

Parents of a 3-year-old come to you upset. They report that their child has started to exhibit a lot of 'behavioral issues.' After further conversation, you identify that the conflict seems to be centered around choosing clothes and childcare activities where the children are split up by gender.

What are your initial thoughts? What other questions might you want to ask or information might you want to gather about the family and the environment?

If it becomes clear that the child is starting to advocate for their gender, what would be your recommendations for treatment?

Where could you point the parents and the family towards for other support?

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Work through these questions first and then open "Open CV#1 Reflections" for guided support. We encourage you to practice responding in your head or (even better!) with a colleague out loud. It can be challenging to stay grounded and communicate this information clearly and succinctly when interacting with anxious parents who may come in with fear-based questions. Remember that they may be receiving a lot of feedback/opinions about their situation. This can be overwhelming. Helping them remember that that everyone has the same goal (i.e. child's best care and most authentic life) is a good place to start!