• Derek’s background includes extreme physical and economical impoverishment during infancy, and a father that brutalized Derek and his mother during the same period.

• Derek’s father was an alcoholic

• Stepdad was an abused child is known to be very strict with children

• Encopretic and Enuretic behavior

• Expelled from kindergarten because of severe behavioral issues
Father in an institution for the criminally insane

- Mother and stepfather do not want to go to therapy and declined parent classes. They feel it is Derek’s problem and not theirs.

- Mother’s personal background consists of extreme brutalization by men in her past

- Head banging and severe temper tantrums

- Severe anxiety
- Gross motor problems due to abuse
- Special class for severely emotionally disturbed children
- The minor must be supervised closely at all times
- Derek is hyperactive and emotionally disturbed
- Derek is unable to get along with anyone
- There is indication that the boy might be overtly psychotic
- The child laughs inappropriately and shows much anxiety
- The boy acts out against anyone around him
• Has a fascination with knives and hurting others

• Must be physically restrained because he flies into rages and is completely unmanageable

• Derek exhibited much fantasy and delusional behavior

• Derek cannot get along with anyone

• Terror of the neighborhood
• Derek never had a positive modeling figure, he has psycho-sexual confusion

• When Derek expresses his impulses, it is usually in terms of oral aggression, aggression in general, death or sex

• Has thoughts of murdering his mother

• His severe emotionally disturbed state of mind interferes with his overall functioning
By the time Derek was a year old, he had pretty much withdrawn from reality.

Derek does not know his ABC’s.

Derek cannot count to 10.

Derek’s vocabulary is very limited.

Verbal scale indicates below average general knowledge, logical thinking and language development.
• Derek has erratic psychosis.

• He loses contact with reality frequently without warning

• Is not adoptable based on severity of Derek’s emotional problems

• If an adequate foster home cannot be found, Derek will be sent to the psychiatric institution

• Neurological and psychological tests indicate Derek is functioning on a 2 year old level & has intellectual disabilities.
What is the Deeper Issue?

Their Outside World May Be a Reflection of Their Inner World.
Look Beyond The Behavior

• The behaviors are a story that children and youth may not be able to tell any other way. Foster parents need to focus on connection.

• If labels are hastily assigned as an explanation to a child’s development and behavioral responses, he or she is at great risk of growing into that label- becoming the disorder itself.
What Children Want From Adults Working With Them

- Listen to Me
- Believe in Me
- Acknowledge Me
- Make Me Feel Important
- Treat Me With Fairness
- Treat Me With Respect
- Don’t Be Judgmental of Me
- Continue to Support Me Even if I Make a Mistake
- Accept Me
- Get to Know Me
- Let me know I belong

You’re Delicately Increasing the Value and Beauty of a Child by Gently Repairing the Tears and Blemishes, Cleaning off the Dirt and Dust and Touching Up the Paint.

Restoration Artist

You’re Canvas of Life, Restoring Hope, Love, Security, Confidence & Dignity by Gently Repairing the Tears and Blemishes.
You Lightly Brush, You Gently Wipe, Working On Very Small Pieces at a Time, Working Very Patiently, Carefully and Focused on the Outcome, the Beauty…

The Masterpiece.
Someone took the time to make me feel:

- Important
- Respected
- Accepted
- Included
- Secure
- Loved
Be Inspired

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