

Date: 04/21/2004

Interviewer: Jamie Steele

DOB: April 30, 1993

Interviewee: Max Auger

Home Address: 117 Wilson St, Toronto, ON

I. Introduction

Max's mother was found guilty of violating parole conditions and is currently facing trial. If convicted, she will be placed into psychiatric care for a minimum of 20 years, following which, an examination will be performed to determine whether her behavior is suitable for rehabilitation into the public. Max's father could not be identified or located through any known records. Due to the lack of a suitable interim guardian, Child Services has recommended foster home placement for Max.

II. Objective

To facilitate Max's transition into foster care, I was tasked with helping him to understand the next steps, as well as collecting any information relevant to foster home selection or the ongoing trial. The utmost care should be taken in order to avoid causing any psychological distress or trauma. Language should be suited to Max's age and level of psychological development.

III. Interview

***Jamie:** Hey buddy! Max, right? My name is Jamie. Take a seat right here and make yourself comfortable. Here's some snacks and drinks for you. We just have a few questions to ask you today, is that okay?*

Max: Yeah, sure!

***Jamie:** Great! I'll get right into the first question. What's life at home like?*

Max: Hmm... Well, there's always a lot of work to do, like cleaning, laundry, or cooking. There's a lot of bugs too! No matter what I do it seems like the bugs always come back. And sometimes, the water and electricity don't work. In the summer, it feels like it's a thousand degrees, and in the winter, I feel like I might freeze solid! Can't complain too much though, it could be worse!

***Jamie:** You live at home with your mom, is that correct?*

Max: Yep!

***Jamie:** How do you like living with mom?*

Max: I love mom a lot. I know she works really hard for us, and I feel really bad that I can't work yet to help her pay for things, so I try my best to help her out with cleaning, cooking, that kind of stuff.

***Jamie:** Does mom ever use needles or drink alcohol?*

Max: Needles? I've never seen anything like that... Mom's so scared of needles that she almost cried when we were getting the flu shot last year! I've never seen mom drink any alcohol. She tells me to stay away from that kind of stuff like it's the plague!

***Jamie:** How would you feel if mom had to go away for a while?*

Max: Well... I would be really sad. Dad doesn't live at home anymore, so I'm not sure what I would do.

***Jamie:** Max, mom is very sick right now.*

Max: Huh? Mom didn't look sick or anything yesterday, what happened?!

***Jamie:** You don't need to worry honey, we're going to help her get better soon.*

Max: Phew, that's a relief! So when can I see her?

***Jamie:** Mom needs to focus on her treatment for now, so, I'm sorry, but you won't see her for a while.*

Max: What? But, I don't want to be away from mom. She always needs my help with chores and stuff, and I would miss her alot.

***Jamie:** Your mom will be in good care, and you won't have to worry about the chores anymore. In the meantime, I want you to meet Mr and Mrs Fletcher. They will take care of you and you will live with them for the time being.*

Max: But, why? I don't want to live with anybody else.

***Jamie:** Max, this is what's best for your mom. I need you to be strong for mom right now.*

Max: How long will mom be away?

***Jamie:** It won't be long, just... a little while, okay?*

Max: Okay, if it's what's best for mom then, I guess so... Will I at least be able to talk to her every now and then?

***Jamie:** I'm sure we can figure that out buddy, we'll take it one step at a time.*

IV. Conclusions

Preliminary observations indicate no signs of neglect or physical abuse. Based on these findings, I am recommending Max to be brought into the Fletcher household for the foreseeable future.