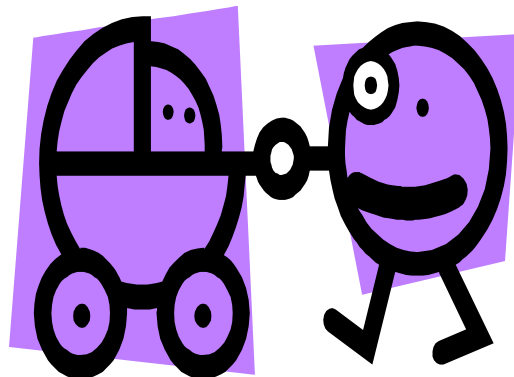


Linda Wilson and Tara

Note to reporters: Do not offer any information to the intake worker unless he or she attempts to gather the information in a reporter-friendly manner.

Linda Wilson is a 20-year-old single mother, who lives alone with her daughter Tara, age two and a half. Linda was previously employed, but currently supports herself and Tara on public assistance. Tara stays with a day care provider for three hours, two days a week, while Linda attends job training. Tara's day care provider recently noticed several serious bruises on Tara's buttocks, legs, and back, and what appeared to be a burn on her buttocks. She called the child welfare agency. The day care provider told the caseworker that in the past month, Tara cried and fought when staff tried to take her to the toilet, and she crouched in a corner and hid when she wet or soiled her pants. She also exhibited considerable fear when anyone at the day care home mentioned the bathroom. The day care provider said this was a real departure for Tara, who was usually a loving and sweet child, and who interacted easily with both staff and the other children. The provider also said she really liked Linda, and that Linda and Tara seemed to have a very affectionate relationship.



Source: *Field Guide to Child Welfare*