

## **Meet *Average* Joe**

Joe is a 35 year old single parent of a five year old boy, Nicholas

Nicholas is currently in a foster home after DCF removed him due to a report from his teachers that he had several bruises on his legs. The investigator determined that the injuries were consistent with physical abuse and recommended removal from the home for safety reasons.

Joe vehemently disagrees with the findings. "I love Nicholas and would never hurt him. I believe in tough love and preparing him for the real world though. I want him to be ready for the challenges of life."

"People are too soft these days. Nicholas needs to learn his place in life, adults have real world problems to face every day. I don't have time to pander to his emotional outbursts."

"My Dad beat the shit out of me and I turned out fine...."

My life is full of stress as a single parent since his mother was arrested and sentenced to 10 years in jail. Nicholas needs to sacrifice some things like I do, it will make him a better person"

You have a referral from DCF to conduct supported supervised visits using the Nurturing Skills Program for Families Supervised Visitation. They want the program completed in 12 weeks, the goal is to reunify Nicholas with Joe and that non abusive methods of discipline will be adopted.

Joe is willing to participate but is skeptical that he will learn anything from the program.