

Japanese family issues and child protection: A comparison between France and Japan



Picture:
Japanese primary school

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○ Japanese family related issues?

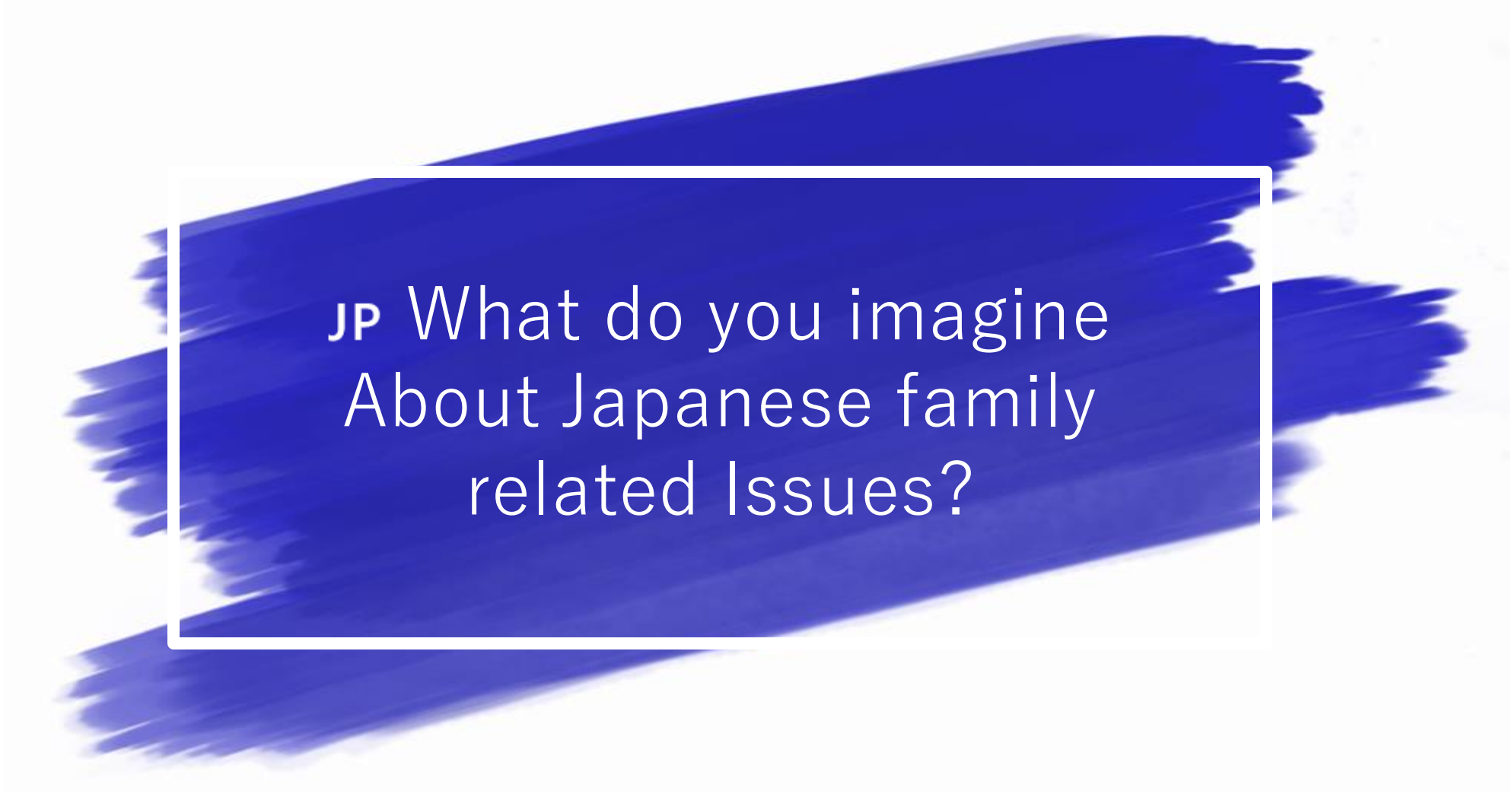
○ Social background

○ Difficulty I faced as a social worker

○ France's scheme to protect child rights



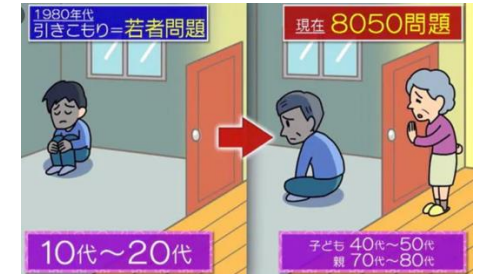
○ My study in France



JP What do you imagine
About Japanese family
related Issues?

Example of Japanese family related issues

- **Birth rate falling** : Japan 1.3 ↔ France 1.8 (child born outside of marriage Japan 2% ↔ France 63%)
- **Percentage of the elderly growing**: 28.4% are more than 65 years old
- **Absenteeism**: 5% of secondary school students are absent for more than 30 days a year
- **School bullying**
- **HIKIKOMORI** phenomenon (no contact outside the family for more than 6 months): 1 million
- **Suicides**: 3 times more than in France per 100 000 minors
- Violence on social media
- Young people and women are very close to **sex business**. Sex work is called "second safety-net".
 - Go to meet an adult via social networks "waiting for God"
 - College girls, secondary school girls, single mothers easily earn money in the sex trade. "Daddy business"
 - The first job chosen by women leaver of child protection is prostitution.
- **KAROSHI**: overwork death (more than 100 extra-hour work per month)
 - full time work is 40h/week so more than 65h work per week



80'="Hikikomori" Now="80-50 problem"

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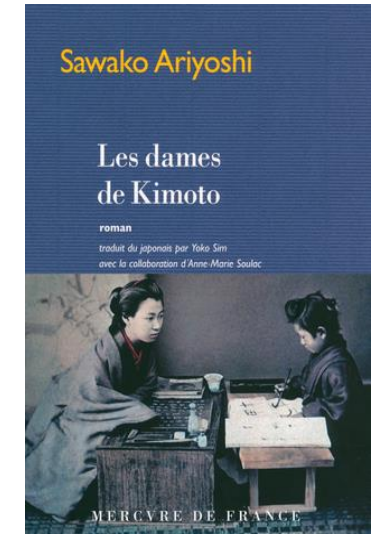
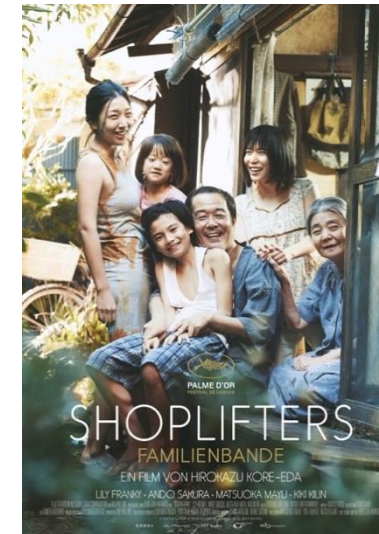
FAMILY > SOCIETY

- Patriarchal system, based on family mutual aid, very strong parental authority. Children often have to choose the career path chosen by their parents
- Eldest son treated as future heads of family, inherit family's business, eldest daughter who takes care of parents
- System based on a father who works and a mother who looks after the family (35% of married women do not work)
- When there is divorce, only one of the two parents can maintain parental authority (and who will decide whether the child will see the other). After divorce, 50% of single-parent families are below the poverty line (95% mother has prental authority).

