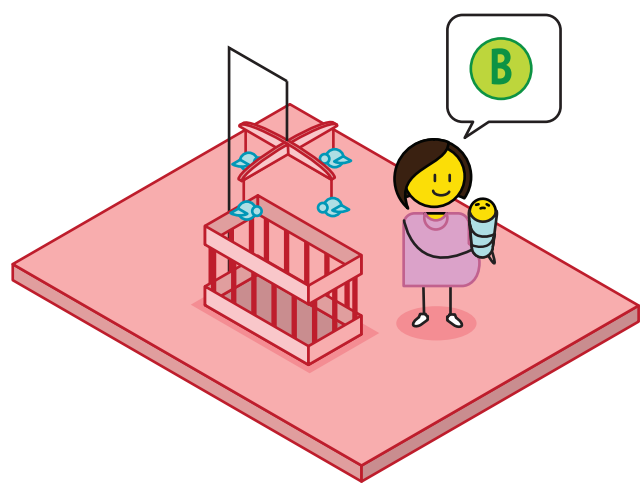


OPTIONS TO CONSIDER FOR A PERSON EXPERIENCING A CRISIS PREGNANCY

REMEMBER: THE FOUR GOLDEN STEPS

- 1 REACH OUT, ENGAGE, EMPATHISE**
- 2 DON'T JUDGE!**
- 3 SHARE OPTIONS OR CHOICES AVAILABLE**
- 4 EMPOWER TO MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS AND LINK WITH RESOURCES**

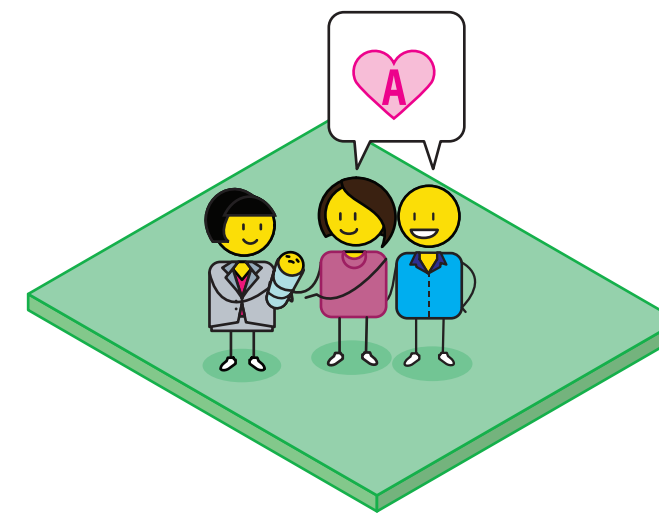


PARENTING

Refer: 1. Child Protection Organisation
2. Department of Social Development
3. Social Workers

Considerations

- Child stays with biological mother/parents
- Meets cultural needs of family and ancestors
- Child care grant if needed
- Lack of finances and family support
- Sacrifice schooling, studies or job
- Isolation, resentment, stress
- Stigma
- Developmental challenges (child raising child)

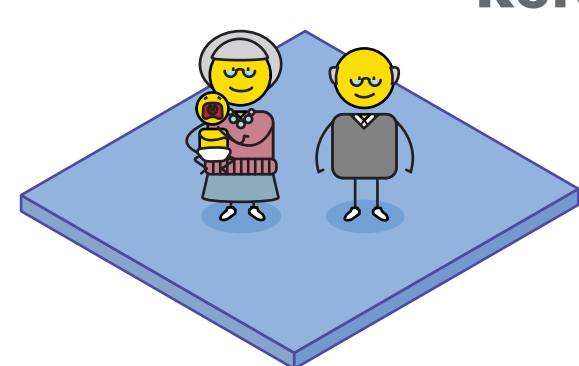


ADOPTION

Refer: 1. Child Protection Organisation
2. Department of Social Development
3. Accredited Adoption Social Worker
4. Adoption Help Line

Considerations

- Legal when conducted in accordance with the Children's Act
- Continuous counselling
- No financial responsibility
- Child gets permanent, stable home
- Pre-natal and hospital care may be covered
- Loss, guilt, denial, regret, grief
- Isolation
- Physical changes (lactation)
- Child has right to information on birth parents/cultural roots/ancestors after 18 years
- Feelings of rejection, identity issues
- Reunification at a later stage a possibility



