

**secrets
Revealed!**



Confidentiality in Foster Care

1.5 Hour Training



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ESTABLISHED IN 2001

FAMILIESFIRST NETWORK

NOTE: This training was put together by Families First Network of Florida and has been adapted for use here in Alaska.

What is **confidentiality**?

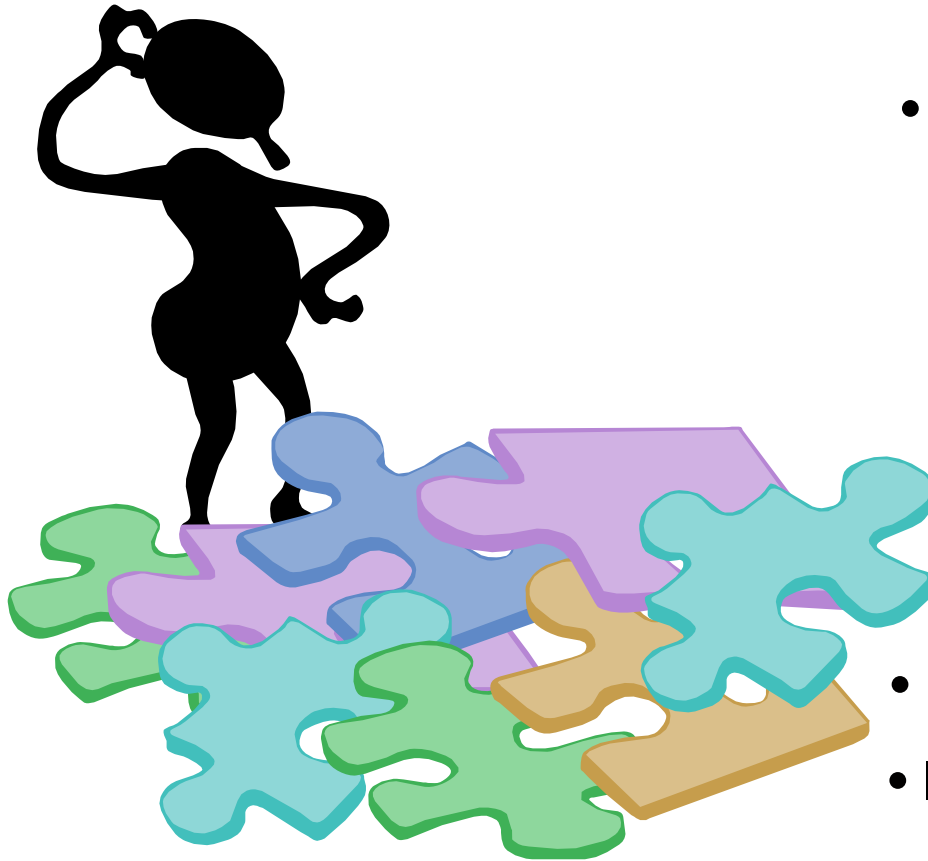
Being entrusted with someone else's **private** information

The state of being **secret**.

Discretion in **keeping private information**
private.



What information is **confidential**?

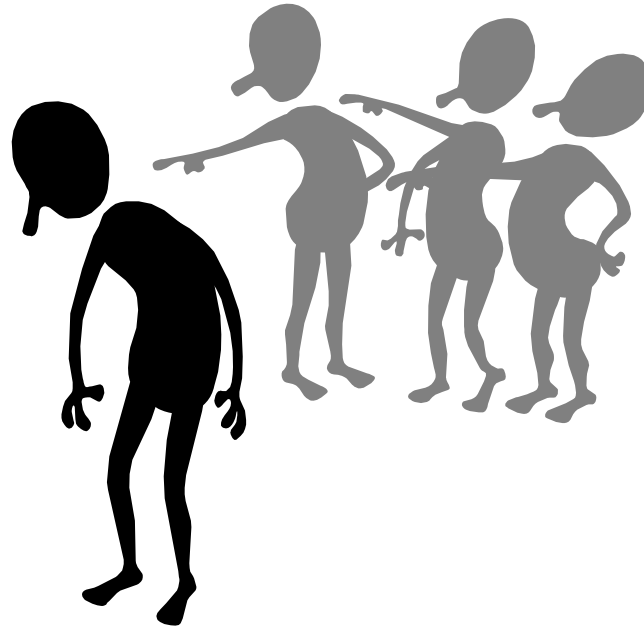


- The fact that the child is in foster care
- The reason a child is in foster care
 - Any medical, educational or therapeutic issues concerning the child
 - The bio parents names
- Information on the extended bio family
- Details about the parents case plan
- Information about the case goal

A black silhouette of a person standing on the left, holding a large, irregularly shaped sign that extends towards the right. The sign contains red text with a white drop shadow.

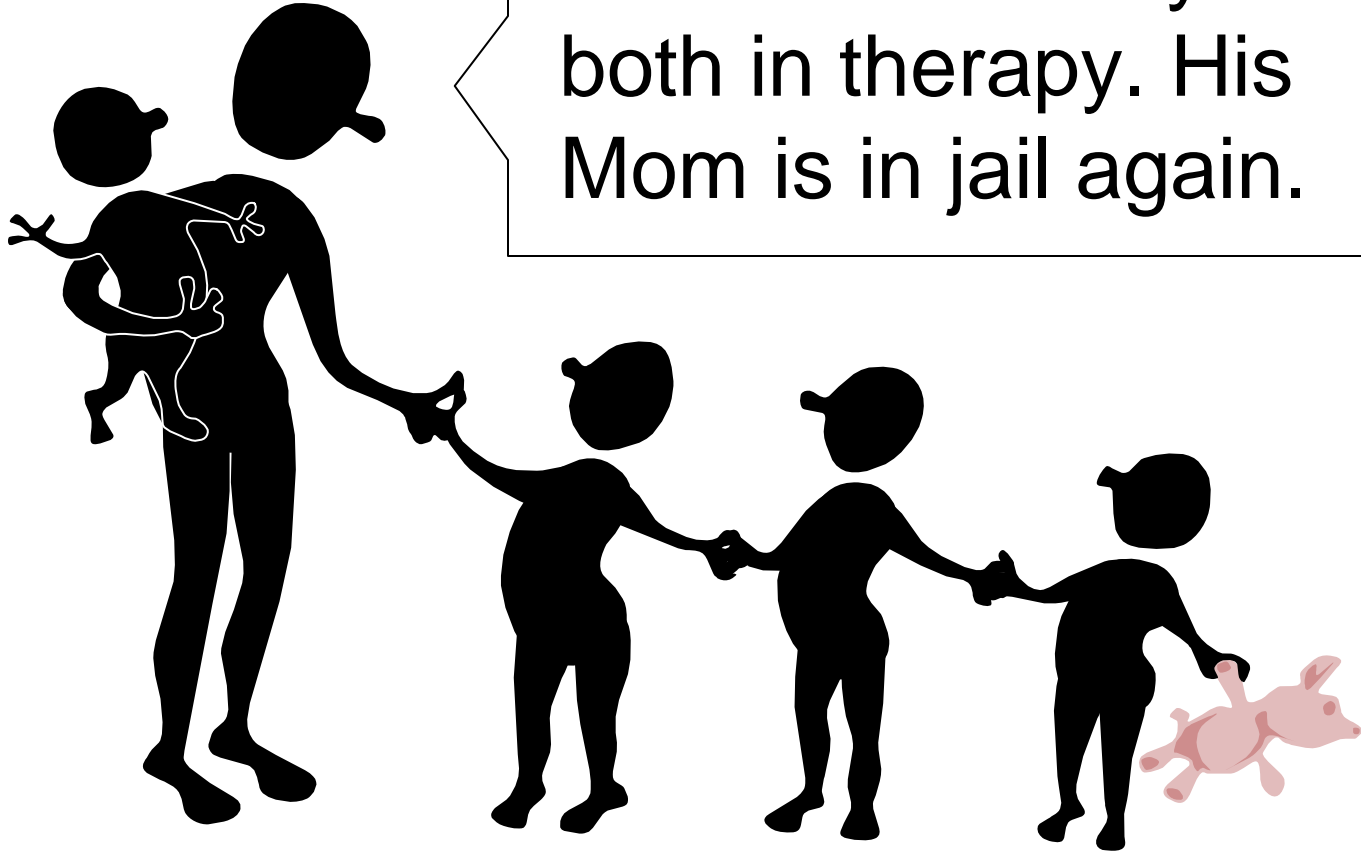
Why does it matter
if someone knows
private information?

Feeling different from everyone else **HURTS!**

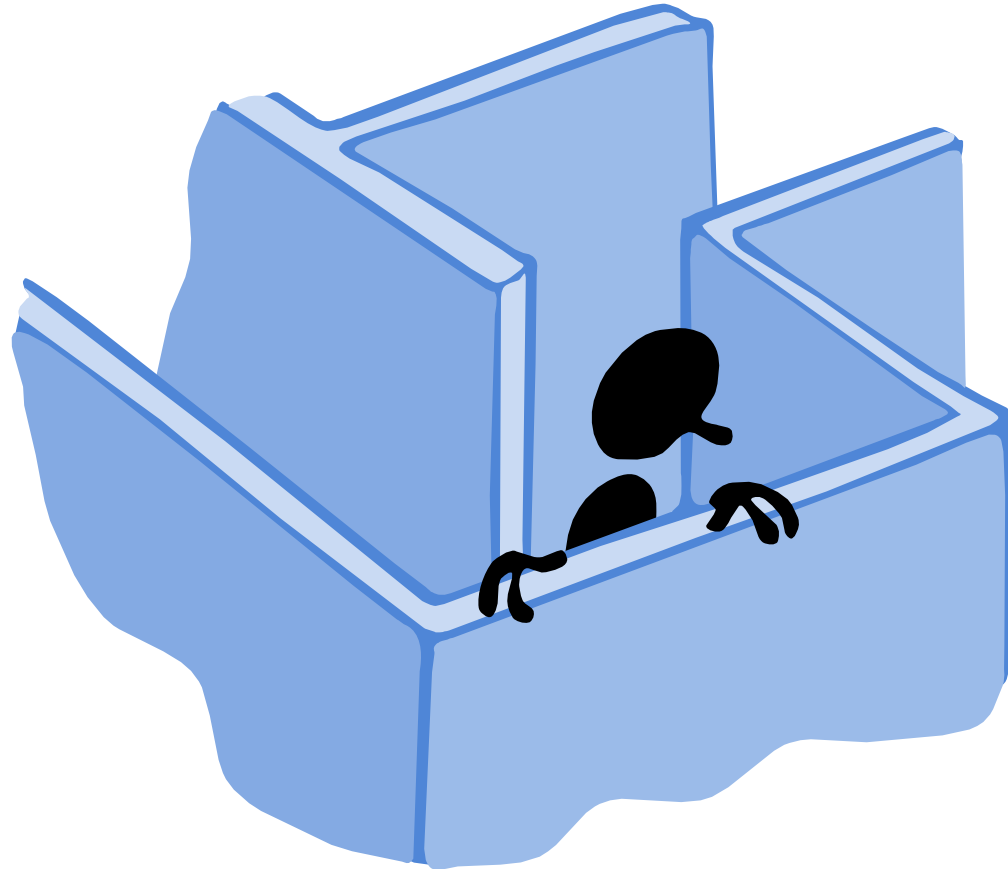


Being **labeled** and **judged** because you're
in **foster care** hurts even worse!

