

RISK ASSESSMENT INTERVIEWING GUIDE

- The Risk Assessment, if done appropriately, may assist the Child Welfare worker in predicting the likelihood of child abuse or neglect occurring in our families. Certain factors help predict whether the adults involved have the potential for violence. Clients who are potentially dangerous to themselves or others, or who are victims or perpetrators of abuse, present malpractice risks associated with assessment and prediction. Malpractice claims have been made against Child Welfare workers for a number of reasons when violence occurs, including not identifying factors that may have predicted risk of violence. If asked, the 22 simple questions listed below may help the caseworker gather information about their clients to complete a more accurate risk assessment. Obviously, some questions may need follow-up depending on the client's answers. This is certainly not an all-inclusive list of questions.

FACTOR #5 (Age, Physical, Intellectual, Emotional Status)

1. Have you ever been in counseling for any reason?
2. Have you ever been hospitalized for any reason?
3. Do you have any health problems?
4. What was the highest grade you completed in school?
5. Others?

FACTOR #8 (Alcohol/Substance Abuse)

1. Are you currently, or have you ever been on any medication?
2. Have you ever had a DUI traffic violation?
3. Have you ever been arrested for any crime involving the use of drugs or alcohol?
4. Others?

FACTOR#10 (Prior Abuse/Neglect)

1. Tell me what it was like in your home when you were a child?
2. How are things between you and your parents (and siblings) now?
3. Others?

FACTOR# 11 (Relationship with Children)

1. Tell me about your children?
2. What do your kids do that you like?
3. Others?

FACTOR# 12 (Family Violence)

1. Have you ever been arrested or charged with any crime?
2. Have the police ever been to your home?
3. Have you ever been in jail?
4. Did anyone ever have a PFA filed against them?
5. How do you try to resolve differences when they occur?
6. Others?

FACTOR# 14 (Family Supports)

1. Do you belong to any community agencies?
2. What do you like to do for entertainment in your spare time?
3. Do you have friends/family that you get together with?
4. Others?

FACTOR# 15 (Stressors)

1. How long have you lived here?
2. What is your means of income?
3. How long have you been together?
4. Others?