

Case Vignettes in the Media: Clinical Problems and Social Work Connections for Clinical MSW Training (page 1 of 17)

Compiled by Professor Monit Cheung, University of Houston, 2016 to 2026

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YR	#	Identified Client (with media hyperlink)	Demographics (presumably, at the time of treatment)	Clinical Problems (written for practice purposes)	Social Work Connections	Event Year
16	1	Andrea Yates	F/42, Caucasian, divorced, 5 deceased children	Postpartum Depression, distorted perception, Paranoia	Lack of societal concern for female-specific mental disorders	2006
	2**	Caitlyn Marie Jenner	Transgender/66, 6 children from previous 3 marriages	Anxiety and gender dysphoria	Family's reaction to gender transition (from Bruce Jenner)	2015
	3	Ethan Couch	M/16, Caucasian	Avoidance, deflector, indifference to others' suffering	Underage drinking resulted in the death of four people	2013
	4**	Heba Mohamed	F/20, Syrian of the Muslim faith	Depressed, fearful, and anxious; acculturation stress.	Immigration adjustment issues; lack of services for immigrants	2015
	5	Kirby Taylor	M/67, Born in 1949, African American, Divorcee with one son (deceased).	PTSD with insomnia; Fear of being alone; nightmares, depression	Dealing with son's death and own injury due to fire set on their home by a trusted friend; blamed self for not being aware of friend's mental health problem	2016
	6	Oi Ho*	F/60, Asian American, divorced Mother of Park Ho, fictitious name	Depression, insomnia, Loss of appetite, anger	Cultural/Language barrier; determined to find and punish the random shooting killer of her son (Park Ho)	2015
	7	Rachel Dolezal	F/38, biologically Caucasian but identifies as African American, divorced with one son and custody of her adopted brother	Socially isolated	Encountering widespread criticism due to changing identity from Caucasian to African American	2015
	8	Sean Penn	M/55, White, divorced with one son and one daughter.	Anxiety, insomnia, feelings of failure, sadness	Met with a drug cartel leader from Mexico for a private interview about drug war policies. Paranoid that the Mexican government blamed him for the drug cartel leader's capture	2016
	9	Steven Avery	M/53, Caucasian, single with two daughters and three sons.	Paranoid; fearful of being arrested	Has trust issues due to a criminal sentence of 18 years in prison for a wrongful sexual assault conviction	2015
	10	Tatyana Phillips	F/ 18, African American, single, currently no	Depressed mood; grief and Loss	Medical malpractice led to child loss	2015

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			children after losing her newborn son			
17	11	Amanda Todd	F/15, Caucasian student	Depressed and anxious	Being bullied by peers for her naked pictures in cyberspace.	2012
	12	Dylann Storm Roof	M/22, Caucasian, single	Obsession with disdain and hatred feelings against African Americans	Mass shooting at a historically black church; dealing with Client's history of mental illness and white supremacy	2015
	13	Jenea Ann Mungia	F/ 23 years old, Born 1991, Hispanic, single with one child	Auditory and visual hallucinations	A domestic violence survivor with a history of psychiatric hospitalizations for postpartum psychosis was recently charged with seriously injuring her 4-year- old child	2015
	14	Philip Seymour Hoffman	M/46, Caucasian, married but separated, father of two daughters and a son	Depression, fear of being alone, physical conversion	Celebrity's personal struggles with drug addiction and family discord	2014
	15	Patricia (Trish) XX	F/31, Caucasian, an Appalachian, Divorced, mother of two girls	Drug addiction, Depression, and Anxiety	Living in poverty, an alienated family with a criminal record and incarceration. Wants to learn how to stay clean, get children back	2010
	16	Bobbi Kristina Brown	F/23, African American	Substance Abuse Issues after Mother's Death	Assuming Client is still living; Grieving about mother's (Whitney Houston) death, with societal pressure on perfectionism.	2015
	17	Tiffany Klapheke	F/23, military wife, Caucasian, married with 3 daughters, 1 deceased	Mental health disorders	With adverse childhood experiences, being charged for child neglect leading to child death, and a lack of mental health services	2014
	18	Geneva Reed- Veal	F/48, African American, single mother of five daughters	Grief for her daughter's recent death; feelings of guilt, anger, and insomnia	Daughter was wrongfully arrested; suspicious Suicide in jail cell	2015
	19	Micah Johnson	M/25, African American, single	Paranoia toward government entities; possible PTSD from military service	The police shooting was responsible for a mass shooting; concerned about oppression against African Americans	2016
18	20**	Flora Rranxburgaj	F/44, Caucasian (Albanian citizen), married, 2 sons	Depression, immigration adjustment, and stress	Deportation of the husband, who is the primary caregiver and financial support	2017