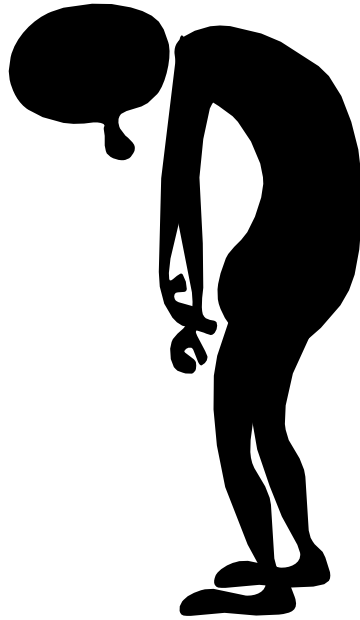
These two are mine,
Johnny and Sue are
foster kids. They're
both in therapy. His
Mom is in jail again.



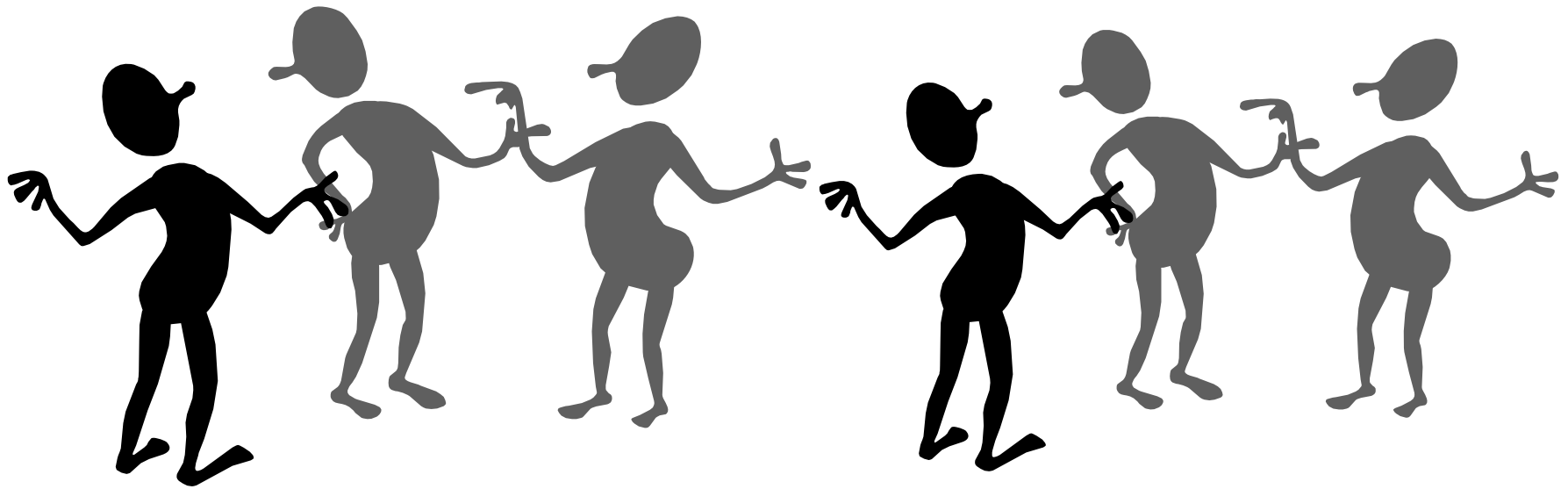
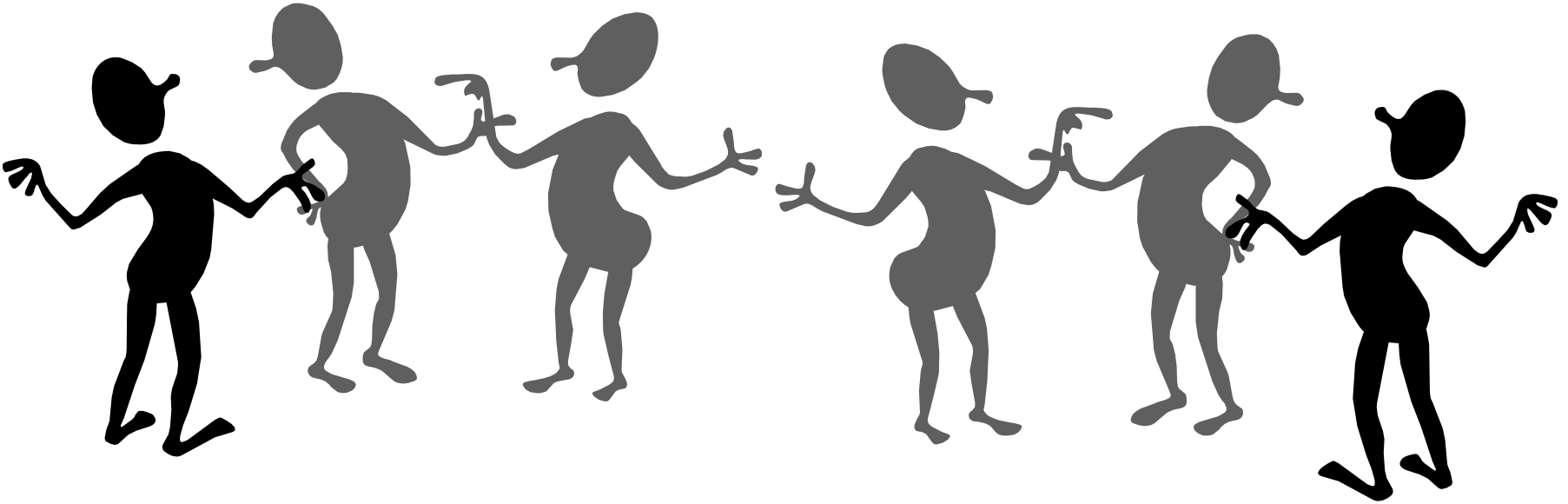
**Foster children already feel bad
because they're away from
everything familiar**



Being too different can be depressing!

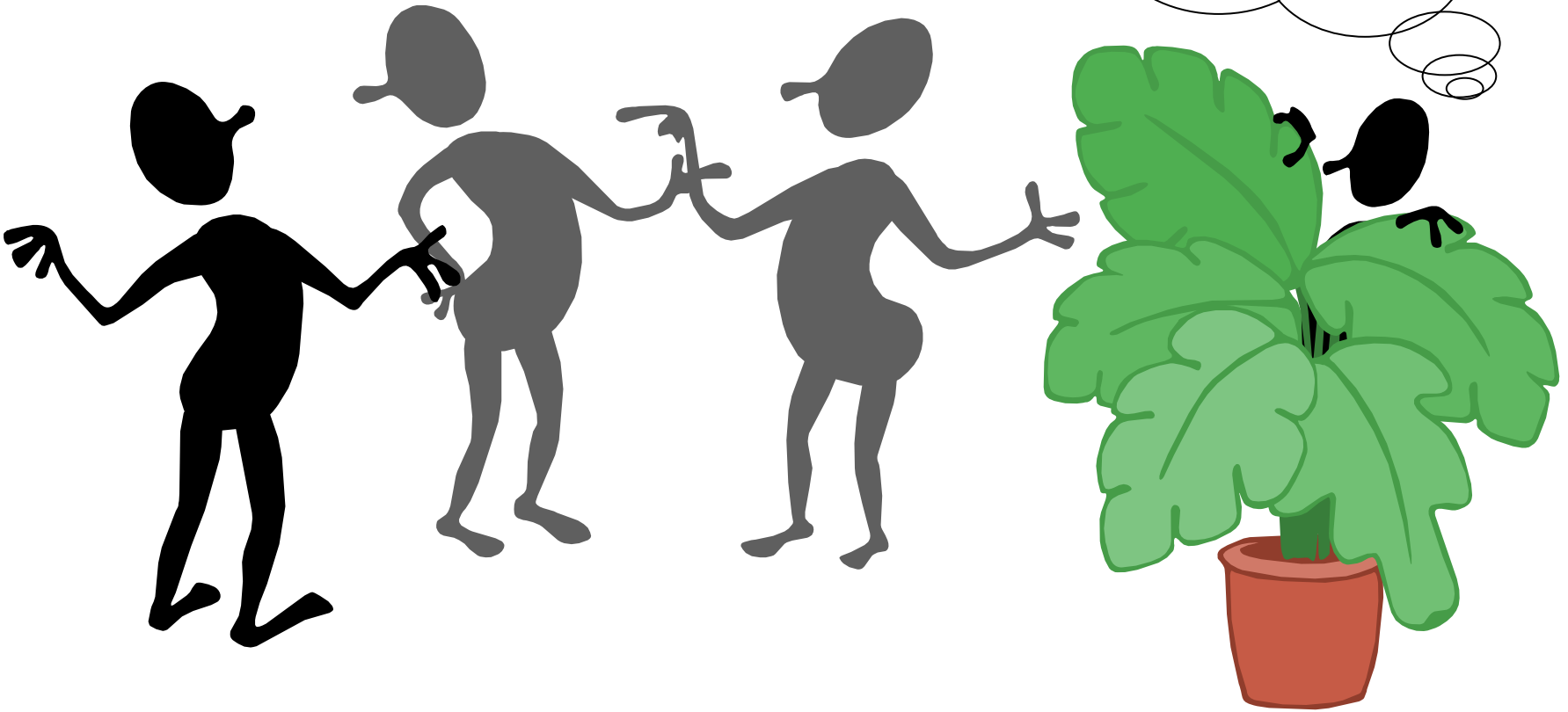


If YOU talk, others will too!



