



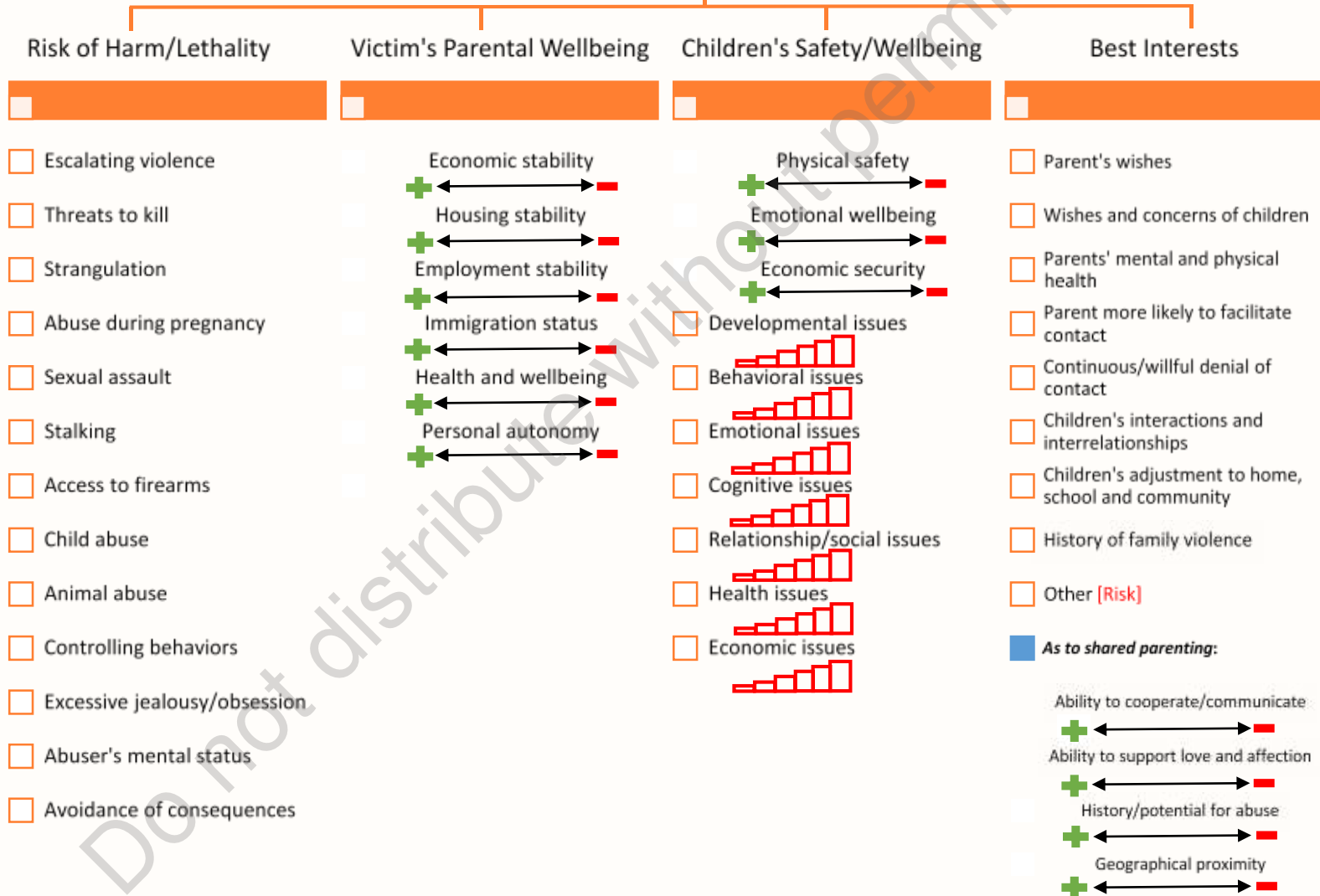
# ASSESSING THE NATURE & CONTEXT OF IPV

Is IPV an issue?    What is the abuser doing?    What's the effect on...?    What can be done about it?



