



Case 3

“You can’t use the car for two weeks. That’s all there is to it, Chris. You said last week that you would fill the tank after going out with Sam and Becky, and you didn’t. Then I ran out of gas trying to get to the gas station. If you can’t fill the gas tank, you can’t use the car. Period.” Chris’s mother was fuming as she stormed out of the living room.

Chris sat stunned, contemplating two weeks without a car.

- Was the mother’s treatment of Chris loving?

- Chris did not keep the commitment to fill the gas tank. What might this say about his own sense of himself as a responsible person?

Case 4

Sarah and Tony had been dating for over a year, but suddenly Tony stopped calling Sarah. Indeed, one of Sarah’s friends told her that she had seen Tony at a movie with Michelle: “And they looked a lot closer than just buddies, let me tell you.” Sarah was devastated. But she desperately wanted to be Tony’s girlfriend. That night she called him. He made some lame excuses for not calling her but did not mention the other girl. The next day Sarah sent Tony a card that dripped with affection. A few days passed with no reply. She called him again. Tony’s mother said that he was out. Sarah called all weekend. When she had no luck, she drove over to his house, parked in front, and waited for him to come home. She told herself, “I can’t let him go. I love him too much.”

- Does Sarah really love Tony?

- Did Tony handle the ending of his one-year relationship with Sarah responsibly?

Case 5

Tim stood in his underwear in the middle of the muddy ditch. His hands were tied, and a hood covered his head. The temperature was dropping. The cold was becoming unbearable, but he gritted his teeth to prevent himself from saying anything. The initiation master had told him that only men who could “tough it out” could be fraternity brothers. He knew that this was only the beginning of the initiation.

- How much do Tim’s fraternity brothers care about him?

- How much does Tim love himself to permit this treatment?