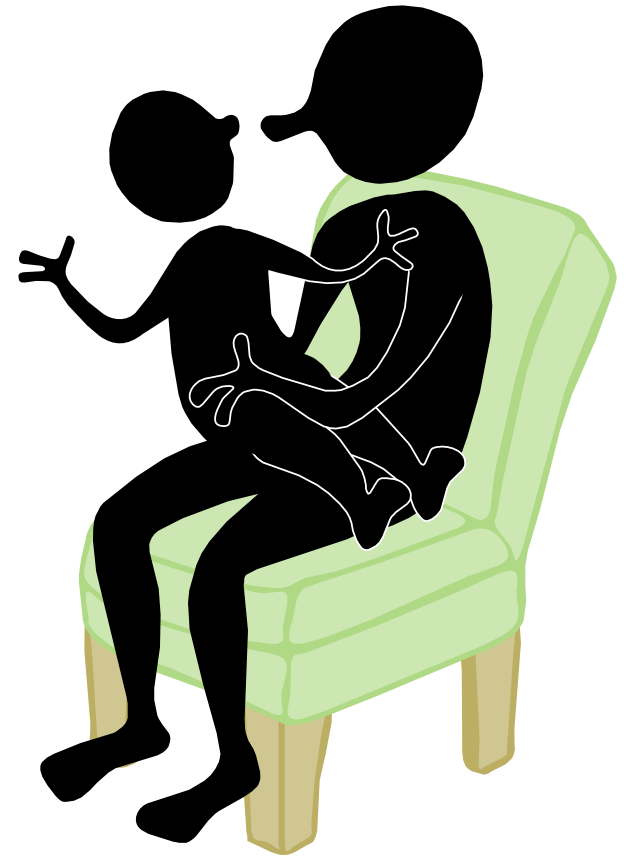
You never know **who** is listening

**Sammy's parents are
Crack Heads?**



Information is **ALWAYS** repeated

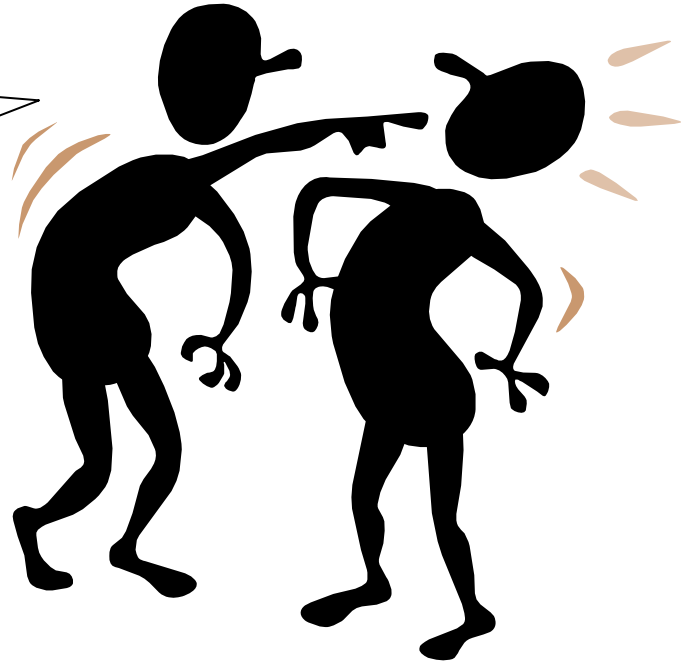
The kids in class said my Foster Mom told Billy's Mom Jenny that you and Mommy were "Crack Heads!" What's a "Crack Head?"



Feelings get hurt

You told your best friend Jenny! Her son told the whole class!
You explain that AND Crack Head to my son!
I TRUSTED you!

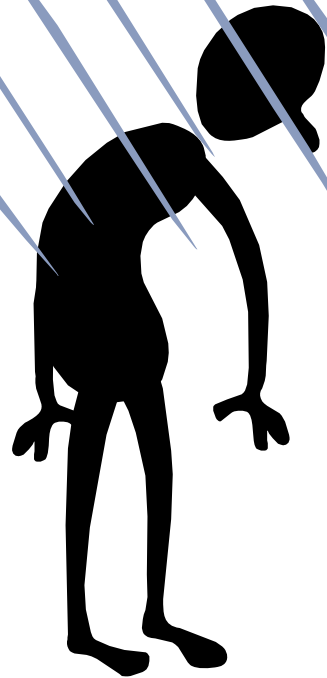
You foster parents are all alike!



and relationships **break**

because confidence was broken

It's embarrassing to the foster children, bio parents and their families when everyone knows their private business

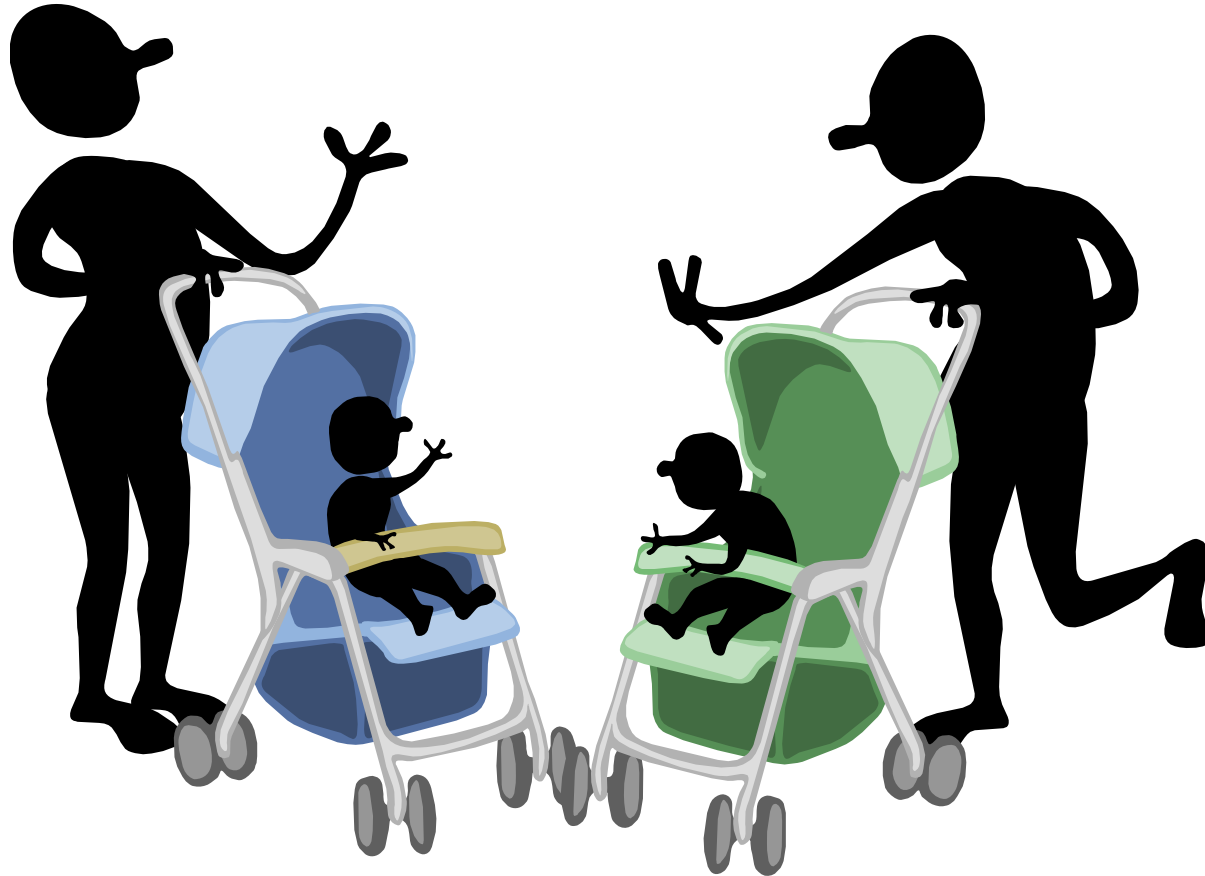


**How will I ever hold my head up again?
EVERYONE knows!**

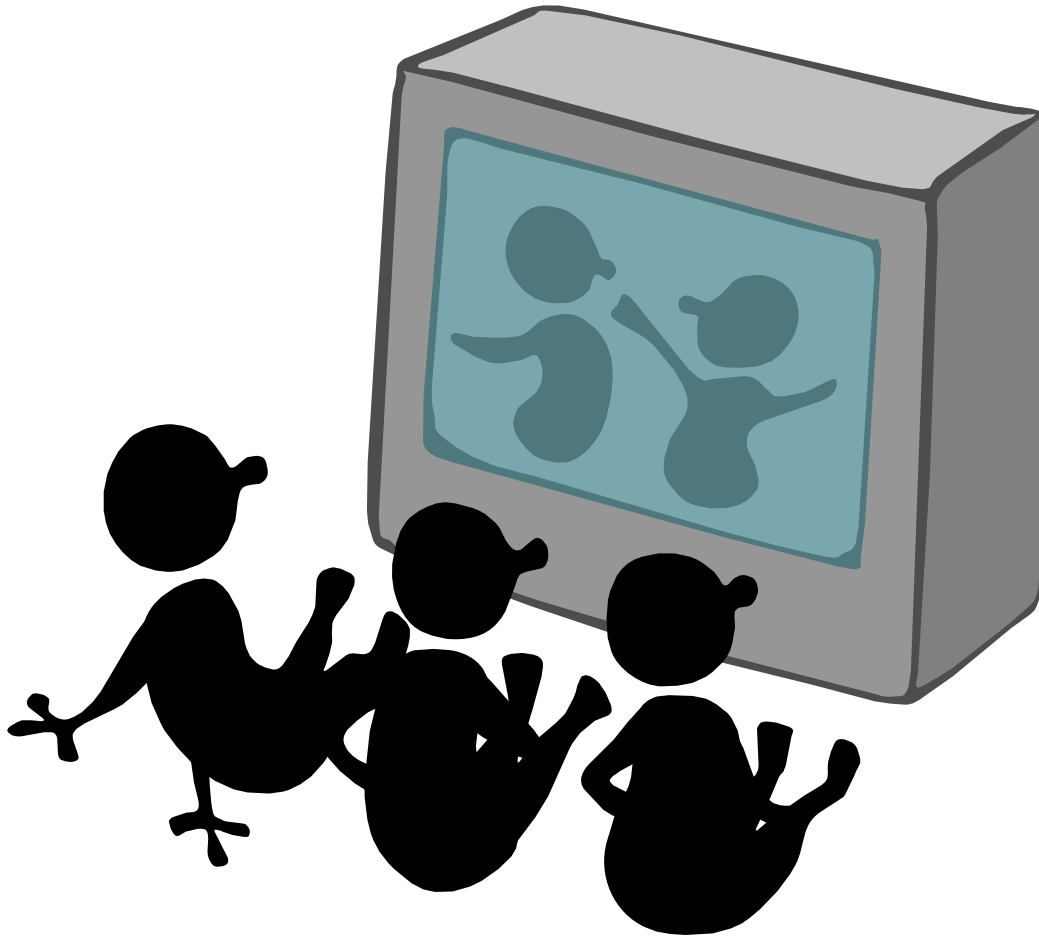
Be **EXTRA** careful when...



