

Samara (Sammi) Green

This character appears in module #2.

Location: Hartwin Home

Demographics and Background

- You are a nine-year-old girl in the 3rd grade at Jefferson Elementary. Ms. Jefferson is your teacher.
- You live with your mother (Anna), stepfather (Tony Sr.), 13-year-old brother (James), and two-year-old half-brother (Tony Jr.).
- Your mom and dad divorced five years ago. Your father (William Green) lives close by and shares physical and legal custody with your mom. You see him regularly and enjoy seeing him but not as much as your brother James does.
- Your parents have a lot of conflict. Your mom filed for divorce after getting an order of protection against your dad after she reported three assaults during their marriage. You don't have real memories of the domestic violence but do remember a lot of "hollering."
- You receive home-based therapy from Sarah Kensington because you are "stressed out" a lot and because you get "upset" sometimes at school.
- During a session about "personal space" and "touches." You told your counselor that "Tony" touched your "privates." She asked if it was Baby Tony or Daddy Tony, and you told her "Daddy Tony."
- You made it clear to your therapist that you didn't want to talk more about it after that.

- Your counselor made the hotline call after the session ended.
- Tony is a "stay-at-home dad" who watches you when your mom works at Dollar General from 7:30am-4:30pm, three to four times per week.

Authority/Responsibilities

- You have the authority to decide how much you disclose and to whom.

Character Development Tips

- You are afraid you are in trouble for telling and ask if you or anyone else is in trouble.
- **Avoid answering questions related to the abuse.** You tell the investigator that you will get in trouble if you tell what happened.

Abuse Scenario & History:

- The abuse started when you were stressed out about learning multiplication and needed to practice on timed tests. Tony said he would help you "de-stress" and gave you a back rub.
- Next, Tony asked if you would give him a back rub because he was "stressed." He gave you \$5 for the back rub.
- Next, he told you he would give you \$10 for a "lap rub."
- You had been saving for an expensive doll, and the money would help you get it sooner, so you said "OK."

- Tony would hold your hand and rub it on his lap while helping you with your homework. “Lap rubs” started on top of Tony’s clothes, and then moved to underneath his underwear. You think the “lap rubs” are “gross.”
- James came home early one day and saw this happening. Then Tony started helping you with homework behind closed doors.
- You always want James to help you with your homework (instead of Tony). You get really upset, start to cry and “lose it” if James has too much of his own homework to do. Two weeks before you disclosed, you tried rubbing James’ groin area when he didn’t have time. He told you to stop and you replied, “I promise to rub it good.”
- Tony started taking photos of you, sometimes without your clothes on.
- The consequence for being late is to “take a lap rub” from Tony. Usually your mom will take you to the bus stop or to school on her early shifts. If you are late for school, then Tony drives you.
- You really want your mom to take you to school and your brother can see you shaking and “freaking out” if you are going to be late.
- You have nightmares several times a week, your appetite has gone down recently, and you get really worried about being late for school and act agitated or nervous.
- You have had outbursts at school after being late.

- He threatened to show your mom the photos he has of you “being nasty” if you tell.
- The abuse happens in the kitchen, your bedroom and in Tony’s car.
- Very recently (the same day as your friend Danielle’s birthday party), he told you to undress and bend over a hair in your room. He then “tapped” your “private parts” with his “private parts.” This hurt.
- You didn’t tell earlier because of shame. After he “tapped” you, you told because it hurt.

Decision Points/Process/Demeanor

- You’re afraid you will be in trouble and that your mom will be angry at you or not believe you. You are extremely ashamed of the photos and do not want anyone to see them.
- You can say “I don’t want to talk about it,” if the MDT continue asking you a lot of questions about the abuse. Make sure to say this and “shut down,” if you think anyone is getting upset.
- Show visible anxiety if any of the following are mentioned: homework, birthday party, friends, car rides, being late to school, or Daddy Tony (especially about him watching you).
- You feel much safer sharing information after you know that Tony is not allowed at the house or to take you to school.