Washington State Juvenile Court Assessment Manual Version 2.0

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

I. History of the Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators Risk Assessment (WAJCA-RA)

The 1997 Washington State Legislature established the Community Juvenile Accountability Act. The goal of the Act is to reduce recidivism and crime rates of juvenile offenders in Washington State. Under the Act, local governments can apply for funds to provide a continuum of community-based programs emphasizing a juvenile offender's accountability and assisting the offender to develop the skills necessary to function efficiently and positively in the community in a manner consistent with public safety.

The legislation specified that the Washington State Department of Social and Health Service's Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, in consultation with the Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators, the State Law and Justice Advisory Council, and the Family Policy Council, establishes guidelines for the Community Juvenile Accountability Programs. The Act requires that guidelines contain the following requirements for programs. The programs must:

- (a) Target diverted and adjudicated juvenile offenders;
- (b) Use a risk assessment to determine which programs are most likely to be effective with particular juvenile offenders;
- (c) Use maximum structured community supervision to the greatest extent possible;
- (d) Promote good work ethic values and educational skills;
- (e) Maximize delivery of services that reduce risk factors associated with juvenile offending;
- (f) For juveniles released from confinement, maximize the reintegration of offenders into the community;
- (g) Maximize the juvenile offender's opportunity to make full restitution to victims and the community;
- (h) Encourage court discretion in imposing community-based interventions;
- (i) Be compatible with research that shows which prevention and early intervention strategies work with juvenile offenders;
- (j) Be outcome-based;
- (k) Include an evaluation component; and
- (I) Recognize the diversity of local needs.

The Washington State Association of Juvenile Court Administrators asked the Washington State Institute for Public Policy to develop the risk assessment specified in the Act. The Association stated that the standardized assessment must be able to assist professionals working with juvenile offenders to:

- 1. Determine the level of risk for re-offending posed by juvenile offenders so the courts may target more intensive efforts at higher risk youth and not use scarce resources for lower risk youth.
- 2. Identify the targets of intervention to guide the rehabilitative effort. This includes a thorough assessment of risk factors that have been consistently linked to criminal behavior as well as, protective and competency factors related to pro-social development.
- 3. Develop a case management plan focused on intervention strategies that are linked to reductions in future criminal behavior by reducing risk factors and strengthening protective and competency factors.
- 4. Monitor the youth's progress in reducing risk factors and increasing protective factors to know whether the case management strategy is effective.
- 5. Reduce paperwork through the use of computerized assessment and monitoring software.
- 6. Provide juvenile court management with information on the progress made to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors by court programs and contracted service providers.

These requirements necessitated the development of a comprehensive risk/need assessment designed to meet the requirements of the Washington State Association of Juvenile Court Administrators and the 1997 CJAA.

The development of the risk assessment has been a collaborative process. The current instrument is called the Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators – Risk Assessment (WAJCA-RA).

Helping Manage Youth on Community Supervision: Focusing on Risk and Increasing Protective Factors

Providing juvenile probation counselors with a tool to help keep youth from further entrenchment in the criminal justice system by changing risk and protective factors.

Background

The Washington State Association of Juvenile Court Administrators asked the Washington State Institute for Public Policy to develop the risk assessment specified in the 1997 Community Juvenile Accountability Act. The Association stated that the standardized assessment must assist juvenile probation counselors to:

- Determine the *level of risk for re-offending* posed by juvenile offenders.
- Identify recidivism risk and protective factors that need attention.
- Develop a *supervision plan* to reduce risk and increase protective factors.
- *Monitor the youth's progress* in reducing risk factors and increasing protective factors.
- Reduce paperwork with computerized assessment and monitoring software.
- Assess the *program effectiveness* by measuring changes in risk and protective factors at program completion rather than waiting 30 months to measure recidivism.

The resulting risk assessment process was a collaborative development between the Institute and the juvenile courts. The current instrument is called the Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators—Risk Assessment (WAJCA-RA).

This is a description of how to use the assessment to help manage youth on community supervision. To be successful, the assessment process must be a tool that helps the juvenile probation counselor in their work.

A Process, Not an Event

The WAJCA-RA is a process conducted throughout a youth's stay on community supervision. That is, *risk assessment is not a single event, but a process for managing the juvenile probation counselor's rehabilitative efforts with youth.* The purpose of the process is to target for change those risk and protective factors related to re-offending. Research indicates that reducing risk and increasing protective factors should reduce recidivism. The assessment process includes an initial assessment and goal setting, re-assessment and goal monitoring and a final assessment.

Initial Assessment: The assessment process starts when a youth is brought to the court for a new offense. A structured interview is conducted with the youth and youth's family to gather the risk and protective factor information. The juvenile probation counselor uses their professional judgment to analyze this information and complete the assessment items. The analysis combines a thorough understanding of the assessment concepts with the ability to elicit information during this initial assessment.

A **Pre-Screen Assessment** is a shortened version of the full assessment that takes much less time. The Pre-Screen indicates whether the youth is of low, moderate or high risk. The information collected during the pre-screen is carried forward for use in the full assessment.

Based on the initial risk assessment, the juvenile probation counselor can **set goals** for the youth including the youth's **court obligations**, and optionally place the youth into an **intervention** designed for the youth's risk profile.

A **correction of an existing Initial Assessment** may be necessary when new or different information is obtained after the Initial Assessment is completed. For example, the criminal history domain needs correcting because the youth was recently adjudicated for an offense committed prior to the Initial Assessment. This does not create a new assessment.

Re-Assessment: The Re-Assessment is the juvenile probation counselor's principle tool for tracking the youth's progress on factors related to re-offending. A re-assessment is the detection of changes in a youth's risk or protective factors during supervision.

A re-assessment does not require repeating the structured-interview of the youth. Rather, the juvenile probation counselor reviews the risk and protective factor information prior to talking with the youth. Following a conversation with the youth, the juvenile probation counselor records any changes discovered. Only factors that have changed are recorded.

The re-assessment software is designed to help make this process efficient and effective. Changes recorded for each factor are maintained in the system so the juvenile probation counselor has access to the full history.

The juvenile probation counselor monitors the tasks associated with the youth's goals, records progress, sets new goals and establishes new tasks. Task due dates can be used to manage this effort. These goals and tasks can be court order obligations, directives of the juvenile probation counselor or mutually agreed upon plans.

Final Assessment: The last re-assessment done while the youth is under this period of supervision whether the youth successfully or unsuccessfully completed supervision in the Court Status area. All final changes to the assessment information are made and the assessment is closed for that youth's community supervision period.

Selecting an Intervention that best meets the Youth's Risk Profile

The research literature and common sense tells us that an assessment alone will not reduce recidivism. To be complete, the supervision system needs a menu of proven interventions that are designed to address groups of youth with certain risk profiles. For example, Functional Family Therapy and Multi-Systematic Therapy are interventions designed for higher-risk youth who have high family risk factors. Aggression Replacement Training is appropriate for higher-risk youth with aggression problems. Additional research-proven programs are needed for other groups of moderate to high-risk youth; programs for non-aggressive youth from stronger families and programs for youth with an alcohol/drug problem. Effective programs for lower-risk youth such as mentoring and coordination of services need to be tried and evaluated.

The WAJCA-RA is designed to be a tool for juvenile probation counselors to focus monitoring and rehabilitation on changing risk and protective factors and using research-proven programs. Before the instrument is described a brief look at the evolution of risk assessment is provided.

II Evolution of Risk Assessment

Standardized risk assessments have become increasingly popular in the field of corrections and the empirical evidence largely supports the implementation of such tools. The advantages of these assessments include:

- Noted increases in predictive accuracy (actuarial assessment versus clinical judgment)
- A reliance on a common theoretical model
- The identification of factors correlated with future criminal behavior
- The development of a case management plan
- The identification and effective use of resources
- Standardization of the assignment of levels of supervision and service
- Noted increases in staff proficiency
- Noted increases in assessment and interview skills
- The application of the principles of effective intervention

A fundamental property of a standardized risk assessment is reliability. A reliable instrument should produce the same assessment results for the same subject, when done by different assessors or when done shortly later. For an instrument to be used reliably there must be clear definitions for the concepts being assessed and extensive training must precede the use of the assessment. Only individuals who have completed the training and are certified should be allowed to perform these assessments. To ensure the reliable use of the WAJCA-RA, an implementation protocol has been proposed. The protocol provides information on who can implement the tool, certification, and quality assurance.

The second property of a risk assessment is its validity - that the assessment accurately measures what it intends to measure. For the Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators, the assessment must measure those factors related to the youth's risk of re-offending. There are two types of validity: <u>face validity and empirical validity</u>.

<u>Face validity</u> means the assessment adequately represents the concepts/constructs related to reoffending so that a practitioner has faith in the assessment providing a comprehensive and useful picture of the youth. Unless the risk assessment is considered by the practitioner to be a useful tool for working with youth, s/he will not consider the assessment valid. To enhance face validity of the WAJCA-RA, a thorough examination of the existing literature and field experience was used to guide the selection and development of major domains and items.

<u>Empirical validity</u> means the assessment can be shown to accurately predict re-offending (reconvictions). In Washington State, measuring recidivism involves an 18-month follow-up period and a one-year adjudication process time frame. Preliminary validation of the WAJCA-RA will be obtained within a year to 18 months of implementation in a representative sample of youth.

It is anticipated that the validation of the tool will bring some changes to the content and perhaps administration of the tool and computerized software. The changes will reflect experiences and empirical evidence generated from the field and contributes to make this entire effort an exciting and dynamic process.

Characteristics of Good Assessment Systems

Even though techniques and knowledge of what works in risk prediction continues to develop, the following characteristics of a good risk assessment system have remained unchanged:¹

- (a) provision of clear operational definitions to avoid ambiguity;
- (b) adequate reliability across raters and decision makers;
- (c) sufficient validity with respect to what is to be predicted by the assessment system;
- (d) sufficient dynamic properties so that changes in attributes, behavior, or status would be reflected by a change in assessment status;
- (e) implications for treatment or intervention; and
- (f) cost-effective assessment of large numbers of offenders.

Risk Assessment Dimensions

In reviewing the literature on risk assessments, there are several dimensions along which assessments vary:

- the type of classification model employed, either a typology or a scale;
- the major domains of information included in the assessment such as personal history, school, family, peers, attitudes, social skills, and mental health;
- the types of items that measure each domain: static, dynamic, and protective;
- the number of items included in each domain;
- the weighting scheme for each item and each domain; and
- the wording used for each item and item response.

This is an intimidating set of considerations. At the end of the chapter on Criminal Prediction: An Introduction,² David Farrington reduces these considerations to two fundamental principles. "Theoretical considerations should guide the choice of predictors, the choice of criteria, and the methods of selecting and combining predictors into a prediction instrument. Also, there is a pressing need for better methods of measuring predictors and criteria and for the use of multiple measures. What is measured should not be determined by what is available but by what is theoretically desirable and by the considerations of validity and reliability."

This report provides a brief description of these measurement considerations and attempts to use a theoretical framework and organization to compare the JRA assessments to the research literature.

Type of Classification Model: There are two broad types of classification models—typologies and risk scales. Typologies aggregate youth into subgroups that share common symptoms, etiology, behavioral attributes, and other relevant characteristics. Each subgroup is often given a name that symbolically represents the youth within the group. A typology developed for use with juveniles is Lerner's Strategies for Juvenile Supervision³ (SJS), which was piloted at Maple Lane. The purpose of

¹ E. I. Megargee, "A new classification system for criminal offenders," *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 1977, 4:107-114.

² Farrington and Tarling, 1985.

³ Christopher Baird and Deborah Neuenfeldt, "The Client Management Classification System," *FOCUS*, August 1990, The National Center on Crime and Delinquency.

the SJS is to develop strategies for supervision based on four offender types: selective intervention, casework control, environmental structure, and limit setting. These supervision strategies could include housing segregation, styles of communication, and specific programming interventions. These typologies are often based on theoretical or clinical considerations as well as being empirically derived.

The risk scale assessment produces a score that places the youth into a risk level. The risk levels vary from low risk to high risk. The risk level is primarily used for placement into a security level (minimum to maximum security) or community supervision level (low level of supervision to intensive supervision). There are risk scale assessments for specific populations such as sex offenders. These risk scales are always empirically derived.

Major Domains of Information: The next consideration concerns what information should be included in the classification model. The Washington State Juvenile Court Risk Assessment was developed to comprehensively cover the major domains of information identified in the research literature as being related to juvenile delinquency and continued criminal activity by youth. The one domain that is under-represented in this assessment model is a measure describing the risk and protective factors of the community in which the youth lives. An additional domain needs to be added to include the behavior of the youth while confined in a correctional facility. The 11 domains of the WAJCA-RA and the 12th domain for progress while confined are:

- 1. Criminal History
- 2. School
- 3. Use of Free Time
- 4. Employment
- 5. Relationships
- 6. Family
- 7. Alcohol and Drugs
- 8. Mental Health
- 9. Attitudes
- 10. Social Skills
- 11. Progress on Community Supervision
- 12. Progress While Confined

Types of Items That Measure Each Domain: There are two types of items that may be involved in the measurement of each domain: risk and protective factors. David Hawkins and Richard Catalano⁴ have developed a prevention model that includes protective factors as well as risk factors. Protective factors are events or circumstances in the youth's life that reduce the likelihood of the youth committing a crime. An example is having a good relationship with a positive adult role model. Risk factors are circumstances or events in the youth's life that increase the likelihood that the youth will start or continue criminal activities. Two empirically derived risk factors that are included in nearly all juvenile risk assessments are age at first offense, and the number of prior convictions.

Risk and protective factors can be static or dynamic. Dynamic factors are circumstances or conditions in a youth's life that can potentially be changed, such as the youth's friends or school performance. Static factors are events in a youth's life that are historic and cannot be changed, such as the youth being physically abused. The factors typically employed in assessments have measured static risk factors.

⁴ J.D. Hawkins, R.F. Catalano, and J.Y. Miller, "Risk and Protective Factors in Adolescence and Early Adulthood: Implications for Substance Abuse Prevention," *Psychological Bulletin*, 1992, 112:64-105.

Protective factors have not historically been included in risk assessments. They were included in the assessment process for Washington State's Juvenile Court Early Intervention and Accountability Program and preliminary results indicate that protective factors have predictive capability in addition to risk factors. The Hawkins and Catalano model emphasizes the need to strengthen protective factors thereby mitigating the influence of risk factors, as well as reducing risk directly.

A third type of information that appears in the risk assessment literature is needs. Needs are defined as critical problem areas in the youth's life. Traditionally need assessments were used to ensure certain problems were considered in the case plan and in the determination of specific program interventions. Don Andrews, James Bonta, and Robert Hoge have made the argument that the juvenile justice system should focus on those needs that are related to re-offending. They call these criminogenic needs. In this sense, there may be little difference between a dynamic risk factor and a criminogenic need, although this distinction continues to appear in the research literature.

