The case of Evelyn C.

Evelyn C. a 36 years old homemaker and mother of two school-age children (from previous marriage), began to drink to excess especially following intense disagreement with her husband, John, a manager of a retail business. For several months, she had been drinking the day when her children were at school and on two occasions was inebriated when they came home. On one recent occasion, Evelyn failed to pick up her older daughter after an after-school event. Her daughter call John’s cell phone (he was out of town on a business trip), and he had an assistant pick her up. When they arrived home, Evelyn (apparently unaware of the problem she had caused) created a scene and was verbally abusive toward the assistant. Her out-of –control drinking increased when her husband of 3 years began staying out all night. These emotionally charged encounters resulted in John’s physically abusing her one morning when he came back home after a night away. John moved out of the house and filled a divorce.