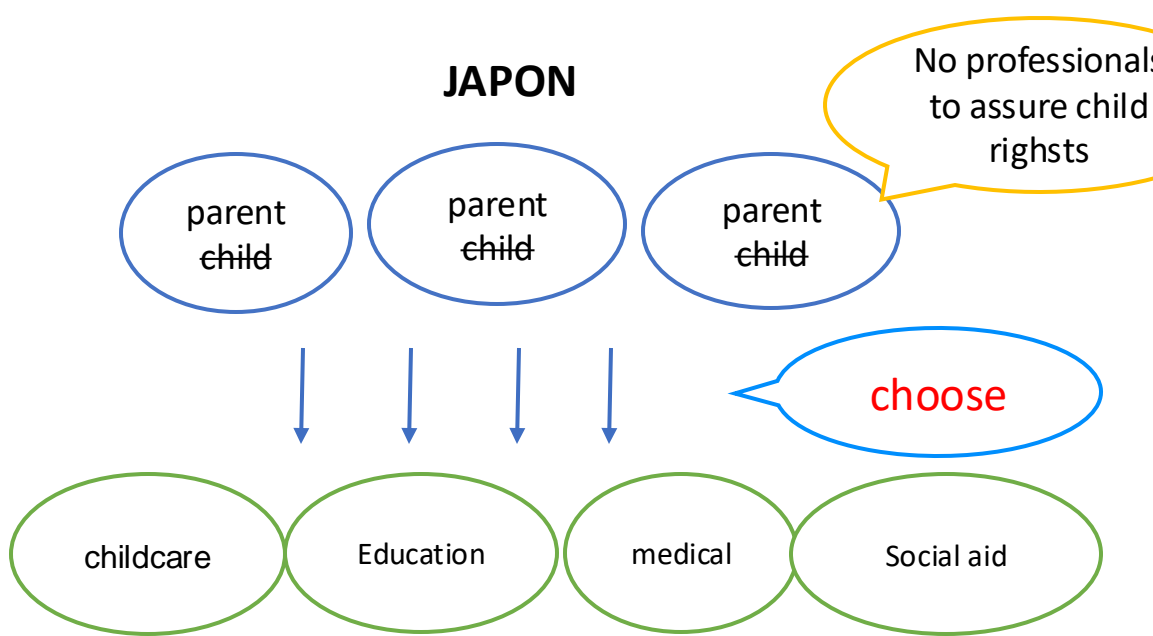
Birth registration is per family

(1.0.1) 全 部 家 属 届 出	
【1】本 籍	名古屋市中区三丁目二丁目50番地
【2】姓 名	名 家 太郎
戸籍事項	【編入日】平成20年1月1日
【3】戸籍編入	戸籍に編入されている事
【4】	【6】太 郎 【出生年月日】昭和55年5月5日【配偶者氏名】夫 【氏名】名家一郎 【性別】長男
身内事項	【出生日】昭和55年5月5日 【出生地】愛知県名古屋市中区 【編入日】昭和55年5月5日 【出生人】父
【5】出 生	【出生日】平成20年1月1日 【出生地】名古屋市中区三丁目50番地 【出生人】父
【6】婚 姻	戸籍に編入されている事
【7】	【6】梅 子 【出生年月日】昭和55年8月8日【配偶者氏名】妻 【氏名】名家ハチ子 【性別】二女
身内事項	【出生日】昭和55年8月8日 【出生地】愛知県名古屋市中区 【編入日】昭和55年8月8日 【出生人】父
出 生	【出生日】平成20年1月1日 【出生地】名古屋市中区三丁目50番地 【出生人】名家太郎
婚 姻	【出生日】平成20年1月1日 【出生地】名古屋市中区三丁目50番地 【出生人】名家太郎

届出番号 0011510000566000-20140510-005
これは、戸籍に記録されている事柄の全部を証明した書類である。
平成26年 5月10日
名古屋市中区長官 〇〇 〇〇
名古屋市中区 戸籍事項

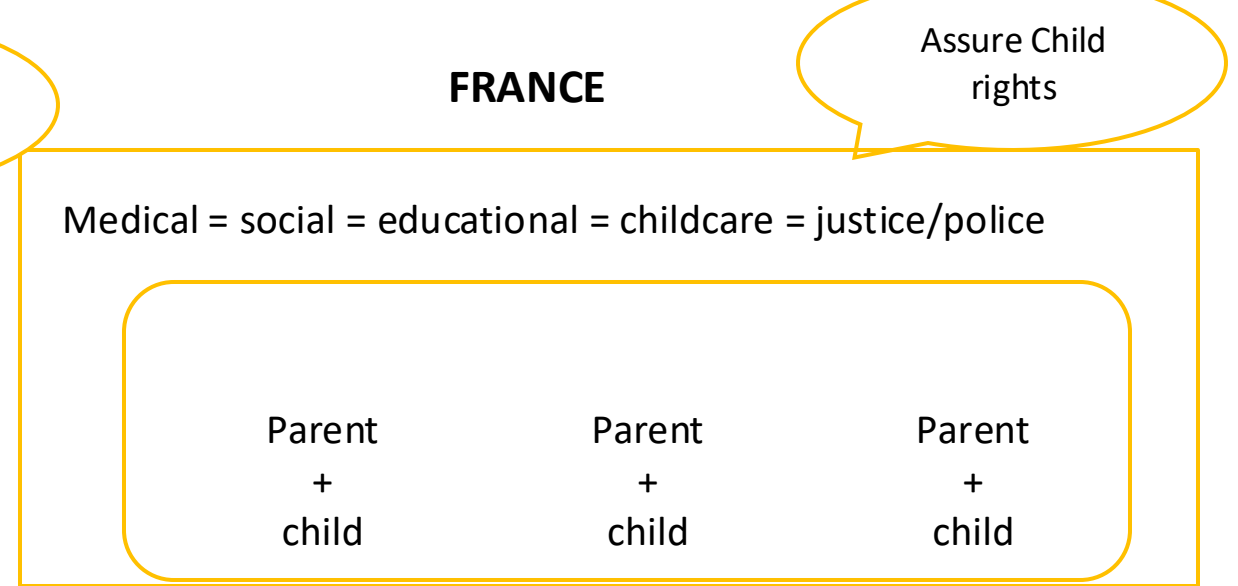


JAPAN and FRANCE : DIFFERENCES ? PARENTS and SOCIAL AIDS



- Only by the parents' request
- Decision taken by parents / negotiation by professionals
- Justice and police rarely intervene in family or about child
- If everything goes well, you don't normally meet social service professionals = labelled as bad thing

