

**Case Study #3: Mark Hudson**

**Group Leader Information**

Reason for referral to APS: Possible self-neglect

Referral made by: Mark's daughter

**Psycho-social Factors Affecting Capacity**

Mark is 85 years old. He lives alone in the home that he and his recently deceased wife built in the 1950's. Following his wife's death two years ago, he became very despondent. Since his wife's death, he has become increasingly reclusive, refusing to answer the phone or the door. He has been in two "fender-benders" while driving his car on major thoroughfares. He refuses to go shopping with his daughter to buy him much-needed clothes. He seems confused and distracted. His speech is fairly animated, though slightly "off topic" from the current subject of conversation. He is unhappy and confused that he doesn't hear from his daughter as often as he used to. Mark has established a friendly relationship with the young hearing impaired man who delivers the pizzas. He sits by the door to watch for him. They have brief chats using gesturing and basic sign language, but the "chats" don't last long, because the young man is on the clock.

**Physical Factors Affecting Capacity**

He has gained a lot of weight in the past year.

**Environmental Factors Affecting Capacity**

He allows his daughter to oversee his financial affairs. There are piles of dirty clothes and dirty dishes throughout the house. There are pizza boxes and pop bottles lying around, but not much evidence of other food. The television is blaring. On the floor, there are crossword puzzle books and a book on sign language. There is a pile of garbage overflowing from the kitchen trashcan.

**Prognosis:**

Mark's daughter wants "the State" to take guardianship of her father and put him in a nursing home.