

SCENARIO 2: MICHELLE

Michelle, age 7, told her teacher during recess that she was feeling sad because her mom cries a lot at home. When her teacher asked her more about it, Michelle said that last night, she woke up when her younger brother, Timothy, age 2, was crying because her mom had smacked him on the hand. Michelle said her mom and dad were drinking. When asked how often her parents drink and what usually happens, Michelle said they get drunk sometimes and that her dad gets mad at her mom and sometimes pushes her, and her mom will cry. Michelle said her mom sometimes yells at her for no reason at all, or if she is “bad,” her mom sometimes spansks her until her bottom is swollen and hurts so badly that it is hard to sit down.