

## **RISK CATEGORY III FAMILY ENVIRONMENT**

“As always in human behavior, the important outcomes. . .are the product of interacting factors (in this case the personal and social resources of the parent.) It is in this sense that the ecological perspective shed light on child maltreatment. It directs our attention to personally impoverished families clustered in socially impoverished places: high risk families and high risk neighborhoods.” (Garbarino in Pelton, 1995)

“A study of parents who had been abused as children attempted to identify factors which could differentiate between those who went on to mistreat their own children and those who broke the cycle and did not abuse. Non-repeating families were observed to be more likely to mention important friends, to be more involved with extended family, to participate in church or other social groups, to use community agencies, to be living with baby’s natural father or with extended family, and to have returned to work or school.” (Hunter and Kilstrom, 1979)

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A) What economic or social characteristics did the Creekmore family exhibit that may have increased risk to the child?

B) Develop a list of community agencies and other individuals that were involved with the Creekmore family. Discuss a plan that would have better utilized these resources in an effort to protect this child.