



How do today's issues impact the children Dee Norton sees and why does this matter?

The families that Dee Norton Child Advocacy Center sees are already burdened with the weight of being in a country where they often do not speak the language and suffer an intergenerational legacy of trauma. COVID-19 has added to their already burdened existence by causing many a loss of income and lack of childcare options. Most are not eligible for unemployment, food stamps, and do not have internet, which means the children are not able to complete their class work. Amidst the pandemic, children have a heightened awareness of the social injustices. The lack of empathy and willingness of those who do not care for those that do not look like them is having a negative impact on many of these families.

The recent the videos of the police brutality, murder, and ill treatment of those by the hands of authority figures charged to protect the people, is just another reminder of the injustices of this world. This is another example that tells these families not to trust those in authority. To many families, it justifies their fear of institutions making it more difficult for those of us sincerely trying to help.

These are the families that Dee Norton Child Advocacy Center serves. There must be an understanding within our agency of cultures and beliefs so that we may better serve those communities. Dee Norton has implemented programs and discussions internally to understand intergenerational and cultural trauma to better serve our community.



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