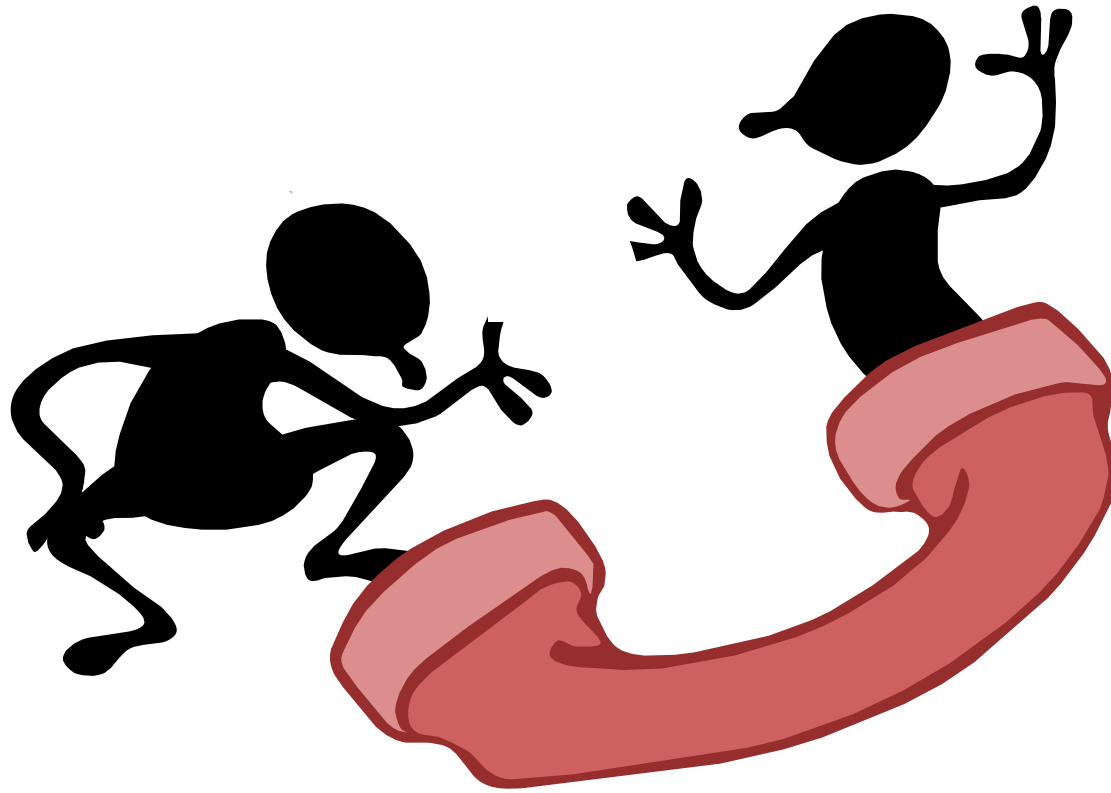
Answering questions and trying to recruit others



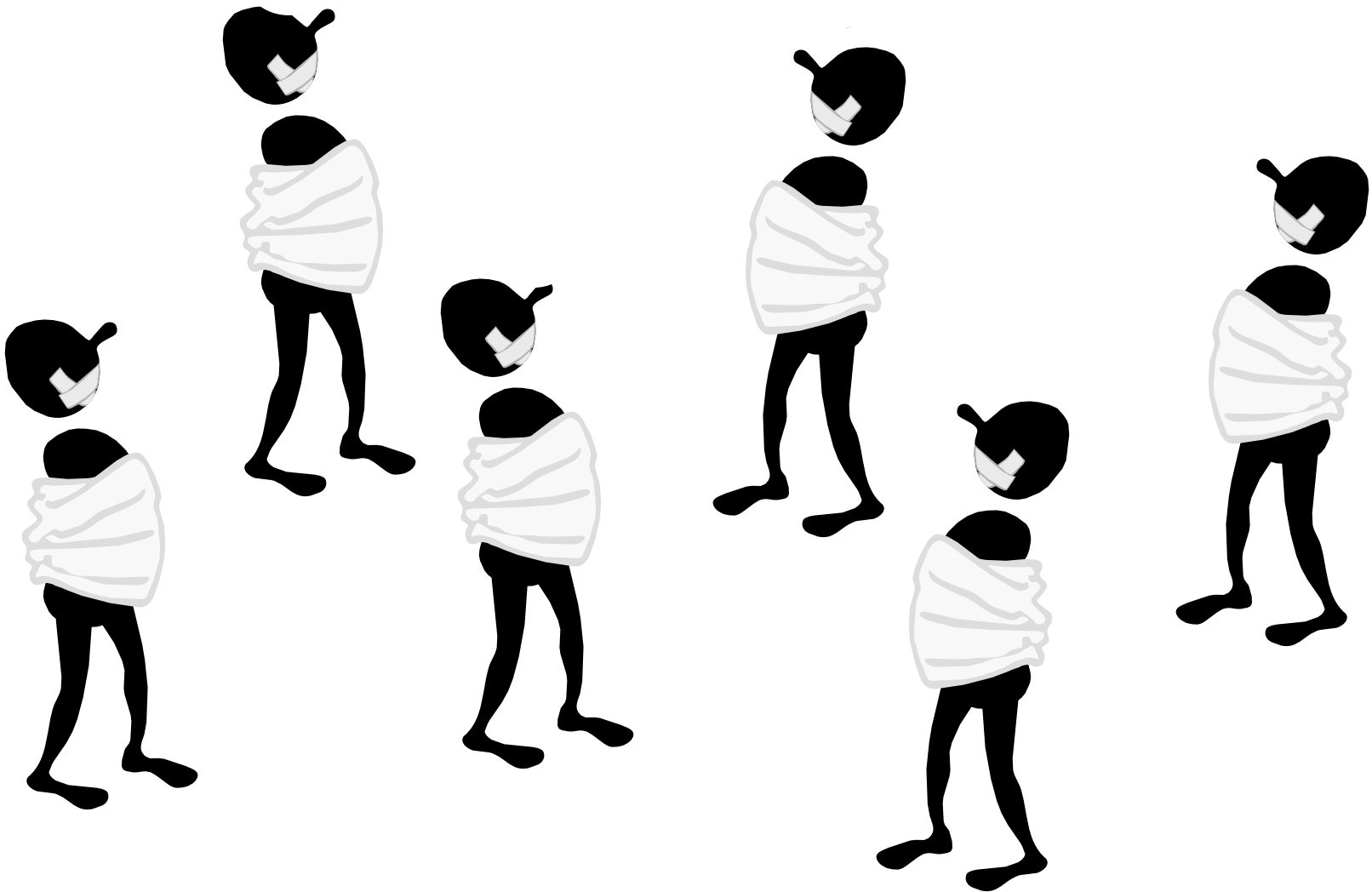
Talking to ANY **media** for ANY reason



Talking to friends and family



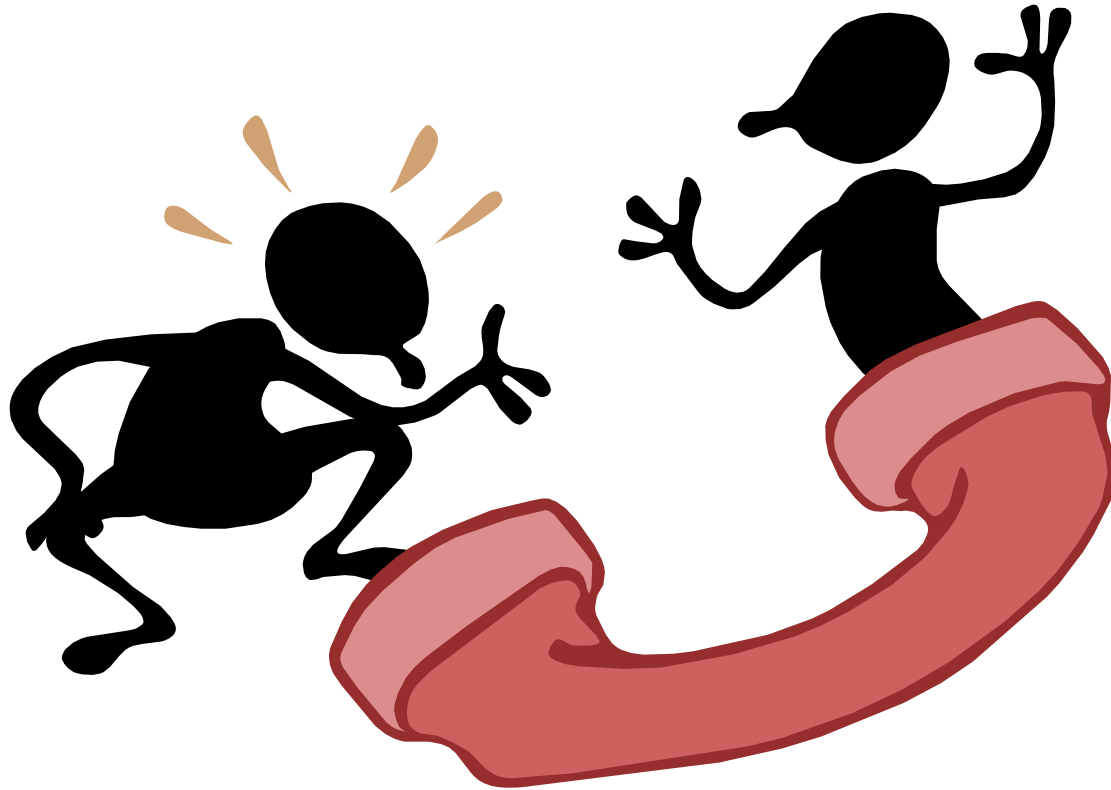
We're **NOT** saying you can't **EVER** talk