Number of Items Included in Each Domain: The next consideration in examining risk assessment systems is the number of items to include in each domain. This issue involves understanding the concept being measured, and the reliability, sensitivity, and validity of items measuring the concept. Concepts that are either subjective or very broad require multiple items to form a scale. A scale consists of the sum of the scores associated with each item that is included in the scale. Each item in the scale must be correlated with the criteria measure, recidivism. Each item can be moderately correlated with the other items in the scale as long as the average correlation among the items within the scale does not exceed the average correlation between the scale items and recidivism. Linear combinations of items with these properties can have much stronger predictive capability that any single item. That is, employing several items to measure a single concept, but in slightly different ways, may improve the predictive capability of the more subjective concepts. Having multiple items in each scale also improves the reliability of the scale beyond the reliability of the single items within the scale. Because scales take on a wider range of score values, the scale can more sensitively measure the concept. The ability to potentially improve prediction by including more items and concepts in the assessment is often in conflict with the desire to have easy and quick assessments.

Weighting of Each Item and Domain: Once the items that comprise an assessment are defined, the relative weight or score to assign to each item or scale must be an empirically determined. These item scores are summed to produce a total assessment score. Typically, multivariate statistical techniques such as linear or logistic regression are used to determine the item scores. Unfortunately, these empirically derived weighting schemes are subject to "shrinkage"⁵ in predictive capability when the weighting scheme developed in one sample is applied to another sample. Shrinkage means the predictive capability of the assessment is substantially reduced. For this reason, simpler weighting schemes, which are not as subject to shrinkage, are usually employed. These simpler schemes assign whole numbers to each item response or scale that capture relative importance in a more robust way.

Wording Used in Each Item and Item Response: The last consideration for risk assessments is the detailed wording of items and responses. A prerequisite for reliability is having each concept well defined and well understood by those doing the assessment. A great deal of care in the wording and definition for each item and response category to the item must be taken. It is helpful to provide a

⁵ John P. Copas, "Prediction Equations, Statistical Analysis, and Shrinkage," Chapter 12 in *Predication in Criminology,* David Farrington and Roger Tarling (eds.), State University of New York Press, 1985.

theoretical understanding of each concept and item. In practice, even seemingly simple items, like the number of convictions, can become complicated to measure. Are we counting offenses, adjudications, sentences, etc.? This requires having training manuals and training sessions to ensure that those doing the assessments understand the concepts being measured. A periodic review of the assessment system is required to ensure the practice is not slowly moving away from the original definitions and principles.

CHAPTER TWO: INTRODUCTION TO THE WAJCA-RA

I Development of the WAJCA-Risk Assessment

The Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators was developed from four general sources:

- a review of the risk assessment literature,
- a review of existing theoretical models for juvenile delinquency,
- review by an international team of experts, and
- a series of reviews by Washington State Juvenile Court professionals including piloting a draft assessment with 150 youth.

Risk prediction in the juvenile justice system has been evolving for over 30 years. As a result, there is extensive research literature on risk prediction in the juvenile justice system. Robert Hoge's and Don Andrews' recent book, *Assessing the Youthful Offender, Issues and Techniques*,⁶ presents a good academic review of the topic. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's *Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Offenders*⁷ is an excellent source of practical information. David Farrington's and Roger Tarling's *Prediction in Criminology*,⁸ provides a good review of methodology as does Peter R. Jones's article *Risk Prediction in Criminal Justice*.⁹

First, an extensive review of the prediction and treatment outcome literature was conducted. This included an examination of existing risk assessment instruments such as the Client Management Classification System and Wisconsin Risk Scale (1994) and the Youth Level of Service and Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI; Hoge and Andrews, 1996). Those risk factors consistently identified in the literature were incorporated in the assessment. In addition, a review of the protective factors research such as the work of Hawkins and Catalano was conducted.

The WAJCA-RA was developed from two types of risk instruments. The first type of instrument consists primarily of historic or static information. The Wisconsin risk assessment is a well-known example of a static instrument. These instruments contain primarily objective information, explicitly avoiding more subjective or clinical information. The Wisconsin instrument is used in the Washington State Juvenile Court Early Intervention Program (EIP) to screen for program eligibility. The EIP instrument was not used to guide the EIP intervention effort.

The second type of risk instrument includes information that is more clinical in nature and subject to change. This information is known as dynamic risk factors. The Youth Level of Service Inventory (YLSI) is a well-known instrument of this type.

The WAJCA-RA was created by combining the concepts of both types of instruments using research on the theory of delinquency and recidivism. In addition, the WAJCA-RA includes a life or social skills

⁶ Robert Hoge and Don Andrews, Assessing the Youthful Offender, Issues and Techniques, 1996, Plenum Press, New York.

⁷ Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Offenders, 1995, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

⁸ Farrington and Tarling, 1985.

⁹ Peter R. Jones, *Risk Prediction in Criminal Justice*, 1994, National Institute of Corrections Conference, Public Protection Through Offender Risk Management.

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section which is derived from the cognitive behavior therapy approach to dealing with juvenile delinquency. The assessment also includes protective factors based on the resiliency research in delinquency. The presence of protective factors should reduce the risk of re-offending. However, the absence of a protective factor does not necessarily imply an increased risk for re-offending. Protective factors are those positive things in a juvenile's life that help them overcome adversity.

Second, a review of existing theoretical models was undertaken. Consistent with the empirical literature, a number of factors have been implicated by such theorists as Andrews and Bonta, 1994; Andrews, Bonta and Hoge, 1990; Elliott, Huzinga, and Ageton (1985); Henggeler (1989, 1991); Hirschi (1969); LeBlanc, Ouimet, and Tremblay (1988) and, Patterson, DeBaryshe, and Ramsay (1989). The theoretical model developed by Andrews, Bonta and Hoge (1990) also provides four principles that serve as guidelines to ensure the effective use of risk/need assessment tools. Existing theoretical information was incorporated into the WAJCA-RA.

A group of international experts reviewed a draft version of the assessment and provided written comments. The group included:

Bob DeComo, Donna Hamparian and Patricia Hardyman of National Center on Crime and Delinquency; Del Elliot and Jennifer Grotpeter of the University of Colorado;

Scott Henggeler of the Medical University of South Carolina,

Mark Lipsey of Vanderbilt University,

Patrick Tolan of the University of Illinois at Chicago,

Robert Hoge of Carleton University at Ottawa Ontario,

Vern Quinsey of Queen's University at Kingston Ontario,

David Farrington of Cambridge University, England.

In addition, a number of juvenile court professionals from the State of Washington worked with the Institute during focus groups and in private consultation to the develop the assessment. This group in particular provided practical guidance on the clarity of the information being collected in the assessment.

After a series of focus group sessions with juvenile court professionals and a two-day training session, a draft assessment and accompanying set of sample interview questions were piloted in a dozen Washington State juvenile courts during March 1998. At the same time, the group of international experts provided their comments on the draft instrument. The final assessment resulted from combining the anecdotal information of the court professionals who conducted the assessments with the experts' comments and data analyses of the 156 assessments completed in the pilot effort.

Following the development of the assessment, the courts needed to more quickly assessment a youth's level of risk early in the adjudication process. In response, the WAJCA-RA Pre-Screen was developed. The pre-screen is a sub-set of the full assessment. The validity of the instrument was established using exiting data, so that the pre-screen risk levels are empirically based.

II Summary of Items and Instrument

The Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators- Risk Assessment consists of 10 domains. The assessment includes measures of dynamic and static risk factors and also measures of dynamic and static protective factors. The entire instrument is summarized below.

SECTION 1: Criminal History

- 1. Age at first offense:
- 2. Misdemeanor referrals:
- 3. Felony referrals:
- 4. Weapon referrals:
- 5. Against person misdemeanor referrals:
- 6. Against person felony referrals:
- 7. Confinement orders to detention:
- 8. Confinement orders to state institution:
- 9. Escapes:
- 10. Failure to appear warrants:

SECTION 2: School

- 1. Current school enrollment status
- 2. Type of school in which youth is enrolled:
- 3. Special education student or has a formal diagnosis of a special education need:
- 4. Believes there is value in getting an education:
- 5. Believes school provides an encouraging environment for him or her:
- 6. Number of expulsions and suspensions since the first grade:
- 7. Age at first expulsion or suspension:
- 8. Teachers /staff/coaches the youth likes or feels comfortable talking with:
- 9. Involvement in school activities during most recent term:
- 10. Conduct in the most recent term:
- 11. Attendance in the most recent term:
- 12. Performance in the most recent school term:
- 13. Interviewer's assessment of the youth staying in and graduating from high school or an equivalent vocational education:

SECTION 3: Use of Free Time

- 1. Structured recreational activities:
- 2. Unstructured recreational activities:

SECTION 4: Employment

- 1. History of successful employment:
- 2. Total number of times youth has been employed:

- 3. Longest period of employment:
- 4. Positive personal relationship(s) with employer(s) or adult coworker(s):
- 5. Youth is currently employed:

SECTION 5: Relationships

- 1. Existing positive adult non-family relationships:
- 2. Pro-social community ties:
- 3. Friends the youth spends his or her time with:
- 4. Role of youth among peers:
- 5. Admiration/emulation of tougher anti-social peers:
- 6. Length of association with anti-social friends/gang:
- 7. Amount of free time spent with antisocial peers:
- 8. Strength of loyalty to anti-social peers:
- 9. Strength of anti-social peer influence:

SECTION 6A: Environment in Which the Youth Was Primarily Raised

- 1. Age when last living with biological parents:
- 2. Problems of family members living in household.
- 3. Court ordered or voluntary out-of-home and shelter care placements exceeding 30 days.
- 4. Runaways or times kicked out of home
- 5. Petitions filed:
- 6. Love and support for youth:
- 7. Family member(s) has good relationship with:
- 8. Family provides opportunities for youth to participate in activities and decisions:
- 9. Level of conflict between parents, between youth and parents, among siblings:
- 10. Supervision:
- 11. Rule enforcement and control:
- 12. Consistent appropriate discipline:
- 13. Characterization of discipline:
- 14. Disapproval of youth's anti-social behavior:

SECTION 6B: Current Living Arrangements

- 1. Currently living with family in which primarily raised; or length of time living with current family:
- 2. Current living arrangements:
- 3. Family annual income:
- 4. Health insurance and Title 19 eligibility
- 5. Support network for family; extended family and friends that can provide additional support:

Complete only if different from family in which raised.

- 1. Problems of family members in household:
- 2. Love and support for youth:
- 3. Family member(s) has good relationship with:
- 4. Family provides opportunities for youth to participate and decisions affecting the youth:
- 5. Level of conflict between parents, between youth and parents, among siblings:
- 6. Supervision:
- 7. Rule enforcement and control:
- 8. Consistent appropriate discipline
- 9. Characterization of discipline:
- 10. Disapproval of youth's anti-social behavior:

SECTION 7: Alcohol and Drugs

- 1. Alcohol abuse:
- 2. Drug abuse:
- 3. Alcohol contributes to criminal behavior:
- 4. Drugs contributes to criminal behavior:

SECTION 8: Mental Health

- 1. Victim of physical or sexual abuse:
- 2. Victim of neglect:
- 3. Mental health problems
- 4. Violence/Anger:
- 5. Sexual aggression:
- 6. Sexual vulnerability/exploitation

SECTION 9: Attitudes/Behaviors

- 1. Attitude before, during and after crime(s):
- 2. Purpose for committing crime(s):
- Accepts responsibility for anti-social behavior:
- 4. Empathy, remorse, sympathy, or feelings for the victim(s) of criminal behavior:
- 5. Fatalistic attitude:
- 6. Loss of control over antisocial behavior:
- 7. Hostile interpretation of actions and intentions of others in a common non-confrontational setting:
- 8. Pro-social values/conventions:

- 9. Respect for authority figures:
- 10. Tolerance for frustration:
- 11. Belief in use of aggression to resolve a disagreement or conflict:
- 12. Readiness for change:
- 13. Successfully meet conditions of supervision:

SECTION 10: Skills

- 1. Consequential thinking skills:
- 2. Critical thinking skills:
- 3. Problem-solving skills:
- 4. Self-monitoring skills for triggers that can lead to trouble:
- 5. Self-control skills to avoid getting into trouble:
- 6. Interpersonal skills:

Section 11 Progress on supervision

- Current status:
- 1. Fulfillment of court ordered obligations:
- 2. Type of intervention program:
- 3. Fulfillment of intervention plan:
- 4. Occurrence of an event that increases the youth's risk for re-offense:
- 5. Occurrence of an event that reduces the youth's risk for re-offense:::
- 6. Length of time completed on supervision:
- 7. Number of times revoked or referred to court:
- 8. Number of violations of supervision conditions:
- 9. Number of days on unauthorized leave or whereabouts unknown
- 10. Number of days spent in confinement
- 11. Number of days spent in in-patient treatment:
- 12. Length of time in current intervention program:

The WAJCA-RA Pre-Screen instrument is a subset of items from the full assessment. The following summarizes the Pre-Screen items.

Criminal History

- 1. Age at first offense:
- 2. Misdemeanor referrals:
- 3. Felony referrals:
- 4. Weapon referrals:
- 5. Against person misdemeanor referrals:
- 6. Against person felony referrals:
- 7. Confinement orders to detention:
- 8. Confinement orders to state institution:
- 9. Escapes:
- 10. Failure to appear warrants:

Social History

- 1. Male Gender
- 2. School attendance, grades and misconduct
- 3. Friends, pro-social, anti-social and gang
- 4. Court-ordered/DSHS voluntary out-of-home and shelter care placements exceeding 30 days
- 5. Runaways or times kicked out of home:
- 6. Family members have been to jail prison
- 7. Current parental rule enforcement and control
- 8. Alcohol/Drugs disrupt functioning
- 9. Victim of Physical/sexual abuse
- 10. Victim of Neglect
- 11. Mental Problems

II. Empirical Development of Levels of Risk:

A risk assessment contains items that measure a wide range of behaviors, attitudes, skills and experiences related to continued criminal activity. Once the items have been constructed, a method for combining them to yield a classification of the level of risk must be developed. The method for deriving a risk level classification is empirically based. A large sample of youth is assessed and responses to each item on the assessment are recorded.

The youth is placed in the community and, following a sufficiently long follow-up period, it is determined whether the youth has re-offended. Statistical techniques are then used to derive a procedure for combining the information from the items and domains that discriminates between those who recidivate within the follow-up period and those who did not. Typically, each item is given a weight or score and these scores are summed to produce a total risk assessment score. The total risk scores are grouped into categories such as low, moderate or high risk.

Long Term Timeframes for Validation

The WAJCA-RA must to be validated for juvenile offenders in Washington State.¹⁰ Validating the WAJCA-RA means determining how well it predicts recidivism rates for groups of youth. Adequately measuring recidivism requires an 18-month re-offending follow-up period and another 12-month period for the re-offenses to be adjudicated.¹¹ Thus, to validate fully the WAJCA-RA requires selecting a representative cohort of youth given the WAJCA-RA during a 12-month period, and then waiting 2 1/2 years to measure their recidivism. The earliest date for conducting a full validation study of the WAJCA-RA is the year 2002.

