

Miles Minier

Professor Greaves

COM 107 Introduction to Communications

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### Lesson 8 Chapter 10 Experiencing Communications Case Study

1. If you were Hailley's friend, what responsibilities would you have, if any, for helping her?
  - a. If I were Hailley's friend, I would feel some responsibility for Hailley's wellness and self-concept. I would make it my responsibility to let her know not a lot of people's boyfriends act the same way Dan does. She needs to realize that she is being treated like an object and not as another human being. Hailley is strong. Sure she might be a little clumsy, but that does not mean he has the right to criticize her and pass judgements. If my friend is in a bad situation, as her friend I feel it is important to do all that I can to make her see it from my perspective. But, at the end of the day, it is up to Hailley to be able to recognize what is going on and remove herself from the situation.
  
2. If you were Dan's friend, what might you say to alter his behaviors?
  - a. For being Dan's friend, you reach a difficult fork in the road. Do you still want to be Dan's friend or do you want to be a good person. As guys, many do not like to be told their wrong and be called out for the way they behave. There is an unwritten "guy code" which suggests to always have your man's back. The grey area is when your friend is being harmful to someone else. If I suspect any

physical or verbal abuse, that is when I'll intervene and say something. I might tell him that he is breaking her spirits and she is becoming too dependent on her. I'd suggest that she is suffering and is in pain. Hopefully Dan has an ounce of sympathy in him to understand that he is hurting her, and it may make him reflect on their situation. I would end my viewpoint by saying he is beginning to look like an abuser from an outsider's perspective. Again, like Hailley, I can not force someone to act a certain way or think the same. All I can do is provide my input.

3. How does the concept of reflected appraisal, discussed in Chapter 9, apply to this case?
  - a. Reflected appraisal applies to this case because it is apparent with both parties. Hailley is beginning to develop a lack of self esteem. By her believing it is okay for Dan to treat her the way she does is, she found normality within her relationship with Dan. It is to be believed she has experienced this type of abusiveness in past relationships. As for Dan, he may feel entitled to treat others the same way he treats Hailley. It could be from him believing it is the benefits of being a male, or it could also be he learned this type of behavior from watching his father. As a kid, he too might have normalized this type of behavior when dealing with your partner. Reflected appraisal is a hard step to diagnose because the only person who truly knows how one got that way is themselves.