The Lake Assignment

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. **Total word-count for this assignment is to be no less than 700 words** (this only applies to the content of your answers, not the questions or citations).

1. **Do you think that investigators (DCFS/police) made assumptions based on the social status of Amanda and Maurice?**
   Based on the information provided in the podcast, I do believe that investigators potentially made assumptions based on the social status of Amanda and Maurice. The tone of those that were heard from in the podcast made it clear that they had tied bits and pieces of the lifestyles of Amanda and Maurice to their case with the death of the children. They included that Maurice led a life of drugs and did not have a strong education which made it difficult to hold a job. They included that Amanda led her life and made her decisions depending on what a man wanted. I do believe there was some bias and assumptions made based on what society believes to be true with people like Amanda and Maurice. There is a strong connection between social status, poverty, inequality, child abuse, and neglect (Featherstone et al., 2019).

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).**
   I believe that it was appropriate for investigators to ask basic questions regarding the case. However, I do not think it was appropriate to do a full interrogation when it was clear Amanda was struggling with her mental health. Mental health is just as important as physical health. Interrogations never occur early on if victims of physical harm are brought in. I believe that law enforcement should have waited until a medical professional could deem Amanda mentally prepared to answer interrogation-like questions. Psychotropic medications can cause severe side-effects involving memory and other psychological factors that are crucial when being interrogated by law enforcement.

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 Maurice may have acted upon his subconscious the day of the death of the children. Maurice testified to moments within his relationship with the

children where he pretended putting them in an oven. Maurice also testified to pretending to drive the car into the water just moments before the vehicle went into the lake. Maurice also testified to not attempting to hit the brake when the vehicle was heading towards the water. This could mean he was in shock or that he subconsciously wanted himself and the children to end up there.

4. **Do you think there was a racial bias that impacted Maurice's sentence more than Amanda's?**
   I do believe there was a racial bias that impacted Maurice's sentence more than Amanda's. Amanda got a slap on the wrist compared to the sentence Maurice got. The state's defense mentioned that Maurice is a low-life man who depends on his women to stay alive and take care of him. I believe that any time you have a case where there is a white person and a person of color that there will be a bias that will seep into the decision-making process.

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?**
   Since Amanda was convicted of child endangerment, I do not think she has the right to have additional children after serving her time in prison. I believe that if Amanda or anyone in Amanda's position wants to have another child that they should have to prove to a mental health specialist and others close to her/them in their life that they would be suitable as parents again. I do not believe that a short time of 5 years in prison would change the heart and mental health of an individual who committed child endangerment. As they go on to discuss in the podcast, I am unsure that Amanda had ever dealt with the consequences of her actions and did something productive about it.

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?**
   I do believe that it was within the hospital staff's rights to notify DCFS that Amanda had more children. Like it was mentioned in the podcast, the main priority is the safety and protection of the children involved. I think that since the father was never involved in the original endangerment, that he should be allowed to have visitation with the children. I do not think that Amanda and the father had a healthy relationship therefore in no way do I think that the children should have remained under their care. The best decision was to take them and allow visitation.

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?**
   In this case, I think the anticipatory neglect ruling was accurate. I think that especially since Amanda filed an abuse claim just weeks before they attempted to get their children back that it proves she is unfit to be a parent at this time. I think the court's ruling benefits the Hamm-Ware children at least until Amanda and the father can prove to be good citizens with good intentions.

Reference

Featherstone, B., Morris, K., Daniel, B., Bywaters, P., Brady, G., Bunting, L., Mason,

W., & Mirza, N. (2019). Poverty, inequality, child abuse and neglect: Changing

the conversation across the UK in child protection. *Elsevier, 97*(1), 127-133.

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2017.06.009

The Lake Assignment Rubric
N433: Clinical Learning Activity

Debriefing Journal Rubric
Minimum Words: 100 per question

CRITERIA	POOR	FAIR	GOOD
Concise and Complete **Total: 3 points**	• Content is incomplete. • Major points are not clear and /or persuasive **1 point**	• Content is not comprehensive and / or persuasive. • Major points are addressed, but not well supported. • Research is inadequate or does not address course concepts. **2 points**	• Content is comprehensive, accurate, and persuasive. • Major points are stated clearly and are well supported. • Content and purpose of the writing are clear. **3 points**
Thoughtful Reflection - How will this affect your practice? **Total: 10 points**	• Paper lacks many elements of correct formatting. • Paragraphs are inadequate or excessive in length. • Unspecific as to how simulation meets learning objectives. **1 point**	• Paper follows most guidelines. • Paper is under word length. • Lacks some specifics as to how simulation meets learning objectives. **5 points**	• Paper follows designated guidelines. • Paper is the appropriate length as described for the assignment. • States clearly as to how simulation meets learning objectives. **10 points**
APA Format Correct spelling/Grammar. **At least 1 scholarly reference required.** **Each question is answered with at least 100 words** **Total: 10 points**	• 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. • 2-3 questions do not meet the 100-word requirement **1 point**	• 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 page if references used. • 3 questions meet the 100-word requirement **5 points**	• 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 • Correct APA citation and reference page if references used. • All questions meet the 100-word requirement **10 points**
Paper submitted to Dropbox within 72 hours of the simulation experience. **Total: 2 points**			Paper submitted to Dropbox on time. **2 points**

Total Points: _____