¹⁰ Todd Clear, "Developing a Universal Risk-Assessment Form: We're Closer, But Not There Yet," *Community Corrections Report*, May/June 1997, Volume 4, No. 4.

¹¹ "Standards for Improving Research Effectiveness in Adult and Juvenile Justice," Washington State Institute for Public Policy, December 1997.

CHAPTER THREE

I General Overview of the Administration Process

This chapter provides detailed information on each of the domains of the WAJCA-RA.

These key points must be followed when administering the WAJCA-RA:

- It is critical that each assessment be completed according to the definitions on the instrument and in this manual.
- Complete all items of the instrument, unless otherwise instructed to do so.
- The first step in administering the WAJCA-RA is to interview the youth and the youth's family.
- To enhance the validity of this assessment it is necessary for the interviewer to contact other agencies, organizations, or collateral resources to validate information obtained during the interview.
- Confirm all self-reported denial responses (the youth or family member may tell you that they do not possess the risk factor), since they may not be willing to admit to the risk factor.
- For self-reported affirmative responses (the youth or family may tell you that they possess a protective factor), use your discretion on the need to confirm their responses.

II Tips for Gathering Collateral Information

- One suggestion for gathering collateral information is to establish a single contact point within the various schools and agencies that can provide necessary support and information.
- Some courts are getting together with their service providers, schools, mental health staff, CPS, etc., to describe the program and establish relationships that will make program implementation easier and more successful.
- Some courts already participate in a direct service network that includes all service providers and people involved with youth in the community. These networks are designed to build a case plan with coordination of services across agencies. Schools are included in the network. All participating organizations sign a blanket confidentiality agreement that facilitates the sharing of information.
- Several courts/staff prefer talking separately with the youth and the family before talking to them together. They feel this allows each party to talk about the other more

freely. This may result in a greater amount of self-reported information as well as aid in confirming self-reported information from another family member.

- Some courts are doing an orientation and family interview at the time of sentencing. At that time, they will also set an appointment with the family for a home visit to devise a case plan.
- Some courts have developed parent questionnaires that contain as many pertinent risk factors as is possible. This becomes a reference tool for the person interviewing the parents.
- The Washington State Institute for Public Policy may develop a self-administered version of the assessment for use by the youth and the youth's family. The questionnaire can increase the efficiency and possibly the effectiveness of the interview process.

Recording Identifying Information

Before proceeding with the assessment it is important to ensure that the following information is recorded.

Name:

The youth's name, with the last name entered first.

JUVIS Control Number:

The JUVIS control number is necessary to link the Risk Assessment data with JUVIS data for reporting and evaluation. It is very important to associate the correct JUVIS control number with the person being given the risk assessment.

JUVIS Referral Number:

The JUVIS referral number for the current adjudication causing the risk assessment to be done. This number is necessary to link the Risk Assessment data with JUVIS data for reporting and evaluation.

Superior Court Case Number:

Enter the superior court case number (SCOMIS number) associated with this referral. The form of the case number is yy-8-ssss-c. Leave this area blank if the youth is be sent to diversion. *Allow for multiple case numbers.*

Date Risk Assessment Initiated:

The date the risk assessment was initiated and then the date it was completed.

The WAJCA-RA consists of 10 Domains. For ease of presentation this chapter has been subdivided into 10 parts. Each part has been further separated into five areas:

- 1. Relationship to Re-offending
- 2. General Information
- 3. Items
- 4. Sample Interview Questions
- 5. Scoring

1: CRIMINAL HISTORY

Relationship to Re-Offending

Research has shown that youth with extensive criminal histories that started at an early age are more likely to re-offend in the future. Andrews and Bonta (1994 conducted an extensive review of the longitudinal research. They discovered that a small number of offenders appear to account for a large number of officially recorded criminal acts. In addition, the WAJCA-RA criminal history domain has been shown to be a valid predictor of recidivism in Chapter 2.

A youth's criminal history is an indicator of the duration and established persistence of the youth's criminal behavior. Referrals that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed), rather than offenses, are the unit of criminal history being counted. This reflects the youth's persistence to re-offend even after being processed through the juvenile justice system. For example, youth who have three separate referrals are more persistent in their behavior than youth with three offenses on a single conviction.

Criminal History must be based upon the youth's juvenile court records. This information may be supplemented by the youth during the interview process.

General Instructions

- Case convictions are defined as separate juvenile court cases in which the youth plead or was found guilty of at least one offense.
- Diversion agreements are to be counted as convictions.
- Multiple offenses on a single case conviction are considered as a single conviction.
- Include all cases that resulted in a conviction, deferred adjudication or deferred disposition, or a diversion agreement.
- For deferred dispositions and deferred adjudications, include all cases regardless if the case was subsequently dismissed.
- Include any current case(s), if the case(s) have resulted in a conviction, deferred adjudication, deferred disposition, or diversion agreement.
- Include convictions in other states for criminal behavior. Once you know whether the youth has ever lived in another state, you should ask the youth and the youth's family about convictions in other states. Courts that border other states will need to check for out-of-state convictions more often. If the youth and the youth's family deny that the youth has a record in another state and you have reason to believe otherwise, then you may wish to ask your local law enforcement to do a search.

Items

Youth has been living in Washington State since age: _____ Enter 0 if from birth. Other states in which youth has lived since age 10: _____

Relationship to re-offending: This item is a reminder that a youth who was not born and raised in Washington State may have convictions in other states.

Instructions: Enter the age the youth moved into Washington State. If the youth was born and raised in Washington State enter a zero.

If the youth has lived in other states since age 10, indicate the other states in which the youth has lived.

1._____ Age at first offense:

Enter the age at the time of the offense for which the youth was referred to juvenile court **for the first time**.

The referral must have been a non-traffic misdemeanor or felony offense that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred disposition, or deferred adjudication.

<u>Note:</u> Items 2 and 3 are mutually exclusive and exhaustive. **All referrals** that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed) must be counted once as either a misdemeanor or a felony referral.

If the case involves plea bargaining, use the final offense(s) to characterize the referral.

A referral that involved a felony must only be counted as a Felony Referral.

A referral that involved a misdemeanor, but no felony, must be counted as a Misdemeanor Referral.

A referral that involved a misdemeanor and a felony must be counted as a Felony Referral.

2. _____ Misdemeanor referrals:

Enter the total number of referrals where the most serious offense was a non-traffic misdemeanor that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed).

3. _____ Felony referrals:

Enter the total number of referrals for a felony offense that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed).

<u>Note:</u> Items 4, 5 and 6 are mutually exclusive. These three items count the total number of referrals that involve an against person or a weapon offense. No referral should be counted more than once.

A referral that involved an against person felony must only be counted as an against-person felony referral.

A referral that involved a weapon, but not an against-person felony, must be counted as a weapon referral.

A referral that involved an against-person misdemeanor, but not an against-person felony and not a weapon referral, must be counted as a against-person misdemeanor referral.

4. _____ Weapon referrals:

Enter the total number of referrals where the most serious offense was a firearm/weapon charge that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed). An example of a weapons referral is the illegal carrying of firearms.

5. _____ Against person misdemeanor referrals:

Enter the total number of referrals where the most serious offense was an against-person misdemeanor that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed). An against-person misdemeanor involves a threat, force, or physical harm to another person such as assault, sex, coercion, harassment, obscene phone call offense, etc.

6. _____ Against person felony referrals:

Enter the total number of referrals for an against-person felony that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed).

An against-person felony involves force or physical harm to another person such as homicide, murder, manslaughter, assault, rape, sex, robbery, kidnapping, domestic violence, harassment, criminal mistreatment, intimidation, coercion, obscene harassing phone call, etc.

Burglary 1 should not be included if you know that the youth was charged by law enforcement with Burglary 1 when they were caught stealing a gun from the home with the intention to sell it. If you know the Burglary 1 involved harm or the direct threat of harm then include it as an against-person felony.

7. _____ Disposition orders where youth served at least one day confined in detention:

Enter the total number of disposition orders and modification orders in which the youth served at least one day physically confined in a county detention facility. A day served includes credit for time served. Detention includes physical confinement in a county detention facility. It does not include electronic detention or another version of a detention order that does not include being physically confined in a detention facility. Do not include youth serving days in detention under a truancy commitment.

8. _____ Disposition orders where youth served at least one day confined under JRA:

Enter the total number of disposition orders and modification orders in which the youth served at least one day confined under the authority of the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA). A day served includes credit for time served.

9. _____ Escapes:

Enter the total number of attempted or actual escapes that resulted in a conviction or *modification order*.

10._____ Failure to appear in court warrants:

Enter the total number of failures to appear in court that resulted in a warrant being issued. Exclude failure to appear warrants for non-criminal matters.

Sample Interview Questions:

Since the criminal history section can be primarily derived from the JUVIS Form 5 report, few sample questions are needed.

Were you born in Washington State?

If not,

How old were you when you moved into Washington State? What other states have you lived in since age 10?

If the youth was living in another state after the age of 10, then ask the youth and youth's family about any criminal history in the other state(s). If they deny any out-of-state criminal history and you suspect otherwise, then you may wish to ask your local law enforcement to do a record search.

Many practitioners feel that it is important to ask the youth about their criminal history and involvement. This information can be extremely helpful to respond to questions later in the interview. Please use your discretion when gathering information for this section. Begin with a general question:

How old were you the first time you had contact with the police?

What was the reason?

What happened to you at that time?

Then as time permits, review items on the JUVIS form 5 and ask the youth to describe each offense and resulting court action.

Scoring

	Static			Dynamic	
Item	Response	Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective
1. Age at First Offense:	Over 16		0		
	16	1			
	15	2		•	
	13 to 14	3			
	Under 23	4	•		•
2. Misdemeanors:	None or one	•	0	•	
	Two	1		•	
	Three or four	2		•	
	Five or more	3		•	
3. Felonies:	None		0		
	One	2			
	Two	4		•	
	Three or more	6		•	
4. Weapon referrals:	None		0		
	One or more	1			
5. Against Person.	None		0	•	•
Misdemeanors	One	1			
	Two or more	2			
6. Against Person Felonies:	None		0	•	•
Ū.	One	2			
	Two or more	4			
7. Confinement Orders to	None		0		
Detention:	One	1		•	•
	Two	2			
	Three or more	3			
8. Confinement Orders to	None		0		
State Institution:	One	2			
	Two or more	4			
9. Escapes:	None		0		
7. 2000p00.	One	1			
	Two or more	2		•	
10. Warrants:	None		0		
	One	1			
	Two or more	2		•	•
Maximum Score		31	0	0	0

DOMAIN 2: SCHOOL

Relationship to Re-Offending

A body of research is currently available to substantiate links between school success and criminal behavior. Essentially youth with performance problems (i.e., academic or behavioral) are at greater risk for delinquency. For example, there is a growing body of evidence to suggest that academic failure is related to onset of delinquency, as well as, escalation in the frequency and seriousness of criminal behavior.

Other research has linked school behavior with risk for delinquency. The most important risk factors include: truancy, drop-out, suspensions, lack of interest and commitment, and difficulties relating with peers and teachers. Youth who attend school, who believe in the value of school, and who are involved both academically and socially are less likely to come in contact with the criminal justice system.

It should be noted that intervention programs designed to improve academic performance and reduce behavioral difficulties have been shown to reduce delinquency.

General Instructions

Always complete items 1 through 7.

Complete items 8 through 13 if the youth has been enrolled in community school for any time during the last six months, regardless of attendance and whether the youth is currently enrolled.

School Items

1. Youth's current school enrollment status, regardless of attendance:

Graduated, GED	Suspended
Enrolled full-time	Dropped out
Enrolled part-time	Expelled

If the youth is in home school as a result of being expelled or dropping out, check the "Expelled" or "Dropped out" box; otherwise, check enrolled if in home school.

Relationship to re-offending: Youth who are enrolled in school are at a lower risk than youth who are no longer enrolled and attending school. Not attending school indicates the youth's detachment from a pro-social activity and peers, and the possibility that the youth has a lot of free time for getting into trouble. If a youth has withdrawn from school due to in-patient treatment, place youth in enrolled part time and check other on guestion #2.

2. Type of school in which youth is enrolled or was last enrolled:

Public academic	Private academic
Vocational	Home school
□ Alternative	□ College
GED Program	□ Other
Name of School	

Enter the name of the school in which the youth is enrolled or was last enrolled.

Highest-grade level attained _____

Indicate the highest grade level attained by the youth. If youth has dropped out or been expelled, use last grade completed.

- 3. Youth is a special education student or has a formal diagnosis of a special education need:
 - Mental retardation(ADHD/ADD) □ Learning
 - Behavioral
 - □ Other: _____

Check all that apply.

Indicate if the youth is or has ever been a special education student or the youth has special education needs as evidenced by their receiving special treatment in school.

Contact the school to determine any or all special education classifications and needs that apply.

If boxes are NOT checked it means that the youth has never been a special education student.

Relationship to re-offending: Research suggests that youth with these disadvantages may have difficulty staying involved in school, experience failure in school, feel frustrated and isolated

from school. They may seek acceptance with antisocial youth who can lead them into criminal activities.

- 4. Youth believes there is value in getting an education: (From youth's perspective)
 - □ Believes getting an education of value
 - □ Somewhat believes education is of value
 - □ Does not believe education is of value

Relationship to re-offending: Research suggests that youth who do not place much value in education are less likely to be successful in school and then later in life. Not believing in school is a marker for isolation from the healthy school pro-social environment and may also be a marker for not believing in pro-social values and conventions.

5. Youth believes school provides an encouraging environment for him or her: (From youth's perspective)

- □ Believes school is encouraging
- □ Somewhat believes
- □ Does not believe

Relationship to re-offending: Research suggests that youth who do not see school as an encouraging environment are more likely to do poorly and drop out of school, making them vulnerable to anti-social influences.

6. Total number of expulsions and suspensions since the first grade:

_ Number of expulsions or suspensions

Enter the number up to 10. Enter 0 if none. Include only out-of-school expulsions and suspensions. Some special education kids cannot be suspended and receive disciplinary hearings. Note this in the comment section but do NOT score as a suspension or expulsion. This factor is concerned with the youth's absence from the school.

Relationship to re-offending: Youth with an extensive number of expulsions and suspensions has established a persistent pattern of anti-social behavior that may continue as criminal activity.

7. Age at first expulsion or suspension:

____ Age at first expulsion or suspension

Leave blank if never expelled or suspended.

Relationship to re-offending: Research suggests that youth who exhibit school problems early in life are more likely to establish a pattern of anti-social behavior. These behaviors may that become persistent and surface as continuing criminal activity.

Complete items 8 through 13 if the youth has been enrolled in community school during the last six months, regardless of attendance and whether the youth is currently enrolled.

