**Chapter 4: Engaging in Micro Policy Advocacy**

***Policy Advocacy Learning Challenges and Exercises***

***Excerpted from the book***

**POLICY ADVOCACY LEARNING CHALLENGE 4.1**

**Identifying Types of Prejudice**

Identify some kinds of prejudice displayed by professionals and staff who work in other sectors, such as the education, safety-net, mental health, child welfare, gerontology, and immigration sectors. Could you provide micro policy advocacy to people who experience this prejudice?

**POLICY ADVOCACY LEARNING EXERCISE 4.2**

Assume that an elderly person with early-stage dementia and some disorientation receives help from a professional in a mental health clinic. Assume as well that the professional focuses primarily on relieving the presenting symptoms, such as with medications provided by a consulting psychiatrist.

1. What key questions might the professional have asked during this visit that might have led to better services? These questions may be about, for example, the home situation, the presence of other family members, the possible dangers the client might encounter in her or his environment, the client’s diet, and other medications that the elderly person currently receives.
2. Does this failure to ask questions parallel failure to follow a preferred sequence of events in intensive care units?

**POLICY ADVOCACY LEARNING CHALLENGE 4.3**

**When Does a Social Worker Move From Micro to Mezzo Policy Advocacy?**

Should a social worker, when encountering the preceding situation, move from micro policy advocacy to mezzo policy advocacy to develop a policy that defines the child welfare agency’s obligation to children and their parents even when they do not find evidence of abuse or neglect?

**POLICY ADVOCACY LEARNING EXERCISE 4.4**

**Engaging in Micro Policy Advocacy: Why Is It Particularly Needed by and for Low-Income People of Color?** *After reading the case study on pp. 101-105, answer the following questions:*

1. Discuss how this family’s well-being was greatly impacted by specific policies. Make a list of these many policies.
2. Discuss how the social worker developed multiple micro policy interventions.
3. Referring to Table 4.2, identify four specific skills that the social worker used as she developed these micro policy interventions.
4. Does this case enhance your understanding of the need to discuss micro policy advocacy in social work courses?