

Amanda came to therapy with intense feelings of anger at her husband. The anger was so strong that she even did not want to have sex with him. They have a two year old son. She said that she was angry with her husband because he took several years to leave his first wife before finally staying with and marrying her. He would spend the first few years moving back and forth between the two women. He has two children from his first marriage. When explaining his behaviour back then he said he had felt terribly guilty. He was a middle aged man who fell in love with a model looking girl. He worried that he was “typical” for a middle aged man. Also, his first marriage was stable and he had a good relationship with his first wife and her family too.

Amanda is extremely beautiful. Her appearance is important to her and she also spends a lot of money on cosmetics, clothing etc. She says it is her hobby. They both agree that their relationship was mainly about sex to start with. Amanda is now jealous of her husband’s ex-wife who does not communicate with her and tells things about her to the children. When the children are with them they do not know how to behave towards her (Amanda’s words) . This is quite a problem as the children spend with them several days every second week. Her husband has a good relationship with his ex-wife. They communicate well regarding the children. When he and Amanda take his children abroad, the ex-wife brings them to the airport to give her goodbyes. Amanda does not like this and is angry with her husband for not stopping his ex-wife for doing this. She is also angry at him that he wants to have some time alone with his children from his first marriage. Amanda would like to pick them up from school with him every time. She also demands to be present at their events such as school performances, sports events, etc. These are places where her husband meets his ex-wife. Amanda says that she cannot trust him that he wouldn’t leave her again. After some reflection she realized she had a strong sexual connection with her husband but not an attachment. She fears he has this attachment with his ex-wife when she hears their civilized phone calls where they even joke with each other some time. Her husband is at his whit-ends with his patience. He doesn’t know how to handle her frequent psychological attacks. Nor does he like having no sex for over a year.

*Please try to formulate the case with the information you have. You may be left several questions at the end of it. It is only natural. Please include these questions (thoughts, associations, etc) into your presentation.*