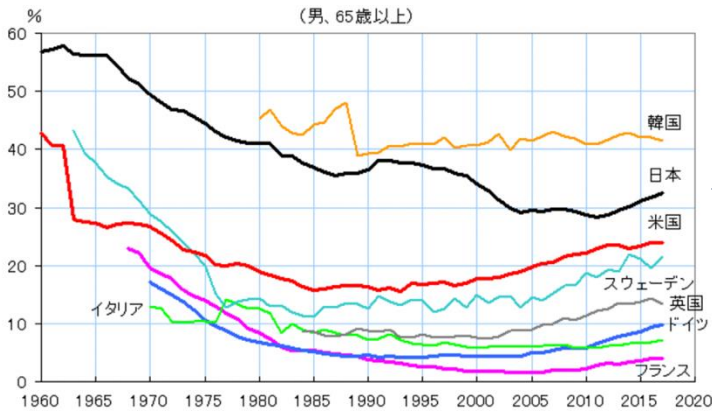
INTERVENTION ONLY ON REQUEST



- Professionals mandated to assure child rights / The State assure child rights through professionals of public services
- Reaching out to ALL children, all families are under the eye of professionals
- Professionals can discuss the child's welfare with parents / the child is also heard
- Child can also ask for a help

WORK IN JAPAN : INTEGRATE A SYSTEM... FOR LIFE !

- Recruitment at the same time for everyone
 - → at the end of University license, 1st April
 - → selection with the name of the university
- 50% of employee continue to work in the same company until retirement
 - → The job function, position and location is determined by HR.
 - → Women often have to stop working to move with their husbands.
- 40% of workers are not salaried, working in precarious conditions. → This category is called "regulation members", their wages paid by the hour.
- Unemployment rate 2.4% (total), 20-29 year olds 4% (France 20%)
- If you don't contribute enough to your pension(during 40 years), you won't get a pension. You'll have to live on the RSA for the rest of your life. Some people work until they are 85 or over.



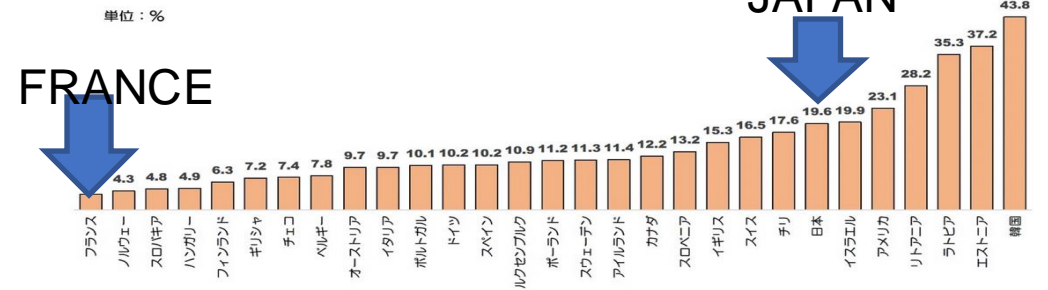
Percentage of people aged 65 and over in employment (men)

JAPAN 33%

France 3%

Relative poverty rate for those aged 65 and over

OECD 加盟国の年齢階層別相対的貧困率



注 1) 相対的貧困率：OECD では、等価可処分所得（世帯の可処分所得を世帯人数の平方根で割って算出）が全人口の中央値の半分未満の世帯員を相対的貧困者として定義している。

注 2) 日本のデータは 2015 年出所) OECD Data, Poverty rate.

(注) 各国労働力調査をまとめたOECD資料による。日本65歳以上1960～67年は長期統計総覧による。
(資料) OECD.Stat LFS by sex and age - indicators(2018.11.6)、総務省統計局「日本長期統計総覧」

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- **Difficulty I faced as a social worker**
- France's scheme to protect child rights



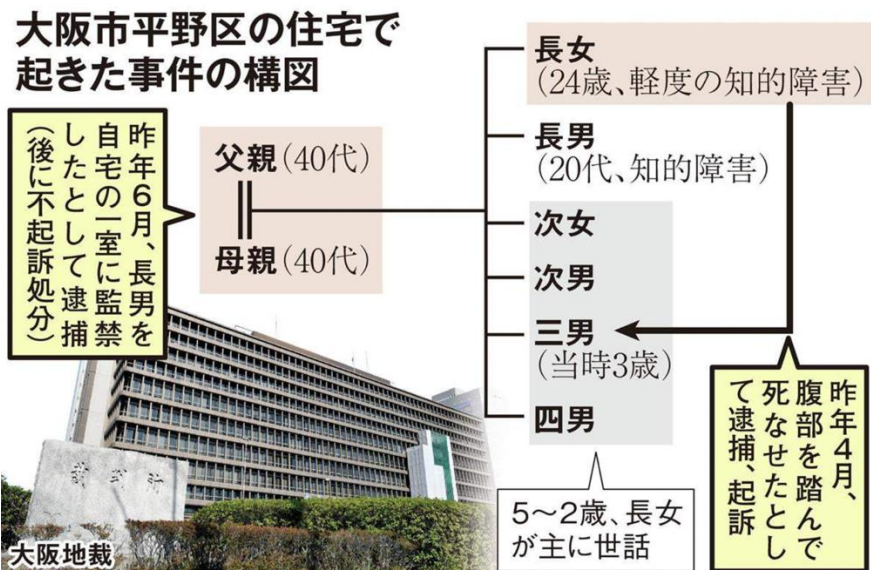
○ My study in France

A blue brushstroke background with a white rectangular frame. The text is centered within the frame.

We didn't share the same
value

Difficulty to work as a social worker in Japan

JP



September 2020

A 24-year-old girl walked on her 3-year-old brother and killed him.

She wanted to go out to work but her parents did not give her the money to take a CV picture. The 20-year-old brother was found in a locked room. Every child were very absent at school.

The judge sentenced the girl to 3 years in prison, telling her to pray to the brother she had killed for the rest of her life.

...

安發明子



January 2022

A 15-year-old boy died, several bones were broken including his head. All children didn't go to school. He was second of eight siblings.

School replied to interview that now they have to « respect decision of child », so if the mother says her children don't want to go to school, they have nothing they can do.

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- My study in France

① « worrying situation » of a minor

Child protection covers a very large area, because it is based on « worrying ».

