

Asking for help

Situation #1

Jordan, age 12, helps around the house. His job is to do the laundry. On Saturday, he took the clothes basket to the laundry room. He carefully put all the whites in the washing machine and started the machine. Later, when he returned and took the clothes out of the machine, the clothes were pink. Jordan had accidentally put a red sock in with the white clothes.



- **How could the parent accept Jordan's work?**
- **Did Jordan do his task on time or on his way out to play?**
- **How should the parent react?**
- **Had Jordan been taught how to do the laundry?**
- **How should they solve the problem of the pink underwear?**

... and justice for all

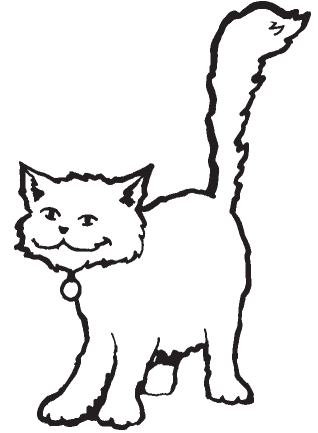
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Situation #2

Kristin and Jeff have moved into a new apartment that Jeff selected. They immediately began noticing an odd odor. It smelled like old cat urine. They have tried airing out the apartment. Jeff told Kristin to rent a rug cleaner and clean the carpet. She did. But the apartment still smells. Kristin wants to call in a professional rug cleaner. Jeff thinks this is a waste of money. Jeff thinks Kristin should have solved the problem by now.



- **Does this young couple work together as a team?**
- **Where could they find helpful information about removing the urine odor?**
- **What attitudes do they have about their home?**

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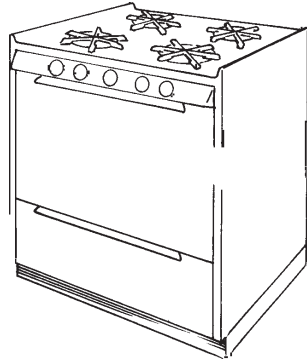
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Situation #3

Chelsea and Jenna share an apartment. Both commute to another city for work. They leave home by 7:00 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m. After preparing a meal, washing the dishes, and watching TV, they go to bed. Sometimes they forget to go back to the kitchen to put leftovers away.



They usually wipe the counters and stove only on the weekend. Since the refrigerator is frost free, Jenna thinks cleaning it once a year is good enough. Chelsea feels the counter and stove should be cleaned after each meal, but why should she do it every night? She also thinks the refrigerator should be cleaned more than once a year. Chelsea feels Jenna is a dirty housekeeper. This is causing tension between them.

- **How are Chelsea's and Jenna's health affected by their housekeeping?**
- **What might they do to make their kitchen housekeeping tasks easier?**
- **Do they have similar expectations?**
- **Are they making good use of their time?**
- **Are Chelsea and Jenna communicating?**

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Situation #4

Clarence and Mary do the dishes together. Mary washes the dishes. Clarence dries the dishes. Then he puts them away. Mary feels that the dishes should air dry. This makes Clarence mad. He feels that he has to deal with the dishes twice. The dishes are making a mess in the kitchen while they are air drying. This is becoming a source of conflict between Clarence and Mary.



- **Should the dishes air dry? Where could that answer be found?**
- **What should this couple talk about regarding household tasks?**
- **Do they have the same attitude toward clutter?**

... and justice for all

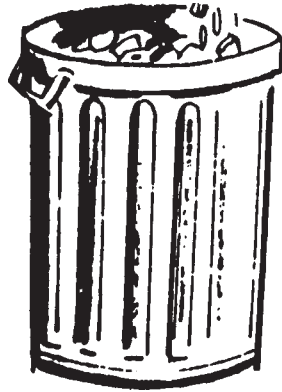
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Situation #5

Maria likes a very tidy kitchen. She also realizes the importance of carrying the garbage out. Several months ago at a family meeting, her family decided that her boys, Juan and Diego, would take turns taking the garbage out. When it is Juan's turn, he takes the garbage out of the kitchen into the garage. He never remembers that taking out the garbage also means taking it to the curb on garbage collection day.



- **Why does Maria want the garbage out of the kitchen?**
- **How could the family meeting have been more effective in assigning tasks?**
- **Why does Juan have a problem and not Diego?**

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