

CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO'S

(Birth to age 3)

My name is Brandon. I am three (3) years old and I can't live with my Mommy and Daddy right now. They left me alone a lot. I don't have anything to play with and my tummy never feels full. Sometimes Mommy forgets to feed me. I have some "boo-boos" on my legs and my arm hurts if you touch it. I cry at night when it is dark and I am alone.

(Age 3 to 5)

My name is Bobby. I am 4 years old and I wish I had friends to play with me. My mommy is always yelling at me. I haven't seen my daddy in a very long time. The last time he was here, he threw a bottle at my mommy. She had to get sewn up. Maybe that is why she is always mad. I don't like to talk very much and I always feel sad. Mommy calls me lazy because I don't try to use the potty. She says I can't go to school until I stop being such a dummy.

(Age 6 to 11)

My name is Katie. I am eight years old. My baby brother James and I live with our aunt and uncle. They give us a lot of hugs and they bought me pretty new clothes. When we came to live with them I had a broken arm. I don't think mom meant to hurt me. It was my fault because I couldn't get James to stop crying. She said he would wake up Dad and then I would really be in trouble. My uncle doesn't get mad at me. He tries to play ball with me. It is too hard. I miss the ball and I keep falling down. Then I get angry.

(Age 12 to 18)

My name is John and I am 14 years old. I hate school. I can't read very well and all the other kids laugh at me. My foster parents signed me up for soccer. What a joke. I don't run well, so I can't keep up. Why don't people ask me what I want? I have been skipping practice and hang out at the mall in the guitar store. A couple of times, I took a few things. It was easy. I have been thinking a lot about running away. I just want to be on my own.