

Mr. S. Do you counsel her in any way?

Answer: I try. She's a child who doesn't want to be told.

Mr. S. She's your eldest, is she? Does she ever speak to you about her dad?

Answer: She's very, very bitter against her father. The three eldest are. They remember.

Mr. S. How do they react?

Answer: They just don't want anything to do with him.

Mr. S. They don't talk about him even?

Answer: If they do, it's in bad terms.

Mr. S. Does he ever come to visit?

Answer: Now and then; he's in Ontario.

Mr. S. What do the kids do when he comes?

Answer: The youngest girl will, 'daddy, daddy' but now the three eldest ones don't even want to talk to him.

Mr. S. Have you talked to the teachers at school about your oldest girl? What did the teacher say?

Answer: I had to call the principal a while back to make her go back to school. She refused to go.

Mr. S. Did the principal ever suggest she needs a counsellor?

Answer: There's no counsellor.

Mr. S. What about Mr. Cushing, or someone like that?

Answer: No, I feel that she's a child that authority...

Mr. S. I'm really not thinking in terms of authority.

Answer: This is how she would think.

Mr. S. Do you think if she had a group life with other children...

Answer: She has; she goes dancing.

Mr. S. But she is a worry to you.

Answer: Yes, she is.

Mr. S. Does she have a boy friend?

Answer: No.

Mr. S. What does she do in her spare time?

Answer: Dances, goes out with girls. The kids come to the house with her. One thing I do want to put across—the married life and their home life, and the life they have now—

they're much better off on welfare than they ever were before.

Mr. S. Before your husband left? You had an acute situation there?

Answer: Very much so. She's not ashamed of how we live, but she thinks she's all grown up, and nobody can tell her any different. If she were here right now and decided everything just wasn't going her way, she'd blow up in front of everyone.

Mr. S. She'd get angry and sound off?

Answer: Yes. Her aunt is very good to her that's my only sister. They do a lot for us too. She's blown up in front of her at different times.

Mr. S. Her aunt could get through to her?

Answer: No. They're both alike—hot tempered.

Mr. S. Do you realize that there are services available that can be of help in this area?

Answer: Not to my knowledge.

Mr. S. You've never heard of any services that could be used?

Answer: I've tried the 'Y'. She's been in different things going on around the school.

Mr. S. Have you talked to a family counsellor?

Answer: No.

Mr. S. Let's change the subject for a minute. Let's ask, just a general question—how about church, does that mean anything to you?

Theresa: It started to mean more to me now, than it ever did before. I would say in the last seven years, I don't think I went to church too frequently. My hopes and faith are just coming back, or they have been coming back in the last few years.

Mr. S. To what do you think this is attributable?

Answer: I used to wallow in self-pity a bit, and when I started getting out of feeling sorry for myself and realize that I wasn't the only one in this predicament, I started believing again in different things and in other people. You sort of withdraw within yourself, and you lose confidence, and don't think you can do anything on your own. I still have a little fear, but not like it was.

Mr. S. Did this come when you got a job and went back to work, this sort of reconfirmation of yourself as a person?