



## **ROLE PLAY #6 – Family Vacation**

### **Information for both Parties:**

The Samson family is currently in the midst of planning their annual family vacation. Faced with increasing expenses and decreased discretionary income, the family is forced to deal with the limited budget and minimize the costs associated with the holidays. Toni Samson wants to go to their lakeside cabin, to do the usual boating, hiking and having outdoor barbecues. Toni says a much-needed rest from the stresses of work is much deserved. Sam Samson wants to visit his/her aging parents who have hinted strongly they would like to spend some time with their only two grandchildren. Susan, who is 14, says that she's tired of the cabin and wants to spend time shopping and in a hotel pool and Jacuzzi. Robert, who is 8, says he doesn't want to leave home because the puppy has always been left alone during past trips to the cabin; also Robert doesn't want to leave his friends. Sam and Toni Samson are working out the holiday plans.

### **Information only for Toni (Skilled Party):**

Toni has been working very hard at work in the recent corporate reorganization and they have been under a lot of stress having to lay off very valued employees. The best way to de-stress for Toni is to be in a quiet place in the outdoors.

They also doesn't like Susan's new trend of wanting to shop and be in a hotel. Toni believes that this may create bad habits, such as shopping as a distraction and then maybe an addiction. They believe the outdoors provides the space and time for developing healthy habits, such as exercise and quiet thinking time.

Going to the cabin will also provide Robert with the opportunity of spending time with his puppy, now that they have had a new dog run built in the yard as a surprise. Also, once he's out at the lake, he will be happy to see his summer friends who also visit at that time.

The real truth of the matter is that Toni knows that when the family is at the lake they all relax and have a wonderful time. While, on the other hand, when they're with their grandparents in the city, it's not quite the same opportunity to feel refreshed and relaxed because the grandparents get nervous when the children squabble and Sam and Toni have to raise their voices to discipline them.