# Role Play – Case Studies

**1. Ahmed,** approximately 13 years old, is identified living with a maternal uncle in a refugee camp where they have been for around two months after fleeing conflict in their own country. You discover he is regularly working with his uncle in local coal mines where there are renowned to be very poor and dangerous conditions – a number of accidents have occurred in the mines. Ahmed says he is used to it and that his uncle looks after him well. However, in the initial brief meeting it is not possible to speak to Ahmed alone.

The whereabouts of other family members are unknown – he lived with his mother previously as his father died when he was young, but he was not able to find his mother after their village was attacked and was forced to flee without her. Ahmed appears dishevelled and dirty but seems to be in good spirits.

**2. Sameer** is identified when she comes into a “focal point”. She is unaccompanied with a small baby and does not know where any family members are. She is 16 years old and has been “married” to a soldier who holds a high rank in an armed group for around 18 months. She gave birth to her daughter a month ago – the child looks undernourished and sickly, and Sameer says the baby is not feeding well. Sameer managed to get away a few days ago as her “husband” didn’t return from a raid the soldiers went on. She has no idea if he is alive but is afraid that he will find her and kill her for running away as he always threatened her with this. She fled her home country about two years ago because of the conflict and as far as she knows has never been registered as a refugee.

**3. Miguel** is a displaced boy of 10 years old. He came to the social workers saying he was unaccompanied and was placed in a residential interim care centre one month ago. After a week he was found to be missing from the centre and was subsequently reported to be living in the camp, apparently with his father and older brother. Now he has turned up at the centre with a black eye and bruises saying he wants to live in the centre as his father had beaten him for coming home and cannot afford to feed him.

**4.** **Melita** has been identified amongst a group of children in a small population of migrant workers. She is 17 years old, and it appears from an initial interview that she was probably trafficked into the country approximately one year ago and was working in a brothel run by a group of men who disappeared when the fighting began. Melita says she is never going home as her mother sold her to the men who brought her here and she would rather take her chances remaining where she is.