**M9-B. Michael Role-play - Part II: Application for Primary Treatment Stage**

**Background**

Michael believes that he knows everything about the TC because he has been in two other TC programmes. As he enters his first orientation session, Michael says, “Look I know the rules; I’ve been through this before.” He believes that the staff members and senior residents conducting the orientation do not have anything to teach him.

During the first 10 days he complains to staff daily about being put through induction. He is defiant in orientation sessions. When a senior staff member reprimands Michael for being critical in the orientation sessions and for overall lack of cooperation, Michael says, “I know you are trying to help me, but I already know all this stuff.”

Over time, Michael begins to participate more appropriately in the orientation sessions and listens even though he believes this programme will be no different from his past TC experiences. He still makes it clear that he does not want to be in the TC, but he does not want to go back to the main prison. He says, “Maybe I just have to follow the rules and do what everyone tells me.”

Michael makes friends with Eddie, a senior member, who also comes from a large family and has the same ethnic background. Michael also makes friends with Jim, a new member, who is very optimistic about being in the TC. Michael asks Eddie for help: “I really don’t know what they want from me; maybe if you could just keep telling me what I need to do. Over and over again if you have to.”

Michael also states in a group, “Look, I know this is my last chance. If I don’t finish this programme, I’m going straight out of prison and I’ll be dead on the streets in weeks. I would rather follow the rules for the next 9 months than go there.”

When Michael has been in treatment for 30 days, he requests advancement to Primary Treatment Stage.

**Is Michael ready to enter the TC fully or is this just another one of his playing-along games?**

**What does the group think the decision should be?**