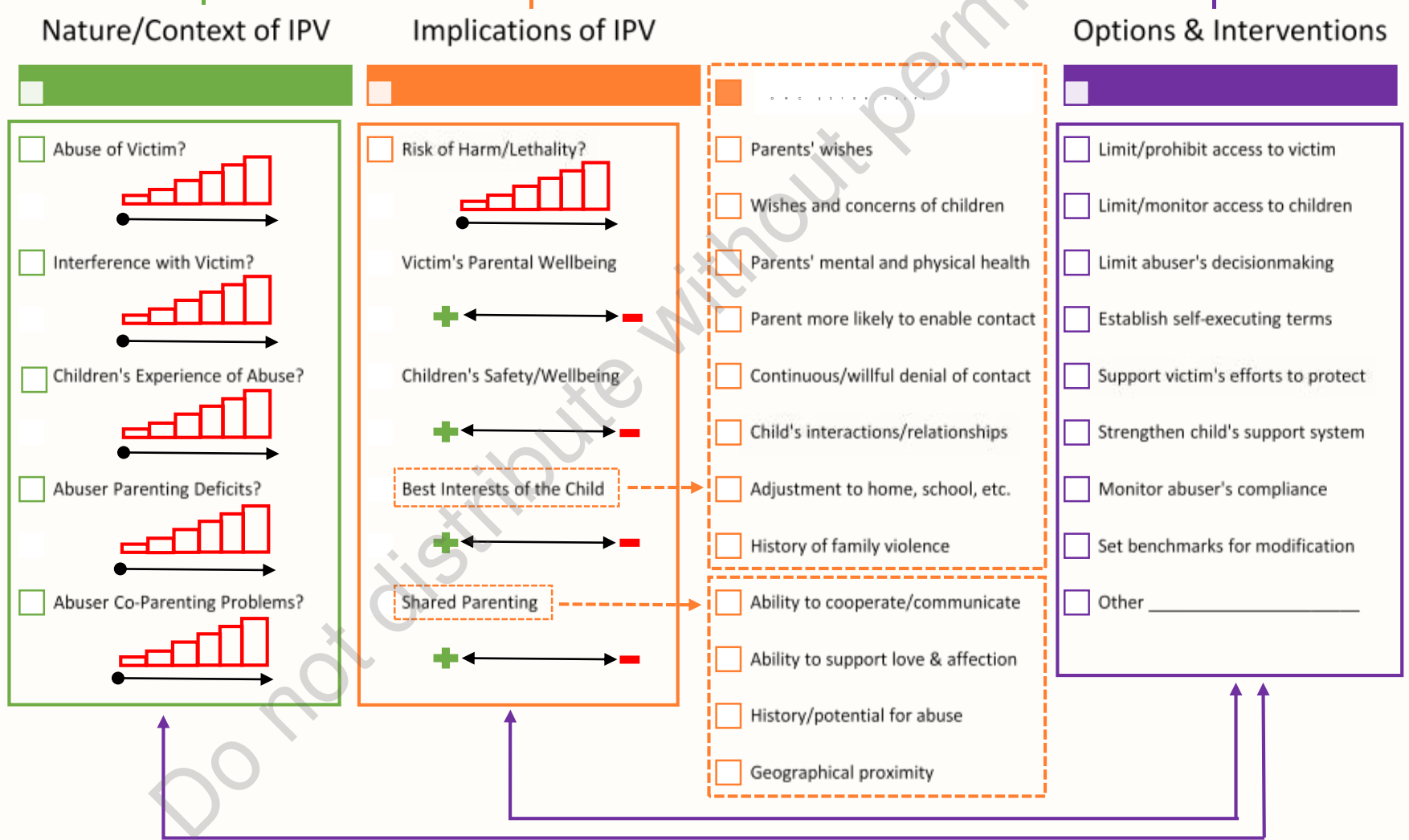
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## FOCUSING ON THE EFFECTS OF IPV



# RESPONDING TO IPV

- Is IPV an issue?
- What is the abuser doing?
- What's the effect on...?
- What can be done about it?