Note: A community school is a school that is open to the general public; excluding detention schools, schools in a drug/alcohol program, and other similar schools which are not open to the general public.

Note: Recent term refers to any school term within the last six months prior to the assessment during which the youth was attending a community school.

8. Teachers/staff/coaches the youth likes or feels comfortable talking with:

_____ Number of teachers/staff/coaches

Names:_____

Enter the number of adults; if none, enter 0.

Relationship to re-offending: Protective factor research suggests that youth who have positive relationships with pro-social adult role models are less likely to continue anti-social behaviors.

9. Youth's involvement in school activities during most recent term:

- □ Involved in two or more activities
- □ Involved in one activity
- □ Interested but not involved in any activities
- □ No interest in school activities

Examples of the types of school activities include:

° School leadership	° Drama, art
° Social service clubs	° Athletics
° Music, dance programs	° Other extracurricular activities

No interest in school activities is evidenced by the youth not participating in any school activities, not considering self to have any involvement with school, not seeing self as a student, school is not a part of the youth's life. School dances are not considered an activity.

Relationship to re-offending: Protective factor research suggests that youth who are involved in school activities have less time for anti-social behavior, are exhibiting an interest in healthy prosocial behaviors and a commitment and bonding to school. Youth who have no such interests are at higher risk because of their isolation from these pro-social activities and increased vulnerability to anti-social influences.

10. Youth's conduct in the most recent term:

- □ No problems
- □ Problems reported by teachers
- □ Calls to parents
- □ Calls to police

Check all that apply.

Examples of the types of problematic conduct include:

- Fighting or threatening students
 Threatening teachers/staff
 Overly disruptive behavior
 Drug/alcohol use
 Crimes, e.g., theft, vandalism
 Lying, cheating, dishonesty

This is the school misconduct record of the juvenile as measured by teacher reports and calls to the parents/caretakers and law enforcement. Most schools have an individual, usually a vice-

principal, responsible for formal misconduct calls to parents and law enforcement.

Do not count calls for the following types of misconduct: swearing, attendance, grades, and non-aggressive disrespectful behavior.

Relationship to re-offending: School misconduct provides direct evidence of anti-social behavior and an inability of the youth to successfully function in the school environment .

11. Youth's attendance in the most recent term:.

- No unexcused absences
- □ Some partial-day absences
- □ Some full-day unexcused absences
- □ Truancy petition filed, or equivalent full-day unexcused absences, or withdrawn within last six months

A full-day unexcused absence is defined as the juvenile being absent for the majority of classes in one day (e.g., 2 classes out of 3; 4 classes out of 6).

Indicate whether a truancy petition has ever been filed against the juvenile or if there were sufficient unexcused absences for a petition to be filed. A petition may be filed when there are seven unexcused absences within 30 days or ten within the school year.

Relationship to re-offending: Unexcused absences may indicate a lack of interest and involvement in school and suggests the youth has difficulties complying with the rules and expectations of the school.

12. Youth's academic performance in the most recent school term:

□ Honor student

□ Failing some classes

C or better

Failing most classes

Lower than C

Check all that apply.

Ask the youth and the youth's family about the youth's **average** academic performance in the most recent term. You may also need to contact the school if the youth is overestimating how well they are doing in school.

Consider the youth's average academic performance, or grade point average, during the most recent term in a community school.

Notes on grades and failing classes:

Only youth who have lower than C average may be failing most classes.

Only youth with a C or better average may be failing some classes.

Honor students could not be failing any classes.

Relationship to re-offending: Protective factor research indicates that youth who get good grades in school demonstrate a commitment to school and pro-social values. Youth who get poor grades are at risk because of their lack of commitment to school, learning problems or possibly an indication that a vocationally oriented environment may be more appropriate for the youth.

13. Interviewer's assessment of the youth staying in and graduating from high school or an equivalent vocational education:

- Very likely to stay in school and graduate
- □ Uncertain if youth will stay and graduate
- Not very likely to stay and graduate

Based on your discussion with the youth and from directly asking the youth about graduating, indicate your assessment of the youth's chances for graduating.

Relationship to re-offending: The ability of the youth to stay is school and graduate is an indicator of the youth being able to live a pro-social life style, develop the skills for future employment, develop a sense of accomplishment, and avoid future legal troubles.

Sample Interview Questions

	Where are you currently enrolled in school?
1. Current school enrollment status	If not enrolled, what do you think about going back to school?
2. Type of school in which enrolled	What kind of a school is it?
3. Special education student	Tell me about the classes that you have taken. Were any of these special ed. classes?
4. Youth believes there is value in getting an education	Do you think you can get ahead by going to school? Can you get ahead without going to school?
5. Encouraging school environment	How has the school encouraged or helped you to learn? Who at your school shows an interest in you? What sorts of activities keep you interested in learning?
6. Expulsions and suspensions since the first grade	Have you ever been suspended or expelled from school? About how many times altogether?
7. Age at first expulsion or suspension from school.	When was the first time you were suspended or expelled from school? When was the last time? Why?
8. Teacher/staff the youth likes or feels comfortable talking with	Tell me about a teacher or a staff member you like and why you like him or her? Tell me about a teacher or staff member who pays attention to you?
9. Involvement in school during most recent term	What sorts of school clubs, teams, and activities do you belong to? Do you ever go to dances, games, or plays? Do you look forward to going to school? Or, do you hate going to school?
10.Conduct in most recent term	Tell me about any trouble that you might have gotten into at school? What happened to you? Who found out about it? Your parents? The police?
11. Attendance in most recent term	How often do you go to school? How often do you skip the whole day? Certain classes? Why do you skip?
12.Performance in the most recent term	What kinds of grades do you get in school? Would you say you have better than a C average? Do you get many A's? Are you an honor student? Are you failing any classes?
13. Interviewer's assessment of the youth staying in school	How would you describe your progress towards graduating from school? When do you think you will graduate?
RESOURCE MANUAL AND SCORING GUIDE

Item	Response Category		Static	Dy	ynamic
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective
1. Current School Enrollment:	Graduated or GED				0
	Currently enrolled full-time				0
	Currently enrolled part-time		•		0
	Currently Suspended from school	•	•	3	
	Currently dropped out of school	•	•	14	
	Currently expelled from school	•	•	14	•
2. Type of School:					
3. Special Education Student:	Not a Special Education Student		0		
(One point for any, maximum score of one)	<u>Learning, Behavior, Mental</u> <u>Retardation, ADHD/ADD</u> (list all checked)	1			
4. Youth believes there is value	Believes				0
in getting education:	Somewhat believes	•		1	
	Does not believe		•	2	
5. Youth believes school provides an encouraging environment for him or her:	Believes			0	
	Somewhat			1	
	Does not believe			2	
6. Total number of expulsions and suspensions since the first grade:	Never expelled or suspended		0		
-	Once	1			
	More than once	2	•		•
7. Age at first expulsion or suspension:		0		•	•

Score this section only if the yo	outh has been enrolled in school durin	ng the la	st six m	onths.	
8. Teachers/staff/coaches the	None	•	•	•	0
youth likes or feels comfortable	One	•	•	•	1
talking with:	More than one	•	•	•	2
9. Youth's involvement in school	Not interested in any			1	
activities during most recent term:	Not involved			0	
	Involved in one				1
	Involved on more than one	•	•	•	2
10. Youth's conduct in the most recent term:	None	•	•		0
Sum one point for each type of report for a maximum of 3, print all boxes checked	Conduct problems reported by teachers, calls to parents, calls to police			3	
11. Youth's attendance in the most	No unexcused absences				0
recent term:	Some partial-day absences			1	•
	Some full-day unexcused absences		•	2	
	Truancy petition filed, or equivalent full- day unexcused absences, or withdrawn within most recent term	·		3	
12. Youth's performance in the	Honor student				2
most recent school term:	C or better grades				1
	Lower than C grades			0	
	Failing some classes			1	
	Failing most classes			2	
13. Interviewer's assessment of	Very likely			•	0
the youth staying in and	Uncertain	•		1	
graduating from high school or an equivalent vocational education:	Not very likely			2	•
Maximum		3	0	17	5

3: USE OF FREE TIME

Relationship to Re-offending

Research suggests that involvement in organized/structured activities provides the youth with the opportunity to develop relationships with prosocial youth and adults. This may serve to facilitate involvement in conventional social networks and promote a global sense of competence, self-efficacy and pro-social conduct.

Research has also shown that youth who spend their free-time in prosocial and constructive activities are at lesser risk. At the same time, youth who have no interest in any of these activities are at higher risk.

General Instructions

Consider current involvement in activities as occurring within the last six months. Exclude activities sponsored by the youth's school since those activities are already considered in the school section.

Items

- 1. **Structured recreational activities:** Youth participates in structured and supervised pro-social community activities such as religious group/church, community group, cultural group, club, athletics or other community activity.
 - □ Involved in two or more activities
 - □ Involved in one activity
 - □ Not involved but interested
 - □ Not interested in any activities

Be sure that the youth is actually participating in these activities and not just saying they are. You may need to check with the organization sponsoring the activity to confirm that the youth shows up and participates.

Relationship to re-offending: The protective factor research suggests that commitment and bonding to the community can reduce anti-social behavior. This item measures this bonding through the youth's participation in structured community activities.

- 2. Unstructured recreational activities: Youth engages in activities that positively occupy the youth's time, such as reading, hobbies, etc.
 - □ Involved in two or more activities
 - □ Involved in one activity
 - $\hfill\square$ Not involved but interested
 - □ Not interest in any activities

Be sure that the youth actually engages in walking, hobbies, outdoor recreation, activities, and pastimes that occupy the youth's attention and time in a healthy, positive way.

Sample Questions

1. Structured recreational	How do you like to spend your free time outside of school?
activities	What clubs, groups, churches or activities do you do?
	How often do you participate?
	What do you like about these?
	What adults are involved? How often do you do these things?
2. Unstructured recreationa	What kinds of things do you enjoying doing on your own?
activities	How do you spend most of your time outside of school?
	How often do you do these things?
	Are you satisfied with how you spend your free time?
	Given the chance, how would you like to spend your time?

Item	Response Category	Sta	tic	D	ynamic
		Ri Prote		Risk	Protective
1. Structured recreational	Two or more				2
activities:	One				1
	None			1	
	Not interested			2	
2. Unstructured	Two or more				2
recreational activities:	One				1
	Not involved but interested			1	
	Not interested			2	
Maximum		0	0	4	4

DOMAIN 4: EMPLOYMENT

Relationship to Re-Offending

The protective factor research indicates that youth who have been successfully employed and have developed good relationships with their employer(s) and coworker(s) are at lower risk for re-offending. Participation in a supervised work environment can provide the youth with essential job related and social skills that will facilitate the transition into adulthood.

General Instructions

Consider the youth's global involvement as an employee to get a general impression of adaptability and performance. Consider only voluntary employment that is not a court ordered obligation or a condition of supervision, and not a family chore or expectation. The youth must be expected to show up at work at a certain time, on a regular basis and get paid.

Employment Items

- 1. History of successful employment: Check all that apply
- □ Never employed
- □ Successfully employed
- □ Was fired or quit because of poor performance
- □ Was fired or quit because he or she could not get along with employer or coworkers

Complete following section only if the youth has ever been employed.

2. Total number of times youth has been employed:

_____ Number of Times

3. Number of weeks of longest period of employment:

_____ Number of Weeks

4. Positive personal relationship(s) with employer(s) or adult coworker(s):

____ Number of Adults

- 5. Youth is currently employed:
- □ No □ Yes

Sample Interview Questions

1.	History of employment	What sorts of jobs have you had, where you get paid for your time? How did you get along with your boss? How did you get along the other adults working there? How did these different jobs go for you? How did they end?
2.	Total number of times youth has been employed	About how many different jobs would you say you have had?
3.	Number of weeks of longest period of employment	What job did you have for the longest period of time? How long did you have that job?
4.	Positive relationship with employer(s) and adult coworker(s)	Tell me about your employer and the people you worked with How did you like your boss and the other employees? How did they treat you? Would you like to see any of them again?
5.	Currently employed	Do you have a job now?

Item	Response Category		Static	Dy	ynamic
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective
1. History of successful	Never employed			0	
employment:	Successfully employed		1		
	Fired or quit because of poor performance	1	•		
	Fired or quit because could not get along	1			
Score items for following section	only if the youth has ever been employed.				
2. Total number of times youth has been employed:		•			0
3. Number of weeks of longest	Longest employment: less than one month				0
period of employment:	Longest employment: one to six months		•		1
	Longest employment: over six months				2
4. Positive personal	No positive adult employment relationship			0	
relationship(s) with employer(s)	One positive adult employment relationship		•		1
or adult coworker(s):	More than one positive adult employment relationship	•			2
5. Youth is currently employed:	Currently employed				1
	Not currently employed			0	
Maximum		2	1	0	5

5: RELATIONSHIPS

Relationship to Re-Offending:

Youth are influenced by their peers, family and other adult role models. The weaker the bond between the youth and family, the greater the influence that peers may have upon the youth. Youth who spend a lot of time with peers who are a negative influence, particularly if there are weak family and adult attachments, are at higher risk for reoffending. The protective factor research suggests that youth with weak family attachments can be influenced by other positive adult role models. According to the prevention research literature, improving the youth's relationships with pro-social adults and peers and weakening the relationship with anti-social peers should reduce the risk for re-offending.

General Instructions

This section requires the interviewer to conduct a thorough examination of the individuals in the youth's life. It is critical to identify all individuals who the youth is in contact with and then to determine if these individuals provide pro-social modeling and support. Start by asking the youth about adults who they are in contact with and then focus on peer relationships. This section specifically relates to relationships the youth is involved with currently.

Relationship Items:

1. _____Number of existing positive adult non-family relationships.

Enter number of adults up to five. Enter 0 if there are none.

This protective factor is characterized by the existence of reliable, caring relationships based upon compassion, understanding, respect, and interest that establish trust and self-confidence. That is, are there adults or older persons in the youth's life who can provide support to help the youth live a positive life? This includes adults such as a religious leader, club member, community person, or any other non-family adult(s). Exclude teachers and school staff since that information is included in the school section.

- 2. **Pro-social community ties:** Youth feels there are people in his or her community who discourage him or her from getting into trouble or are willing to help the youth.
 - 🗆 No
 - □ Somewhat
 - □ Yes

Anti-social peers are defined as youth who are hostile to or disruptive of the legal social order; who violate the law and the rights of others.

- 3. Friends the youth actually spends his or her time with:.
 - □ No friends or companions, no consistent friends
 - □ Friends who have a positive pro-social influence
 - □ Friends who have a negative anti-social influence
 - □ Gang member/associate

Check all that apply.

Relationship to re-offending: Research has repeatedly shown that peers have a potentially large influence over the youth. Who the youth associates with, who the youth emulates and what role the youth plays among his or her peers are indicators whether the youth's friends and companions are a positive or negative influence.