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	21	Danielle Hicks-Best	F/20, African American, single mother with a 4-year-old son	PTSD, Bipolar Disorder with psychotic features, Paranoia, drug abuse, child abuse, Suicide, ADHD	Raped by several people twice; maltreated by the criminal justice system	2015
	22	Jade Blouins	F/6, student, petite	Depression, stress, nervousness, Anxiety, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and Asperger syndrome; learning disability in written expression and language/speech fluency	Not received individualized services; lack of access to special education due to ineligibility	2018
	23	Gypsy Rose	F/26, Caucasian, single, mother deceased	Antisocial Personality Disorder	Medically abused by her mother, she murdered her mother after being medically abused for years	2018
	24	Dominique Bryant	F/17, African American, Foster Child since birth, Adopted once	Depression, lack of self-confidence	Aging out of foster care, adolescent homeless, limited access to resources	2017
	25	Jaycee Lee Dugard	F/37, Caucasian, two adult children	PTSD, child sexual abuse	Abducted and locked up for 18 years since 11 years old; raped and repeatedly beaten during these 18 years	2011
	26	Rosaura Urbina	F/43, Hispanic, married, 2 children; 1 of 2 deceased	PTSD, Depression, Anxiety	Teenage son was killed in a police-involved shooting; lack of early interventions for son with suicidal ideation	2017
	27	Salma Hayek Pinaluit	F/51, Hispanic, award-winning actress and filmmaker; one daughter	PTSD and Anxiety	Sexually abused by the film producer more than a decade ago	2017
	28	Larry Nassar	M/54 years old, Middle Eastern, divorced, 3 children	Pedophilia, Panic Disorder, and Depression	Lack of intervention regarding pedophilia; Suffered from Pedophilic Disorder since late teens and acted on his urges with hundreds of underage girls	2018
19	29	Osvaldo Samuel Choc-Ruiz	M/15, Guatemalan, UAC entered the US border and was apprehended near Hidalgo, Texas	Depression, Anxiety, suicidal ideation	Immigrated from Guatemala to US and was detained in an unaccompanied minor shelter for six months	2019
	30	Mike Faith	M/40?, veteran of 18 years at the Standing Rock tribal council and now councilman of the tribe	Anxiety, not being understood by others.	Advocacy about the oil spill from the Dakota Access Pipeline into Lake Oahe, a reservoir on the Missouri River where the Sioux tribe gets their drinking water	2017

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	31	Ruben Diaz	M/36, Hispanic	Schizophrenia, autism, criminal history, homicidal ideations	Being sentenced to jail for stabbing a 74-year-old male; Lack of mental health resources	2018
	32	Cyntoia Brown	F/30, African American	PTSD, Depression, fetal alcohol syndrome	Ran away from adoptive family, suffering intimate partner violence, sex trafficking, being charged for murdering a person who solicited for sex, served 15 years in prison: criminal justice system issue	2018
	33	Teresa Hamilton	F/17, Caucasian, homeless teen	Anxiety; Learning disability	Distant family relationships and lack of awareness and resources for mental health issues	2015
	34	Nery Caal	M/29, from Guatemala, married to Claudia Maquin, had 4 children, but one deceased	Anxiety; Depression; PTSD	Living in poverty in Guatemala, while immigrating to the US, the youngest daughter died on the journey because of a lack of care at the border	2018
	35	Kalief Browder	M/20, African American, single, no children	Depression; PTSD; suicidal ideation, delusions; paranoia	PTSD as a result of wrongful incarceration for three years; having a difficult time in re-civilization	2015
	36	Ray Rice	M/31, married to Janay, two children	Possible adverse childhood experiences	Arrested due to third-degree aggravated assault towards wife; Lack of mental health awareness	2014
	37	Faith Rodgers	F/21, African American, single, no children	PTSD, fear of the future	Intimate partner violence; sexually abused by a famous music artist	2018
	38	Cheryl Reed	F/32, African American, 2 abused children	Bipolar Disorder, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, PTSD symptoms not diagnosed	Abused and neglected in childhood, aged out of foster care, being charged for child neglect and abandonment after giving birth to the fifth child	2016
	39	Lavish "Diamond" Reynolds	F/28, African American, 1 child, Single	PTSD and Anxiety	Suffered from PTSD after Police gunned down boyfriend while their 4-year-old was at the scene; Trust issue with the criminal justice system	2016
	40	Christine Blasey Ford	F/52, Caucasian, married, 2 sons	Depression; PTSD; Disassociation	Allegations of being sexually assaulted by Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh during her high school years; Stigma against her for speaking the truth	2018
	41	Ana Carolina Fernandes	F/31, Latina (Brazilian origin), one five-year-old son, unmarried/separated	Depression and Anxiety	Immigration adjustment; Separated from son by the border patrol for 50 days; had concerns about son's emotions and behaviors	2018
20	42	Michelle Murphy	F/40, Caucasian, not married, 3 kids, 8 th -	Trauma Caused by Wrongful Incarceration	First-degree murder of her 15-week-old baby False confession, police misconduct	2014

