

The Lake Assignment

<https://thisiscriminal.com/episode-117-the-lake-6-21-2019/>

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?
 - I believe that assumptions were made in court based on the social statuses of Amanda and Maurice. Often, individuals of lower social status are easier to blame for their wrongs. Maurice having a criminal background did not help the situation either, as it was easy to point fingers at him. There were also accusations about Maurice being abusive to Amanda, which directed the case and the death of the children towards him. When it comes to Amanda, she did not have the best past either as they stated, she had multiple jobs and did not choose the wisest man to be in her life. The decisions and how Amanda and Maurice act reflect persons of lower social status and individuals with limited education.
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).
 - Based on my knowledge of psychotropic medications, I believe it was wrong for the investigators to interrogate Amanda after receiving three different medications while in an inpatient psych unit. Psychotropic medications can affect behavior, mood, thoughts, and perception (Ghoshal, 2019). Psychotropic drugs affect behavior, mood, thoughts, and perception, but they also have severe side effects that could have altered Amanda's thought process. Side effects resulting from psychotropic medications can include confusion, dizziness, drowsiness, memory problems, and poor sleep (Ghoshal, 2019). Overall, I believe investigators should have waited until Amanda was stable enough and out of the psych unit to interview her.
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?
 - Based on Maurice's testimony regarding his behavior with Amanda's children, I believe he acted maliciously. Maurice's behavior was malicious because he admitted to hitting Amanda previously in their relationship and cheating on her often. Maurice even

admitted to not being in love with Amanda but staying with her because he needed a place. Maurice also admitted in court that he never pressed the break when the car started rolling into the lake. I believe that if Maurice didn't mean to get the vehicle that close to the water that when it began moving forward, he should have put the car in park and safely evacuated the kids. The whole situation is terrible, and he put the children's lives in danger when the problem could have easily been avoided.

4. Do you think there was a racial bias that impacted Maurice's sentence more than Amanda's?
 - I believe there was a racial bias that impacted Maurice's sentence more than Amanda's. Racial discrimination affected Maurice's case because he was an African American male with a Caucasian woman. He was also the vehicle driver, which killed three of Amanda's children. Another reason why I believe there was a racial bias that impacted Maurice's sentence is that the judge did not allow the jury to consider involuntary manslaughter; the only option was first-degree murder of three individuals, which in Illinois would serve you life in prison. On the other hand, Amanda was only serving five years for child endangerment.
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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 can see both sides of the argument, but I believe that Amanda has the right to have additional children after serving her time in prison. I think Amanda has the right to have additional children because she had never put the children's lives in danger before meeting Maurice. Although she was in the car with Maurice and the children before the car went into the water, I feel as though she did not know that Maurice would drive the car into the lake. I can also see the other side of the argument because people stated that Amanda did not react when she was told her children died. Amanda did not respond as a normal mother would have, so it is hard to know if she was part of the plan or not. She also did not attempt to rescue any of the kids from the car before calling 911.
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 believe that the hospital staff had the right to notify DCFS that Amanda Hamm had more children. They had the right because she was charged and sentenced to prison with child endangerment. This ruling is for the safety of future children. I do believe that they had violated the father's rights because he was never part of the first trial, and he had no prior convictions. I think the hospital staff had this right because, after further investigation, it showed the father was using drugs, and he was the one supervising the kids. I agree with the decision of DCFS to move the children into the home of the sister and allow Amanda and the father to visit them. This situation also worked out because Amanda and the father had separated, and I believe the children need a steady home and a suitable environment for stability to progress.

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?
 - My opinion on “anticipatory neglect” in this case is that I believe the court ruled for the benefit of the Hamm-Ware children. Amanda seemed to be a volatile person. She was bouncing from job to job because she couldn’t hold one down, she was receiving money from the state with housing and a car, and she was also with multiple men having multiple children. I believe the ruling benefited the children because it will still allow them to have contact with their mother and father but also give them the stability they need to have. I believe the children would have been victims of neglect or abuse because of Amanda’s inconsistent life if anticipatory neglect wasn’t ruled.

Reference:

Ghoshal, M. (2019, November 6). *What is a psychotropic drug? types, uses, side effects, risks & more*. Healthline. Retrieved December 3, 2021, from <https://www.healthline.com/health/what-is-a-psychotropic-drug>.

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: right;">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: right;">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> <p style="text-align: right;">Total: 10 points</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. • 2-3 questions do not meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">1 point</p>	<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 page if references used. • 3 questions meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">5 points</p>	<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 • Correct APA citation and reference page if references used. • All questions meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">10 points</p>
<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox within 72 hours of the simulation experience.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total: 2 points</p>			<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox on time.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 points</p>

Total Points: _____