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**Case Study Neglect:**

Heidi is 15, David is 11, Joey is 9 and mother, Jennifer is currently 18 weeks pregnant. The oldest three children were previously the subject of a Child Protection Plan 2 years ago under the category of neglect due to mother’s alcohol misuse and transient lifestyle. Heidi was on a CP plan when she was born until she was almost three due to domestic abuse between her parents. The plan ended when Jennifer ended the relationship.

Heidi has a different father to David and Joey who have the same father and it is not known who the father to the unborn child is.

Jennifer made progress with the plan but has been unable to sustain it. The midwife has made this current referral because Jennifer is misusing alcohol again. Jennifer will not disclose who the father of her baby is because she is no longer in a relationship with him.

Heidi is not managing the situation well and has begun to use substances and go missing from home and education. Jennifer has threatened to ‘put her into care’.

David is falling behind at school and is not meeting his current targets and has not been for the last month since the referral was made. He refuses to talk about his home life at all and has poor relationships with adults and peers.

Joey is a happy boy, he appears to have a good relationship with his mother and siblings. He is doing well and making good progress in school. However he has diabetes and it is often mismanaged by his mother.

The children are clean and well cared for but have sporadic attendance and poor punctuality in school. However when mother misuses alcohol the care of the children deteriorates.

David and Joey’s father has regular access to both boys and they also see their paternal grandparents at weekends. There are no concerns regarding this.

Jennifer has a dysfunctional relationship with her own mother who placed her in care at the age of 15. Jennifer witnessed domestic violence between her own parents who are still together. Jennifer was sexually exploited from the age of 14 and has had a number of relationships with violent men. The only time there has been security for the family was when Jennifer was in a relationship with David and Joey’s father which ended 3 years ago.

Jennifer informed the midwife she was misusing alcohol and needed help. Jennifer has co-operated with services well in the past.