SLO V Critical Thinking Scenario Assignment

*SLO V. Critical Thinking*

*Students will apply critical thinking and scientific methods of thinking (including logical and empirical reasoning) to issues regarding children’s well-being.*

 My immediate first response is that this is a very complex issue. There are a lot of factors involved and there are pros and cons to each side of the issue. My first response is that she should tell Lily’s parents that she took her first step because that is very important information regarding her development. If I was in the care provider’s position, I would constantly feel guilty if I did not share this information with Lily’s parents. I also would want them to trust me as a care provider in that I am giving their daughter the best care possible. The best care possible includes honesty regarding things that happened while their daughter was in my care. I feel this way because I value honesty when working with children and believe that it is essential when building and maintaining relationships between the child’s parents and family.

**What is the main issue in this scenario?**

 The main issue in this scenario is that the care provider is contemplating whether or not to tell Lily’s parents about taking her first steps. The care provider feels like she should share this information with them because it could potentially be considered dishonest if she doesn’t. The first step is an important milestone and important area of development and parents should be well aware of their child’s developmental aspects. However, there is also concern over Lily’s mother already being apprehensive about Lily being in day care due to the lack of time she now has to spend with her daughter. Hearing that she missed an important milestone may make Lily’s mother take her out of day care in order for her to spend more time with her daughter. There is also issue over the two employees disagreeing on the issue and perhaps making it difficult for the care provider to reach a decision.

 The rationale for being honest about the situation benefits the care provider because she will not be withholding important information from the family. However, the disadvantage is that Lily’s parents might be upset that they missed an important milestone in their daughter’s life. This might specifically upset Lily’s mother because she is already apprehensive about Lily being a daycare and this might cause her to permanently take her out of daycare. The care provider will then lose business from that family.

 The rationale for withholding the information is that the family will not be upset with the care provider or with their daughter being in day care. Lily will most likely walk again and her parents will think that those were her first steps and they were present for them. Lily will also stay in day care. However, the care provider might be feeling guilt over being dishonest with Lily’s parents. Also, there is a disadvantage with either option because one employee is on each side. With either decision the care provider makes, she will be upsetting an employee.

 With the explanation of the parents in mind, I think it would be best to withhold the information from the parents. Withholding the information will prevent Lily’s parents from being upset with the care provider and potentially taking their daughter out of daycare. I think that the part of the explanation that mentions how Lily’s mother is apprehensive about her being in daycare validates that withholding this information might be best for this family.

**What would you draw upon as credible sources of intervention as you make your decision as to how to respond?**

A credible source that I have drawn upon as a credible source of intervention when making this decision is part of the NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children). It mentions the importance of a teacher-family partnership and how a positive one eases the minds of parents when leaving their children at a child care center. It also mentions the importance of communication between parents and teachers. This source supports the claim that the care provider should be honest with Lily’s parents and share this information with her. This would support the teacher-family partnership and honest communication between the teacher and family.

 **After serious reflection, what are your biases and personal opinions that you bring to this situation? What would you do in this situation after recognizing these biases/personal opinions?**

As I mentioned previously, I value honesty when working with children. Parents are trusting care providers to not only provide quality childcare but to be in open communication with them regarding important aspects regarding their child. I practice honesty in my daily work with children and families and could never imagine withholding important information from them regarding their children. Considering my personal opinion and bias, I would be honest with Lily’s parents and share the information with them regarding their daughter’s first steps. My final suggestion and rationale is that the care provider should share the information with Lily’s parents. The worst thing that can happen is that they will take Lily out of daycare. However, the care provider will be consistent regarding honesty when working with every family. Also, I feel that if the care provider withholds this information then it might lead to another lie or withholding more information from Lily’s family or other families. I think honesty is essential when working with children and should be implemented everyday in order to have a successful child care center with positive teacher-family relationships.

**Part 2**

1. What experiences have you had in real life that you considered in order to come to this conclusion?

The experiences that I have had in real life that I considered and reflected on when reaching this conclusion is my experiences working with children in a variety of different settings. All of the care providers that I have worked for have modeled honesty when establishing and maintaining teacher-family relationships. Both of my parents have also emphasized honesty regarding life decisions and raising my sister and I. Both of these experiences have influenced my opinion regarding this decision.

1. Have you applied the information contained in your response in a –real life situation? If so, please describe.

No I have not. I have never had the authority to make a decision like this if an issue like the one above ever arose. However, I am confident that if I ever had the authority to make a decision such as this; I would make the right decision in my opinion.

1. What coursework/University experiences have you had that would assist you in coming to a final piece of advice in this situation? Please provide the details.

My internship experiences that were a part of my university experience have assisted me in coming to the final conclusion regarding this situation. Every center I have been at has modeled honesty regarding teacher-parent relationships and this has directly influenced my verdict on this situation. I currently work at the ASCDL (Associated Students Child Development Laboratory) and the head teachers always share details of the child’s day with their parents. They share how they slept, their potty schedule, how much they ate at meals and any injuries they got that day. This honest and open communication between teachers and parents fosters positive relationships between teachers and parents.