

GATEKEEPERS ROLE PLAY SCENARIOS

Andre:

Andre is a student employee working in food service in the residence halls. Andre transferred to this college, which is closer to home this semester after having had a difficult freshman year at a college in another state. Andre had to relocate because having failed a class last year meant he lost his scholarship. Attending an in-state college is more affordable. Andre is now required to work to make ends meet which he did not have to do before. Andre says he knows no one and lives in a single room in the residence hall. Recently Andre seems to have overcome the sadness of leaving his friends behind at the other college. He has shown up to work hung over and brags about the wild weekends he has been having. When people point out his partying may be getting reckless, he says, "Who the hell cares" and flies off the handle and says, "it's my life" and "I will do whatever I want!"

As one of his co-workers, you are concerned about Andre, and you plan to talk to him.

Sheena:

You are an assistant professor, and Sheena is an 'out' trans student in your English Literature class. When class first started meeting, zie sat way in the back of the room, which some students tend to prefer. Zie attended class regularly, was reasonably attentive, and turned in assignments on time. After the first exam, which Sheena failed, you became concerned about zir academic performance, and you approached zir about seeking tutoring and coming to office hours. Zie seemed receptive to the ideas. In this same conversation, you happen to just casually ask, "How are things going for you in other courses and on campus?" Sheena shrugged zir shoulders and said, "Oh you wouldn't understand." As the weeks past, you notice that Sheena's personal hygiene is getting worse and zie has begun to skip class and forget assignments.

As zir teacher, you are concerned about Sheena, and you plan to talk to zir.

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Ali:

Ali is from Saudi Arabia and has been attending UW as an engineering student for the past two years. He has a cousin who is attending the University of Minnesota, but otherwise, he has no family here in the United States. Ali is a practicing Muslim and finds it difficult to practice his religion, which has been a stabilizing force, his entire life. He is working as a computer lab assistant, and you are his supervisor. Recently he mentioned how people here are kind but do not understand his culture. You have noticed his depressed mood over the past couple of weeks. You have asked for his schedule to determine his available time to work, and you have noted that he is continually working or in class and has no social life. He has recently made errors in his reports and appears to have trouble concentrating. When you ask him about this, he says he is having trouble sleeping.

As his supervisor, you are concerned about Ali, and you plan to talk to him.

STACY:

Stacy has a difficult time coping with personal disappointment such as failing a test. Stacy is unable to control her temper in these situations, will hit her fists against the wall or throw things, and will go speeding off in her car. Stacy has been in a relationship for over a year and is committed to it. Recently Stacy's girlfriend broke off the relationship because she fell in love with someone else. Following the break-up, Stacy has become very emotionally distraught and has mentioned, "Life isn't worth living anymore, and she might as well be splattered all over the pavement."

Stacy's roommate approaches you, the RA, to express their concern about Stacy. As the RA, you agree to talk with Stacy.