

## Cultural Diversity Case Analysis Assignment

Racial and ethnic minorities are expected to reach 40% of the US population by the year 2030. The US population is growing more diverse daily. Cultural diversity relates to the differences that people present and the knowledge about such differences. These differences can occur in demographic characteristics (gender, age), socioeconomic characteristics (education, occupation), and other variables. Cultural competence is an individual's ability to honor and respect these beliefs, interpersonal styles, attitudes and behaviors of the clients/families). It is critical that genetic counselors be familiar and comfortable with interacting, supporting and helping families to problem solve and make decisions. In addition, you have social, professional and life experiences that provide insight into cultural influences on people's behaviors, values and decision making.

Use previous instruction and exercises regarding cultural diversity and competence, as well as your psychosocial assessment skills as tools to perform this assignment. Identify one client/family as the subject of this in-depth case analysis. You should review the available literature about the culture or religion relevant to this case. Respond to the points below.

1. **Case Study:** Describe your case in detail.
2. **Psychosocial Assessment:** Write up a psychosocial assessment for this family.
3. **Cultural Diversity:** Research the culture or religion of this family and write a short paper.
  - a. What typical health beliefs, religious practices, and/or traditions did you expect?
  - b. Did you see evidence of these beliefs, practices and/or traditions in clinic?
  - c. What events, characteristics, conversations within the genetic counseling session can be attributed to cultural factors?
  - d. What behaviors, etc. of this family were "typical" for this culture? Which were atypical for this culture?
  - e. What resources did you use to explore these questions?
4. **Cultural Competence:** Describe the elements of cultural competence that were evident in this session.
  - a. What questions, observations or other information identified by the genetics staff (including you) provided insight into the family's cultural beliefs and practices?
  - b. What additional questions, counseling approaches or elements of cultural competence would you use if you were to see this family again?
5. **Present the Case:** Present this case to other students, genetic counselors or geneticists to help others learn about this culture/religion and promote discourse among members of the genetics team.

### Evaluation

1. Case presented clearly and succinctly
2. Thorough psychosocial assessment
3. Researched the literature
4. Compared case with published literature
5. Suggestions for enhancing cultural competence in genetic counseling