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			grade education, became mom since age 15			
	43	Flor Turico	F/41, Central American, 3 kids;; cartel kidnaps attempts to murder her but escapes	PTSD, mental breakdown, and hospitalization	Introduction of alcohol, drugs, and the bar scene, forced sex' Flor becomes pregnant; a child is taken away; Human trafficking in the past leads to a mental breakdown	2019
	44	Sandra Sterling	F/60, Aunt of Alton Sterling (Black, M/37), raised Alton after his mother's death	Grieving, hypertension, and insomnia, PTSD, complicated grief, and depression	The loss of a loved one after the wrongful police shooting of Alton.	2019
	45	Chanel Miller	F/22, Chinese-Caucasian mixed, writer, posted as Emily Doe	Dealing with PTSD with Advocacy Effort against Hegemony on College Campus	Raped in 2015 at a fraternity party on the Stanford campus. "Know My Name" memoir published in September 2019; Victim Impact Statement	2019
	46	Robert Kelley	M/53, Black, musician	Unaddressed antisocial personality disorder and denial of child sexual abuse	Gained recognition in 1990 as a celebrity but was indicted for sexual contact with teen girls and recruiting women for sex. Denied wrongdoing in sex videos	2019
	47	Shawn Oakman	M/27, African American,	Depression and Anxiety after Rape Accusations	Sexually assaulted women and used "hunger" and "no money" as excuses for wrongdoing; after-effects of being labeled a rapist	2015
	48	Shanara Mobley	F/37 (birth mother of Kamayah Mobley, F/21), kidnapped 8 hrs after birth	Identity and Familial Confusion	Black kids are being kidnapped at a higher rate than white kids	2017
	49	Leticia Serrano	F/15, Latina, abducted by a stranger and stayed with him for 2 years; introvert	Suicidal Ideation and Substance Use; anxiety disorder; grieving the Loss of brother (and the abductor)	Assuming the Client was still alive after the abduction after the Quinceañera, concerned about the Human Trafficking Impact	2019

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	50	Sherry Johnson	F/58, Black, 6 kids, 2nd marriage separated in 2002 after 26 years of marriage	Seek faith-based support for advocacy work against child sexual abuse and child marriage	As a child raped by a church bishop, a deacon, and a stepdad Forced marriage as a Child Bride at 11	2019
	51	Korey Wise	M/47, African American, with learning disability and hearing loss	Moving Beyond Past Trauma and Dealing with PTSD	Wrongful conviction at age 16 and sentenced to serve 5-15 years in adult prison; Seek support to disseminate information about racism and coercion	2019
	52	Tarana Burke	F/46, African American, single mom with a 22-year-old daughter	Want to set up a community movement #MeToo to support and voice concerns about sexual trauma	Advocate of Resources and Safe Platforms for Sexual Assault Survivors Want to make sure girls (particularly minority girls) receive equal treatment	2019
	53	Channing Smith	M/16 Caucasian, Death by Suicide	Depression, Anxiety, stress, and humiliation	Cyberbullying of LGBTQ Youth Mental health issues/Support Groups of and for LGBTQ Youth Discrimination of LGBTQ Youth – D.A. did not pursue charges against the students who cyberbullied LGBTQ Youth	2019
	54	Shawn Pleasants	M/52, African-American, married, homosexual, no children.	Depression, drug addiction, unresolved grief	Homelessness problems for 10 years with co-occurring mental health issues; services are not accessible or available	2019
	55	Stephen Paddock	M/66, Caucasian, divorced x2, no known children, oldest of 4 brothers, father was a bank robber	Bipolar, Depression, Paranoia; Substance misuse and gambling addiction; OCD with guns	Stephen Paddock killed 58 people on October 1, 2017, from his hotel room. He injured over 850 others; he did not seem to have any previous treatment.	2019
	56	Keith Thomas Kinnenun	M/43, White male gunman in a recent church shooting	Depression and paranoid personality disorder	Unresolved trauma, extreme mental health and substance use problems; criminal impact on employment opportunities, access to welfare resources, and parental involvement; inconsistency of services for the homeless Oppression of those living in poverty, witness of gun violence	2019