## Physical/Sexual Abuse



**Harm to the victim's physical safety and bodily integrity**



- ASSAULT**  
Pushing, shoving, shaking, grabbing, scratching, pulling, twisting, slapping, hitting, punching, kicking, choking, strangling, burning, stabbing
- FORCE OR RESTRAINT**  
Holding down, pinning, kneeling on, sitting upon, tying up, binding, gagging, forcing sex, trafficking, compelling pornography, exploiting labor
- DEPRIVATION**  
Withholding food, medicine, shelter, sleep, necessities, etc.
- SABOTAGE**  
Disabling vehicles, tampering with utilities, setting traps, interfering with birth control, disabling medical equipment

## Emotional Abuse



**Harm to victim's emotional safety, security, or wellbeing**



- DEGRADATION**  
Name calling, ridiculing in public, insulting, demeaning, humiliating, dehumanizing
- INTIMIDATION**  
Yelling and screaming, acting aggressively, displaying weapons, driving recklessly, making unfounded accusations, destroying things
- THREATS**  
Threats to kill or harm victim, children, self, or others; threats to destroy reputation, things of value, immigration or work status, relationships, etc.
- DISRUPTION**  
Creating unpredictability, chaos, or confusion; crazy making; obsessive jealousy; interrupting plans, work, or relationships

## Economic Abuse



**Harm to victim's financial security, stability, standing, or self-sufficiency**



- REFUSAL TO SUPPORT**  
Denying money, refusing to pay bills, refusing to pass title, failing to pay premiums, withholding access to credit
- HIDE OR DISSIPATE ASSETS**  
Emptying bank accounts, hiding assets, stealing or selling property, cancelling insurance or credit cards, hiding bills or financial information
- DAMAGE CREDIT/STANDING**  
Destroying credit, running up debt, taking out loans, forging papers, hacking into accounts, identity theft
- UNDERMINE OPPORTUNITY**  
Refusing to work or to let victim work, trying to get victim fired, refusing to sign papers, lying to immigration, filing false claims, constantly returning to court

## Spiritual/Ethical Abuse




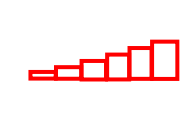
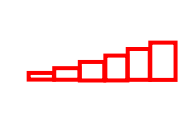
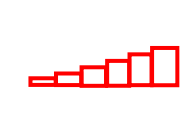
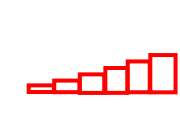
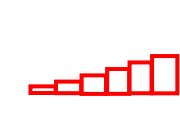
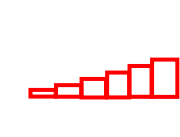
**Harm to victim's religious values or deeply held beliefs**



- MISUSE OF RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY**  
Using sacred text to justify abuse, citing scripture to gain compliance, turning religious community against victim, insulating victim within faith community, restricting help-seeking to faith community
- MORAL CORRUPTION**  
Forcing victim into prostitution or pornography; forcing victim to use or sell illegal drugs; forcing victim to steal or pass bad checks; engaging in criminal activity over victim's objection; exposing children to negative influence

## Abuse of Victim Detail

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<p><b>Interference with Resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Do you have access to your own resources, like money, bank accounts, food, housing, transportation, and healthcare?</li> <li>•Who decides how you spend money and manage your financial affairs?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Interference with Daily Affairs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•How much freedom do you have in your everyday life to come and go as you please, manage your own time, make your own decisions, set your own priorities, interact with other?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Interference with Work, School, Immigration Status</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Is there anything that gets in your way of getting to work or school, doing your work or studying without interruption, pursuing a career or education, or succeeding at work or school?</li> <li>•Is there anything that gets in the way of your immigration status?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Interference with Ability to Meet Daily Needs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Is there anything that gets in your way of eating, sleeping, keeping and maintaining a home, getting from place to place, providing for yourself, exercising, seeking medical attention when you need it, keeping up with medications, having time to yourself, keeping current on your bills and obligations?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Interference with Parenting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Is there anything that gets in your way of protecting and caring for your children?</li> <li>•Do you have any concerns about your children or fears for their safety?</li> <li>•Has the other ever used or threatened to use the children to manipulate, control, or monitor you?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Interference with Social or Cultural Connections</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Is there anything that gets in your way of keeping in touch with your friends and family, connecting with your religious and cultural communities, practicing your faith, staying true to your cultural values and beliefs, or getting together with people who matter to you?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Unwanted Intrusion</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Has the other ever followed you, constantly checked up on you, opened your mail, examined your phone records, hacked into your email, grilled you or timed your activities, used others to spy on you, invaded your space or privacy, misused social network sites, reported you to authorities without reason or cause?</li> </ul>	