KINSHIP CARE

Refer: 1. Child Protection Organisation
2. Department of Social Development
3. Social Worker

Considerations

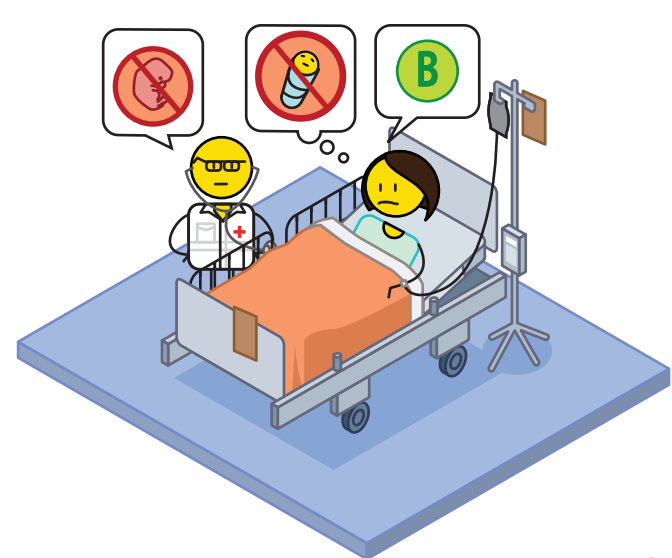
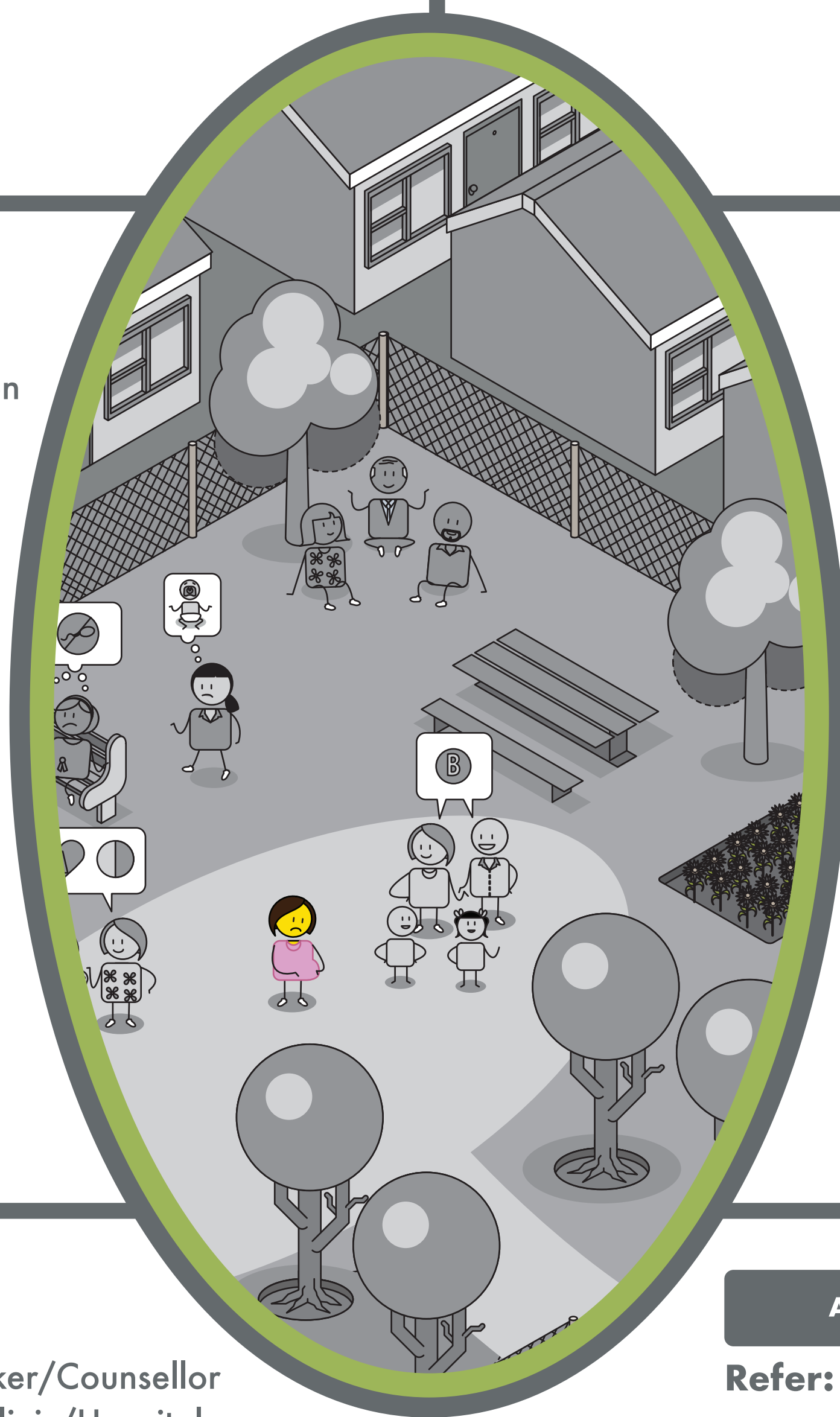
- Legal if a foster care placement or informal arrangement between family and parents
- Birthmother is able to maintain relationship with child
- Emotional and financial support from family
- Child stays within family
- Meets cultural needs of family and ancestors
- Child may experience role confusion
- Negative impact on older family members due to additional stress of caring for young children (hypertension, anxiety, stress)
- Not always financially possible