French Civil Law 375 states:

“**when child health, security, and moral is in danger or at risk, when physical, affective, intellectual, or social development condition is at risk, educational assistance can be ordered by the courts**”.

All citizens have the responsibility to inform the concerned office of each administrative unit. (criminal law 434-3)

All adults who work with children like sport or cultural club instructors have an **obligation to have ongoing training about child protection and to know the signs of a child at risk**. (Social action and family act L226-12-1)

« Child SOS phone » explanation

France

Looks tired, pale, too quiet, can't concentrate,
School result got worse, avoid certain situation,
Not motivated, got thin or fat, stopped to grown,
Get sick often, violent or aggressive, runaway or
escape, get injured often, sexual saying or doing ..

≠

Japan

Physical abuse: hit, kick, burn, drown
Sexual abuse: rape, take porno
Neglect: don't let eat..
Psychological abuse: threaten, ignore..

Symptoms that others can observe
Can realize prevention action

After tragedy has happened
Difficult to know



SCHÉMA PARISIEN DE PRÉVENTION
ET DE PROTECTION DE L'ENFANCE
2021-2025



② prepare a concrete solution and use justice when needed



School social worker recognized that Emma is tired



Emma's mother doesn't feel good



School social worker couldn't help mother



Judge for children talked with Emma and Decided AEMO and CMP care



AEMO's educator help to resolve mother's problems
Once a week



AEMO's social and family helper helped mother's daily life 3 times a week

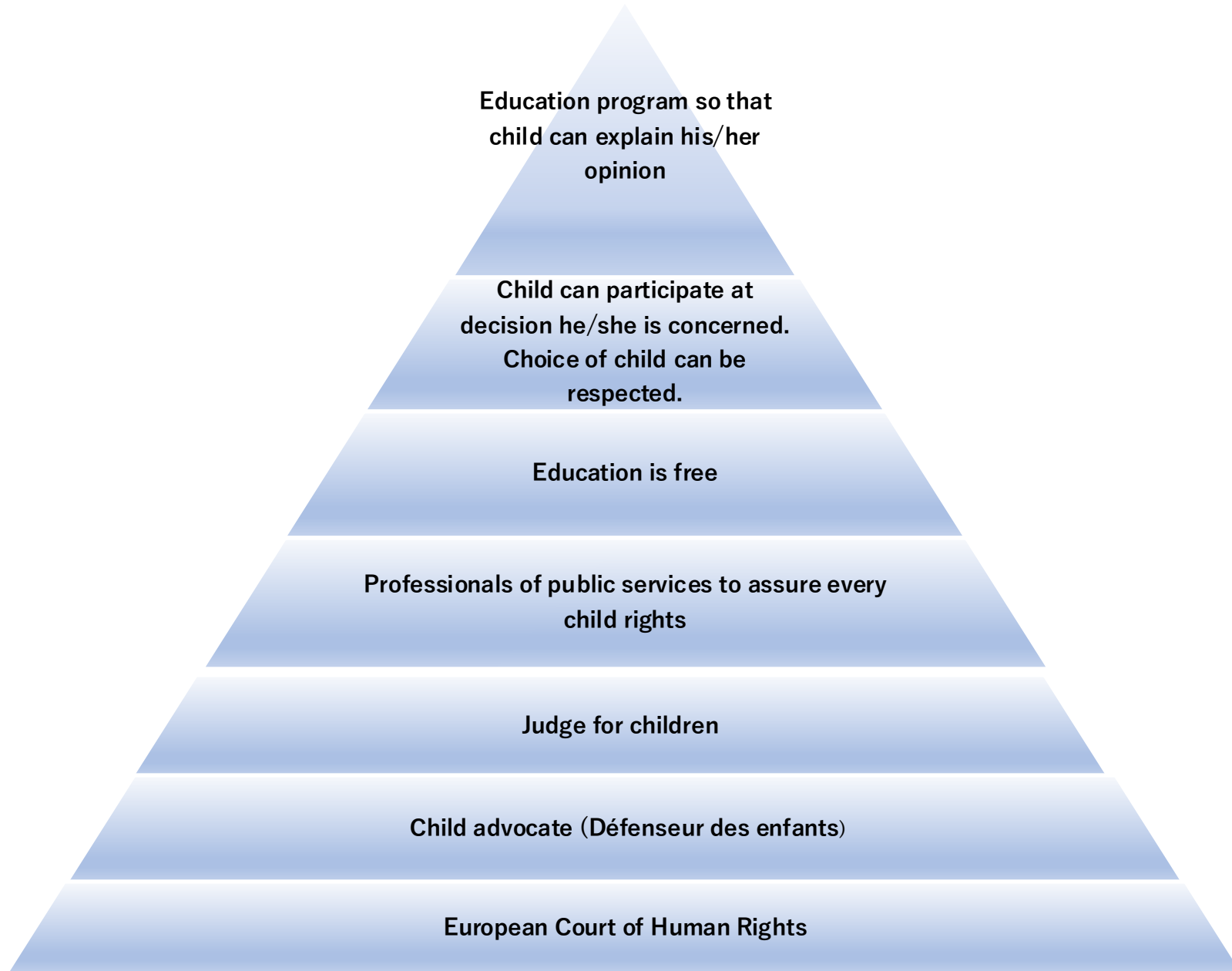


CMP's psychologist received Mother and Emma
Once a week



Mother and Emma
Can continue to live together

③ prepare a system to protect child rights

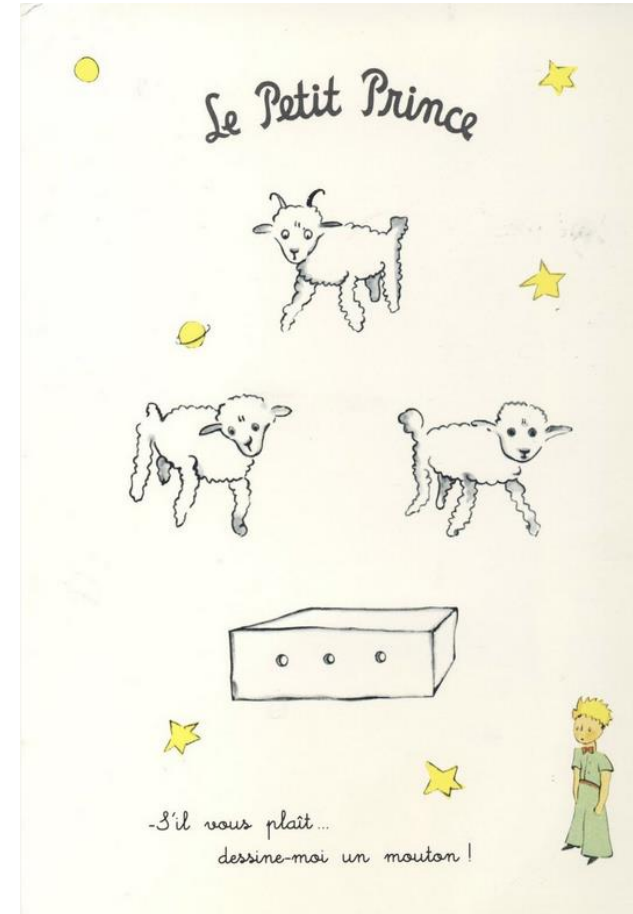


④ All the efforts to share the VALUE



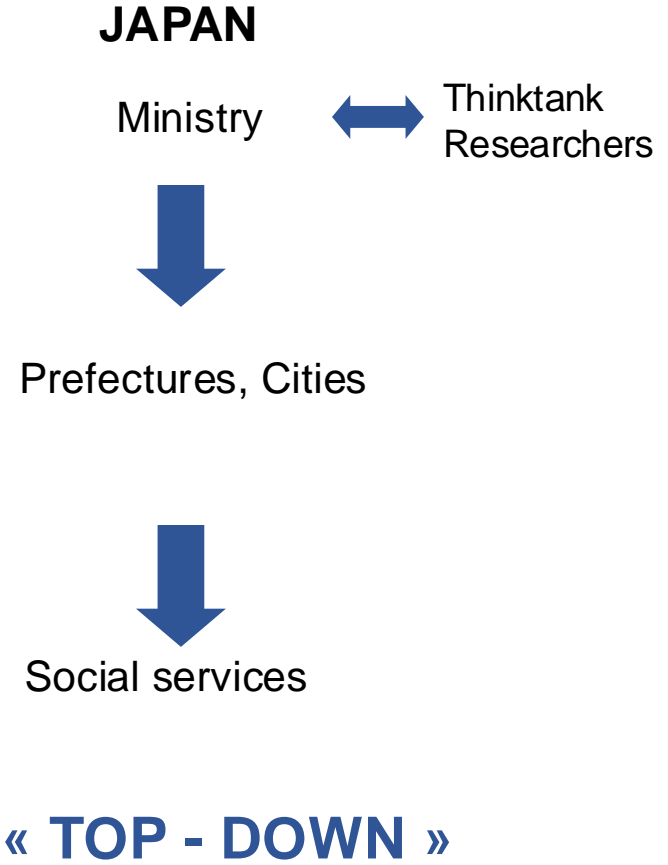
Government's strategy about Parenting support

« Draw me a parent »

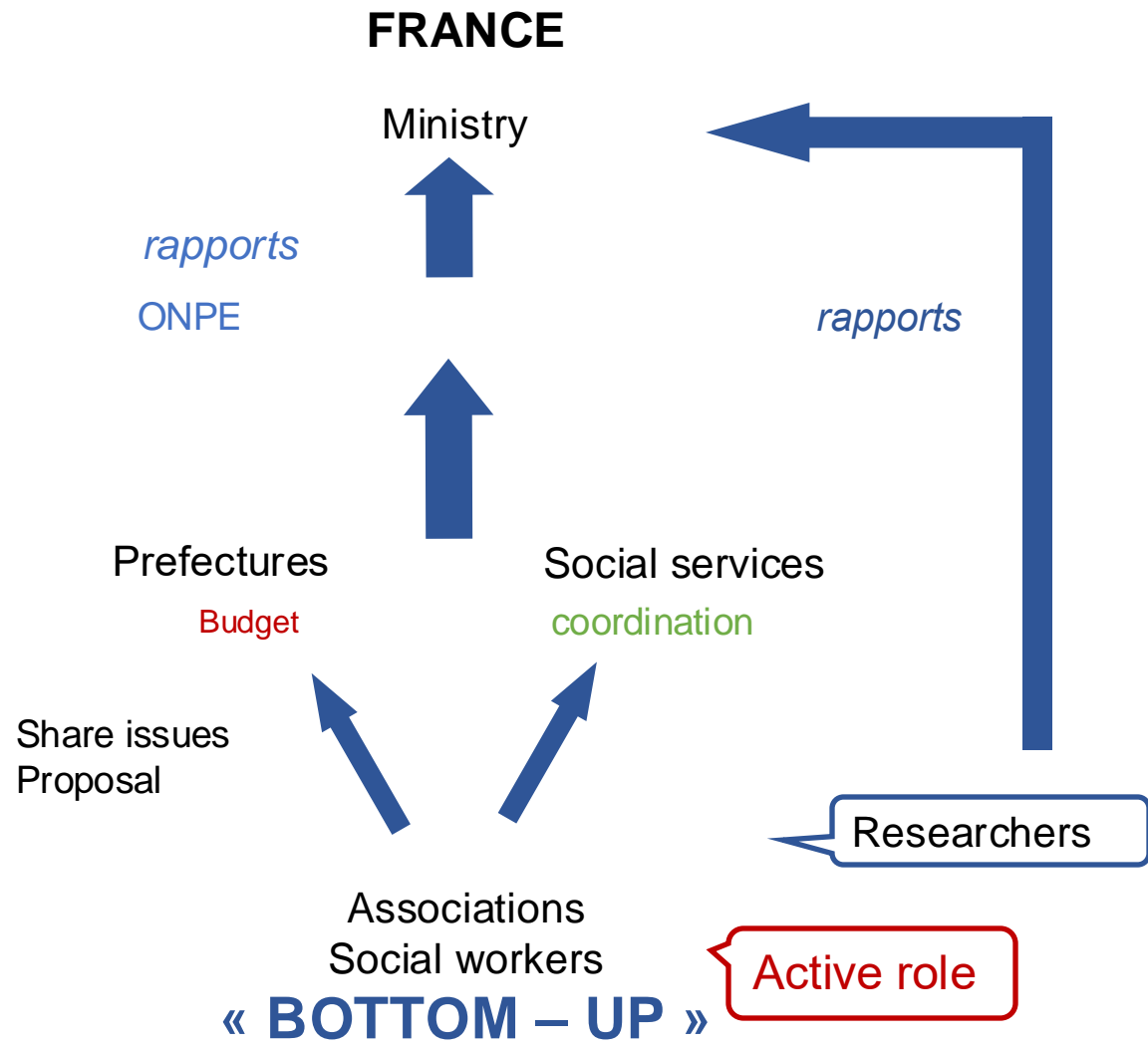


In France professionals take care to Share the philosophy of social work, culture, definition of a value..

WHY REFORM WAS POSSIBLE IN France?



Public servant = post ordered by Human Resources department and transferred every 3 years



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Have a nice break!

