

CASE STUDY

The Silent Girl

Fatima, a rome girl, 9 year-old, has just enrolled in a public school. For weeks, she hasn't spoken to anyone. She avoids class activities, refuses homework, and seems disinterested. Teachers label her lazy or unmotivated. A cultural mediator discovers that Fátima had negative experiences at another school and that the family fears institutional rejection.

Questions for discussion:

- What early signs could have led to a different response?
 - What role do cultural history and community trust play in this case?
 - How should the school and the mediator work together to rebuild trust?
 - What communication strategies can be used with the family?
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Roleplay suggestion: Small groups simulate a meeting between a teacher, mediator, and mother to co construct an integration plan.