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	57	Nikolas Jacob Cruz	M/19, Caucasian, adopted, then orphaned	ADHD, Depression, developmental delays, OCD, and oppositional defiant	Medical neglect and harm alerts: a mass shooting and its impact on high school students	2018
	58	Botham Jean	M/26, African American from St. Lucia. Killed by a Caucasian's female police officer.	PTSD, Depression, Alleged drug use	Unwarranted and unjustifiable police brutality against African Americans. Mistrust of police officers; criminalize the victim	2019
	59	Omar Mateen	M/29, Afghan American, divorced	Perceived "Mentally unstable /Mentally ill"; Domestic Violence on wife	The tragedy may have been a result of resentment of his own sexuality. Several classmates assumed that Mateen was a closeted gay man.	2016
	60	Patrick Crusius	M/21, Caucasian, college student who moved out of grandparents' house 6 weeks before shooting.	Loner, rare social interaction, irritable and short-tempered, bullied	The effect of school bullying; Lack of resources for immigrants.	2019
	61	Demi Lovato	F/28, Singer, mixed race	Binge-eating and self-harm since age 12; father's mental health problems; bipolar disorder; drug overdose and addiction relapse	Lack of coping skills; fight against stigma; constant co-occurring disorder struggle unresolved	2018
	62	AJ Armstrong	M/20, African American, teenager accused of killing his parents	Grief and loss, legal issues, accused of a crime he did not commit, spent teen years in jail.	Mental health disparities; disparities in the criminal justice system	2019
	63	Aaron Hernandez	M/28, Hispanic, Engaged, father	Brain damage with chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), Depression	Childhood trauma and stigma on sexual identity; judgment problems due to brain injuries	2019
	64*	Gypsy Rose	F/27, Caucasian, single, mother deceased	Severe child and adult abuse; possible borderline personality	Childhood trauma caused by a mental illness of mother's imposing Munchausen syndrome by proxy (now called "factitious disorder imposed on another" FDIA) and faking her disabilities and cancer; current mental illness defiance disorder; accused of killing her mother with her boyfriend to escape from mother's control	2019
21 H	65	Chrystul Kizer	F/19 - Trial for the murder of M/34	PTSD, self-harm, and harm to others	-Trafficking -Criminal Justice System	2019

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	66	Chester Bennington	M/41- White, Married, Father of six, Suicide by hanging,	Suicide (with a focus on prevention?) Substance Abuse, Depression, childhood trauma.	Family and friends were unaware of the warning signs. Repeated relapse after being sober for several years. Had no mental health treatment	2017
	67	Lisa Montgomery	F/52 EXECUTED by lethal injection	mental illness, childhood trauma, childhood abuse	death penalty (executing people with mental illness)	2021
	68	Mya Ponsetto	F/22 -Caucasian and Puerto Rican; Arrested for assaulting a teen	Substance use disorder; Alcohol use disorder; Aggressive disorder; Paranoid	Mental Health access and bias against needs.	2020
	69	Kyle Rittenhouse	M/17, Caucasian, single, no children, no known history of medical conditions/medications	-mental illness -homicidal ideations	Shooting occurred in Kenosha, WI, on August 25, 2020: Facing charges of first-degree intentional homicide, first-degree reckless homicide, and attempted first- degree intentional and reckless homicide. -criminal justice system; gun control reform	2020
	70	Misty Upham	F/32, Native American, single, no children (one pregnancy lost), history of sexual assault & rape.	Mental Illness, childhood trauma, rape, PTSD, Substance abuse	--Rape and sexual assault victimization. -Heavy reliance on medication for Client -Lack of intervention for suicidal ideations -Lack of early intervention for trauma.	2014
	71	James E. Holmes:	M/33, Caucasian, single, no children (crime was committed when he was 24)	- Suicide attempts - Visual hallucinations - Homicidal ideations: Perpetrator of the 2012 Aurora, Colorado shooting - Borderline Personality Disorder DX	- Lack of early intervention mental health treatment that could have prevented the shooting. - Ignored warning signs by family/ friends/ and mental health professionals - Repeated inpatient hospitalizations leading up to shooting w/o hospital commitment - Calculated/ planned mass shooting at movie theater (Killed 12 people/ injured 70)	2012 - 2020
	72	Walter Wallace	M/27, African American, married, father of 9 children, taking lithium and a mood stabilizer.	-3 days before the shooting, the client was admitted to a Crisis Center -Violent psychological episodes Shooting occurred in Philadelphia on October 26, 2020	-Excessive force by Police (14 shots fired) - Lack of Mental Health resources used by the Philadelphia PD (Crisis Intervention trained officers/ de- escalation training and improving coordination with mental health specialists)	2020