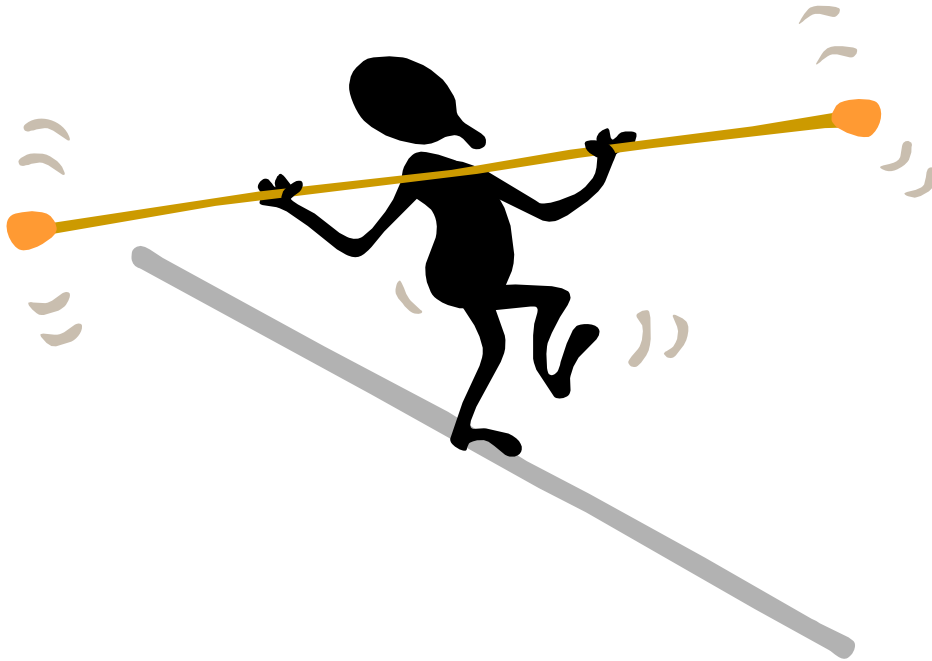
We **KNOW** fostering is stressful



And there are times when you
REALLY need to talk
without mincing words



**Just be
very careful**



**when discussing issues pertaining to
foster children**

So who CAN you talk to??

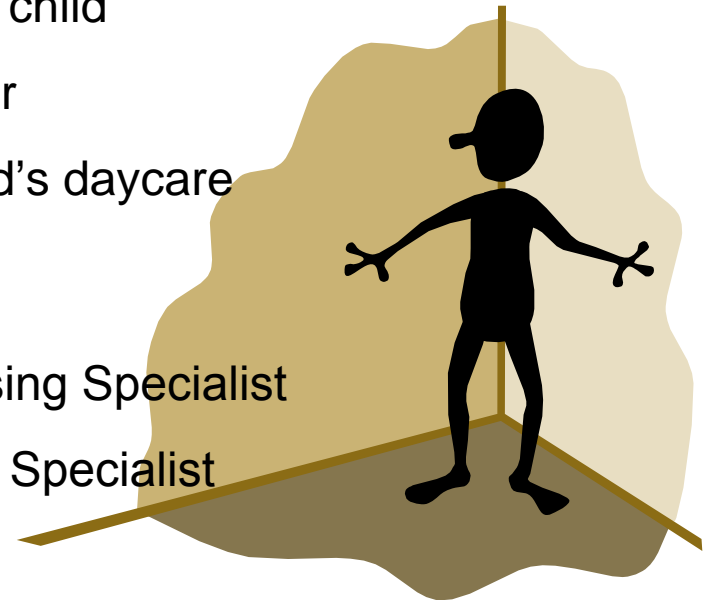
People with a true **Need To Know**

such as:

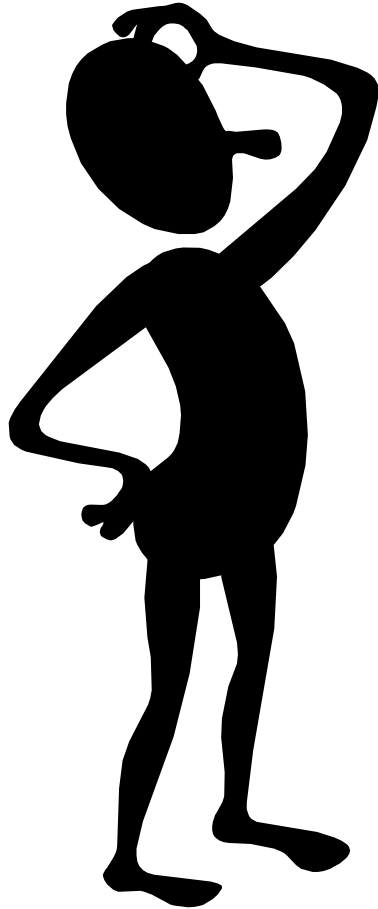
- ✓ The child's case worker
- ✓ A doctor caring for the child
- ✓ The child's teacher
- ✓ The administrator of the child's daycare

OR

- ✓ Your OCS Foster Home Licensing Specialist
- ✓ Your ACRF Family Support Specialist

