

Full Disclosure Interview

- **Rights** – Parents have a legal right to be present in court and be a part of the Child Permanency Plan.
- **Responsibilities** – Each member of the team has a role and responsibilities (private/public agency, parent, foster/kinship caregiver). It is important that each person's role and responsibilities are outlined on the Child Permanency Plan.
- **Expectations** – parents and worker, options, consequences
- **Out-of-home placements effect on children** – It is important for parents to understand that an out-of-home placement – no matter how well planned - has an emotional impact on children.
- You have choices and paths to choice, here are paths other parents have taken through the system. Generally, there are four:
 - Parents can work actively with the agency on the court-ordered service plan so that reunification is the most likely outcome. This is the choice we hope parents will make.
 - Parents can withdraw, disappear or only sporadically appear so that no service plan can really get going. In this case, the agency will move ahead *more quickly* with an alternative permanent plan. It is vital for parents to know what our response will be if they demonstrate ambivalence or reluctance.
 - Parents can take an adversarial stance against all proposed services; visit schedules, evaluations, etc., so that the process slows down while every decision is handled legally, rather than between worker and parent. In this instance, while a permanency outcome will be delayed, the parent will not be able to demonstrate progress to the court on their own behalf so reunification is not likely.
 - Finally, a parent can decide for their child to live permanently with a relative or permanency planning parent and the worker can help make this happen. This is the parent's right to do, and can be a good plan in some situations. Often, by agreement between the families, some contact can continue through future years.