FOSTER CARE OR INSTITUTIONAL CARE

Refer: 1. Child Protection Organisation
2. Department of Social Development
3. Social Worker

Considerations

- Legal when conducted in accordance with the Children's Act
- Temporary, secure safe care for child
- Continuous contact with child
- Temporary relief of financial responsibility
- Family reunification possible
- Foster care grant
- Temporary solution
- Child lacks sense of belonging
- Child lacks consistency, bonding, security
- At 18 years child is no longer the responsibility of the state and must fend for themselves



ABORTION

Refer: 1. Social worker/Counsellor
2. Abortion clinic/Hospital

Considerations

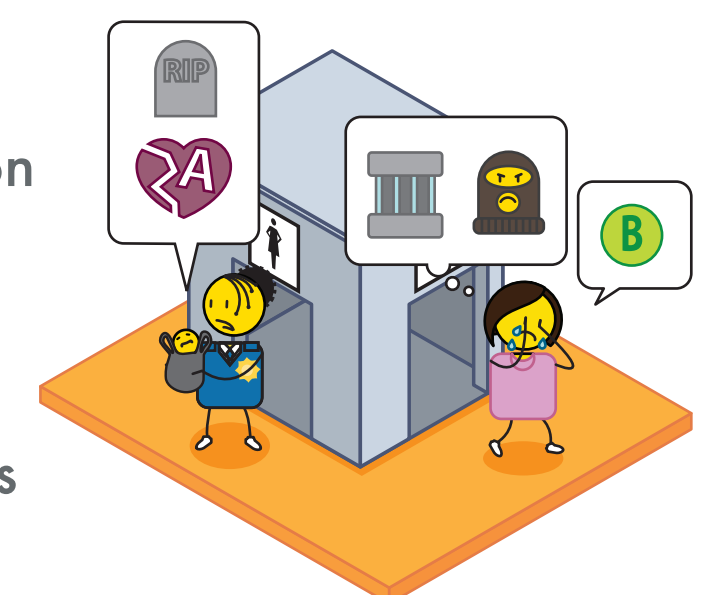
- Legal when conducted through an approved medical procedure before foetus is 4 months old
- Pregnancy is terminated
- Post-abortion depression, guilt and regret
- Health complications if not performed by a qualified/certified medical practitioner
- Late abortion in the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy is illegal and dangerous

ABANDONMENT

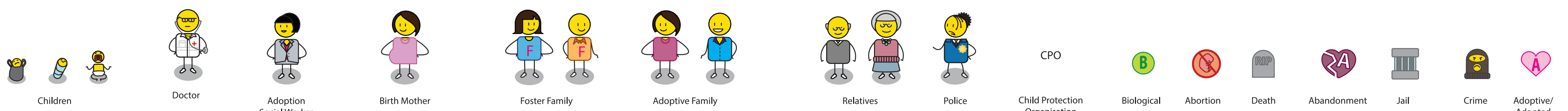
Refer: 1. Child Protection Organisation
2. Department of Social Development
3. Social Worker
4. Centre for crisis pregnancies
5. Police

Considerations

- Child physically at risk (death)
- Child deprived of an identity
- Child cannot trace biological family and ancestors
- Feelings of rejection
- Illegal and can lead to jail



ILLEGAL OPTION



CHOOSE TO CARE