

Derrick Johnson Case - The Rest of the Story, Part Three – Module IV

- Derrick and Sherice both do well in school and are above average for their grades.
- The school advised that no physical or developmental issues were noted. Both children appear to be within appropriate developmental ranges for their ages. The school noted no educational delays. Sherice has not had any behavioral troubles or previous intakes involving her with child protection. Derrick has begun to get into fights and back-talks teachers. This behavior has only been within the past six months. Prior to this, the school reported Derrick to be a model child. No one at the school could explain his outbursts, other than to say he just doesn't want to follow the rules anymore.
- There was no drug or alcohol use noted in the home. Both the children and parents indicated that they do not allow the use of alcohol or drugs in their home and neither parent drinks or uses substances.
- The Johnsons have no community associations beyond their church affiliation. The only family left is Mrs. Johnson's sister, Janet. Janet has never approved of Mr. Johnson's "hold" on her sister. "We were raised to be strong and self-reliant" and she cannot understand her sister's "siding with him all the time."
- Mrs. Johnson has been at her job for approximately six months. She had not worked outside the home prior to that time. She took a job when her husband's business began to fail. She misses being home when the children get out of school but is still able to read the Bible with them in the evening.
- Mr. Johnson was very reluctant to let his wife go to work and only agreed to it on a temporary basis until business picked up again. Although Mr. Johnson refused to discuss it, they are now deep in debt from the business.
- Mr. Johnson was raised in a large family with very strict parents. They lived on a remote farm where the children were expected to work hard. He quit school at 15 to help on the farm and later became a "self-made business man," a fact of which he is very proud.