Bringing violence into the home around kids is a form of neglect and abuse.

6. Do you think the hospital staff had the right to notify DCFS that Amanda Hamm had more children? What about the father's rights?

Yes, the children's safety is most important, and when there are signs and signals that neglect or abuse is present, then mandatory reporters must act and report their suspicion. If a nurse did not make a mandated report and information came out that there was suspicion, but no report filed, that nurse can lose their job. The father also loses his right. The kids had to stay with Ware's sister during the trial, and Hamm claimed to have been abused by Ware. Ware also failed a drug test which made him lose his rights while in anger management and therapy with Hamm.

7. What is your opinion on "anticipatory neglect" in this case? Do you think that the courts ruled in the benefit of the Hamm-Ware children in this case?

It was used fittingly because after the lake incident, and information that came out in a later trial about domestic abuse are incidents that precipitate neglect and abuse. It is important to keep kids safe until parents can prove they will keep their kids safe. There is a line with interfering too much due

to racial bias, but overall, it is a preventative of neglect and abuse in kids. At the end of the podcast, it was learned that Hamm and Ware are no longer together. It was stated Hamm and Ware visit their children all the time even though they no longer have parental rights.

References

Good Therapy. (2021). Psychotropic medication for depression, anxiety & other therapy issues. <https://www.goodtherapy.org/drugs/psychotropic-medication.html#:~:text=Psychotropic%20drugs%20are%20prescribed%20to,in%20the%20brain%20called%20neurotransmitters>.

The Lake Assignment Rubric N433: Clinical Learning Activity

Debriefing Journal Rubric Minimum Words: 100 per question

CRITERIA	POOR	FAIR	GOOD
<p>Concise and Complete</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total: 3 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is incomplete. • Major points are not clear and /or persuasive <p style="text-align: center;">1 point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is not comprehensive and /or persuasive. • Major points are addressed, but not well supported. • Research is inadequate or does not address course concepts. <p style="text-align: center;">2 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is comprehensive, accurate, and persuasive. • Major points are stated clearly and are well supported. • Content and purpose of the writing are clear. <p style="text-align: center;">3 points</p>
<p>Thoughtful Reflection- How will this affect your practice?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total: 10 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper lacks many elements of correct formatting. • Paragraphs are inadequate or excessive in length. • Unspecific as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p style="text-align: center;">1 point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper follows most guidelines. • Paper is under word length. • Lacks some specifics as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p style="text-align: center;">5 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper follows designated guidelines. • Paper is the appropriate length as described for the assignment. • States clearly as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p style="text-align: center;">10 points</p>
<p>APA Format Correct spelling/Grammar.</p> <p>At least 1 scholarly reference required.</p> <p>Each question is answered with at least 100 words</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of APA format. • Paper contains numerous grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors. • Language uses jargon or conversational tone • Lack of APA citation use and Reference page if references used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate APA format. • Paper contains few grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors. • Language lacks clarity or includes the use of some jargon or conversational tone. • Inappropriate APA citation use and reference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct APA format • Use of 1 scholarly reference • Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed; spelling is correct. • Language is clear and precise; sentences display consistently strong, varied structure

<p>Total: 10 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-3 questions do not meet the 100-word requirement <p>1 point</p>	<p>page if references used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 questions meet the 100-word requirement <p>5 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct APA citation and reference page if references used. • All questions meet the 100-word requirement <p>10 points</p>
<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox within 72 hours of the simulation experience.</p> <p>Total: 2 points</p>			<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox on time.</p> <p>2 points</p>

Total Points: _____