



LAES has developed a series of immigrant issue instructional modules entitled "Tierra de Oportunidad" for orientation to our complex society.

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Post Module 23 Activity Parenting in the United States

#### Instructions:

Hillary Clinton writes "It takes a village to raise a child." You are in the village where three troublesome situations have arisen in families with whom you have strong ties. You have influence with these families; and you can help. They have asked you to advise them. Please select one of the three problem situations to focus upon, place a check next to the one you selected, discuss the issues in your group, and give us your advice on how to handle the situation in the form of responses to the 10 questions under the heading labeled Advice Requested.

#### Problem situations

- **Situation 1.** The child is about 13 and is a boy. Lately, he has friends that you, the parents, don't like. For example, the friends don't get good grades at school and often are in trouble with their teachers. The son has come home very late a few times recently and won't tell his parents where he has been or what he was doing. You suspect these new friends use drugs and drink a lot. The parents are upset about this and don't know what to do. The mother always wants to take the son's side during discussions they've had; the father ends up in a confrontation with the son; and feels they cannot talk to each other. They have asked you for help.
- **Situation 2.** Your friend's child, a girl who is 15 years old, wants to go away on a school sponsored trip to a state park. The trip is for 4 days and boys and girls will be going together. The father says she cannot go. The mother also is afraid to let her go, but can see how much her daughter wants to take the trip. They have asked you to mediate between the concerns of the mother, father and daughter.
- **Situation 3.** Your friend's son, a boy 14 years old, was invited to participate in a Quinceañera. He accepted. The event is in one week. Now he has decided it's "not cool" and says he isn't going to participate. The mother is very concerned that the son go, as he said he would. The father is less concerned and has given this message to the son. How can you help the family resolve this problem amicably?

#### Advice requested

1. What is the nature of the problem as you see it?
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2. Where, if at all, does culture come in-the child's culture and/or the parents' culture?

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3. What are ways you would recommend to teach the child about community culture, what it means to you and what it could mean to them?

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4. What can you say to the parents to help them address the problem in a consistent manner?

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5. Is disciplining the child appropriate here? If so, why and how would you recommend they do it?

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6. Is the child's self-esteem at issue here? If so, why do you think so and how would you recommend supporting the child?

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7. Are there resources in the community outside the family, like the school, the library, other community members, that might be helpful to bring into the problem solution, especially over the long term? If so, what are they, and how could they help support your solution to the problem?

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8. In summary, what would you recommend (to the mother, father, or child) to solve the problem?

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9. Specifically, these parents could try to spend some more time with their children this week or weekend, what should they and what should they say about the problem they are having?

a. How should they select the time to spend together?

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b. What should they do together, any special activities?

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c. Should they talk about the problem they are having? If so, what kinds of things should they say?

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10. Did you benefit from your work on this module regarding any of the following:

<b>For example, in your ability to</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Please comment on either: &lt; How you benefited; or &lt; Why you feel this module was not useful for you in this area</b>
a. understanding and developing strategies for better support for families, parenting, or community networks?		
b. your ability to analyze a complex situation from a variety of different perspectives?		
c. how to mediate or negotiate among different problem perspectives to find a workable solution?		
d. how to talk to a child or an adult if they come to you upset about something?		
e. how to get information about new or existing resources to help solve problems?		
f. your ability to explain a sensitive situation, in English?		
g. your ability to write in English about a complex situation?		
h. your ability to understand what someone means when they are explaining a complex situation, in English?		
i. Communication skills, in general?		

j. Anything else? Is there some other way in which the work you have done on this module may have impact on you, positive or negative? Please tell us about it.

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*A project of the California Department of Education, Youth, Adult and Alternative Educational Services Division, funded by contract #4213 of the Federal P.L. 100-297, Section 353 with California State University Institute and Hacienda LaPuente USD. However, the content does not necessarily reflect the position of that unit or of the U.S. Office of Education. 1997*