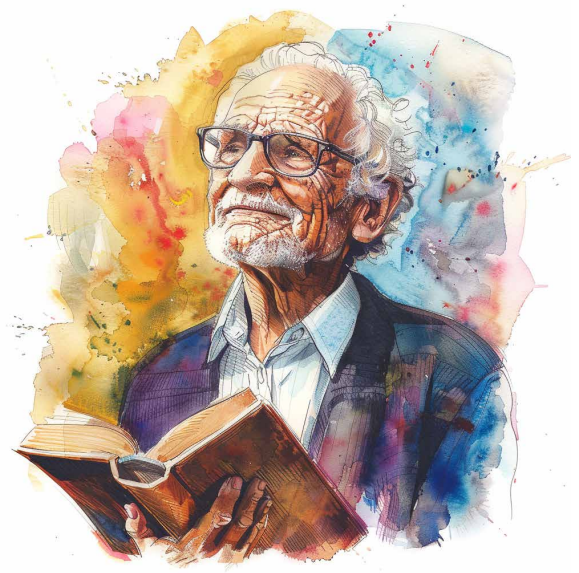




Center for Applied
Research in Dementia
Creating effective memory interventions.

YOU SOLVE THE CASE!

Doing God's Work



A MAN WHO HAD BEEN A PASTOR OF HIS CHURCH began to attend an adult day health care center. The family dresses him up in his best outfit, takes him to the center, and tells him that they will return at 4:30. In the morning, he comes in, has coffee and reads from the newspaper.

The gentleman is fine and pleasant. But at 11 o'clock in the morning, he gets ready to leave the center. When care partners say that he should stay, he tells them that it is time for him to go to church and attend to his people.

When the care partners tell him that he does not have to go to church, the man gets angry and tells them that they are in league with the devil. He threatens to hit them if they do not let him go.

WHAT SHOULD CARE PARTNERS DO?



Who is this person?

It appears that this man was a very dedicated preacher, and has a strong sense of responsibility to his congregation.

Make use of abilities that remain.

This gentleman appears to be in good physical condition and has good social skills.

Gather the evidence.

It would be very useful to ask the man where he needs to go and why. He seems to be the type of person who could give a coherent answer.



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USE THE FORMULA in the qr code to the left to explore the root cause of a behavior. Two issues in this case arise. First, care partners and family need information about why this might be happening and how to deal with the situation. Also, environmental interventions are needed to allow the older man to know what day it is NOT.

Above: Link
to Responsive
Behavior Formula
and Inquiry Form

CLUE: Why does he think it is Sunday?

GOAL: The key is to find a way for the gentleman to conclude for himself that today is not Sunday.

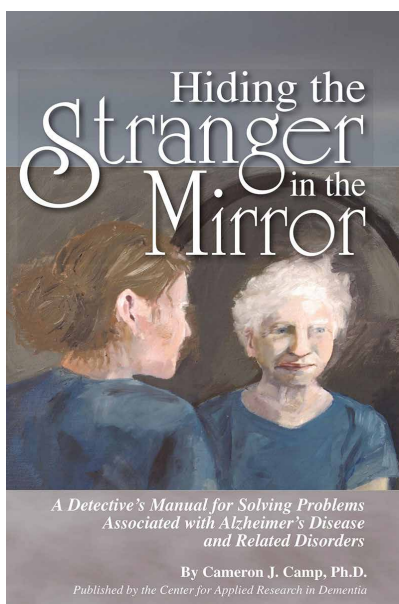
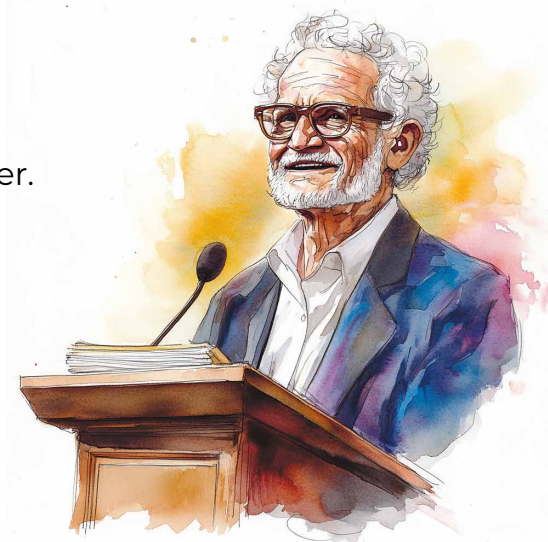
POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Solution A:

Make sure the family does NOT dress him in “Sunday clothes” when he is going to the center.

Solution B:

Put a sign next to the door which says “Today is ____ (Monday; etc.)” so that he will see the sign when he tries to leave. Care partners can point to the sign. Also, this lets the sign convey the information, rather than trying to argue with the man about what day it is.



Solve more real-life cases like these in Dr. Camp's book
Hiding the Stranger in the Mirror



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