

## The Dilemma At Day-Pro



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### Relevant Personal and Professional Values

- Catholic values regarding pregnancy and right to life
- The importance of education, in this case for Sophie
- Confidentiality
- Full disclosure to the university as established in the employment contract
- Self-determination

### Positions of "The Other"

Trinity University  
&  
Scholarship Students

### Ethical Theories and Contemporary Philosophies

- Religious Ethics - Catholic Teachings
- Premarket sex
  - Contraception
  - Abortion
  - Commitment to the mother and the unborn child

### NASW Code of Ethics

**Section 1.01** - Section 1.01  
Social workers should be accessible to the public and should be available to provide services to the community.

**Section 1.02** - Section 1.02  
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**Section 1.03** - Section 1.03  
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### Assessment Criteria

"Identifying the relevant values of the three involved parties"

"Legal Issues"

"Ethical Principles Screen"



Decisions, Decisions...



# Case Introduction

Sophia is a nineteen year old Hispanic freshman attending Trinity University, a small private college located on the east coast. Sophia was one of two recipients of the “Girls on the Run” scholarship, a full-tuition allowance awarded to low-income females for achievement in academics in the face of adversity. Per her award contract, Sophia has agreed to uphold both the academic expectations of the university by maintaining a 3.0 GPA as well as adhering to the lifestyle contract-a clause comprised of traditional Catholic values.

In the middle of spring semester, Sophia comes to you, Trinity University’s social worker expressing fears that she is going to be expelled from T.U. Sophia continues to disclose that she is three months pregnant and experiencing abnormal stomach pains for her first trimester. Sophia goes on to say that she cannot go to the student health center because the school will find out she has engaged in premarital sex and she will lose her scholarship and get kicked out. Sophia asks you, the social worker, to help her figure out how she can get help with her baby without being expelled from the university.

All social workers employed at T.U. have signed contracts similar to that of the student body, including adherence to the institution’s lifestyle agreements. Additionally, all faculty and staff are contractually responsible for reporting any student behavior that deviates from the aforementioned contract clauses. How do you work with Sophia to ensure that her needs are being met while continuing your observance of university policy?

# Examining the Ethical Problems

What are the basic ethical problems in this case?

- a. Obligations as a social worker to the NASW Code of Ethics
- b. Sophie's well-being, including her health and education
- c. Trinity's concern for Sophie as the student, as well as its obligation to uphold Catholic Values

# Ethical Theories and Contemporary Philosophies

## Religious Ethics - Catholic Teachings

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