

Children's Domestic Violence Assessment Tool

Case Name: _____ Case #: _____ Date: _____

The purpose of this tool is to help assess safety, risk, strengths and needs. It may be used to assist in decision making and service planning during any stage of the CPS case (assessment through case planning and case management) in conjunction with the required Structured Decision Making Tools. The tool is designed for use with the child(ren) in CPS cases involving domestic violence.

Assessing the Children's Exposure to Violence:

According to the children, how often	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Does violence occur in their family?				
Have they been hit or hurt when there is violence in the family?				

Follow up questions concerning the children's exposure to violence
What happens when there is violence in their family?
If there is yelling during violent incidents, who does it?
If there is hitting during violent incidents, who does it?
What usually happens before the hitting starts?
What do the children do when there is violence in the family?

Assessing the Impact of the Violence on the Child:

According to the children, how often	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Do they think about the violence in the family?				
Do they think about the violence while at school or playing?				
Do they have trouble sleeping at night?				
Are they afraid to be at home?				
Are they afraid to leave the home?				

Follow up questions concerning the impact of violence on the children
What do they think causes them to be afraid?
What do they think is the cause of the violence?
How do they say the violence makes them feel?
What would they like to see happen to make their family better?
What is it they do when there is violence in the family?
Have they talked to other adults about the violence in the family? If so, who?