**Interference with Victim Detail**

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<p>IPV during pregnancy</p>	<p>The developing fetus experiences abuse <i>in utero</i>, where, for instance, the abuser:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•kicks, punches, terrorizes, or sexually assaults a pregnant partner; deprives a pregnant partner of food, sleep, or prenatal care</li> </ul>	
<p>Direct intervention in IPV</p>	<p>The child takes affirmative steps to make the abuse end, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•pleading with the abuser to stop, calling for help, blocking abuser's access to victim-parent, pulling the abuser off the victim</li> </ul>	
<p>Direct harm from IPV</p>	<p>The child suffers verbal, physical, or emotional harm during the course of IPV, as when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•the child gets caught in the crossfire, is blamed for IPV, is ridiculed for crying, is told they're next, is punished for intervening</li> </ul>	
<p>Direct participation in IPV</p>	<p>The child joins in the IPV, due to force, coercion, identification with abuser, or self-preservation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•abuser uses child to spy, taunt, or assault victim; abuser rewards child for participating in IPV; child goes along to stay safe</li> </ul>	
<p>Observation of IPV</p>	<p>The child sees or hears IPV, either directly or indirectly, where, for instance, the child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•watches an assault, observes coercive power, hears threats or pleas for mercy, observes degradation, sees intimidation</li> </ul>	
<p>Retreat from IPV</p>	<p>The child takes cover from IPV by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•running away from home, hiding under the bed, using alcohol or drugs, locking him/herself in the closet, tuning out the world</li> </ul>	
<p>Witness initial effects of IPV</p>	<p>The child observes the immediate effects of IPV, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•blood, bruises, and other injuries; ambulances and emergency vehicles; a parent being arrested; damaged property; trauma</li> </ul>	
<p>Experience aftermath of IPV</p>	<p>The child faces life-altering change as a result of IPV, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•parental anxiety, separation or relocation, broken social ties, breakdown in trust, chaos, uncertainty, disruption to routines</li> </ul>	
<p>Knowledge of IPV</p>	<p>The child is told about (or overhears) conversations regarding IPV by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•parents, extended family members, police, child protection workers, judges, lawyers, guardians ad litem, teachers, therapists</li> </ul>	



Physical/Sexual Abuse of Child

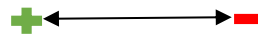
Emotional Abuse of Child

Economic Abuse of Child

Use of Child as Tool of IPV

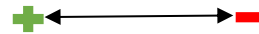


**Harm to the child's physical safety, security, and wellbeing**



- ASSAULT**  
Pushing, shoving, shaking, grabbing, slapping, hitting, punching, kicking, choking, strangling, burning, stabbing, having sexual contact
- FORCE OR RESTRAINT**  
Abducting, sexually exploiting, using child in pornography, sex or labor trafficking, forcing child to have sex with others, keeping child from leaving
- DEPRIVATION**  
Withholding food, medicine, shelter, sleep, necessities, etc.
- SABOTAGE**  
Interfering with child's healthcare, education, privacy, recreation, exercise, diet, gender expression, etc.

**Harm to child's emotional safety, development, security, or wellbeing**



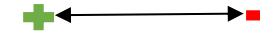
- DEGRADATION**  
Name calling, mocking, shaming, criticizing, blaming, rejecting, humiliating, morally corrupting
- INTIMIDATION**  
Yelling and screaming, acting aggressively, displaying weapons, driving recklessly, destroying things, demanding affection or loyalty, inducing fear or terror
- DENIAL AND THREATS**  
Withholding support or affection; refusing to meet child's emotional needs; isolating child from friends; threatening to kill or harm child, self, others; threatening to leave
- DISRUPTION**  
Creating unpredictability, chaos, or confusion; disrupting structure or routines; fluctuating involvement; breaking promises; violating boundaries; missing visits