○ My study in France

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○ My study in France

Shared value between professionals working in open environments

The study was conducted through participant observation for one month in one of Paris's AEMO structures, every 6 months for 2 years. The subject of analysis was 37 families.
(AEMO = Aide Educative en milieu ouvert)

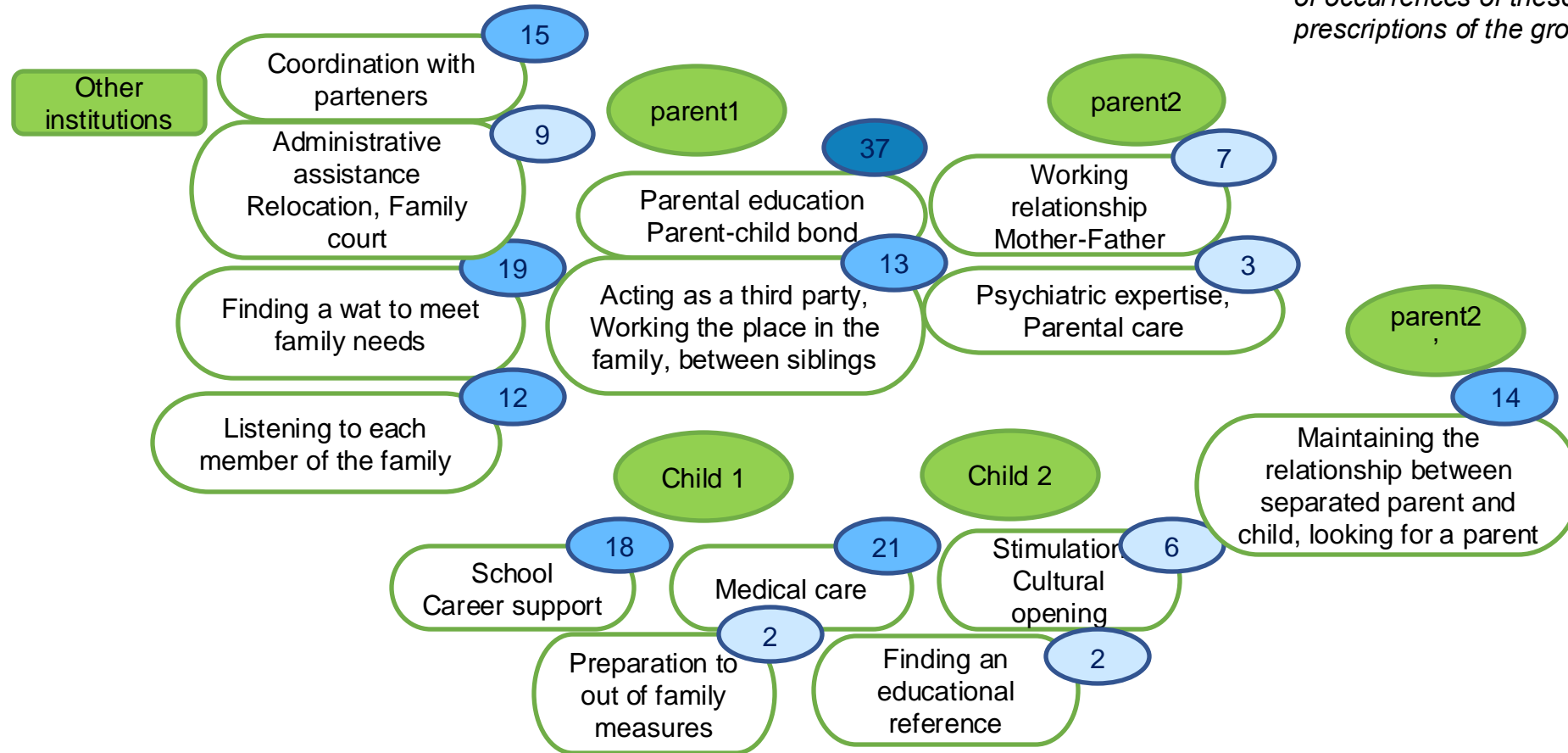
I tried to know the reasons for the risk, the child's family and environmental background, the practices of professionals, and the risk potential towards the child after 2 years of measures.

Most of the participating families received this measure when school professionals observed concerning issues regarding the child and were unable to resolve the situation.

Objectives of AEMO in the judge's order

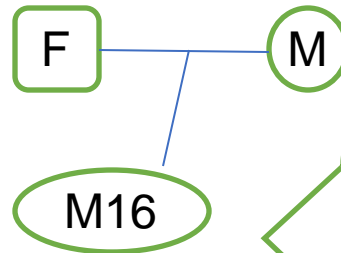
(From the judgement of 37 families 2022 October)

(The figures in the blue bubbles represent the number of occurrences of these objective categories in the prescriptions of the group concerned).



- we find the avenues suggested by the social workers who assessed the situation.
- the judge details the ways in which the intervention can be legitimate.

Example of Manon, 16 years old: reason to start support (December 2020)

