

## **Why Did She Do That?**

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Why did she do that? As I reflected on the prompt for the free write, I could not help but think about the letter I received in the mail. This letter was from the social service specialist. The letter was about the March 17<sup>th</sup> family decision meeting I had attended. It haunted me as it spoke of my inappropriate and rude behavior. The letter was very demeaning and spoke of things I do not remember.

Yes, I was disappointed with myself and my need to chatter. I had talked incessantly to the facilitator. Whatever caused me to do that? Or what was I thinking sitting by her? How stupid of me! Even though I knew she was typing the notes to the meeting I would not keep quiet!

I was so disappointed because my intentions were to observe and not participate. However, there I go again putting my foot in my mouth! What was I thinking saying I had found someone to be a mentor for Dakota? Why didn't I just keep this information to myself? Because the caseworker was very upset by my comment. Then what possessed me to remark on her disapproval! I knew I was doomed and I could expect to receive her wrath.

The day after this meeting, the social service specialist left a message on my answering machine. And I knew that it was trouble! She asked me to return her call. Did she think I was a fool? I had the feeling the call was concerning the meeting and I did not want to talk with her.

So I left her a message to call my brother and he could relay her comments to me I am sure that he believed everything she said about me (what brotherly support).

The letter spoke unkind and unnecessary comments. It was shaming and I felt very let down. You see, most of my childhood had experiences of shame.

Why did she say hurtful things about me? She could have just said that I could not come to meetings any more! Did all the things she said regarding my conduct make her feel better? Well, it made me feel humiliated!

My biggest disappointment is not following through on my promise not to participate. Yet, the most important is that I have acknowledged my mistake, and now I must move on.

Of course, I will stay out of the evil caseworker's reach! She has an arrogant attitude. Everything has to be her way or the highway. In addition, she has to humiliate with words. I wonder if she sees what is inefficient in her and uses others as her battering board.

The most important thing right now is not to stoop to her level. I need to accept that she has a place of authority and let her think that the letter will not be challenged. The greater person will be standing when all is said and done. I hope for that person to be me. Therefore, my prayer is to put my faith in God and to be still.