4. Role of youth among peers:.

- □ A leader who gets others into trouble
- □ A peer who gets into trouble when in a group
- □ An immature follower who gets into trouble for attention, status and acceptance
- □ An independent youth who gets into trouble on his or her own

Check all that apply

5. Admiration/emulation of tougher anti-social peers:

- □ Youth does not admire, emulate tougher anti-social peers
- □ Youth minimally admires, emulates tougher peers

□ Youth admires, emulates tougher peers

Relationship to re-offending: Because peer relationships have such a potentially large influence over the youth and because measuring peer relationships is subjective, researchers suggest having several items measure the strength of this relationship. The sum of these items should form a more reliable scale of the influence that negative peers have over the youth

Complete the following information for a youth who associates with an antisocial peer group or gang.

Associating means being a partner, companion, ally, or friend; regularly accompanying or spending with another.

6. Number of months the youth has been associating with anti-social friends/gang:

_____ Months has associated with antisocial friends _____ Months has associated with gang

Relationship to re-offending: The longer the relationship of the youth to the peer group, the more entrenched the youth will be in the group's antisocial behaviors.

- 7. Amount of free time the youth spends with antisocial peer group:
 - □ Spends one or two hours of free time per week
 - □ Spends three to seven hours of free time per week
 - □ Spends eight to 14 hours of free time per week
 - □ Spends all or nearly all of free time per week

Relationship to re-offending: The more time a youth spends with anti-social peers, the more at risk the youth is of re-offending. Reducing this time should lead to reduced risk.

8. Strength of loyalty to anti-social peers:

- □ Would sometimes lie or cheat for peers
- □ Would consistently lie or cheat for peers
- □ Would sometimes steal, fight or do other serious acts for peers
- □ Would consistently steal, fight or do other serious acts for peers

Check all that apply.

Relationship to re-offending: Having strong bonds of loyalty to friends is a positive attribute. Loyalty to anti-social peers in a form that supports the anti-social attitude of the group indicates the youth's commitment to anti-social behaviors. It also indicates the influence of the peer group over the youth.

9. Strength of anti-social peer influence:

- □ Often does not go along with the antisocial peers
- □ Usually goes along with the antisocial peers
- □ Almost always goes along with the antisocial peers
- □ Leads the antisocial peers

Relationship to re-offending: This item directly measures the degree to which the youth is influenced by the peer group.

Sample Interview Questions

1.	Number of positive adult	Besides your family, are there adults that you would like to spend time with?
	non-family relationships	What are they like? How do they treat you? Do they try to help you?
		Do they notice you when you do well or just when you make a mistake?
2.	Pro-social community ties	How do you feel about the people in your neighborhood? Who is interested in what you do? Who discourages you
3.	Friends the youth actually spends his or her time with	from getting into trouble? Do you hang out with a certain group of kids? How would you describe them?
		Are they enrolled in school? Ever been in any trouble with the law?
		Do any of your friends belong to a gang? Do you belong to a gang?
		Do any of your friends help to keep you out of trouble? When you are with your friends, who usually figures out
4.	Role of youth among peers	when you are going to do? Do you help figure it out? Would you rather let some else figure out what to do? When you do these things with your friends, how does it make you feel?
5.	Admiration/emulation of tougher peers	Who do you look up to? Why?
6.	Months associating with gang or anti-social peer group.	How long have you been hanging out with this group of friends?
7.	Free time spent with anti- social peers	How much time you spend each day out of school with these friends?
8.	Strength of loyalty to anti- social peer group	How many days a week? What do you think about covering up for your friends when they get into trouble?
9.	Strength of anti-social influence	How far would you go to help one of them out? What happens when your friends do not want to go along with what you want to do? What about when you do not want to go along with their
		What about when you do not want to go along with their plans?
		What would happen if you decided to stop hanging around with these friends?

Item	Item Response Category		Static		Dynamic	
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective	
1. Existing positive adult non-	None			0		
family relationships:	One				2	
	More than one				4	
2. Pro-social community ties:	Feels community is not concerned or willing to help			0		
	Feels community is somewhat concerned and willing to help	•			1	
	Feels community is concerned and willing to help him/her	•			2	
3. Friends the youth actually	No consistent friends or companions			1		
spends his or her time with:	Friends are a positive pro-social influence				1	
	Fiends are a negative antisocial influence			3		
	Gang member/associate			4		
4. Role of youth among peers:	Leader who gets others into trouble			0		
i. Note of youth among peers.	Peer who gets into trouble when in a group		•	0	•	
	Immature follower			0		
	Independent youth		•	0	•	
5. Admiration/emulation of	Does not admire tougher antisocial peers		•	0	1	
tougher antisocial peers	Minimally admires, emulates tougher peers	•	•	. 1	1	
tougher antisocial peers	Admires, emulates tougher peers	•	•	2	•	
Scare the following items only if			•	Ζ.	•	
	youth associates with antisocial peers/gang.			-		
	Associating less than three months	•	•	0	•	
has been associating with	Associating between three and six months		•	1	•	
antisocial friends.	Associating between six and 12 months		•	2	•	
	Associating for12 or more months		•	3	•	
6b. Number of months the youth				2	•	
has been associating with	Associating between three and six months			3	•	
antisocial gang.	Associating between six and 12 months			4	•	
	Associating for12 or more months			5	•	
5	One or two hours of free time per week			0	•	
spends with antisocial peer	Three to seven hours of free time per week			1	•	
group	Eight to 14 hours of free time per week			2		
	More than 14 hours of free time per week		•	3		
8. Strength of loyalty to	Sometimes lie or cheat for peers			0	•	
antisocial peers:	Consistently lie or cheat for peers			1		
	Sometimes steal, fight or do other serious acts for peers	•		1		
	Consistently steal, fight or do other serious acts for peers	•		2		
9. Strength of antisocial peer	Often does not go along with antisocial peers			0		
influence:	Usually goes along with antisocial peers			1		
	Almost always goes along with antisocial			2		
	peers					
	Leads the antisocial peers			3	<u> </u>	
Maximum		0	0	23	8	

6A: ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THE YOUTH WAS PRIMARILY RAISED

Relationship to re-offending

The family environment in which the youth was raised has a large influence over the youth's attitudes and behaviors. The two major areas addressed in Domain 6A and 6B include parent characteristics and family management practices.

Research has consistently identified factors that such as parental criminality, substance abuse problems, mental health etc. that are related to juvenile delinquency. Family management practices also play an important role in the child's development. Researchers have found four aspects of family management practices that contribute to problematic behavior. First, minimal parental supervision (lack of knowledge of the child's whereabouts, activities engaged in outside of the home, and peers) place youth at risk for antisocial behavior. Second, youth who receive little support, encouragement and affection are more likely to experience difficulties in adolescence. Third, poorly defined and poorly communicated rules and expectations for behavior appear to play a major role in child problematic behavior. Discipline for inappropriate behavior that is inconsistent or excessively severe further contributes to difficulties for the youth. Finally, youth who witness or experience abuse are at greater risk for behavioral and emotional problems.

If the youth is returning to a dysfunctional family environment, then the research indicates that family-based interventions may be effective in reducing risk.

General Instructions

Parents in this assessment include the youth's mother and father or any individuals who are legally responsible for raising the youth. A mother includes the youth's primary female adult caregiver. A father includes the youth's primary male adult caretaker.

A large portion of youth have not been raised by their biological parents. Many have been raised in several different family environments.

If the youth has lived with several families/caretakers, then consider the overall family/caretaker environment in which the youth was raised.

This section characterizes the environment in which the youth has spent most his or her time up the age of 12.

Items:

1. Age when last living with biological parents:	1.	Age when	last living	with bio	ological	parents:
--	----	----------	-------------	----------	----------	----------

	Mother:	<u>Father</u>
Still Living with, or		
Age last living with		

If the youth was adopted before the youth's first birthday, then enter zeros for age.

Note: Only item 1 deals with the biological parents. The remaining items deal with the individuals legally responsible for raising the youth. Again, a mother means the youth's primary female adult caregiver. A father means the youth's primary male adult caretaker

2. Problems of family members/ caretakers who were living in the household:

	<u>Female</u>	Male	<u>Sibling</u>
	Caretak	<u>er</u>	
No problems			
Alcohol			
Drug			
Mental health			
Physical health			
Employment			
Financial			
Jail/imprisonmen	t 🗆		

Check all that apply.

Check jail/imprisonment if either parent or siblings were incarcerated. This includes time frame before youth was born.

Disrupted functioning that results from drug and/or alcohol abuse involves problems in four life areas: employment, family conflict, health, and legal consequences.

- <u>Disruption of employment</u> as evidenced by problems with work, lack of work, absence from work, or poor job performance.
- <u>Disruption of family life</u> as the result of absence from the family life or conflicts (fighting) over alcohol or drug use.
- <u>Disruption in health</u> as evidenced by emergency room visits or medical problems which resulted from alcohol or drug use.
- <u>Problems with legal system</u> such as DUIs, loss of driver's license, arrests for alcohol or drug offenses, or criminal activity involving or as the result of alcohol or drug use.

3. _____ Number of court ordered or DSHS voluntary out-of-home and shelter care placements exceeding 30 days:

Enter zero if none.

Enter up to a maximum of 5 placements.

Exclude JRA commitments.

In determining the number of times the youth has had an out-of-home placement, a youth does not have to be returned home between placements since this may not be possible for some youths.

Include all court ordered and DSHS voluntary out-of-home placements and shelter care placements exceeding 30 days. (Include only those voluntary programs that have official agency involvement).

Exclude respite care, detention, and shelter care under 30 days. Exclude sending the youth to live with other relatives as out-of-home placement unless officially recognized as an out-of-home placement. The intent of this risk factor encompasses situations in which there is no extended family structure.

4. Runaways or times kicked out of home:

Number of runaways Times kicked out

Enter zero if none.

_

Enter up to a maximum of 5.

Determine the number of times the youth has run away from home, been kicked out of home, or had any placement where the youth did not voluntarily return within 24 hours.

Include incidents not reported by or to law enforcement. Include times the youth did not voluntarily return within 24 hours.

Include incidents not reported by or to law enforcement.

5. Petitions filed: Check all that apply.

- □ No dependency petitions
- □ Youth-at-risk
 □ ARP
 □ CHINS
 □ Dependency

Check as many boxes as apply for dependency petitions.

Look in JUVIS and do a Search Index in SCOMIS for dependency cases.

Although ARP has been eliminated as a dependency petition, these petitions may exist for the youth from prior years. Look for a history of ARP petitions.

- 6. Parental love, caring, and support of youth:
 - □ Consistent love, caring and support
 - □ Inconsistent love, caring and support
 - □ Indifferent, uncaring, uninterested, unwilling to help
 - Hostile towards youth, berated and belittled

If the youth indicates that s/he feels loved, supported and cared for, ask them to indicate how the parent or caretaker expresses this. Look for signs of affection such as, giving compliments, supportive statements for something well done, increasing time spent together, and other ways of communicating approval and respect. Try to get a global feeling of the level of affection, respect and caring experienced by the youth.

Relationship to re-offending: Lack of parental affection and parental rejection of the youth have been consistently linked to criminal behavior.

- 7. Family member(s) youth feels close to or has good relationship with:
 - □ Father/male caretaker□ Mother/female caretaker
 - □ Male Sibling □ Female sibling
 - □ Extended family □ No one

Check all that apply.

- 8. Family provides opportunities for youth to participate in family activities and decisions affecting the youth:
 - □ No opportunities for involvement provided
 - □ Some opportunities for involvement provided
 - □ Opportunities for involvement provided

Look for a range of opportunities to do things as a family on a regular basis.

- 9. Level of conflict between parents, between youth and parents, among siblings:
 - □ Some conflict that was well managed
 - □ Verbal intimidation, yelling, heated arguments
 - □ Threats of physical abuse
 - □ Physical abuse/sexual abuse/domestic violence

Since several forms of conflict may be present, check the most severe level of conflict.

Relationship to re-offending: The level of conflict experienced by the youth has been linked to increased risk for problematic behavior. Youth who are repeatedly exposed to violence and abuse are at greater risk for perpetrating acts of violence or further victimization.

10. Parental supervision:

- □ Good supervision
- □ Some good supervision
- □ Inadequate supervision, neglect

Good supervision implies encouraging and guiding youth to engage in pro-social activities and influences. Parental supervision is evidenced by the parents knowing and approving who youth is with, when youth will return, where youth is going, and what youth is doing. ? Knowledge alone is not good supervision. Knowing that a youth is with gang members is not good supervision. This implies supervision is inadequate. Look for efforts on the parent's part to monitor the youth. For example, does the youth know how to reach the parent at all times? Does the parent know where the youth is at all times, even when she or he is at work or out of the house? If parents are at work when the youth returns from school- what efforts have been put into place to ensure the youth is properly supervised

Relationship to re-offending: Parental supervision is a critical risk factor in predicting antisocial behavior. Youth who are not supervised are free to spend time with other antisocial youth and engage in antisocial behavior.

11. Parental rule enforcement and control:

- □ Youth usually obeys and follows rules
- □ Youth sometimes obeys or obeys some rules
- □ Youth consistently disobeys, is hostile

The focus of this risk factor is the level of parental control. Determine if the family has rules and expectations and how frequently the youth follows through and obeys them. Probe carefully when the youth indicates there are no rules or expectations. Typically the youth has some type of restriction placed on his or her behavior.

You can consider what the parents say as a confirming source about what the youth says, although if you suspect the parents are denying this problem, you may need to refer to another source.

The time of the offense can indicate parental control. If a youth commits a crime in the middle of the night, the parent may not have the control to keep the youth in the house.

12.Consistent appropriate discipline: punishment for bad behavior and rewards for good behavior:

Appropriate Punishment	Appropriate Rewards
	□ Usually

- □ Sometimes □ Sometimes
- □ Rarely □ Rarely

Check all that apply.

Consistent refers to timely response (closely follows target behavior).

Appropriate punishment means clear communication of the undesired behavior and response or consequence that is proportionate to conduct and that is non-coercive or abusive.

Appropriate rewards means clear communication of the desired behavior and a response that could include affection, praise, or other tangible means.

- 13. Characterization of discipline:
 - □ Appropriate punishment
 - □ Overly severe punishment
 - □ Insufficient punishment
 - □ Little or no punishment
- Appropriate rewards
- Overly indulgent
- □ Overly protective
- □ Little or no rewards

Check all that apply. Determine if parents generally use appropriate rewards or discipline and if they consistently apply them.

Relationship to re-offending: Research suggests that little, insufficient (used erratically or infrequently), or overly severe punishment (severe consequences in relation to the problem

behavior) are related to delinquency.

14. Parental characterization of youth's anti-social behavior:

- □ Disapproves of youth's anti-social behavior
- □ Minimizes, denies, justifies, excuses behavior, or blames others/circumstances
- □ Accepts youth's anti-social behavior as okay
- Proud of youth's anti-social behavior

Determine if the parent colludes with the youth and/or promotes antisocial behavior by denying the significance of the offense or minimizing the youth's responsibility

Relationship to re-offending: There is significant evidence to suggest that parent's who, condone or ignore antisocial acts exhibited by their children may actually reinforce and promote their child's criminal behavior.

