

THE WEEKEND PARENT

Section 1 Paul, who is 18, recently broke up with Brittany, the mother of his only child. They went to the child support office several months ago to set up a court order, which outlined child support and parenting time with his 2-year-old daughter Teesha. Every month Paul has \$223 taken out of his check for child support and gets to have Teesha with him every other weekend and on some holidays. This Friday Paul will pick up Teesha for their first weekend visit. He lives with his parents and his older sister. Paul let his parents know about Teesha's visit and they were very excited. They asked if he had everything organized for the weekend and he said yes. He thought to himself, "What do I have to organize? I'll pick up Teesha. We'll play and have a good time. I'll take her home on Sunday."

Section 2 Paul told Brittany he would pick up Teesha at 6 p.m. on Friday. When he showed up an hour early, Brittany seemed annoyed. "I thought you were coming at 6 o'clock. It's only 5 and Teesha isn't ready." Paul said, "I got off early so I came on over. Just throw some things in a bag. I can wait." Brittany huffed and puffed. She threw some things in a bag and handed it to Paul. Paul said he would bring Teesha home at 7 p.m. on Sunday. Brittany rolled her eyes and said, "Don't come early. I'm going to be out of town and won't get back until just before 7."

Section 3 Paul left without responding. He took Teesha to his parents' house, expecting his mother to have dinner cooked. But when he got home, his parents were leaving to go out to dinner. His sister was watching TV with her boyfriend. His parents hugged and kissed Teesha and played for a few minutes, but then they had to leave.

Section 4 About an hour later Teesha started getting fussy. She said she was hungry. So Paul took her to McDonald's for dinner. He ordered a hamburger, fries and soda for both of them. Even after Paul broke Teesha's food into small pieces, she refused to eat. He then offered her something to drink, which she also refused. Teesha began to cry, "I want my mommy." Feeling somewhat embarrassed and frustrated, Paul quickly bagged the remaining food and went back home.

Section 5 When they got home, Paul gave Teesha potato chips and candy, which she ate. Then Paul gave her a bath. There was no other soap close by so Paul bathed Teesha with a bar of his scented deodorant soap. The next morning, Teesha woke up with a rash all over her body. Paul went to his mother and asked her to look at the rash. She fussed at Paul for using that kind of soap on his daughter. Paul's mother took over, put some ointment on Teesha's rash and said she would get Teesha dressed. His mom asked for her clothes. Paul looked in the bag Brittany had given him and only found a pair of jeans – no t-shirt, underwear or socks. Paul threw up his hands and screamed, "Why is this happening to me?"