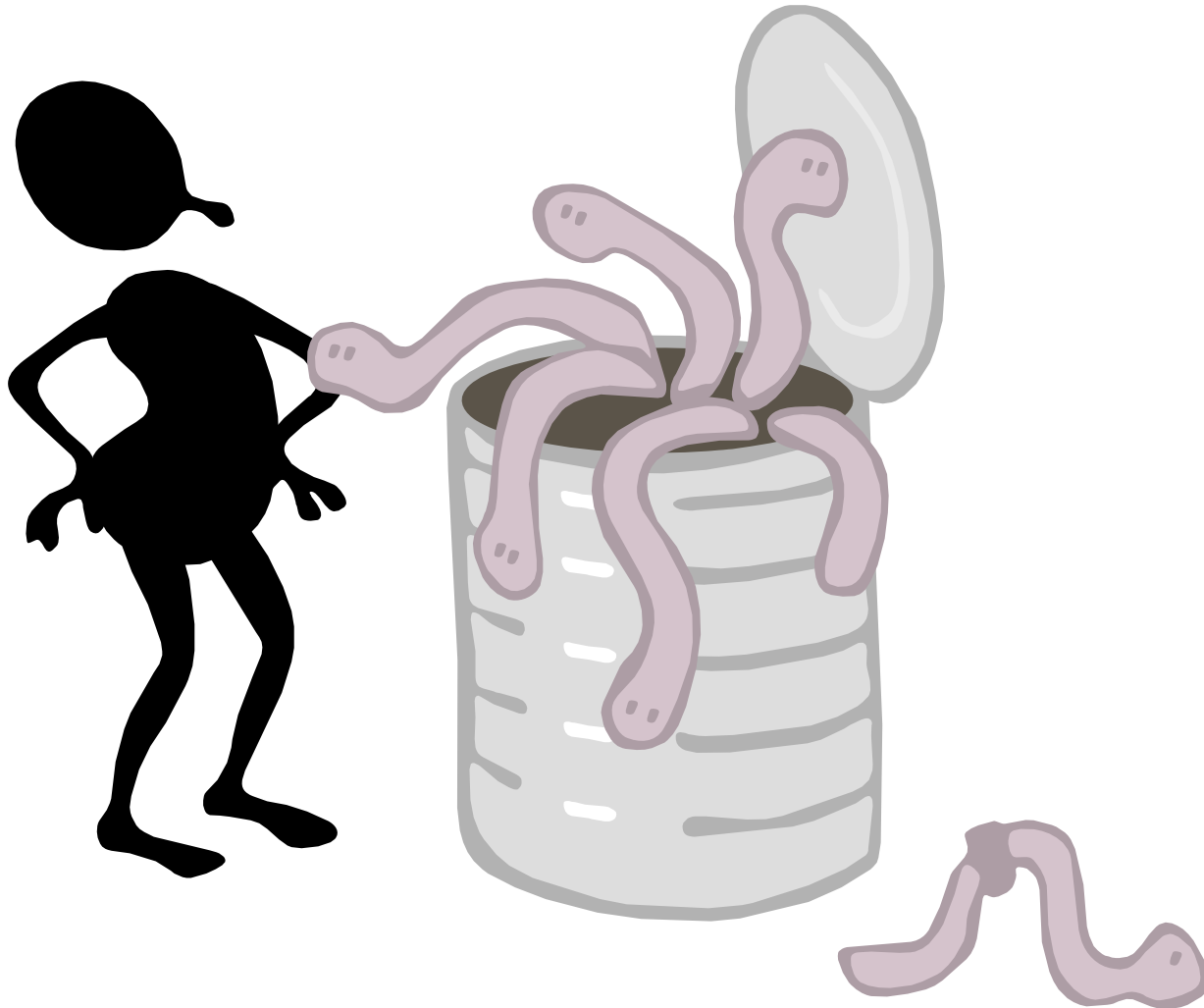


Great answers to **nosey** questions

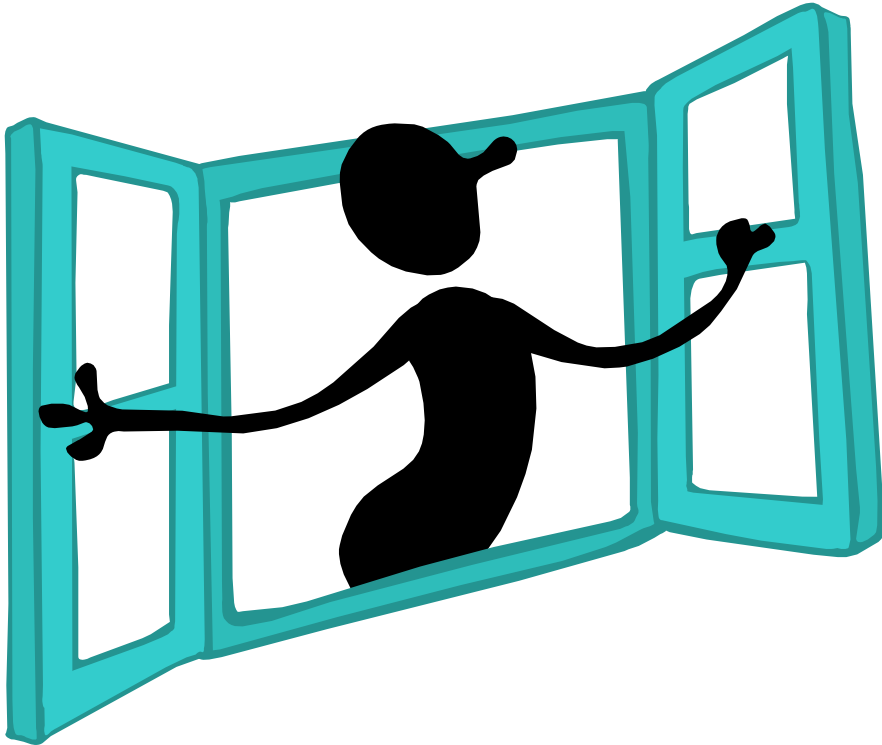


- You know, we choose not to talk about that.
- I'm sorry, we're not allowed to give out that information.
- I don't know.
- Yes, (he, she, they're) mine.
- Have you noticed the weather ???
- If I told you I'd have to shoot you. I'm not wearing the right clothes. Go away.

Breaking confidentiality only leads to **MORE** questions you shouldn't answer.



Things you **SHOULD** say



- Yes, I'm a foster parent. These are all my kids. I can't tell one from another.
- Let me tell you the neat thing my son Johnny said yesterday!
- I've heard there's a shortage of foster parents. Are you interested?
Call 1-800-478-7307
- Have you ever seen such wonderful children?

And then you can add:

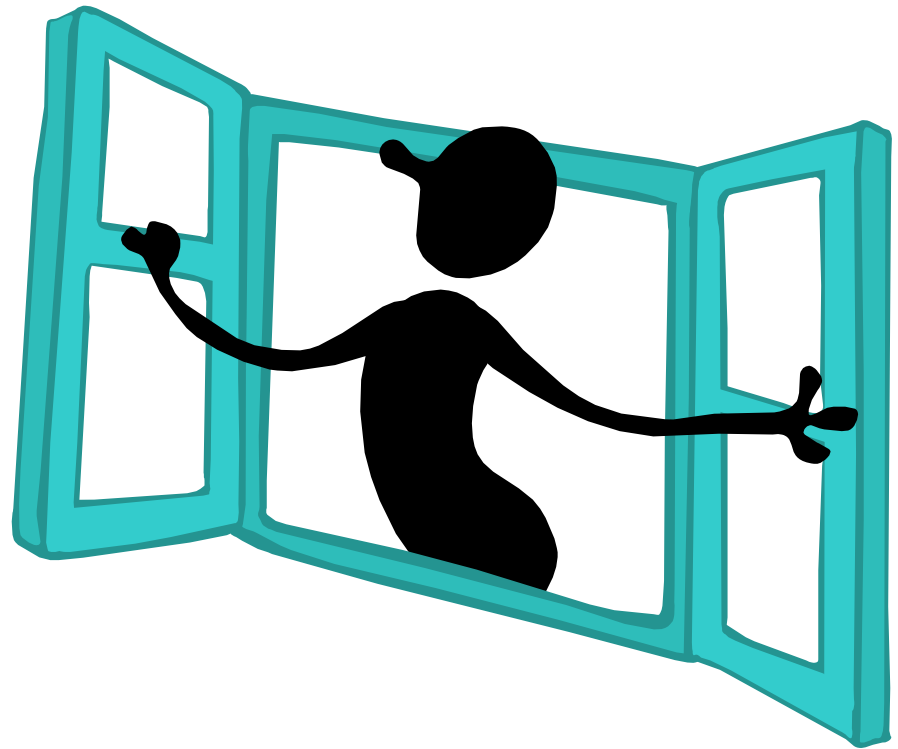
Foster kids are good kids that have had some rough breaks in life

Foster kids come from every level of society

Foster kids come in every shape, size and color

Reunification is the first goal in foster care

Fostering is the most rewarding thing you'll ever do

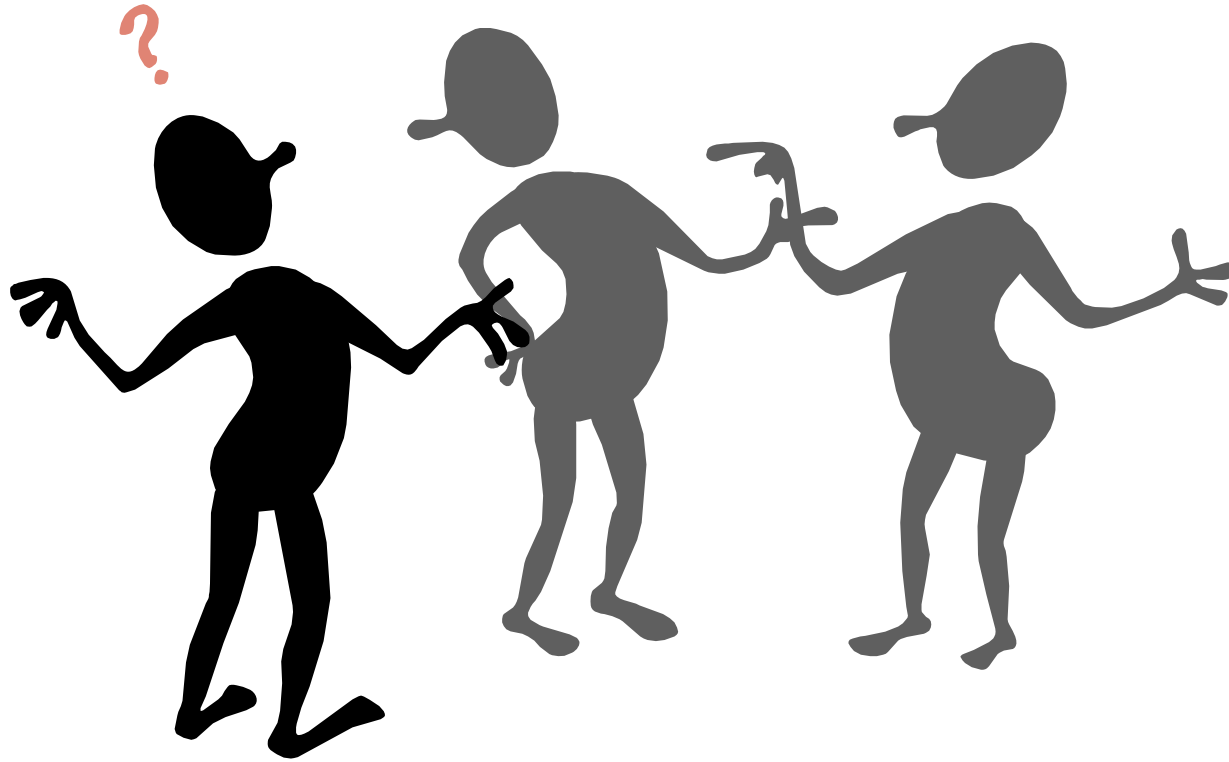


A word of wisdom

Always consider:

- Would you share this info if the bio family was standing with you?
- Would you be embarrassed if someone said this about you or your family?
- Just because information is true doesn't mean it has to be shared!

Are your conversations



Healing or **hurting** our kids?

SELF TEST

What is **confidentiality**?

A) Feeling or producing a feeling of loneliness

B) To declare or assert

C) Discretion in keeping private information private.



What is **confidentiality**?



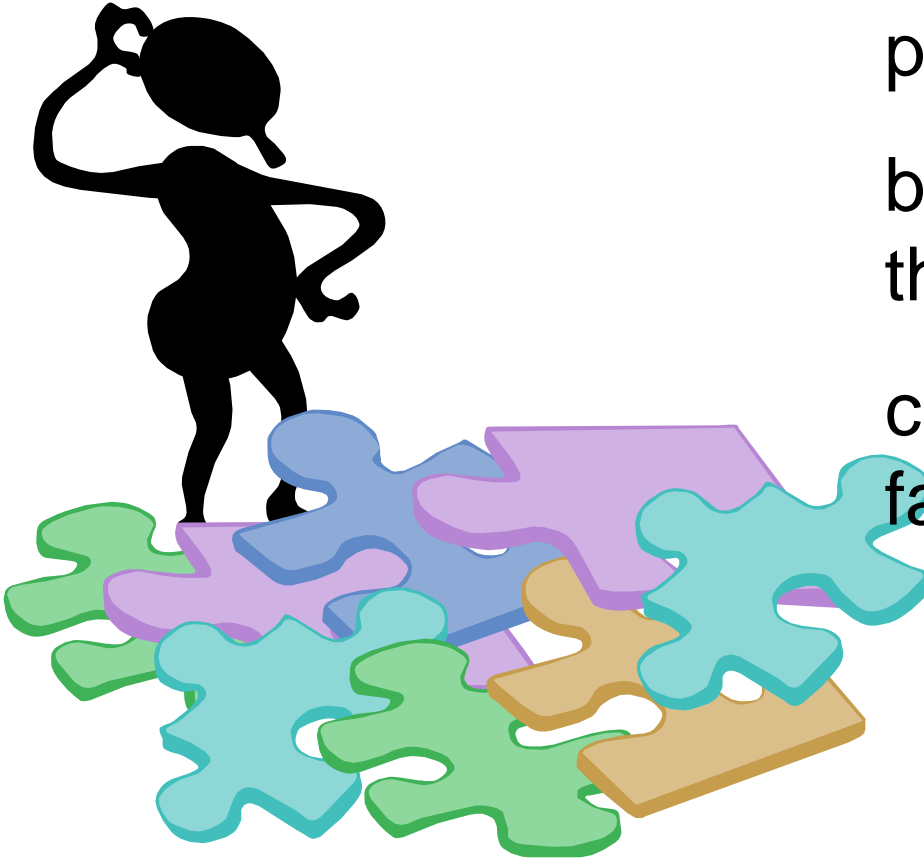
- C) Discretion in keeping private information private.