**Unnecessary harm to the child's economic stability or security**



- DENIAL OF SUPPORT**  
Refusing to pay child support, failing to pay bills or insurance premiums, withholding access to insurance cards, trading money or support for visitation
- DISSIPATION OF ASSETS**  
Emptying bank accounts, hiding assets, stealing or selling property, cancelling insurance or credit cards
- INTERFERENCE**  
Denying other parent access to information or resources; shutting off utilities; taking or disabling vehicles; cancelling insurance; interfering with other parent's work

**Use of child to control, manipulate, threaten or harm the other parent**



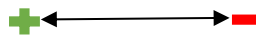
- THREATS & HARASSMENT**  
Threatening to harm or take the child, using custody to harass other parent, using visitation to access other parent, disrupting visitation schedule to punish other parent, using child to spy or tell on other parent
- MANIPULATION**  
Pitting child against other parent, encouraging or rewarding child to disrespect other parent, using child to bargain with other parent, using child to coerce or harass the other parent, degrading other parent to child, neglecting child on visits

## Parenting by Abuser-Parent

### Denying Impact of IPV on Child



**Failure to acknowledge and repair damage from one's own abuse**

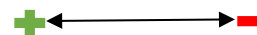


- Justifying or excusing abuse
- Blaming others for abuse
- Demanding respect for abuse
- Refusing to get help for abuse
- Refusing counseling for child
- Interfering with child's care
- Being intolerant of criticism
- Disregarding child's needs
- Refusing to apologize for abuse
- Forcing unwanted child contact
- Interfering with other parent's efforts to care for/protect child

### Ignoring Child's Separate Needs



**Failure to distinguish child's needs or identity separate from one's own**



- Putting one's own needs above child's
- Thinking child's needs are identical to own's own
- Believing child thinks or feels the same way as oneself
- Believing one exclusively knows what's best for the child
- Obsessively attaching to child
- Seeing no value in other parent's contact, absent cause
- Believing, without cause, child is being poisoned by other parent
- Believing, without cause, child is just mirroring other parent
- Believing, without cause, child and other parent are conspiring

### Undermining Other's Parenting Relationship



**Interference with other parent's relationship or parental authority**



- Refusing to follow established rules
- Violating established parenting agreements
- Withholding information concerning the child
- Disrupting child's schedule or routine
- Disrespecting other parent's new partner
- Ignoring child's allergies or illnesses
- Refusing to agree to rules or structure
- Making false claims to authorities
- Under- or over-medicating child
- Using new partner as a replacement parent
- Disparaging other parent in front of child

### Relentless Harassment



**Disruption of everyday life and creation of persistent instability**



- Constantly disrupting child's schedule and routine
- Engaging in harassing litigation
- Repeatedly filing false reports to authorities
- Fluctuating involvement with child
- Constantly raising "technical arguments"
- Purposefully missing visits and appointments
- Constantly changing rules or expectations
- Stalking other parent or child
- Routinely cancelling and rescheduling appointments
- Habitually showing up unannounced
- Sabotaging other parent at every turn

NATURE & CONTEXT OF IPV

Abuse of Victim-Parent

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Economic abuse
- Spiritual/moral abuse

Interference with Victim

- Access to resources
- Freedom to manage affairs
- Immigration/work status
- Ability to meet daily needs
- Social/cultural connection
- Freedom from intrusion

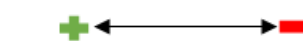
Parenting by Abuser

- Physical protection of child
- Emotional support of child
- Economic support of child
- Protection of child from IPV
- Accepting responsibility
- Responsive to child's needs
- Support of victim-child rel'p
- Respect for parental authority

Child's Experience of IPV



Co-Parenting Relationship



EFFECTS OF IPV ON....

Safety

**Look for:** Stalking, sexual assault, abuse during pregnancy, threats to kill, strangulation, controlling behaviors, access to weapons, increased frequency or severity of IPV, child abuse, animal abuse, excessive jealousy or obsession, abuser's mental state, avoidance of consequences

Economic Stability

**Look for:** Poverty, financial dependence, inability to establish or maintain credit, inability to care for children, reliance on social welfare programs, inadequate means to achieve self-sufficiency, lack of leisure time, stress, desperation, etc.