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	73	Yovahnis Roque	M/26, Caucasian single father; living with his mother	Delusional thoughts, Paranoia, possible traumatic brain injury, possible PTSD; Injured in the accident that killed his daughter's mother; Later killed his 2-year-old daughter with a hammer	Lack of access to mental health services; Client's mother obtained a mental health warrant for him	2019
	74	Pearl Fernandez	F/34, Hispanic, mother of three	Severe child abuse leads to child death. Diagnoses: depressive disorder, developmental disability, possible personality disorder, possible posttraumatic stress disorder, and homophobia Pearl and her boyfriend abused her 8-year-old son to the point of death.	No departmental intervention even after CPS was called several times. Child suffered 8 months of extreme abuse. The school system did not follow up with the child to determine when he stopped attending school. Allowing the parent to state that he moved with other relatives, with no proof.	2013
	75	Dimitrios Pagourtzis	M/ 17, at the time of shooting. HS student	Depression, Intermittent Explosive Disorder, Personality Disorder	Premeditated school shooting and Suicide (did not complete suicide plans). Charged with capital murder; punishable by death or life without parole. Confined to cell 23 hrs out of the day.	2020
21 O	76	FKA Twigs	F/33, Biracial, Single, Actor/Singer, UK	PTSD, trauma-related Depression	Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Abuse	2020
	77	James Holmes	M/25/Caucasian, graduate student	Homicidal ideations, suicidal ideations, Schizotypal personality disorder	Held in isolation; Planned homicide: was found to be sane at the time of shooting despite known mental illness and instability before the incident	2015
	78	William Rick Singer	M/58, Caucasian, Divorced	Obsessive-Compulsive Personality Disorder, Histrionic Personality Disorder, Narcissism, Depression	Charged with Racketeering conspiracy, money laundering conspiracy, conspiracy to defraud the US, and obstruction of law.	2019
	79	Jeffrey Epstein	M/66, Caucasian, single,	Pedophilia and Depression	Sex trafficking and child abuse	2019
	80	Gabriel Fernandez	M/8, Hispanic, Palmdale, California	Depression, Anxiety	Child Neglect. Child Abuse	2020
	81	Kanye West	M/43, BLK Music Artist and Fashion Designer	Bipolar Disorder, self-doubt	Publicly misrepresents BLK historical facts about slavery, which is harmful to the legacy and legitimacy of African Americans' contributions in America.	2020

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	82	Johnny Depp	M/57, Caucasian, single, Actor	Alcohol Use Disorder, Substance Use Disorder, Depression, ADHD	Domestic Violence, lack of societal concern for male victims	2016 - 2020
	83	Gianna Floyd George Floyd's daughter	F/6, African American	Depression, Trauma, PTSD, nightmares	Disproportionately more people of color were killed by Police	2020
22 H	84	Wanda Cooper Jones	F/50 African American, married, mother of Ahmaud Arbery	PTSD, Depression	Profiling, modern-day lynching; lack of mental health support.	2020 - 2021
	85	Gloria Williams	F/35 African American, 6 children	Homicide/DV/abandonment of children	Lack of mental health support, lack of domestic violence assistance, and the CPS investigation procedure may have failed to save one child Kendrick Lee	2021
	86	Dominick Tricoche	M/29, Bi-racial: Caucasian/African American, single, former Capitol Police Officer	PTSD with Depression	Lack of mental health support for police officers, explicitly following traumatic events such as the January 6 Capitol attack.	2021
	87	Clayton Osteen	M/24, Caucasian, married, former sheriff's deputy, father	suicide, stress	Lack of support for men's mental health and law enforcement officers and their families.	2022
	88	Gabby Petito	F/22, Caucasian, fiancé Brian Laundrie	PTSD, Anxiety, OCD, partner violence (physical); at risk of extreme Violence	Violence against women, lack of domestic violence assistance, and lack of mental health services	2021
	89	Mayra Guillen	F/24, Younger sister of Vanessa Guillen, murdered by another soldier while serving in the military.	PTSD, Depression, and grief	Sexual harassment in the military, Violence against women	2020
	90	Jordan Turpin	F/21, Caucasian, abused and kept captive by her parents for years	PTSD, Depression, Anxiety	Child Abuse and Neglect	2018

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	91	Ethan Crumbly	M/15, Caucasian, School shooter, Son of James and Jennifer Crumbly	Depression, Homicidal ideations, Antisocial Personality	Gun control, School Negligence, Parental Negligence, Lack of mental health support	2021
	92	Daisy Hohman	F/37, Caucasian, Parent to three children: two girls and a boy	Unspecified addiction, grief, adjustment disorder, family disruption due to separation	Poverty contributes to family separation	2021
	93	Pearl Fernandez	F/35, Hispanic American, Mother of Gabriel Fernandez	Depression, Anxiety	Child Abuse & Neglect	2021
	94	Jennifer Moston	F/40 Caucasian, abused by her husband, four children,	Scared and fearful	Spouse abuse and lack of trust among abused women	2016
22 O	95	Jordan Turpin	F/22, Caucasian	Depression, Anxiety, PTSD	17 years of child abuse and neglect amongst herself and 12 siblings from parents living in inhumane conditions; failed systems; social media coverage	2022
	96	Britney Spears	F/40, Caucasian	Depression, Anxiety, potentially other mood disorders TBD	Movement to reform legal guardianship; Public information released, and the #FreeBritney movement begins	2022
	97	Gabby Petito	F/22, Caucasian	Anxiety, OCD	domestic dispute was mishandled and mislabeled by the responding police force.	2022
	98	Deysi Diaz	F/35*, Hispanic, Married, 2 children.	Depression, Anxiety, trauma	Elder son, beaten as a baby at a daycare facility, has brain damage and disability; Developmental Disabilities, Systemic Abuse, and Discrimination	2016
	99	Aly Raisman	F/27, Caucasian (Jewish and Romanian)	Posttraumatic stress disorder, Anxiety	USA Gymnastics team hired Nassar despite continued sexual abuse allegations since 1992; Department of Justice chose not to prosecute the former FBI agents involved in the mishandled investigation.	2021
	100	Kyle Beach	M/31, Caucasian	Depression, PTSD, anger, Anxiety, dissociation, fear of stigma, and public retaliation	Sexual assault prevention has not been incorporated into major men's sports leagues	2021
	101	Karen, Mother of the Wisconsin Girl	F/39, Caucasian	Childhood trauma, Intermittent Explosive Disorder	Mental illness assessments often cannot be assessed in children until they reach a certain age	2021

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For updates, visit: <https://uh.edu/socialwork/academics/cwep/title-iv-e/> (*Note: In some cases, the Identified Client may be changed to someone else in the case with a fictitious name.)

