



Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility- Would You Know How to Spot the Signs of Harm and Abuse and How to Respond?

As part of [Safeguarding Adults Week](#), we have developed a range of case studies to raise awareness about the different types of harm and abuse. We hope the case studies will facilitate conversations about safeguarding practice and increase people's confidence about their role in safeguarding. This in turn will help contribute to safer cultures in all settings.

You can use the hashtag #SafeguardingAdultsWeek to discuss these case studies with the safeguarding community on social media or discuss with colleagues in your organisation.

The final page of this document provides information about how you can learn more about the different types of harm and abuse and how to respond. We have also included details of further training and support the Ann Craft Trust can provide.

Case Studies

Case Study One

You volunteer at your local football club and support with the training for the 18-20 year olds. One of the other volunteers mentions to you that they have seen some of the players using racist language towards another member of the team on social media.

What type of abuse is occurring here?

How would you respond?

Case Study Two

You work in a residential setting supporting young people with learning disabilities. A resident, who has been told she is obese, lives on a diet of McDonalds, pizza and fizzy pop. You express concerns about their diet to colleagues, but they are reluctant to change anything because it is her choice.

Is this abuse or poor practice?

What type of harm or abuse could be occurring here?

How could you respond?

Case Study Three

You are attending your weekly reading group and another member of the group confides in you that his adult daughter has been letting herself into his house. Sometimes she takes small amounts of cash he has left on the side. He says this has only happened three times, but he mentions that he is worried about approaching his daughter about this.

What type of abuse could this be?

How would you respond?

Case Study Four

You work as a mentor for young people. During your meeting with a nineteen-year-old woman, she tells you that she has met a man online and they have been speaking for over six months. They haven't met in person yet. Recently, he has asked her to send him £20 to cover his train costs so they can meet. He is unable to pay himself as he has just lost his job.

What type of abuse could be happening here?

How would you respond?

Case Study Five

It is common for you to go out for lunch with a group of colleagues from work each Friday. One member of the group has stopped attending and has seemed nervous and withdrawn over the past month. You ask him if he is feeling okay. He mentions that he has recently split up from his partner and is worried about seeing him if he leaves the office. He says that sometimes his partner is waiting for him when he leaves work in the evening.

What type of abuse could be happening here?

How would you respond?

Case Study Six

On your walk to work each day, you notice a small group of people who appear to be waiting to be picked up. The people look uneasy and malnourished and are usually wearing the same clothes each day.

What type of abuse could this be?

How would you respond?

Case Study Seven

You volunteer at a day centre which provides social activities for older people in the community. One of the members is brought along by their carer each week. You notice that the carer is shouting at them for forgetting to bring something when they arrive. The following week, the carer is sharing a story with other volunteers about how ill the member was the week before. The person looks embarrassed and uncomfortable on hearing such personal information about them being shared.

What type of abuse could be happening here?

How do you respond?

Case Study Eight

You are a volunteer working on a helpline. You can hear the person you are speaking to is upset. As the conversation progresses the person says that they are struggling to cope and that they are thinking of taking their own life.

How would you respond?

Consider what questions you might ask the person and how you could support?.



Supporting Information

The case studies above relate to the different types of harm identified in the Care Act (2014).

You can find more information on the different types of harm and abuse, how to spot the signs and how to report your concerns on our website:

<https://www.anncrafttrust.org/resources/types-of-harm/>

Everyone has a role in safeguarding. You can make a difference:

- **Learn** about the different types of harm and abuse
- **Discover** how to spot the signs
- **Record** any concerns you have
- **Report** your concerns to your Local Authorities Safeguarding Board

Learn more on our website: <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/what-is-my-role-in-safeguarding/>

Additional Training

If you would like to learn more about your role in safeguarding and how to respond, take a look at our [e-learning courses](#).

We also offer various [training events and seminars](#) throughout the year which can be found on our website.

In addition, if you would like support with your organisation's safeguarding policy or a bespoke training session for your organisation, we would be more than happy to help. We offer dedicated courses for safeguarding young people, safeguarding adults, and safeguarding adults in sport. Please [contact us](#) to learn more.