

## Scenario 4 - Rachel

Rachel, aged 12, was sexually abused (penetrative sexual acts) by her stepfather who was in the habit of regularly walking in on her in her bedroom or even the bathroom. Her mother is not aware of the abuse but thinks that Rachel is making a fuss about nothing – we shouldn't be ashamed of our bodies.

### For discussion:

- Privacy issues and boundaries within the home.
- Practical management – locks on bathroom doors
- What action could the mother have taken to prevent the abuse taking place?
- Are there any behaviours in either the child or the abuser that could have alerted the mother?
  - Relationship and communication between mother and Rachel.
  - Possible grooming of the mother by the perpetrator.