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	102	Andrew Cunanan	M/27, Filipino-American and Caucasian (Italian)	substance-related disorders, potential antisocial personality disorder, histrionic personality disorder	Homophobia; lack of support for single-mother households	2020
	103	Ethan Crumbley	M/15, Caucasian, Oxford High Schooler	Depression, Anxiety, stress	Increased need for counselors and behavioral health services for students during the pandemic	2021
	104	Huwe Burton	M /48, African American	Grief, Depression, PTSD; Dealing with past trauma	Imprisoned for crimes the Client did not commit.	2019
	105	Genene Jones	F/71, Caucasian, adopted, LVN, multiple marriages, 2 children	PTSD, Histrionic personality disorder, factitious disorder, possible sexual disorder	The rarity of histrionic (1.8 % of the population) and Munchausen by proxy (1 percent); the Client's personal requests for a bible were rejected	2019
	106	Sarah Beam	F/41, Caucasian, teacher, mother, Texan)	Pandemic fatigue, pandemic fear, collective trauma, Anxiety	Criminalization of parents in front of children; Empathy for the parent versus strict protection of the child	2022
	107	Evan Rachel Wood	F/34, Caucasian	Long-term PTSD, Depression, addiction, agoraphobia, night terrors, self-harm, two previous suicide attempts	Stigma of IPV; Advocacy for LGBTQ+ community and sexual assault/IPV legislation	2021
23 O	108	Vanessa Guillen's Mother (Gloria Guillen)	F/age of death 20, Mexican American Mother as Client: F/46, Mexican	Sexually harassed, murdered, missing	Vanessa was beaten to death after being twice sexually harassed by her killer. (Protection order was not in place?)	2020
	109	Jeannette McCurdy	F/30, Caucasian	Eating disorder, codependence, relationship problems, and mental illness	Physical and emotional abuse inflicted by a parent. Mental illness, religion, and associated stigma prevented the parent from seeking treatment, which negatively impacted the Client.	2022
	110	STEPHEN 'TWITCH' BOSS's wife Allison Holker	F/34, Asian American	Traumatic grief	Mental health awareness and suicide prevention	2022
	111	Emma Dalmayne	F/47 Ethnicity/Race not disclosed	Domestic Violence: physical, mental, and emotional abuse; lack of access due to disability	Intimate partner violence awareness and prevention. Increasing access to care for people who are disabled	2021

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	112	Ghislaine Maxwell	F/61, Caucasian	Sex trafficker, Narcissistic, Behavior Disorder, infantile anorexia	Sex Trafficking of minors, sexual abuse, and exploitation of minors	2021
	113	Megan Thee Stallion	F/27, African American	Victim Blaming	Highlights Violence against a woman of color whose victimhood has been blindsided and deflected from by her sexuality and perceived lack of femininity.	2021
	114	Tyre Nichols , mother of RowVaughn Wells	F/N/A African American	Grief and Loss, Police brutality	During a traffic stop, Nichols was brutally beaten by 5 police officers. Coverage was limited due to the swift action of Memphis Police, who fired the police officers involved after video coverage was seen.	2023
	115	Hilary Tompkins	F/54, American Indian	Issues of identity, grief	Adopted by white parents due to the Indian Adoption Project of the 60s and 70s, she did not know about her Navajo identity growing up. Several states are currently attempting to roll back the Indian Child Welfare Act, designed to prevent what happened to her.	2022
	116	Rafael Ruiz	M/24; Hispanic	Depression, Anxiety, PTSD	Wrongly convicted of first-degree rape, sodomy, robbery, and sexual abuse. After seven years, the individual was eligible for parole but was denied due to refusing to admit to the crime.	2020
	117	Ezra Miller	M/30, Caucasian, pronouns they/them	Gender identity, Depression, Anxiety	Actor has shown “erratic” behavior over the course of several years – theft, burglary, and a choking incident. He has a history of Violence, aggression, and coercing young admirers. In his childhood, he was known to burn, break things, yell, and hit things.	2011 - 2023
23 H	118	Brandon Tsay	M/26, Asian	PTSD, Anxiety, trauma, Sleeping issues	Survivor of a mass shooting, gun violence, and a victim of a crime—overwhelming feelings of overtaking the gunman, public spotlight, etc.	2023
	119	Ellen Gilland	F/76, Caucasian	PTSD, Anxiety, Guilt, Depression, Grief,	Quality of life, assisted Suicide, right to euthanasia. Gilland was arrested for killing her 77-year-old terminally ill husband in a homicide in a hospital.	2023
	120	Melissa V. Jefferson “Lizzo”	F/34 Black	Depression, Anxiety, Body Image	A famous full-figured female singer, as part of the body-positive movement, has received both shaming and	2019

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For updates, visit: <https://uh.edu/socialwork/academics/cwep/title-iv-e/> (*Note: In some cases, the Identified Client may be changed to someone else in the case with a fictitious name.)

