**MS PSYC 8728/COUN 8728**

**Substance Abuse Counseling**

**Case Study**

**Sharon**

Sharon is a 32-year-old heterosexual-identified female of mixed Cherokee and Euro-American heritage. She is being referred to you at the suggestion of her lawyer, following the second charge of driving while intoxicated (DWI) in six months.

During your intake interview with Sharon, she identifies that her drinking feels "out of control." Sharon states that she has moved with her company four times in the past three years. She has never been married and identifies feeling "very lonely" and having a strong desire to make friends and to date. She states that she feels socially awkward about meeting men and "dating scenes," and that the only place she meets people is in her local sports bar. An avid fan of her home sports teams, Sharon states, "the only place I ever get to watch them is at Willy's Pub." She identifies a strong camaraderie with the other sports fans at Willy's, many of whom are from Sharon's hometown. Both incidents in which Sharon was charged with DWI occurred after leaving Willy's Pub. She states to you, "I do get pretty smashed sometimes when I'm there."

While Sharon does acknowledge a desire to quit drinking, she is insistent that she does not want to give up going to Willy's Pub: "I see people who know my neighborhood, who love my teams, and, of course, I see my teams. No way am I giving any of that up. That would mean staying at home with nothing to do."