



CASE STUDY 1: Children and Families

How can I promote anti-racist practice in my assessments, planning, interventions and reviews?

An Irish Traveller family, who are devout Roman Catholics, have recently fled significant domestic abuse in Essex and relocated to Consett in County Durham with their children. The father remains in Essex under a non-molestation order, and there are ongoing safety concerns linked to domestic abuse and court restrictions.

The family consists of:

- Theresa (mother, 42)
- John (father, 56)
- Mikey (son, 14)
- Twins Margaret and Eileen (aged 6)

They are now living near extended family and are supported by a local Catholic church community. However, they are highly reluctant to engage with children's services due to previous negative experiences in Essex, including feeling disbelieved and discriminated against. There is also significant fear that engagement with services may increase the risk of the father locating them.

The family also report wider experiences of racism and exclusion from settled communities, which has contributed to deep mistrust of professionals and services.