What information is **confidential**?

a) Details about the parents case plan

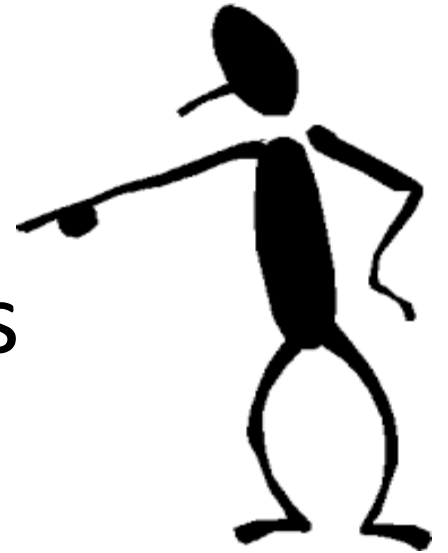
b) Which agency licensed the foster home

c) How many pets a foster family has



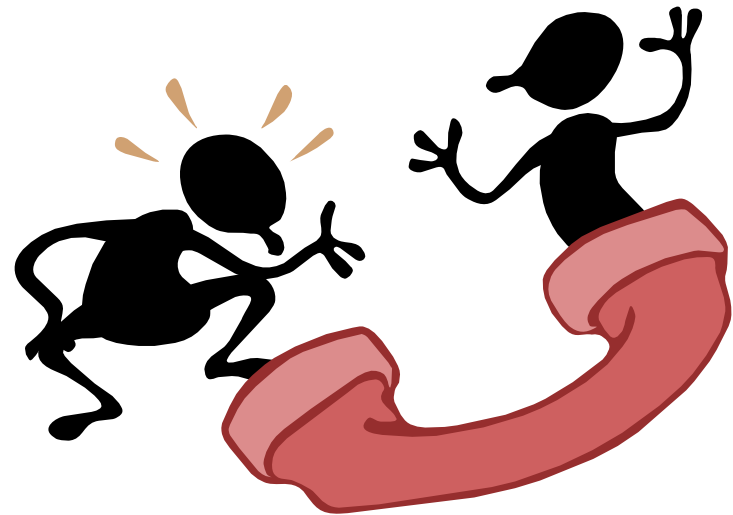
What information is **confidential**?

A) Details about the parent's caseplan

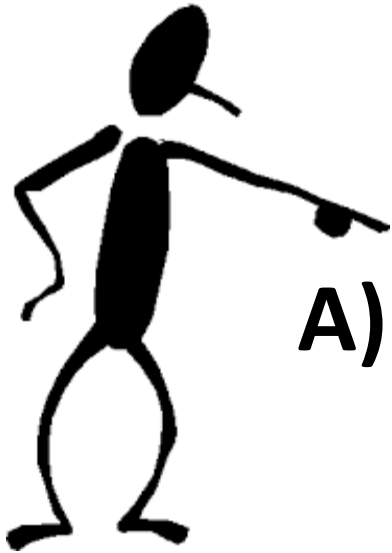


Foster parents can share confidential information with

- A) People with a true need to know such as the caseworker, doctor or teacher
- B) Anyone wearing a name badge
- C) Anyone who promises to keep a secret

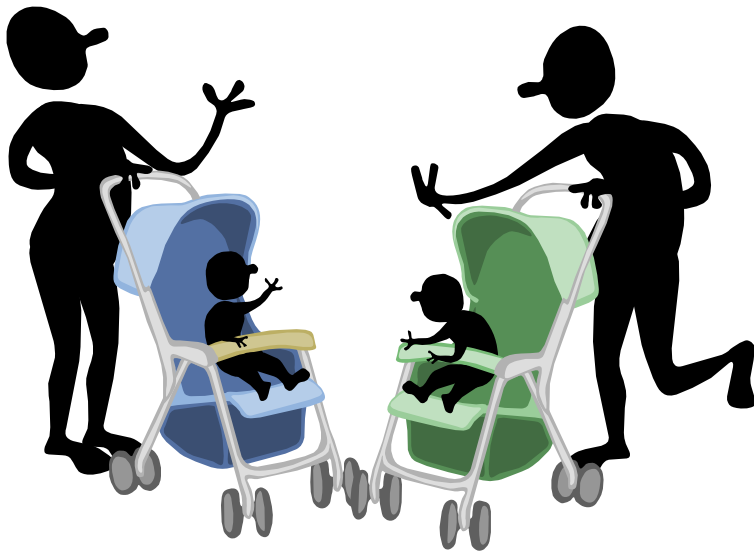


Foster parents can share confidential information with...



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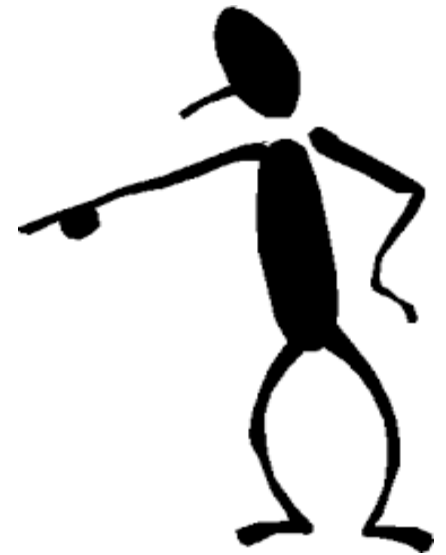
Foster Parents must be especially careful when

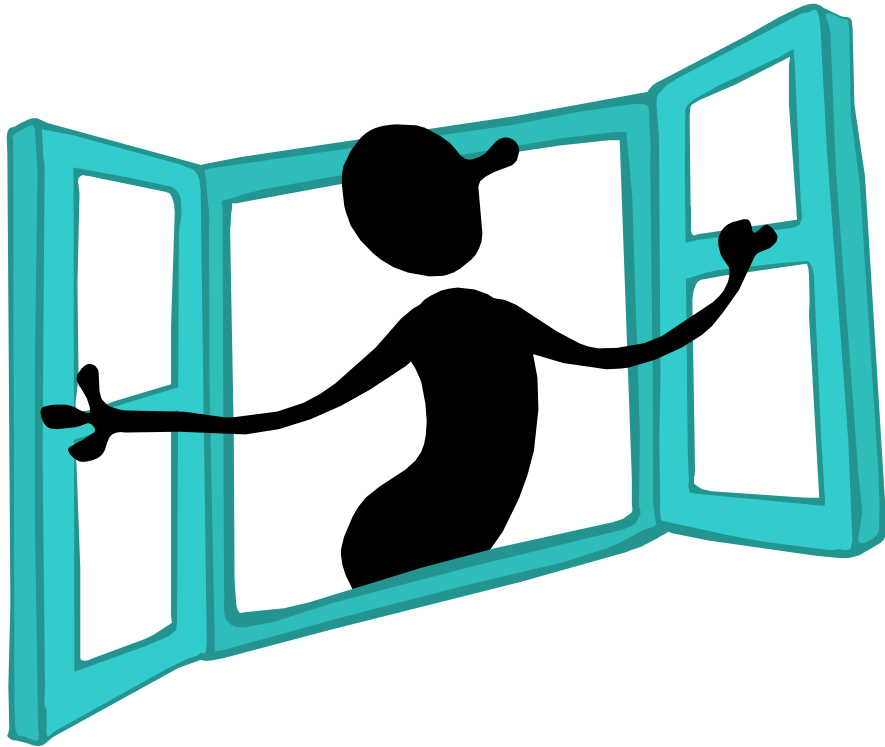


- A) Talking to any media
- B) Hiring a lawn service
- C) Driving in rush hour

Foster Parents must be especially careful when...

A) Talking to any media

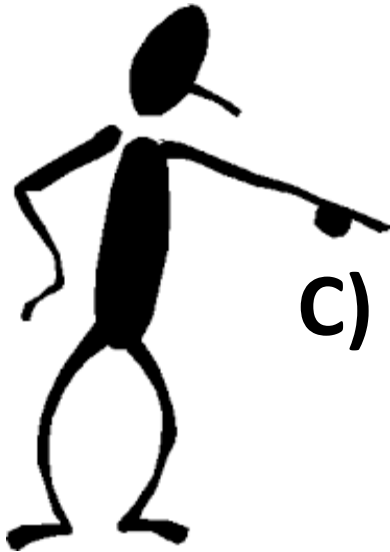




Foster parents
can share:

