Table 2: Stages of Grieving. A Model of Family Response to Mental Illness

Stage 1: Initial Awareness	"We just thought we had a difficult child – we didn't recognise the mental illness."
Stage 2: Denial	"When he first got ill, I thought he was on drugs."
Stage 3: Labelling (At the time of a dramatic crisis which requires more drastic action than calling the family doctor or consulting the school counsellor.)	"It was when she attacked her father in the car."
Stage 4: Faith in Mental Health Professionals	"Yes, we trusted the psychiatrists. If you have a broken leg, you go

e, en it	Pro fessionals	"Years ago, we being 'dummy parents' thought the experts knew what they were doing."
	Stage 8: Belief in the Family's Expertise	"When somebody is in the home with you all the time you get to know when medication is working and wheisn't."
	Stage 9: Worrying About the Future	"The future is the biggest question on my mind. My husband is 60 and I'm 59. And we hope to live forey