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					positive feedback regarding her ideas about body positivity.	
	121	Richard Fierro	M/45, Hispanic	PTSD, trauma, Anxiety	Fierro, a military veteran, disarmed a shooter at an LGBTQ+ nightclub while attending a drag performance by his daughter's friend.	2022
	122	RowVaughn Wells	F/50?, Black	PTSD, Anxiety, Depression	Mother of Tyre Nichols, a 29-year-old Black man who died after a violent encounter with Memphis police officers following a traffic stop. Excessive use of police brutality and disproportionate impact on the Black community.	2023
	123	Stephen Burkes	M/27. Black	Depression, PTSD, Grief, Bipolar	Shot his mother and killed her fiancé. He is the brother of Delano Burkes, the missing male found dead in November 2022; there is a lack of awareness of helping family survivors of the death of a high-profile person.	2023
	124	Sullivan Walter	M/53, Black	Posttraumatic stress disorder, Anxiety, Depression	Sullivan Walter, a 53-year-old black man, was released from a correctional facility 36 years after a wrongful conviction of home-invasion rape.	2022
	125	Justin Go Michelle Alyssa Go's father	Father: M/65?), Asian Daughter (40, died of subway violence)	Grief, violent/traumatic death, complicated mourning, Depression	Lack/limited access to mental health services for the homeless population living in the New York Subway station	2022
	126	Paul & Sarah Castro	M/40? Hispanic F/38? Hispanic	F: Rage PTSD Anger & M: grief, remorse, Depression	Racism, implied disregard/conflict, road rage, possible SUD, 17-year-old son's death due to road rage	2022
	127	Dana Jones	F/61, Black	Anxiety, depression, PTSD, sleep concerns	Climate change and environmental issues, housing, poverty, and lack of mental health resources for people of color	2022
	128	Bryan Kohberger	M/28, White	Anxiety, Depression, Drug Abuse, Premeditated crime	28-year-old male snuck into a home shared by college students and stabbed 4 of them to death. We will focus on drug abuse and mental health issues	2022
	129	Brittney Griner	F/32, African American (mother of Latin American descent)	Anxiety, Depression, Anger, Trauma, PTSD, Dissociation	American WNBA Player, 32, was detained in Russia for carrying a small amount of cannabis oil. She was found guilty and given a harsher sentence than others	2022

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					convicted of equivalent crimes and sent to Russia's worst prison. The ruling appeared politically motivated, and President Joe Biden said she was wrongfully detained.	
	130	Salvador Ramos	M/18, Hispanic	Signs of aggression, angry outbursts, and isolation	A young 18-year-old male legally purchased firearms before the school shooting—also, gun violence and restrictions.	2022
20 23 FO	131	Pete Davidson	M/29, Caucasian	Borderline Personality Disorder, PTSD during childhood, Depression, Substance abuse disorder.	Compared to other mental health disorders, Borderline Personality Disorder is most likely to be misdiagnosed, especially in males. BPDs are less likely to ask for help due to stigma. Advocating for research on childhood PTSD and treatments.	2023
	132	Kristen Bell	F/43/Caucasian	Depression, Anxiety	Open with the public about struggles with mental health; Stigma for women seeking mental health treatment and medication management; Partnering with “Hers” (an NGO) as a mental health ambassador, geared toward female mental health treatment without stigma.	2023
	133	Meghan Markle, Duchess of Sussex	F/42/Biracial	Depression, Anxiety, Suicidality	Stigmatization around mental health and seeking treatment. Lack of support/knowledge regarding mental health support. Concerns about image.	2023
	134**	Will Smith	M/55, African American	Anxiety, PTSD	Struggles with relationships while being an African-American celebrity—intergenerational patterns of behavior and PTSD.	2023
	135	Majid Khan	M/42, Pakistani	Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	Guantanamo Bay Prison, unethical treatment, and unlawful punishment (i.e., social isolation).	2023
	136	Melissa Towne	F/37, Caucasian, Mother of 4	Schizoaffective Disorder, Bipolar history of denying mental health and safety training	The case highlights the importance of proper investigation of child abuse/neglect. Towne has had a long history with CPS but has not lost custody of one child.	2022
	137	Lori Vallow	F/50/White/ married/ mother of 3	Schizoaffective Disorder, Bipolar Type	Child abuse/neglect, homicidal ideation, intimate partner violence, lack of mental health support, and early interventions (Killed children in 2019; convicted in 2023).	2023
	138	Simone Biles	F/26, African American	ADHD, PTSD, Anxiety	African American gymnast was sexually abused by gymnastics coach Larry Nassar—a movement to speak out about sexual abuse, especially in the sports community and among women of color.	2021