Housing Stability

**Look for:** Homelessness, substandard housing, repeated moves, reliance on others for shelter, housing/health code violations, predatory leases, break-ins, evictions, address confidentiality issues

Immigration Status



Employment Stability

**Look for:** Persistent unemployment, low wages, excessive absences, repeated disciplinary action, depletion or loss of benefits, damaged professional reputation, poor work performance, no promotions, missed opportunities, etc.

Personal Autonomy

**Look for:** Entrapment, dependence, isolation, limited life choices, lack of control over personal/home life, lack of control over parenting/children, inability to meet daily needs/responsibilities, lack of personal fulfillment, etc.

Child's Safety & Wellbeing

See Worksheet on Children and IPV

Victim's Health & Wellbeing

**Look for:** Physical injury, medical issues, trauma, stress, anxiety, sense of self, satisfaction in life, social connections, support systems, personal resources, etc.

### NATURE & CONTEXT OF IPV

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Abuse of Victim-Parent</b> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Parenting by Abuser</b> Physical protection of child <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional support of child <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> Economic support of child <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of child from IPV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> Accepting responsibility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> Responsive to child's needs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> Support of victim-child rel'p <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> Respect for parental authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Interference with Victim</b> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Co-Parenting Relationship</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Experience of IPV</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure during pregnancy <input type="checkbox"/> Direct intervention <input type="checkbox"/> Direct harm <input type="checkbox"/> Direct participation <input type="checkbox"/> Observation of IPV <input type="checkbox"/> Retreat from IPV <input type="checkbox"/> Witness initial effects of IPV <input type="checkbox"/> Experience aftermath <input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge of IPV 	

### EFFECTS OF IPV ON....

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Physical Safety</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Look for:</b> Stalking, sexual assault, abuse during pregnancy, threats to kill, strangulation, controlling behaviors, access to weapons, increased frequency or severity of IPV, child abuse, animal abuse, excessive jealousy or obsession, abuser's mental state, avoidance of consequences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Development</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Look for:</b> Failure to meet physical or emotional milestones, maladaptive stress responses, poor sleep/awake functioning, emotional detachment, negative feelings about being loved, confident, and safe to explore the world, etc.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Emotional Wellbeing</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Look for:</b> Anxiety or restlessness, fear of being alone, nightmares or sleep disruptions, inability to focus, lack of interest, exaggerated startle response, difficulty separating from parents, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Behavior</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Look for:</b> Self-harm, delinquency, running away, physical aggression or bullying, hyperactivity, truancy, unregulated temper, defiance of authority, regressive behaviors (baby talk, crying spells, fear of the dark, clinginess), promiscuity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Economic Security</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Look for:</b> Poverty, homelessness, social isolation, exclusion from higher education or extracurricular activities, increased responsibility to work or care for younger children, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Thinking &amp; Perception</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Look for:</b> Poor verbal, analytic, or motor skill development, academic underachievement, distorted memory, trouble concentrating, thinking, learning, or processing information
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Health</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Child's Relationships</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ← → <input type="checkbox"/> Empathy, trust, aggression, manipulation

### NATURE & CONTEXT OF IPV

**Abuse of Victim-Parent**

**Interference with Victim**

**Parenting by Abuser**

Physical protection of child

Emotional support of child

Economic support of child

Protection of child from IPV

Accepting responsibility

Responsive to child's needs

Support of victim-child rel'p

Respect for parental authority

**Child's Experience of IPV**

Exposure during pregnancy

Direct intervention

Direct harm

Direct participation

Observation of IPV

Retreat from IPV

Witness initial effects of IPV

Experience aftermath

Knowledge of IPV

**Co-Parenting Relationship**

### EFFECTS OF IPV ON....

**Child's Wellbeing**

Physical safety

Emotional wellbeing

Economic security

Developmental issues

Behavioral issues

Cognitive issues

Relationship issues

**Risk of Harm/Lethality**

**Look for:** Stalking, sexual assault, abuse during pregnancy, strangulation, threats to kill, controlling behaviors, access to weapons, increased frequency or severity of IPV, child abuse, animal abuse, excessive jealousy or obsession, abuser's mental state, avoidance of consequences

**Victim's Parental Wellbeing**

Safety

Economic stability

Housing stability

Employment stability

Immigration status

Health & wellbeing

Personal autonomy

**Best Interests of the Child**

Parent's wishes

Wishes and concerns of child

Mental and physical health

Parent most likely to facilitate contact

Child's interactions/interrelationships

Adjustment to home, school, etc.

