**Case Scenario #3**

* **Child Age**: 3 years of age
* **Legal Details**:
  + A permanent custody order for baby awarded joint legal and physical custody between mom and dad. Things worked well until girlfriend (GF) moved into dad’s home when toddler was 2.5 years of age. GF is actively involved with the child and dad reports the child has a positive relationship with her.
  + Six months after GF moves in, mom has filed a motion to modify, arguing that since GF moved in, the child now has temper tantrums, cries when going to dad’s, and is having more nighttime potty accidents than before. Dad says child’s behavior is normal for the child’s age and that the child settles down and is happy once at his house and cries when leaving his house to go to mom’s. Assume there is a substantial change in circumstances affecting the child’s welfare.

**Discussion Questions**

* What child development issues related to the best interests of the child are raised in this scenario?
* What additional information would you like to know before deciding?