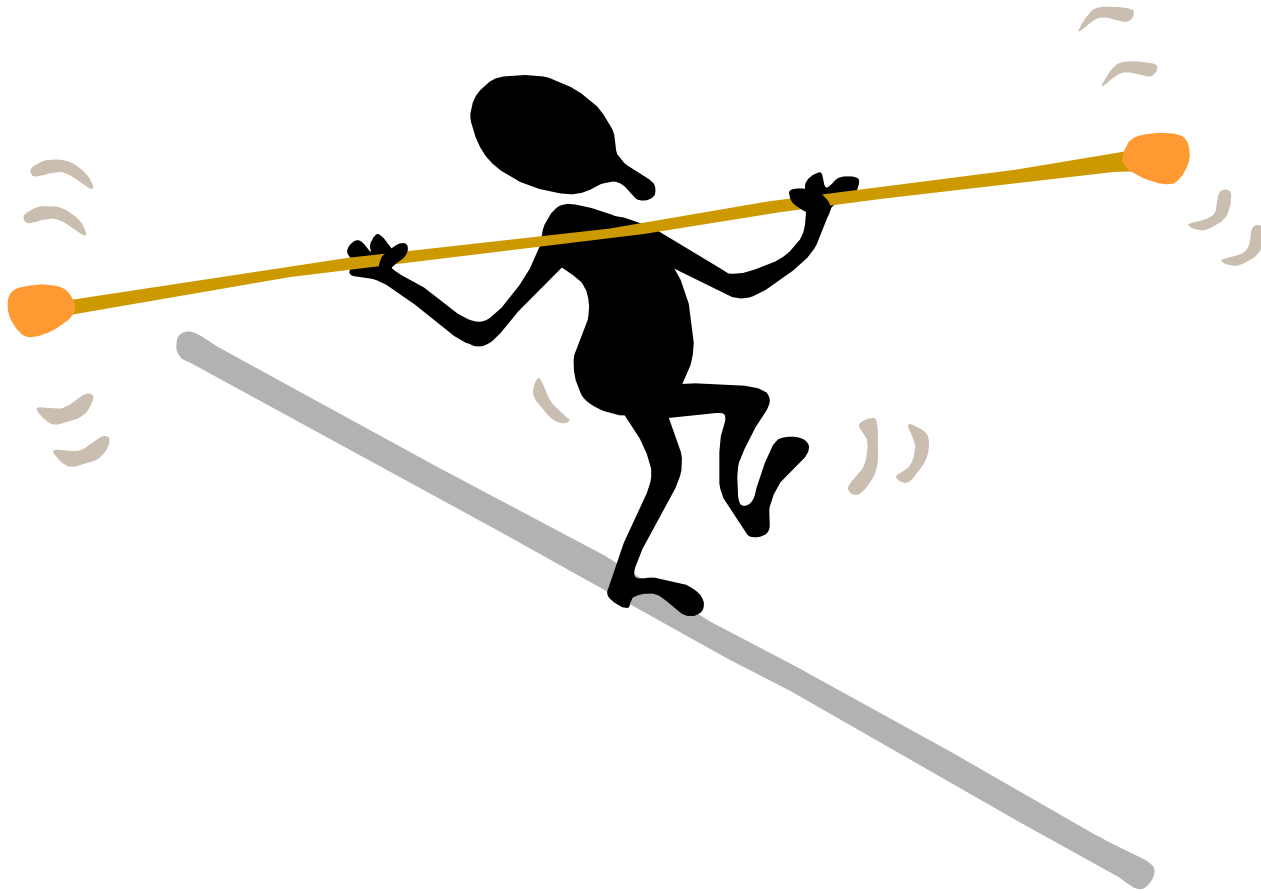
- A) The number times a child has been removed
- B) The number of siblings already adopted
- C) The phone number to the Foster Home Licensing office

Foster parents **can** share ...



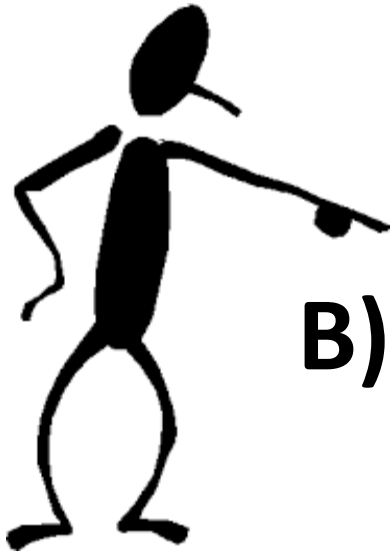
- C) The phone number to the Foster Home Licensing Office (*in Alaska, your foster care licensing office or the statewide phone number for foster care recruitment 1-800-478-7307*)

**Be
very careful not to**



- A) Look for adoptive parents for a child in your home
- B) Repeat confidential information in front of your children and their friends
- C) Wear mismatched socks

Be careful not to...



- B)** Repeat confidential information in front of your children and their friends

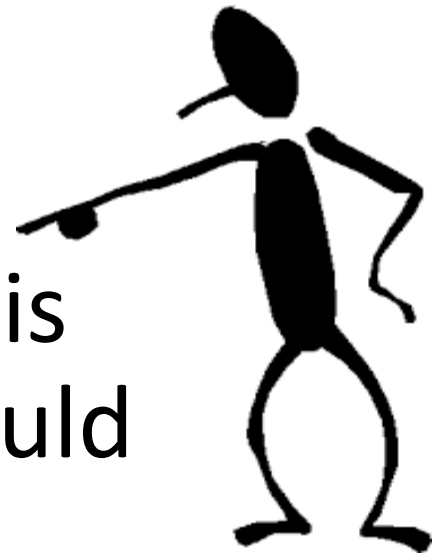
When thinking **confidentiality**, remember...

- A) Cut hot dogs into quarters to prevent choking
- B) Just because information is true doesn't mean it should be repeated
- C) Buckle up even on short trips

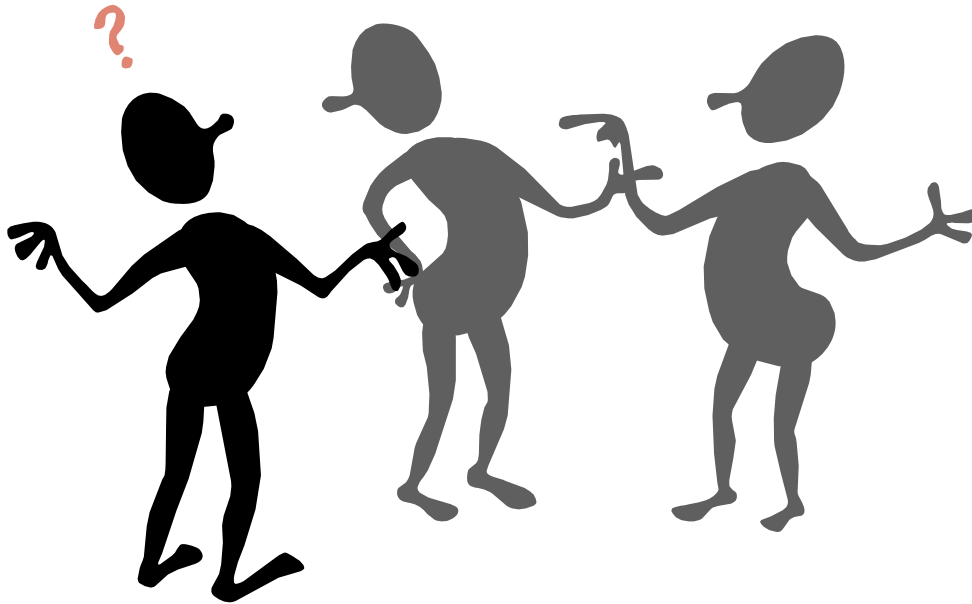


When thinking **confidentiality**,
remember...

B) Just because information is
true doesn't mean it should
be repeated



If you have questions about **confidentiality**, you can ask

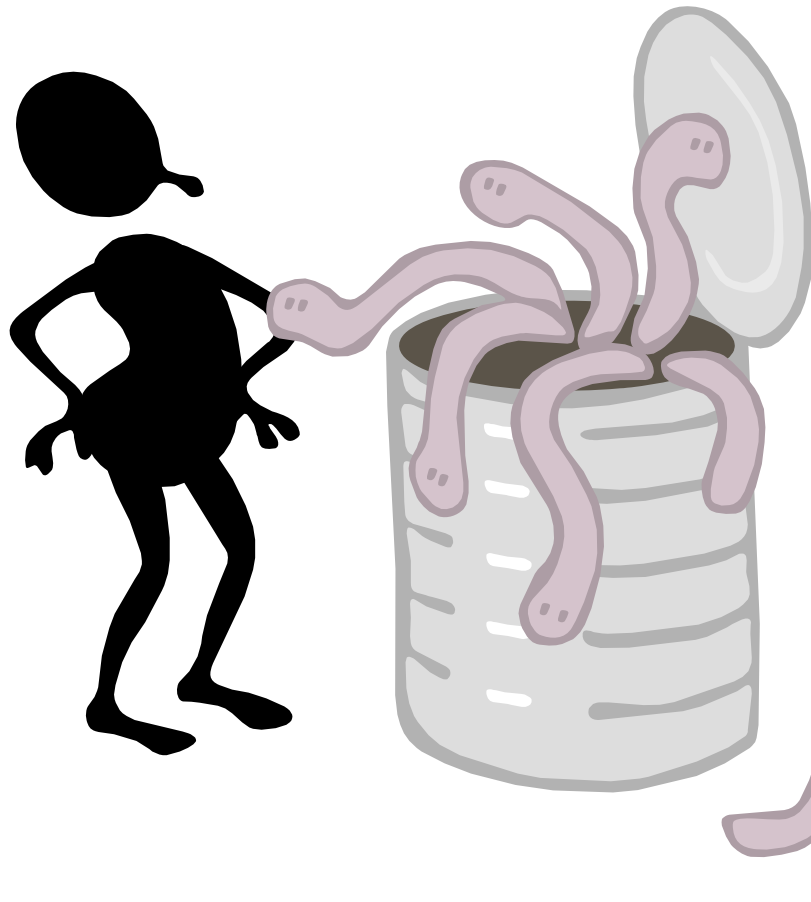


- A) Your neighbors
- B) Anyone in the Foster Home Licensing office
- C) Your boss

If you have questions about confidentiality, you can ask...

- B)** Anyone in the Foster Home Licensing Office (*or in Alaska, your licensing worker, or call the Alaska Center for Resource Families at 1-800-478-7307*)

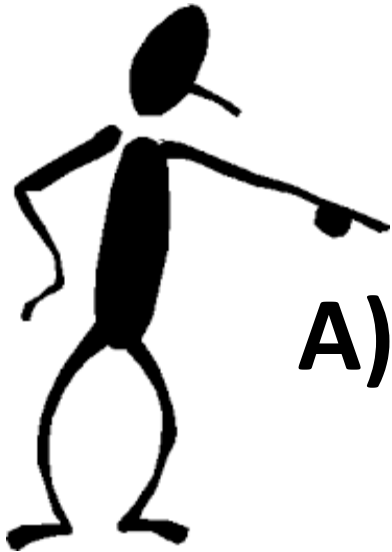




Breaking **confidentiality** is like:

- A) Opening a can of worms – gets out of control quickly
- B) Breaking the speed limit – everybody does it
- C) Breaking curfew – doesn't hurt anyone

Breaking **confidentiality** is like:



- A) Opening a can of worms—
gets out of control quickly

Alaska Foster Parents,
To Earn 1.5 Hours Training
Click the Link Below:

TEST