History of domestic violence

Capacity to provide care

Ability to assure basic needs are met

Willingness to accept responsibility

Need to promote continuity/stability

Relative quality of parent/child rel'ps

Parental decision-making history

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**LIMIT OR MONITOR ABUSIVE PARENT'S ACCESS TO CHILD OR VICTIM PARENT:**

- Limit methods of communication (no in-person, telephonic or social media contact)
- Prescribe frequency and methods of communication (email only, text only, etc.)
- Restrict length and/or content of communication (1-page, 10-minutes, scope, etc.)
- Limit access to sensitive information (addresses, account numbers, SSNs, records)
- Issue and enforce no contact orders and orders for protection
- Require neutral exchange locations (school, place of business, etc.)
- Require third party exchanges (professional, friend, family member, etc.)
- Restrict visitation to designated location (grandparent's home, public park, church)
- Restrict visitation to a geographical area (25-mile radius, in town, state, or country)
- Condition visitation on having third party present (professional, friend, family)
- Restrict what can happen during visitation (no alcohol or drugs, no weapons, etc.)
- Establish benchmarks for unsupervised access (no abuse, no threats, no violations)
- Condition access on compliance with established terms (sobriety, BIP, car seat, etc.)
- Appoint a post-visitation safety monitor to ensure visits are safe and go as planned
- Periodically monitor and conduct risk and danger assessments
- Define consequences for non-compliance with access restrictions
- Other:

**MONITOR AND ENFORCE ABUSIVE PARENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH PARENTING PLAN:**

- Conduct review hearings
- Establish schedule for abusive parent to demonstrate compliance with plan
- Set automatic consequences for non-compliance with parenting plan
- Appoint a compliance monitor at abusive parent's cost
- Hold abusive parent accountable for unjustified, unexcused, intentional violations
- Other:

**REQUIRE ABUSIVE PARENT TO PARTICIPATE IN REMEDIAL INTERVENTIONS AND/OR**

**SERVICES:**

- Refer abusive parent to batterer intervention for assessment and proper services
- Refer abusive parent to parenting after violence for assessment/proper services
- Other:

**LIMIT ABUSIVE PARENT'S RULEMAKING OR DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

- Grant sole legal custody to victim parent, with or without specified exceptions
- Grant parallel legal custody, with or without specified exceptions
- Appoint a parenting consultant to confer with abuser on all major decisions
- Appoint a parenting monitor to oversee and periodically assess abuser's parenting
- Limit abuser's ability to dispose of real or personal property or to dissipate assets
- Appoint a special master to monitor and effectuate property allocations
- Other:

**SUPPORT VICTIM PARENT'S EFFORTS TO PROTECT CHILD:**

- Link parental decision-making authority to parental responsibility for child's care
- Designate victim parent as the custodian of records
- Secure documents victim needs to care for and protect the child
- Secure immigration documents
- Secure health insurance for victim and child
- Provide victim parent with information about available community-based resources
- Facilitate victim parent's access to available community-based resources
- Establish self-executing parenting plan enforcement mechanisms
- Allow direct and expedited access to parenting plan enforcement mechanisms
- Establish automatic bill-paying processes for abuser's financial obligations
- Delineate reasonable house rules
- Limit grounds upon which abuser may object to the victim's parenting decisions
- Permit the victim to relocate with the child in accordance with the law
- Make relationship findings (age, existence of marriage, parent-child relationships)

**STRENGTHEN CHILD'S SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT:**

- Ensure that parenting plan accommodates child's interests, activities and supports
- Provide sufficient parenting time flexibility to adapt to child's age and social needs
- Structure parenting time to maintain access to child's support system
- Connect child and victim parent to available community-based resources