

Social Work Online Team Training (SWOTT) toolkit

An introduction to trauma-informed practice

LEARNING OBJECT 2:

CASE STUDY 1: THE AMIN FAMILY

You are allocated work with the Amin family, originally from Bangladesh, consisting of Shakti (mother), Sanav (father), 3 sons (Devesh, Dipankar and Daiwik) and 1 daughter (Devi). Devi is the eldest child aged 17 years.

Shakti (mother) speaks limited English despite having lived in UK for 20 years. She has never applied for immigration status in her own right as she is living in the UK on a spousal visa. Sanav (father) speaks good English and is the head of the household. The family live within a traditional patriarchal family. They reside in social housing. All the children are at school, Sanav works and Shakti stays at home.

Following a diagnosis of cancer Sanav dies leaving the family with no financial means as Shakti is unable to claim benefits due to her immigration status. There is a risk of eviction and the family are destitute.

This situation leaves the eldest daughter, Devi, as the head of the house resulting in her being expected to deal with the funeral arrangements, the unpaid bills, the family finances, the professional network working with the family alongside grieving for her father and emotionally supporting her mother and siblings.



Questions:

- Can you identify the trauma for the individuals within the family? Describe this trauma and its possible effects.
- Does the family have any strengths to enable them to use resilience? If yes, what are they?
- How would you support the family to explore their grief and trauma? Do not forget to consider the cultural perspective of trauma.



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