Ethical Dilemma

## **Ethical Dilemma Analysis Worksheet**

Case of Destiny

Destiny a 23 year old brought her one year old son Rushan to the hospital because he had severe burns on his arms and legs. The doctor also found bruises and abrasions on his butt back that looked like cigarette burns. Destiny appeared agitated and ready to leave the hospital once she was questioned about how her child got those burns. She stated that Rushan was in the room playing and she was in her room and he must have turned over some hot water that was being heated on the stove and burned himself. The doctor filed a petition for child abuse as legally required and the case was handed over to a case worker. A year has passed and Rushan has been staying with his grandparents and Destiny case has been re-open due to Destiny wanting her child back. Destiny has been to parenting classes for 6 months and feels that she is ready to be a great mother to her son and also the grandparents feel Destiny is not ready to take care of her son and will continue to neglect her child and relapse. It’s up to the case worker to either give Rushan back to his mother or keep him with his grandparents.

1. **List the two courses of action**
   1. Support Destiny since she has been to parenting classes
   2. Let Destiny receive more parenting classes and have supervised visit.
2. **List the significant potential *consequences* of taking either course of action.**

# **Course of Action A** **Course of Action B**

1. Destiny will have her Destiny is able to see her

Son back and be a better son on supervised visits

Mother (adhering justice, fidelity, (adhering Autonomy) autonomy)

1. Destiny will be more aware Destiny is not able to have

And not neglect her son due to her son permanently

Her taking parenting classes (compromising Beneficence)

(adhering Beneficence)

Destiny will have a relapse and neg- Destiny will continue to go to par-

lect her son again enting classes to get her son back

(comprising autonomy) (adhering Beneficence, fidelity)

1. **List the ethical principles supporting each course of action.**

### Course of Action A Course of Action B

## **Autonomy Autonomy**

## **Beneficence** justice,

## fidelity

Beneficence

1. **List the ethical principles that will be compromised by choosing either course of action.**

### Course of Action A Course of Action B

**Autonomy Beneficence**