Sample Interview Questions

SECTION V	IA: Environment in which the youth was primarily raised
 Age when last liv biological parent 	
	Do you have any brothers or sisters? Who primarily raised you?
2. Family problems	 What sorts of problems did members of your family have when you were growing up? Did your mother, father or brothers or sisters have any problems with their health, work, or getting along, drinking or drugs? Were they ever hospitalized or received help for these problems? How are they doing with these problems right now? Has anyone in your family ever been arrested? What happened to them? Were they locked up? Where?
3. Number of prior home placement	
4. Number of prior or times kicked of	runaways Have you ever felt like running away from home?
5. Petitions filed	<i>Search court records for petitions.</i> <i>Contact DSHS for placement and other social service</i> <i>records</i>
6. Parents/caretake caring and suppo	

7. Family member the youth feels close to	Who in your family is it easy to talk to? Who could you turn to help?
8. Opportunities for participation	What sorts of things does your family do together? How do your parents feel about doing fun things with you? How do your parents make family decisions affecting you?
9. Family conflict	How does your family express disagreement? Do they call each other names, threaten each other, throw things, hit or in any other way try to harm each other? Have the police ever had to come to your home because of fighting? How safe do you feel in your home?
10. Parents/caretaker supervision	Who is in the house when you get home from school? If your parents aren't at home, how can you get in touch with them? How often do your parents ask you where you are going, what you are going to do, and who you will be with when you leave the house? What would your parents say about your friends? Do they know your friends' names? Your friends' parents?
11. Rule enforcement and parents/caretaker control	What are the rules for you in your family?What actually happens if you do not follow the rules?How often does that happen?How much influence or control over your behavior would you say your parents have?
12. Punishment	If your parents say they are going to punish you, how often can you find a way out of it, or how often do they just forget it? How often do you think that the kind of punishment you get depends on your parent's mood? How often do you get praised or receive a reward for something? In what kinds of circumstances? What kind of reward do you get?
13. Characterization of discipline	Do you think your parents' punishment is too severe? Is a joke? Do think you can pretty much get away with anything?
14. Parents/caretaker disapproval of anti-social behavior	How did your parents feel about you getting into trouble with the law? What do they think about how the police and courts handled your case? What do they think about the courts, the law, and society's rules?

Item	Response Category		Static	Dynamic	
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective
1. Age when last living with	Currently living with biological mother				1
biological parents:	Age when last living with biological mother	0	•		
	Currently living with biological father				1
	Age when last living with biological father	0			
2. Problems of members of family in which raised.	Mother has no history of problems		0		
Score one point per problem up to a maximum of 3 point	Mother has a history of problems with: alcohol, drugs, mental health, physical health, employment, finances, jail/imprisonment	3		•	•
	Father has no history of problems		0		
Score one point per problem up to a maximum of 3 points	Father has a history of problems with: alcohol, drugs, mental health, physical health, employment, finances, jail/imprisonment	3			
Score one point per problem up to a maximum of 3 points.	Sibling has no history of problems Sibling has a history of problems with: alcohol, drugs, mental health, physical health, employment, finances, jail/imprisonment	3	0		
3. Court ordered, voluntary	None		0		
out-of-home, and shelter care	One	1			
placements exceeding 30 days.	More than one	2	•	•	
4. Runaways or times kicked	None		0		
out of home:	One	1			
	More than one	2			
5. Petitions filed:	None		0		
<i>One point for each type of petition for a maximum of 3</i>	Petitions filed for family in which raised: youth-at-risk, CHINS, ARP, dependency	3			
6. Parent/caretaker love,	Consistent	_	0	_	
caring, and support of youth:	Inconsistent	1			
	Indifferent, uncaring, uninterested, no support	2			
	Hostile towards youth, berated and belittled	3			
7. Family member(s) youth feels close to or has good relation with.	Does not feel close to any family members	1			
Score one point per member up to a maximum of 3 points	Feels close to: <i>father, mother, brother(s), sister(s), extended family member</i>		3		
8. Family provides	No opportunities	2			
opportunities for youth to	Some opportunities	1			
participate in family activities and decisions affecting the youth	Opportunities	•	0		
9. Level of conflict between	Conflict well managed		0		
parents, between youth and	Verbal intimidation, yelling, heated arguments	1			
parents, among siblings	Threats of physical abuse	2			
	Physical/sexual abuse: domestic violence	3			

Item	Response Category	Static		Dynamic	
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective
10. Parents/caretaker	Good supervision	0			
supervision:	Some good supervision	1			
	Inadequate supervision, neglect	2			
11. Parents/caretaker rule	Youth usually obeys and follows rules		0		
enforcement and control:	Youth sometimes obeys or obeys some rules	1			•
	Youth consistently disobeys, is hostile	2			
12a. Consistent appropriate	Usually consistent appropriate punishment		0		
discipline: punishment for	Sometimes appropriate punishment	1			
bad behavior	Rarely appropriate punishment	2			
12b. Consistent appropriate	Usually appropriate rewards		0		
discipline: rewards for good	Sometimes appropriate rewards	1			
behavior:	Rarely appropriate rewards	2			
13a. Characterization of	Usually appropriate punishment		0		
punishment	Overly severe punishment	1			
	Insufficient punishment	1			•
	No punishment	2			
13b. Characterization of	Usually appropriate rewards		0		
rewards	Overly indulgent rewards	1			
	Overly protective	1			
	Little or no rewards	2	•		
14. Parent's/caretaker's	Disapproval		0		
disapproval of youth's antisocial behavior:	Minimizes, denies, justifies, excuses behavior, or blames others/circumstances	1			
	Accepts youth's antisocial behavior as okay	2			
	Proud of youth's antisocial behavior	3			
Maximum		40	3	0	2

6B: Current Living Arrangements

Relationship to Re-Offending

In addition to the environment in which the youth was raised, research suggests the youth's current living arrangements have an impact on the youth's level of risk.

Once again it is important to examine who is present in the youth's environment to provide support and encouragement and to discourage antisocial behavior. A thorough assessment of how the youth is supervised, disciplined, and reinforced is critical.

General Instructions

In this section it is important to determine risk and protective factors in the youth's current living arrangements.

Parents in this assessment include the youth's mother and father or any individuals who are legally responsible for raising the youth.

Items:

- 1. Currently living with family in which primarily raised; or length of time living with current family:
 - □ Living with family in which primarily raised; or

____ Years and ____ months living with current family

Either check that the youth is currently living in family in which raised, or enter the years and months living with current family.

These two items are mutually exclusive.

2. The youth's current living arrangements:.

- Father
- Mother □ Siblings □ Other Relatives
- □ Stepparent □ Other adult
- □ Foster/Group Home □ Independent
- □ Transient

Other _____

Check all that apply.

Independent means that the youth is living on their own without adult supervision.

Transient means the youth is moving around and not consistently living in the same environment.

Complete items 3 to 5 if the youth is living with at least one adult caretaker/parent.

3. Family annual income:

- □ Under \$15,000 □ \$15,000 \$34,999
- □ \$35,000 \$49,999 □ \$50,000 and over

Annual income is the money available to the household responsible for the youth. Because this can be an embarrassing item, one court suggested having the income question on a separate piece of paper that you can ask the family to complete without verbally asking them for the information. They also suggested asking the family for this information in an apologetic way, stating that the court needs to know what resources are available to the youth as a protective factor. In addition, you could assure them that this information will not be used for court costs or other financial obligations. You can add that the court makes you collect this information, and you do not like it anymore than they do.

Your court may already ask this information when they are determining financial obligations and the family's ability to pay those obligations.

If the youth, or whoever is responsible for the youth, is receiving child support, include only the child support payment, not the father's income, in the total income.

If youths are working to partially or totally support themselves, be sure that the employment box is checked and write on the assessment that the youth is financially self-supported through employment.

4. Health insurance and Title 19 eligibility:

- Has health insurance
- □ Eligible for Title 19
- Medical Coupons
 Enrolled in Title 19:
- Check all that apply.

If nothing is checked, the factor will be recorded as a no.

Include only private health insurance through an employer or a private policy and exclude public health insurance.

- 5. Support network for family; extended family and friends that can provide additional support:
 - □ No family support network
 - □ Some family support network
 - □ Strong family support network

Complete the following section only if different from family in which primarily raised.

<u>Note:</u> if the current family is the same as the family in which raised, the computer software will copy all of the family in which raised items to the current family section. It will still be possible to modify items 6 through 14 in 6B, the current family environment since some of the information may have changed recently.

6. Problems of family members who are currently living in the household Mother Father Sibling(s)

	Nother	Father	Sibling
No problems			
Alcohol			
Drug			
Mental health			
Physical health			
Employment			
Financial			
Jail/imprisonment			

Check all that apply

Interviewing the youth separately from the parents may help provide this information as well as asking the parents directly without the youth being present. Other sources of information are school counselors, law enforcement, and drug/alcohol providers who know the youth or youth's family.

Asking your local law enforcement about family criminal history could be the most reliable and valid method for obtaining this information. Using any self-reported information from either the youth or a parent is a valid way to reduce your search effort. JUVIS can be used to determine the juvenile court records of the youth's siblings. At the state level, you could do a Search Index in SCOMIS for court records. For parents and siblings, you may need their birth date, in addition to name, for identification.

- 7. Current parental love, caring, and support of youth:
 - □ Love, caring and support consistently given
 - □ Inconsistent love, caring and support given
 - □ Indifferent, uncaring, uninterested, unwilling to help
 - □ Hostile towards youth, berates and belittles
- 8. Current family member(s) youth feels close to or has good relationship with:
 - □ Father/male caretaker □ Mother/female caretaker
 - □ Male Sibling □ Female sibling
 - □ Extended family □ No one

Check all that apply.

- 9. Current family provides opportunities for youth to participate in family activities and decisions affecting the youth:
 - □ No opportunities for involvement provided
 - □ Some opportunities for involvement provided
 - □ Opportunities for involvement provided
- 10.Current level of conflict between parents, between youth and parents, among siblings:
 - □ Some conflict that is well managed
 - □ Verbal intimidation, yelling, heated arguments
 - □ Threats of physical abuse
 - □ Physical/sexual abuse: domestic violence
- 11.Current parental supervision:
 - □ Good supervision
 - □ Some good supervision
 - □ Inadequate supervision, neglect

Parents/caretaker know: who youth is with, when youth will return, where youth is going, and what youth is doing.

12. Current parental rule enforcement and control:

- Youth usually obeys and follows rules
- □ Youth sometimes obeys or obeys some rules
- □ Youth consistently disobeys, is hostile
- 13.Current consistent appropriate discipline: punishment for bad behavior and rewards for good behavior:.
 - □ <u>Appropriate</u> Punishment <u>Appropriate Rewards</u>
 - □ Usually □ Usually
 - □ Sometimes
- Sometimes
- □ Rarely □ Rarely

Check all that apply.

Appropriate means clear communication, timely response, and response proportionate to conduct.

14. Current characterization of discipline:

- □ Appropriate punishment
- □ Appropriate rewards
- Overly severe punishment
- Overly indulgent
- Insufficient punishment
- Overly protective
- □ Little or no punishment

□ Little or no rewards

Check all that apply.

- 15. Current parental characterization of youth's anti-social behavior:
 - □ Disapproves of youth's anti-social behavior
 - □ Minimizes, denies, justifies, excuses behavior
 - □ Accepts youth's anti-social behavior as okay
 - □ Proud of youth's anti-social behavior

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Sample Interview Questions

1. Length of time in current living arrangement	Who do you currently live with? How long have you been living there?
2. The youth's current living arrangement	Who else lives with you now?
Answers to questions 3, 4 and 5	need to be obtained from the parents/caretaker
3. Family annual income	
4. Health Insurance and Title 19	Do you have any health insurance? Title 19 eligibility
5. Family support network	What are the extended family, friends and organizations from whom the youth's family can receive additional support?
Complete the following section o the youth was primarily raised	only if the current environment is not the environment in which
1. Family problems	What sorts of problems do members of your family have? Does your mother, father or brothers or sisters have any problems with their health, work, or getting along, drinking or drugs? Were they ever hospitalized or received help for these problems? How are they doing with these problems right now? Has anyone in your family ever been arrested? What happened to them? Were they locked up? Where? Still?
2. Parents/caretaker love, caring and support	Tell me how well you get along with your parents? How do you think your parents feel about you? How do they try to help you out? Support you? Let you know they care about you? Talk about your good points, your strengths? How do you get along with your brothers and sisters?
3. Family member the youth feels close to	Who in your family is it easy to talk to? Who could you turn to help?
4. Opportunities for participation	What sorts of things does your family do together? How do your parents feel about doing fun things with you? How do your parents make family decisions affecting you?
5. Family conflict	How does your family express disagreement? Do they call each other names, threaten each other, throw things, hit or in any other way try to harm each other? Have the police ever had to come to your home because of fighting? How safe do you feel in your home?

6. Parents/caretaker supervision	Who is in the house when you get home from school? If your parents aren't at home, how can you get in touch with them? How often do your parents ask you where you are going, what you are going to do, and who you will be with when you leave the house? What would your parents say about your friends? Do they know your friends' names? Your friends' parents?
7. Rule enforcement and parents/caretaker control	What are the rules for you in your family? What actually happens if you do not follow the rules? How often does that happen? How much influence or control over your behavior would you say your parents have?
8. Punishment	If your parents say they are going to punish you, how often can you find a way out of it, or how often do they just forget it? How often do you think that the kind of punishment you get depends on your parent's mood? How often do you get praised or receive a reward for something? In what kinds of circumstances? What kind of reward do you get?
9. Characterization of discipline	Do you think your parents' punishment is too severe? Is a joke? Do think you can pretty much get away with anything?
10. Parents/caretaker disapproval of anti-social behavior	How did your parents feel about you getting into trouble with the law? What do they think about how the police and courts handled your case? What do they think about the courts, the law, and society's rules?