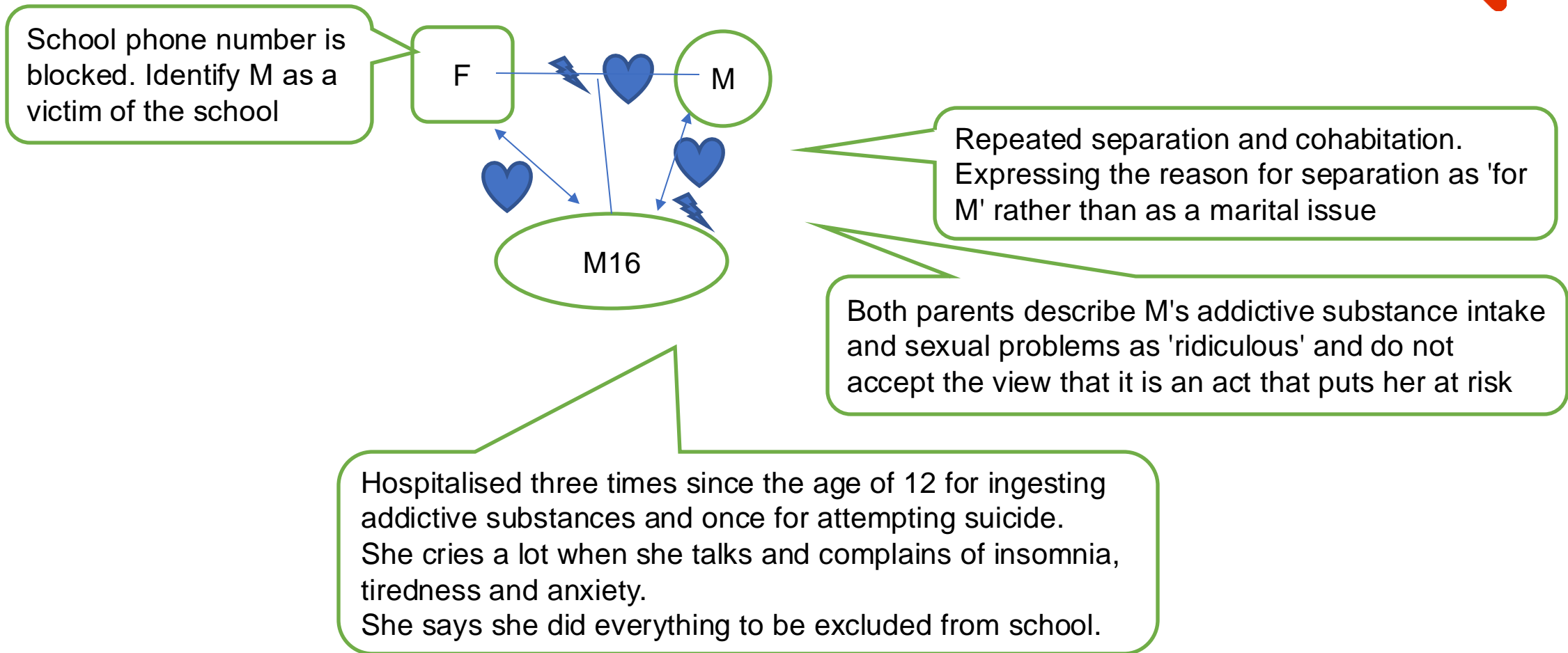


School:

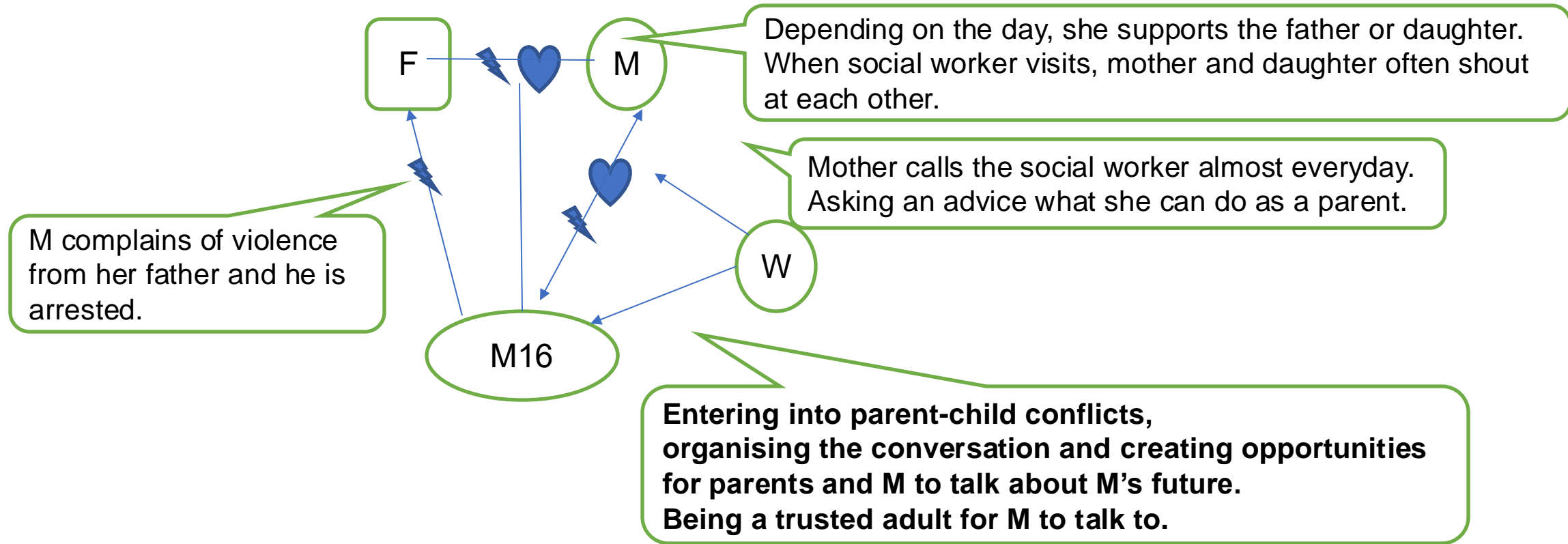
A video of violence by M on social media was informed by a student to school staff. Other students informed also about posting alcohol and smoking scenes and forging train tickets. She had sex at school and has been taken to a specialised sexual care agency.

She is frequently absent from school and when she comes, she disturbs others and interrupts lessons. Does not follow instructions, is provocative. Lies frequently. Attacks or deceives others; actively spreads rumours on social networking sites, leading to conflict between friends.

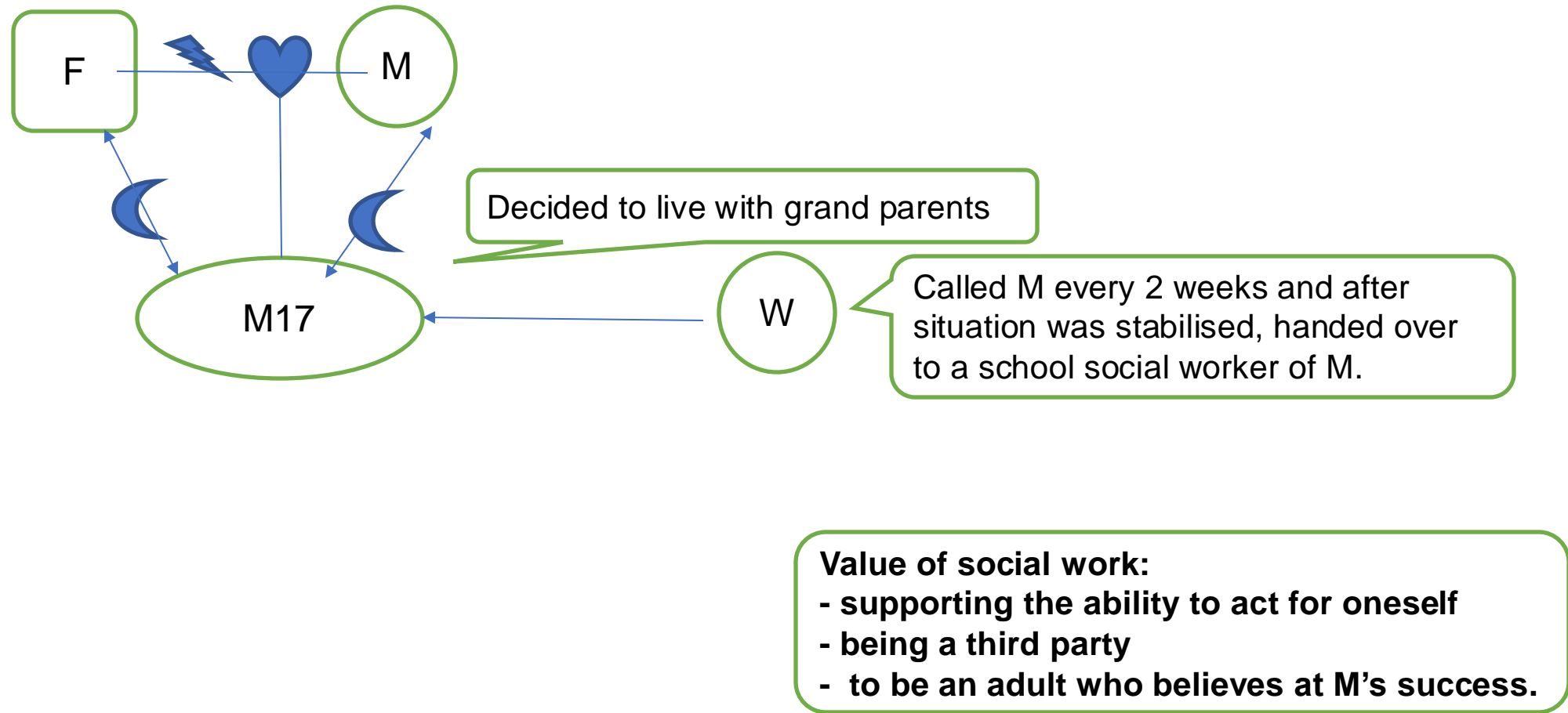
Example of Manon, 16 years old: background found with AEMO (January 2021)



