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A 12-year-old son for testicular cancer, the procedure became complicated by a hemorrhage and cardiac failure, leaving their child in an irreversible vegetative state.

* A school district, pursuant to federal law, develops an individualized education plan for one of its students who is hearing impaired. The district proposes to provide the student with a sign language interpreter for whichever classes the student would like; the student's parents object to the proposed plan, claiming that their preferred solution is for the district, at its expense, to send their child to a private school that could provide their child with comprehensive support services.

* Hundreds of home owners who suffered partial or complete losses of their home and personal belongings due to a hurricane challenge their insurance company's denial of policy coverage reimbursement, with the insurance company claiming that their loss was caused by water, not wind, and thus not covered under the standard homeowner's insurance policy.

* A consumer completes the purchase of a piece of jewelry valued at \$4,500 through an Internet site but then never receives delivery of the item.

* A proposal is made to build a 13-story Islamic Community Center on a vacant lot located two blocks from the World Trade Center site in New York City; the Center will include a mosque. The proposal ignites instant, highly publicized, and often vitriolic rhetoric from politicians, pundits, and concerned citizens in support of or in opposition to the plan.