Item	Response Category		Static	Dynamic		
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective	
1. Current family is	Currently part of the family in which raised		0			
environment in which	Currently not part of the family in which raised	0				
primarily raised	5 1 5					
2. The youth's current living	Currently with: mother, father, siblings,			1	1	
arrangements:	stepparent, other relative, other adult,					
1 risk point if transient and	foster/group home, independent, transient, other					
1 protective point if father						
3. Family annual income	Under \$15,000			1		
	\$15,000 - \$34,999			0		
	\$35,000 - \$49,999				0	
	\$50,000 and over				1	
4. Health insurance and	Has health insurance				0	
Title 19 eligibility	Has Medical Coupons				0	
	Is eligible for Title 19				0	
	Is enrolled in Title 19	•			0	
5. Support network for	No family support network for current family	•			0	
family; extended family and	Some family support network for current family				1	
friends that can provide	Strong family support network for current family				2	
additional support:						
If current family is family 6 to 14	in which raised, then use scores from 6A: Ite	ems 2	and Item			
6. Problems of current family members.	Mother has no problems				0	
Score one point per	Mother has problems with: <i>alcohol, drugs, mental</i>			3		
problem up to a maximum	health, physical health, employment, finances,	•		0		
of 3 points	jail/imprisonment					
	Father has no problems				0	
Score one point per	Father has problems with: <i>alcohol, drugs, mental</i>			3	Ŭ	
problem up to a maximum	health, physical health, employment, finances,	•		0		
of 3 points.	jail/imprisonment					
· · · ·	Sibling(s) has no problems				0	
Score one point per	Sibling(s) has problems with: <i>alcohol, drugs,</i>			3		
problem up to a maximum	mental health, physical health, employment,					
of 3 points.	finances, jail/imprisonment					
7. Parent/caretaker love,	Love, caring and support consistently given				0	
caring, and support of	Inconsistent love, caring and support	•		1		
youth:	Indifferent, uncaring, uninterested, no support			2		
	Hostile towards youth, berated and belittled			3		
8. Family member(s) youth feels close to or has good	Does not feel close to any family member(s).			1		
relation with.	Fools along to: fother methor brother(-)					
Score one point per	Feels close to: <i>_father, mother, brother(s),</i>	•			3	
<i>member up to a maximum</i>	sister(s), extended family member.					
of 3 points						

9. Current family provides	No opportunities for involvement			2	
opportunities for youth to	Some opportunities for involvement			1	
participate in family activities and decisions affecting the youth	Opportunities for involvement	•			0
10. Level of current conflict	Conflict is well managed				0
between parents, between	Verbal intimidation, yelling, heated arguments			1	
youth and parents, among	Threats of physical abuse in family			2	
siblings	Physical/sexual abuse: domestic violence			3	
11. Current	Good supervision				0
parents/caretaker	Some good supervision			1	
supervision:	Inadequate supervision, neglect			2	
12. Current	Youth usually obeys and follows rules				0
parents/caretaker rule	Youth sometimes obeys or obeys some rules			1	
enforcement and control:	Youth consistently disobeys, is hostile			2	
13a. Current family	Usually consistent appropriate punishment				0
consistent appropriate	Sometimes appropriate punishment			1	
discipline: punishment for bad behavior	Rarely appropriate punishment	•		2	
13b. Current family	Usually appropriate rewards				0
consistent appropriate	Sometimes appropriate rewards			1	
discipline: rewards for good behavior:	Rarely appropriate rewards	•		2	
14a. Characterization of	Appropriate punishment				0
punishment	Overly severe punishment			1	
	Insufficient punishment			1	
	No punishment			2	
14b. Characterization of	Appropriate rewards				0
rewards	Overly indulgent rewards			1	
	Overly protective			1	
	No rewards			2	
15. Parent's/caretaker's	Disapproval				0
disapproval of youth's	Minimizes, denies, justifies, excuses behavior			1	
antisocial behavior:	Antisocial behavior is accepted as okay			2	
	Proud of youth's antisocial behavior			3	
Maximum		13	0	35	7

7: ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Relationship to Re-Offending

Substance use disorders represent the most frequently occurring mental health problem in the general population and are over-represented in the criminal justice population, with estimates ranging from 60-85%.

Youth with an early behavioral history of experimentation with drugs are at greater risk for criminal behavior. Drug usage is also linked with academic and conduct problems at school and may involve associations with antisocial youth.

General Instructions

Assess any alcohol and drug usage by the youth relative to its disruption of the youth's life. Disrupted functioning involves problems in any one of these four life areas: education, family conflict, peer relationships, or health consequences. Disrupted functioning usually indicates that treatment is warranted.

- <u>Disruption of education</u> is evidenced by problems with attendance or poor school performance (grades).
- <u>Disruption of family life</u> is evidenced by conflicts over alcohol or drug use, such as running away from home, stealing at home to support use, arguing over use, or stealing alcohol/drugs from home.
- <u>Disruption in peer relationships</u> is evidenced by most of the youth's friends using alcohol or drugs.
- <u>Disruption in health</u> is evidenced by emergency room visits or medical problems which resulted from alcohol or drug use.

If youths are using these substances four or five days a week in an amount that alters their ability to function "normally" and you conclude they are in need of treatment, then consider the youths to have a disruptive alcohol/drug abuse problem.

Items

- Alcohol abuse:
 None
 Use
 Use disrupts function
- 2. Drug abuse:

None	
Use	
Use disrupts function	

Indicate whether alcohol and/or drug use often contributes to criminal behavior; their use typically precipitates the commission of a crime. That is, there is evidence or reason to believe the youth's criminal activity is related to alcohol and/or drug use.

3. Alcohol use contributes to the youth's criminal behavior:

□ No □ Somewhat □ Yes

4. Drug use contributes to the youth's criminal behavior:

□ No □ Somewhat □ Yes

Sample Interview Questions

	1 Alcohol abuse <i>Check with community</i> <i>mental health, drug/alcohol</i> <i>treatment, and other</i> <i>sources for information.</i>	What do you think about drinking? Have you ever tried drinking? <i>If the youth has used alcohol:</i> When did you start using or experimenting with alcohol? What happens when you drink? Have you had an accident? Gotten sick? Gotten into an argument or fight while using? Had problems in school? Had problems at home? Have you ever had to see someone, like a counselor, for your drinking? Do you think you have a problem with drinking?
2	Drug abuse	What do you think about taking drugs? Have you ever tried taking drugs?
	Check with community mental health, drug/alcohol treatment, and other sources for information.	If the youth has used drugs: When did you start using or experimenting with drugs? What happens when you get high? Have you had an accident? Gotten sick? Gotten into an argument or fight while using? Had problems in school? Had problems at home? Caused you to get in trouble with the law? Have you ever had to see someone, like a counselor, for drugs? Do you think you have a problem with drugs?
3	Alcohol use contributes to youth's criminal behavior	Were you drinking before you committed this crime? How do you see your drinking related to getting yourself into trouble?
4	Drug use contributors to youth's criminal behavior	Were you taking drugs before you committed this crime? How do you see your taking drugs related to getting yourself into trouble?

Item	Response Category	Static		tic	Dynamic		
		Risk	Pr	otective	Risk	Protective	
1. Alcohol abuse:	No alcohol use					0	
	Alcohol use not disrupting functioning					1	
	Disrupted function from alcohol use					2	
2. Drug abuse:	No drug use					0	
	Drug use not disrupting functioning					2	
	Disrupted function from drug use					1	
3. Alcohol use contributes	Alcohol does not contribute to					0	
to the youth's criminal	criminal behavior						
behavior:							
	Alcohol somewhat contributes to						
	criminal behavior						
	Alcohol contributes to criminal behavior					2	
4. Drug use contributes to the youth's criminal	Drugs do not contribute to criminal behavior					0	
behavior:							
	Drugs somewhat contribute to					2	
	criminal behavior						
	Drugs contribute to criminal behavior				4	1	
Maximum			0	0	12	2 0	

8: MENTAL HEALTH

Relationship to Re-Offending

Considerable research has been conducted to examine the relationship between mental health and criminal behavior. For example, there is some evidence to suggest that a large number of youth entering the criminal justice system have experienced or witnessed some form of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse. Studies of victims suggest an array of emotional and behavioral consequences that vary dramatically across victims. Though abuse in and of itself may not be a causal factor of criminal behavior, many investigators consider a history of early victimization to contribute to further experiences of victimization and to increased risk for self-destructive behaviors (i.e., substance abuse, self-mutilation, suicide attempts, etc.), particularly for women. In addition, abuse is seen as one of the crucial antecedents to sexually and physically violent behavior.

Regardless of the causal factor, violent and aggressive behavior is viewed as a stable predictor of difficulties throughout the life span. That is, youth who rely on physically aggressive ways at an early age are more likely to continue this behavior into adulthood.

The strength of the relationship between mental health factors and criminal behavior is less well understood than some of the factors previewed earlier. Of considerable importance is the investigation of these issues to assess current level of personal safety, community safety, and ability to cope with major life events and daily stressors.

NOTE: If you suspect the youth is depressed, suicidal or at risk to harm self or others please inform a supervisor immediately. A suicide assessment outline is presented at the end of this domain. It should be used only by practitioners who have been trained in this method.

General Instructions

- Physical abuse includes mental abuse as well as physical abuse. Child Protective Services defines physical abuse as any non-accidental physical injury such as bruises, burns, fractures, bites, or internal injuries. Mental abuse includes, by accident or omission, the damaging of the intellectual, psychological, or emotional functioning of the child.
- Sexual abuse includes acts such as indecent liberties, communication with a minor for immoral purposes, sexual exploitation of a child, child molestation, sexual misconduct with a minor, rape of a child, and rape.

- Child Protective Services defines neglect to include negligent or maltreatment (dangerous act) or omission that constitutes a clear and present danger to the child's health, welfare, and safety such as:
 - Failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, emotional nurturing, or health care.
 - Failure to provide adequate supervision in relation to a child's level of development.
 - An act of abandonment with the intent to forego parental responsibilities despite an ability to do so.
 - An act of exploitation such as requiring the child to be involved in criminal activity, imposing unreasonable work standards, etc.
 - An act of reckless endangerment such as a parent driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs with children present.
 - Other dangerous acts such as hitting, kicking, throwing, choking a child, or shaking an infant.

Include any history of being a <u>victim of physical or sexual abuse or neglect</u> that is suspected, whether or not substantiated. Exclude reports of abuse or neglect that have been proven to be false.

If you suspect that self-reported abuse is being used to get back at the youth's parents, it may be necessary to confirm this risk factor even if a youth affirmatively replies. Parental/caretaker self-report can be considered confirmation. Children and Family Services may be the last place to look after asking the youth, parents, and the school counselor. This risk factor is for suspected abuse that may or may not be confirmed. Therefore, a school counselor may suspect abuse but may not call DSHS. However, you would need to excursus your discretion to evaluate the counselor's suspicion concerning abuse.

Determine the existence of abuse by asking the youth and by contacting a qualified professional, e.g., CPS worker, school counselor, social worker, health care professional.

Qualified professionals are individuals with the necessary training or experience that enables them to determine, either directly from the youth or indirectly from family, relatives, or other sources, whether the juvenile was abused.

Qualified professionals include CPS workers, social workers, health care workers, drug or alcohol counselors, or school counselors.
Items

1. Victim of physical or sexual abuse:

			Other	Outside
Abused by:	Parent	<u>Sibling</u>	Family	<u>Family</u>
None				
Physical Abuse	•			
Sexual Abuse				

Parents include biological parents, stepparents, adopted parents and legal guardian or caretaker.

Check all that apply.

If there is no abuse, please check none for parent, sibling, other family, and outside family.

Note: within each perpetrator of the abuse (column). checking none is mutually exclusive with checking physical or sexual abuse.

2. Victim of neglect:

□ No □ Yes

3. Mental health problems:

Such as schizophrenia, bi-polar, mood, thought, personality and adjustment disorders. Exclude substance abuse and special education since those issues are considered elsewhere. Confirm by a professional in the social service/healthcare field. Check all that apply.

□ None

- □ Diagnosed with mental health problem(s)
- □ Medication prescribed

□ Treatment

To determine if the youth has any mental health problems, start by asking the youth and parents about any history of taking medication or receiving counseling/mental health treatment. Since the family may be embarrassed by the youth having a problem, use your discretion about seeking another source of information to confirm the youth/family denying the use of medication or counseling. If you know from self-report about the medication and/or treatment, checking with whomever prescribed the medication or provided treatment will give a solid answer to whether the youth has a problem and whether it is severe.

Any history of emotional/behavioral problems, as evidenced by the youth ever having: been prescribed medication, or received treatment/counseling, or been diagnosed for any emotional or behavioral problem.

NOTE: If a youth has been diagnosed as ADHD, these diagnosis should be noted in the school section, however, if the youth has been prescribed medication for this condition, please mark the medication in this section.

Confirm by a professional in the mental health care field.

This following set of three items is measuring any reported indications that the youth has exhibited or has the potential for violence, sexual aggression or sexual vulnerability. In addition, to reported incidents, you can also ask the youth questions about any of these behaviors.

4. Violence/Anger: Reports of displaying a weapon, fighting, threatening people, violent outbursts, violent temper, fire starting, animal cruelty, destructiveness, volatility, intense reactions.

□ No reports □ Reports

5. Sexual aggression: Reports of aggressive sex, sex for power, young sex partners, voyeurism, exposure, etc.

□ No reports □ Reports

6. Sexual vulnerability/exploitation: Reports that youth is being sexually exploited or being taken advantage of by an older or more sophisticated person including prostitution.

□ No reports □ Reports

Sample Interview Questions

 Victim of physical or sexual abuse Check with child protective services, community mental health, and other sources for information. 	Has an adult ever beaten you up? Who was it? Why? How often? Last time? Has anyone ever tried anything funny with you sexually? Who was it? Why? How often? Last time?
2. Victim of neglect <i>Check with child protective</i> <i>services, community mental</i> <i>health, and other sources for</i> <i>information.</i>	Child Protective Services defines neglect to include negligent or maltreatment (dangerous act) or omission that constitutes a clear and present danger to the child's health, welfare and safety
3. Emotional problems <i>Check with community mental</i> <i>health and other sources for</i> <i>information.</i>	 What kind of medication have you taken in the past? What was it for? Who prescribed it? For how long a period of time? What are you taking now? Have you ever seen anyone for problems with your behavior or feelings? For how long a period of time? Do you see them now?
4. Violence/anger	Check with the youth's family, school, police, employers etc. to determine if there are any incidents of violence or anger management problems. Questions that can be asked: What would you do if another kid got in your way? Pushed you? Punched you? Have you ever gotten really mad? Gotten into a fight? How did it happen? Have you ever wanted to destroy property, hurt some animal, or set fire to something because you were angry or in a bad mood? Have you ever done it?

5. Sexual aggression	Check with the youth's family, school, police, employers etc. to determine if there are any incidents of sexual aggression, or problems managing sexual feelings. Questions that can be asked:						
	Have you ever had a boyfriend (girlfriend)? How old is he (she)?						
	What is he (she) like? How did you spend your time together?						
	Have you ever been bothered by your sexual behavior?						
	Do you think you have any problems with your attitude toward sex?						
6. Sexual vulnerability	Check with the youth's family, school, police, employers etc. to determine if there are any incidents of sexual exploitation of the youth.						
	Questions that can be asked:						
	Did you ever feel some one was trying to take advantage of you sexually? Kind of insisting on sexual activity? Who was this? How did you feel about that and what did you do?						

