

Dr. Angela®

Short Case Stories #IPV-53

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Cleaning Story

She was getting out of the shower when she heard her husband shouting at their younger daughter about some toys the visiting children had thrown all over the place before they left.

Responding to her motherly instincts, she quickly pulled a towel around herself and ran out to the living room where he was yelling at the one child, demanding the child clean up immediately although it was a holiday, while the older child sat on the side and watched.

“Stop that now. This isn’t fair,” she said.

However he was not stopping his shouting at the child.

She began to shout as well now. “Stop I said. Why make one kid clean up and not the other? Anyway, it’s a holiday. Stop, I will clean it up, let them both be,” she added loudly as she reached to pull him away from the child.

He turned, yelling, “She’s my child too!”

As he whirled back to the child, and raised his hand as if about to hit the child, she (the mother) leapt between them. He then grabbed her (the mother) by the hair with one hand and by the arm with the other, dragged her (the mother) out the backyard door as her towel was falling off, and threw her (the mother) down naked onto the cement step where she hit her spine on the edge of that step.

The younger child ran to stop this, shouting, “Stop, don’t hurt mommy!”

Now this child was tossed out the door. The child and the mother were then both abruptly locked out of the house.

The mother tried to bring herself to run naked to the neighbors for help, or to send the child, but was not certain what to do. Frozen with indecision, she and the child cowered behind a shed in the yard.

About a half hour later, they heard him slam the door and drive away with the older child. Once certain he was gone, the mother and the younger child headed back to the house, only to find every door locked.

The child and the mother remembered a key the mother had once secretly put under a rock outside, on the other side of the house, and got back into the house.

He was gone for several days. He never called to see whether the mother and younger child were alright.

Either prevented, intimidated, or alienated, the older child never called either.

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