

## **Judicial Family Workshop for Adolescents**

**PUERTO RICO OFFICE OF COURTS ADMINISTRATION**

**JUDICIAL FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM**

Presented on a Saturday, 1:00 - 4:45 pm

**Mirelsa Modestti, Ph. D.**

### **Welcome and staff presentation (15 min.)**

Attorney Isabelita Picó, wife of Puerto Rico's Supreme Court Chief Justice, will welcome participants and introduce the staff from the Office of Courts Administration, the workshop's staff and briefly present the Judicial Family Support Program.

### **Participant's presentation dynamic (20 min.)**

Participants will be grouped in pairs with people they have not met before. They will briefly interview each other, and then each youngster will introduce his/her partner to the group, talking about his/her place of residence, school, hobbies and interests, etc.

### **What are we doing here? – Dr. Modestti (10 min.)**

Dr. Modestti will explain to participants the workshop's objectives and have them talk about their expectations.

### **Ice breaker anecdotes – Adolescent staff members (15 min.)**

Three adolescent staff members will share anecdotes about how their parent's judicial appointment changed their lives.

### **Best and worst... Musical chairs (15 min.)**

Participants will play "musical chairs". When the music stops, the participant left standing will pick a folded paper from a cup and, depending of what the paper asks, will share with the group what he or she considers in the best or worst aspect of being a judge's son or daughter.

### **Group work: Hypothetical situations (15 min.)**

Participants will be divided into three groups. Each group will be presented with a hypothetical situation concerning an ethical dilemma. They will be asked to discuss the situation and reach a consensus about what should be done, considering the fact that the main character of each situation is a judge's son or daughter.

### **Plenary session (15 min.)**

Each group will choose a spokesman, which will expose to the rest of the group the situation discussed and the course of action they decided to follow in their particular situation.

**RECESS (15 min.)**

## **AFTER RECESS:**

### **Topics – staff (1hr. 15 min.)**

Each of the adolescent staff members will briefly talk to the group about how he or she has had to deal with one of the topics described below and/or their misgivings about them.

At the end of each testimony, adult staff member will present a 10 minute exposition about how to deal with situations related to each topic.

#### **Adjustments to life in a judicial family –**

Mr. Federico Rafael Hernández Picó, son of Puerto Rico's Supreme Court Chief Justice.

Dr. Mirelsa Modestti, wife of Hon. Rafael E. Taboas, Aibonito Regional Administrator Judge, will explain about the importance of understanding the judge's responsibilities and ways to deal with things like change of residence, school and other important changes in the life of a judicial family.

#### **Peer pressure – adolescent staff member.**

Hon. María del Carmen Berríos, Superior Judge and Director of the Drug Court Program will talk to the group about the importance of withstanding peer pressure and the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse.

#### **Press and public opinion – adolescent staff member.**

Mr. Daniel Rodríguez, director of the Press Office of Courts Administration will explain about the Courts Administration resources and protocols to deal with the press and public opinion when a difficult judicial decision brings about pressure or criticism.

#### **Security – adolescent staff member**

Attorney Isabel Picó will talk about security measures in the courtrooms, as well as protection offered to the judges and their family when security issues arise.

### **Fifteen minute Q & A session about these topics.**

### **Workshop evaluation. (15 min.)**

Participants will discuss whether their expectations were met, the experience of working with this group and will review what they learned in the workshop.

### **Closure**

Puerto Rico's Supreme Court Chief Justice, Hon. Federico Hernández Denton will offer a brief closure message to participants.

## **STAFF MEMBERS**

### **Workshop director:**

Dr. Mirelsa Modestti, wife of Hon. Rafael Taboas Dávila – Aibonito Regional Administrator Judge.

### **Staff:**

Lcda. Isabel Picó, wife of Hon. Federico Hernández-Denton, Puerto Rico's Supreme Court Chief Justice.

Hon. María del Carmen Berríos – Superior Judge and Director of Drug Court Program

Mr. Daniel Rodríguez – Director of the Press Office of Courts Administration

Mr. Federico Rafael Hernández Picó - son of Attorney Isabel Picó and Hon. Federico Hernández Denton.

### **Adolescent staff members:**

Miss. Yarelis Dumeng- daughter of Hon. Miriam Santiago, Aguadilla Regional Administrator Judge

Mr. Manuel B. Torres Malavé- son of Hon. Lissette Vélez Morales, Utuado Regional Administrator Judge

Mr. Javier Antonio Calero Doitteau- son of Hon. Yolanda Doitteau – Superior Judge in San Juan

### **General coordinator:**

Mrs. Anabel Solá – Judge's Support and Services Office Director

8/26/06