Example of Manon, 16 years old: updated 6 months later (June 2021)

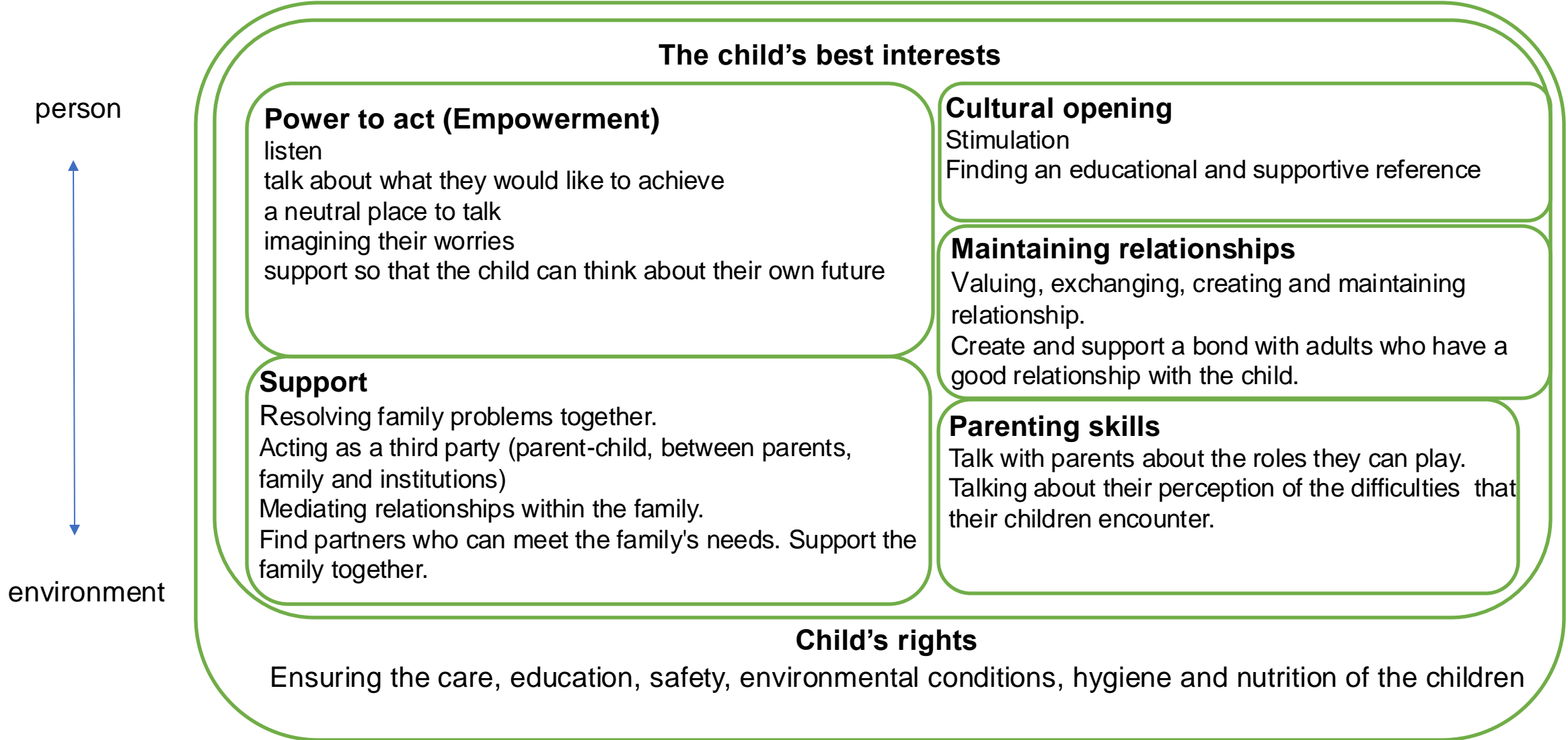


Example of Manon, 16 years old: end of support one year later (February 2022)



Need of a caring environment for the child to grow and think about herself
Need of an adult the child can refer to (Preferent = Prefer + Refer)

Values shared by AEMO professionals, based on their written work



Values shared by AEMO professionals, based on their written work

- Here we see values concerning what professionals envisage being able to achieve with the family.
- To ensure the child's development, the professionals work in a holistic way, from the basis, which is work on the child's environment, to more individual work, which is characterised as supporting the child's "power to act".
- Observation shows that the common thread running through the interventions is support for the child's development, and they give priority to ways of improving the situation as a whole rather than trying to apply all the measures mentioned to the judgement.
- Words such as "right" or "safety" are rarely used in this day-to-day practice; rather, the tools used are expressions developed in practice and which have formed a professional culture.
- The notion of the child's right is enriched in practice by the child's interests, which envisages not only meeting the child's needs but also considering his or her personal development.
- In government's guideline social worker's role is written about to work about potential of a person.



Throughout the intervention, it was observed that there was confidence in the **practical knowledge** of the professionals, which was the reason for starting the intervention, even when considered in judgement, and in the tools used in practice. **Professionals contribute to creating this child protection system, through their practices, to enable and extend the application of the civil code.**

In sociology there were work of Donzelot or Foucault about social control, forced norm from upper class population, and later, study about care (Gilligan) or social isolation and social bond (Hirschi).

I could clarify that AEMO social work aim to help the family concretely to improve child surrounding situation and to avoid that child will have a problem. Even though it has a nature of social control, in practice, **value of « Interests of the child » was found in socialwork.** It is possible that **to work for interests of the child is a strategy that social workers took to prevent the difficulty and to work better with parents.**

