**Interpersonal Relationships – case study**

Focus your attention on the case but feel free to draw from your own experience. As you analyse the case think about what could have been done to ensure both John and Anna achieved success in their transition to study and life in New Zealand. What policies and practices might have been helpful to this situation to help these teenagers negotiate this situation and reduce any ripple effect amongst fellow students.

An academically gifted student, John, was sent to New Zealand by his family with a view to him completing high school and carrying on to university in New Zealand as a basis for his future.

He started well and functioned very well in his home stay context, polite, helpful, capable in language and perceptive of those around him. Amongst his peers from the same country and amongst the international and domestic students in his high school he was perceived as a leader. He completed his first year, year 12 very well and was recognised by the school in the annual awards both in academic and sporting arenas – in all a gifted student. He was considered a good prospect for obtaining a scholarship for his future education he following year.

At the start of his year 13 year a female student, Anna, from his home country came to the school. Increasingly the school and the homestays perceived John and Anna were becoming an item, significantly exclusive of their fellow students and displaying highly physical displays of affection and involvement. Homestay parents and the international dean were concerned that John and Anna’s relationship was affecting fellow students particularly from their own country. Almost all of Anna’s assignments were the work of John but in the NZCEA environment that worked for her as she managed to pass on the basis of internal assessment despite poor test results. During the year several instances of the besotted relationships compromising their success as students stood out:

A see all video internet linkup was found between his bedroom and Anna’s.

Several times by junior students reported them in physically compromising situations

The homestays were at wits end in keeping them apart whenever one or other visited.

Johns grades fell and he began showing a bad attitude to his teachers. He spent a lot of time secretly trading on trade me and utilising profit to spend on Anna. He turned 18 and from there on refused to obey school rules and policies. He argued freedoms with homestay parents and teachers and reported them to his mother as draconian. He managed to pass for entry to university but only just and surprisingly so did Anna on the basis of his effort on her behalf. They both ended their school year under a cloud and their fellow country students effectively cold shouldered them due to the sense of associated shame. The two began university the following year, living together and both failed badly as neither worked at their course and both spent a lot of time together in their flat. John made a lot of money on trade me and they spent it on food and other associated indulgences. Their weights ballooned and John who had been a good athlete appeared obese. They both returned home and blamed the NZ environment for their failures. Their fellow country students all of whom presented as less able than John went on to succeed from school to university and eventually graduate. John and Anna have not done well and are apparently involved in a questionable business in their home country whose prognosis indicates a struggle for the future.