

A New Family

Biodata: Cindy and Lee are an interracial married couple. Cindy is a 34 year old Black woman; Lee is a 35 year old White male. They have known each other for 10 years and have been married for five years. They have a baby girl, Mary, who is 12 months of age.

Background: Cindy and Lee now have a baby who could encounter some feelings of prejudice. Both Cindy and Lee have encountered prejudice towards their relationship from random people whom they meet on the street and from certain friends.

Dilemma: They are concerned about the way their child may encounter prejudice when interacting with other children and adults in the future. Their second concern is with the way they will rear their child. They want her to have the input of both parents and their background, but they don't want her to be confused. They discussed this before Mary was born and felt they had agreed on almost all areas of their morals, values, and folkways; however, now that Mary is a year old they have discovered it is not so easy.

The couple has begun to argue about these issues and is getting their parents involved in "picking sides," which is causing further problems. Cindy and Lee are a relatively stable but young couple who would like to get some direction into how they can work through these problems to help with Mary's future and their own.