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	139	Selena Gomez	F/31, single, White Mexican/Italian American	Bipolar Disorder, Anxiety, Psychotic Disorder	Dealing with mental illness while life has been in public view, fighting her illness with stigma on hospitalization due to Lupus.	2022
	140	Jada Pickett Smith	F/52, Black, separated from spouse, 2 adult children, and 1 adult step-child	Depression, Anxiety, & suicide ideation; Childhood trauma (mother had substance abuse issues).	Celebrity's struggle with social and cultural stigma: vilification of black women in the media and society. Misogynoir (intersectionality), discrimination, and impact on mental health.	2023
	141	Alex Murdaugh	M/55, Caucasian	Depression, Narcissistic Personality Disorder, Opioid Use Disorder	Murdered wife and youngest son to conceal various financial and violent crimes - Classism	2021
20 23 FH	142	Chloe Cole	F/19, Mixed race, American nationality, ethnicity/race undisclosed	Gender dysphoria, SA victim, suicidal ideation, autism, ADHD, depressed	Opposes gender-affirming care for minors and supports bans on such care following her own detransition.	2022
	143	Carlee Russell	F/25, African American	Attention-seeking, personality disorder, pathological lying	Missing African American women/girls, kidnapping hoax, the lack of attention from the media on missing Black women/girls, media exploitation, criminal justice	2023
	144	Azealia Banks	F/32, Black, single	Bipolar Disorder, suicidal ideation, PTSD, childhood abuse, domestic abuse, anger management issues	Intimate partner violence, media discrimination against Black women, mental health stigma, cancel culture	2020
	145	Rory Ward JR	M/33, African American	Bipolar and Schizophrenia	Mental Health and Policing, Care and Welfare System, Inmate Health Rights	2021
	146	Alyson Stoner	F/27/Caucasian	PTSD, Anorexia Nervosa, childhood sexual abuse	Child's rights, childhood grooming, discrimination based on sexual orientation	2023
	147	Amber Heard	F/37 White/Caucasian	Borderline Personality Disorder; Histrionic Personality Disorder; PTSD	-Intimate Partner Violence -Bias against women and a silencing of their experiences -Perpetuation of the 'perfect victim' myth.	2022
	148	Josh Duggar	M/35 White/Caucasian	Narcissistic personality disorder, Addiction, Paraphilic Disorders	-Sexual Abuse of Children, Violence against children, Protected by church and community in AK, Active participant of a religious-like cult (IBLP) fundamentalist.	2002 - 2023
	149	Jill Duggar Dillard	F/32 White/Caucasian	Generalized Anxiety, Depression, and signs of PTSD, SA survivor	Spiritual abuse, sexism, Violence against women, white Christian supremacy, revictimization, child exploitation, Parentification of children	2003 - 2023
	150	Richard Rojas	M/32/Hispanic	PTSD, Addiction, Schizophrenia	Transitional resources for post-military, Increased access to preventative mental health care, Safer drug reform laws, Safety vs confidentiality	2017 - 2023

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	151	Philip Chism	M/14 African American	Unspecified Schizophrenia Spectrum and other psychotic disorders.	The discrediting of mental illness, the media misportrayal of the suspect, and the prosecution of a teen as an adult.	2013 2023
	152	Carl Lentz	M//44 Caucasian	Anxiety, Depression, SA victim, Addiction	Labor Exploitation, Discrimination, Abuse of power in a church setting, cover-up of sexual abuse in church	2010 - 2023
	153	Michael Oher	M/37 African American	Attachment Disorder, Abandonment, Childhood Trauma, PTSD	Food Insecurity, Custody/Rights, Homelessness, Addiction (mother), Racism	2005 - 2023
	154	Jeffrey Dahmer	M/34 White/Caucasian	Borderline personality disorder, schizotypal personality disorder, and psychotic disorder	Anti- BIPOC and Anti- LGBTQ. Discrimination against these vulnerable populations.	2020 - 2023
	155	Alex Murdaugh's son , Buster	M/29 White/Caucasian	Alex: Substance use, antisocial personality disorder	Alex: White supremacy, privilege, child neglect, gun violence, intimate partner violence, familicide, fraud against undocumented immigrants, and others	2019 - 2023
	156	Kanye West	M/46 African American	Bipolar Disorder	Mental Health Stigma in the African American Community	2016 - 2023

YR=presentation year (H=Hybrid Class; O=Online Class) F=Fall; S=Spring

Event year=the year when the issue was brought out (first time or the year current/recent discussions were found)

*Media case repeated: with a different mental health or social work focus.

**Cases chosen for a Spring 2025 class.