RESOURCE MANUAL AND SCORING GUIDE

8. Mental Health

Item	Response Category	Static		Dynamic		
		Risk	Pro	otective	Risk	Protective
1. Victim of physical or sexual	Not a victim			0		
abuse:.						
Score one point for abuse by	Physical abuse by: <i>a parent, sibling, other</i>	1				
anyone	family member, person outside the family					
Score one point for abuse by	Sexual abuse by: <i>a parent, sibling, other</i>	1				
anyone	family member, person outside the family					
2. Victim of neglect:	Not a victim of neglect			0		
_	Victim of neglect	3				
3. Mental health problems:	No record of mental health problems			0		
Score one point for any	Diagnosed,	1				
indication of a mental health	Prescribed medication	1				
history	Receives treatment	1				
4. Violence/Anger:	No reports					0
_	Reports				1	
5. Sexual aggression:	No reports					0
	Reports				1	
6. Sexual	No indication					0
vulnerability/exploitation:						
- · ·	Indication				1	
Maximum		6		0	3	0

Scoring

SUICIDE ASSESSMENT OUTLINE

NOTE: Use only if you have received training in suicide assessment.

Assessing self-destructive threats, gestures, and suicide potential refers to the degree of probability that a person may harm or attempt to kill themselves in the immediate or near future.

- 1. Assessing suicidal ideation
 - A. Ask directly if they have thoughts of suicide.
 - B. Are the thoughts pervasive or intermittent with a definite relationship to a given situation.
 - C. Do they have a plan; if so how extensive is the plan.
 - D. Lethality of the means/method defined.
 - E. Is there access to the identified means.
- 2. Risk factors
 - A. Intention and history
 - 1. recent/prior attempt or gestures
 - 2. direct or indirect communication of intent
 - 3. extensiveness of plan
 - 4. lethality of means
 - 5. access to means
 - 6. family history of suicidal behaviors
 - B. Demographics
 - 1. age (teens, middle age, and elderly are at highest risk)
 - 2. gender (males more often succeed at suicide attempts because of the lethality of means, but females make more attempts)
 - 3. marital status (separated, widowed, divorced)
 - 4. social support (lack of support system, living alone)
 - 5. employment status (change in status, or performance)

- C. Behavioral and Social Clues (Adolescent suicide)
 - 1. heavy drug use
 - 2. change in academic performance
 - 3. recent loss of a love object, or impending loss
 - 4. pregnancy
 - 5. homosexuality (if not accepted, not supported)
 - 6. running away
 - 7. prior suicide attempts or family history of suicide
 - 8. intense anger
 - 9. preoccupation of violent death of another person
 - 10. impulsivity
 - 11. learning disability
 - 12. ineffective coping
 - 13. lack of resources and feelings of alienation
 - 14. hopelessness and depression
 - 15. risk-taking behaviors
 - 16. loss of support system
 - 17. recent move, change in school
 - 18. loss of family status (family member leaves or is removed from home, change in economic level of family)
 - 19. feeling anonymous and unimportant
 - 20. peer group activity associated with issues of death

Young people are sometimes ineffective in expressing depression or suicidal ideation. Look for evidence of somatic complaints, boredom, and substance abuse.

9: ATTITUDES/BEHAVIORS

Relationship to Re-Offending

Perhaps one of the most important and consistently identified factors linked to criminal behavior is antisocial attitudes, values and beliefs. Most people will deny responsibility or minimize the impact of negative behavior when placed in a difficult or embarrassing situation. However, offenders tend to minimize, deny or excuse their behavior more frequently and across a broader range of situations than non-offenders. Typically statements include negative comments about the law, courts, and police; conventional activities or practices in general; conventional people; and statements that suggest a lack of empathy for the victim. Other statements may attempt to diminish the impact of the offense. For example, the offender may deny responsibility, deny that any injury was done, blame the victim, blame the system, or claim that they had to do the crime to protect someone else.

Research has shown that anti-social attitudes are directly related to criminal behavior. A number of intervention strategies have been developed in an effort to teach offenders to identify, and replace pro-criminal expressions with pro-social statements.

In addition to antisocial attitudes this domain is also concerned with how the offender views the future and his or her level of motivation to change. Research suggests that individuals may come into the system at different stages of readiness or willingness to change. Prochaska and DiClemente (1991) have identified six stages of change. The first two stages, pre-contemplation and contemplation, characterize individuals who deny they have a problem and who are not prepared to participate in the change process. The remaining stages, determination, action, maintenance, relapse, characterize individuals who recognize that a problem exists and who are beginning to do something about the problem.

Readiness to change has been linked to success in altering antisocial and other destructive behaviors. A youth who is motivated to stay out of the criminal justice system is more likely to comply with supervision guidelines and to benefit from intervention.

General Instructions

Use the information collected throughout the interview to respond to these items. Encourage an open discussion with the youth by asking them to describe how they felt, what they thought, and what they did- prior, during, and immediately after, the last offense.

Items

1. Attitude before, during and after committing crime(s):

Before	During	After	
			Nervous, afraid, or worried
			Ambivalent, uncertain or indecisive
			Unconcerned or indifferent
			Hyper, excited, stimulated
			Confident, brags about not getting caught

Check all that apply.

- 2. Purpose for committing crime(s):
 - □ Anger
- □ Money or material gain including drugs

- Excitement, amusement or fun
 Peer status, acceptance, attention
- □ Sexual desire □
 - □ Other

Check all that apply.

- 3. Accepts responsibility for anti-social behavior:
 - □ Accepts responsibility
 - □ Minimizes, denies, justifies, excuses, blames others
 - □ Accepts anti-social behavior as okay
 - □ Proud of anti-social behavior

Determine the degree to which the youth minimizes, justifies, or excuses their criminal actions, or blames others or circumstances; not accepting responsibility for their actions, or even accepting their criminal behavior as OK or being proud of it.

Relationship to re-offending: The youth's lack of responsibility for their own actions allows them to commit behaviors without any second thoughts.

- 4. Empathy, remorse, sympathy, or feelings for the victim(s) of criminal behavior: □ Has empathy for his or her victim(s)
 - \Box Has some empathy for his or her victim(s)
 - □ Does not have empathy for his or her victim(s)

Determine the youth's empathy, remorse, sympathy, or feelings for the victims of their criminal behavior; the degree to which the youth sees how the victim is affected and whether they care how the victim feels.

The response has some empathy includes having some amount of empathy for all victims, and having empathy for some but not all victims.

Relationship to re-offending: The youth's lack of concern for others allows them to harm others without the normal social constraint. The youth may have inadequate guilt feelings which allows them to continue their anti-social activities.

5. Fatalistic attitude:

- **Believes some things matter and he or she has a future**
- Believes little matters because he or she has no future
- □ Believes nothing matters; he or she will be dead before long

Determine the degree to which the youth does or does not care about the future or believe they have any positive future. How fatalistic is their attitude and how much does this fatalism allow them to do whatever they want because it really does not matter what happens to them.

Relation to re-offending: Because the youth does not care about the future, they do not concern themselves with their criminal actions and their consequences.

- 6. Loss of control over anti-social behavior:
- □ Believes he or she can avoid/stop antisocial behavior
- □ Somewhat believes antisocial behavior is controllable
- Believes his or her antisocial behavior is out of his or her control

Determine the degree to which the youth believes they have control over their anti-social behavior. How hopeless or incapable do feel they are to stop this behavior.

Relation to re-offending: Because the youth does not believe they can control their antisocial behavior, they may not be motivated to change that behavior and will continue their offending.

- 7. Hostile interpretation of actions and intentions of others in a common nonconfrontational setting:
- □ Primarily positive view of intentions of others
- □ Primarily negative view of intentions of others
- □ Primarily hostile view of intentions of others

Determine the degree to which the youth attributes hostility to the actions or intentions of others when there is no such hostility.

Relation to re-offending: Attributing hostility is called attributional bias in the delinquency research literature. Because the youth sees others as hostile, their anti-social reaction may seem perfectly reasonable to them. This attitude can also help them justify their anti-social actions.

- 8. Pro-social values/conventions:
- □ Primarily positive attitude toward pro-social values/conventions
- □ Somewhat positive attitude; or, positive towards some values/conventions
- □ Does not think pro-social values/conventions apply to him or her
- □ Resents or is hostile to pro-social values/conventions

Determine the degree to which the youth does not know that there are pro-social rules in society, does not respect or believe in those rules or does not think the rules apply to them, does not follow the normal pro-social rules, believes the pro-social rules are wrong, or resents or is hostile to pro-social rules.

Relation to re-offending: The youth does not understand, believe in, or live a life that is within the bounds of the normal social rules. Pro-criminal attitudes are supportive of a criminal or anti-conventional life style.

- 9. Respect for authority figures:
- □ Respects most authority figures
- □ Resents some authority figures
- □ Resents most authority figures
- Defies or is hostile toward most authority figures

Determine the degree to which the youth has a problematic attitude toward authority; refusing to follow directions from parents, teachers, employers, coaches, etc.; or resents or is hostile to authority, being openly defiant authority. This assessment must be made relative to a normal teenager who is typically a little rebellious.

Relation to re-offending: The youth's attitude toward authority makes them difficult to deal with and provide helpful interventions, refusing help or advice.

10. Tolerance for frustration:

- □ Rarely gets upset over small things or has tantrums
- □ Sometimes gets upset over small things, temper tantrums
- □ Often gets upset over small things or has tantrums

Determine the degree to which the youth is able to tolerate frustration of even small matters without acting out. This assessment must be made relative to a normal teenager who is typically a little emotionally volatile.

Relation to re-offending: The youth's inability to tolerate frustration can lead to impulsive reactions and over-reacting to situations. A youth may not be able to fulfill a perceived need and a low tolerance for this frustration may cause them to resort to anti-social means of fulfilling that need.

11.Belief in use of aggression to resolve a disagreement or conflict:

Verbal: yelling and verbal intimidation Physical: fighting and physical intimidation

Believes use of aggression is:	<u>Verbal</u>	<u>Physical</u>
Rarely appropriate		
Sometimes appropriate		
Often appropriate		

Note: be sure to check one box in the verbal column and one box in the physical column.

Determine the degree to which the youth believes verbal or physical aggression is an appropriate way of expressing themselves and in dealing with others to get what they want or are an appropriate response when prevented from getting what they want. The youth believes that shouting, yelling, and verbally intimidating others are appropriate; or that pushing, punching, or fighting are appropriate means for obtaining what hey want.

Relation to re-offending: Youth's aggressiveness and hostility dispose them toward becoming violent, or given the situation they would use verbal or physical aggression to get what they want or intimate others, being the leader to perform anti-social activities.

12. Readiness for change:

- □ Hostile toward change or unwilling to change
- □ Does not see any need for change
- □ Believes there may be a need to change
- □ Committed to changing or working on changing

Determine the stage of change for the youth.

Relation to re-offending: Youth motivation and readiness for changing their current situation to avoid criminal behavior influences their future. Youth refuses help or actively resists help. A youth who is not willing to accept help or resists help is more likely to continue in their pattern of criminal behavior and not benefit from any interventions.

- 13. Successfully meet conditions of supervision:
- □ Believes he or she will be successful
- □ Unsure if he or she will be successful
- Does not believe her or she will be successful

Determine whether the youth believes they can meet condition of probation and avoid future criminal activity. Does the youth believe they have or lack the skills/power/resources to overcome obstacles.

Relation to re-offending: The youth's attitude towards their own chances of success on supervision may be a predictor of that success.

Sample Interview Questions

1.	Attitude before, during and after committing crime.	Once you decided to commit this crime, how would you say you felt? Nervous, uncertain, indifferent, excited, confidant? How about while you were committing the crime? And then afterwards?
2.	Purpose for committing the crime	Why did you commit this crime? Because you were angry? For revenge? For money? Did not think about it, just did it? It was fun, exciting? To prove yourself?
3.	Responsibility for anti-social behavior	What choices did you have in committing this crime? Or, did someone else make you do it? Who is to blame?
4.	Empathy	Who was affected by this crime? Who was the victim? What kind of effects did the offense have on the victim? When you think about them, what do you think?
5.	Fatalistic attitude	What matters the most to you? Do you see yourself achieving that? What do you think your chances are of staying out of trouble? Where do you see yourself in a couple of years?
6.	Loss of control over antisocial behavior	Thinking about how you recently got into trouble, how much control do you feel you have over what is going to happen next?
7.	Hostile interpretation of actions and intentions of others	When someone disagrees with you, why do you think they disagree? When people say they are doing you a favor or trying to help you, what do you think is going on? Why are they doing that? Who do you think is angry with you right now and why?
8.	Pro-social values/conventions	Why do you think there are rules and laws? How fair are they? Who follows them? Who does not follow them? How do you feel about following them?
9.	Respect for authority figures	How do you feel when a teacher or other adult tells you to do something? What happens when you have a disagreement with an adult? How many times have you gotten mad at an adult and what do you usually do?

10. Tolerance for frustration	What happens if you have to wait to do or get these things?			
	In general, what kinds of things frustrate you? Make you			
	impatient?			
	What do you usually do about it?			
11. Use of aggression in dealing	When is yelling at someone a good idea?			
with others	How often does yelling help you get what you want?			
	How would you feel after yelling at someone?			
	When is hitting someone a good idea?			
	How often does hitting help you get what you want?			
	How would you feel after you hit someone?			
12. Readiness for change	What, if anything, needs to change in your life?			
	How would you describe your need for change in your			
	life?			
	What changes are you thinking about?			
	What changes are you working?			
13. Successfully meet conditions	What are the conditions for your supervision?			
of supervision	What do you think about meeting these conditions?			
	Are they realistic? Can they be met?			

Scoring

Item	Response Category	-,	Static		Dynamic		
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective		
1a. Attitude before	Nervous, afraid, or worried		1				
committing crime(s):	Ambivalent, uncertain or indecisive		1				
6	Unconcerned or indifferent	1					
	Hyper, excited, stimulated	1					
	Confident, bragging about not getting caught	1					
1b. Attitude while	Nervous, afraid, or worried		1				
committing crime(s):	Ambivalent, uncertain or indecisive		1				
3	Unconcerned or indifferent	1					
	Hyper, excited, stimulated	1					
	Confident, bragging about not getting caught	1					
1c. Attitude after committing			1				
crime(s):	Ambivalent, uncertain or indecisive		1				
	Unconcerned or indifferent	1					
	Hyper, excited, stimulated	1					
	Confident, bragging about not getting caught	1					
2. Purpose for committing	Crime committed because of: <u>anger; revenge</u>	0					
crime(s):	impulse; sexual desire; money or material	0					
crime(s).	gain; amusement, excitement or fun, peer						
	status, acceptance, or attention; other purpose						
2 Accorts responsibility for					0		
3. Accepts responsibility for antisocial behavior:	Accepts responsibility for antisocial behavior	•		1	0		
	Minimizes, denies, justifies, excuses behavior Accepts antisocial behavior as okay	•		2			
	Proud of antisocial behavior	•		2			
A Free attern and a second		•		5			
4. Empathy, remorse,	Has empathy			1	0		
sympathy, or feelings for	Sometimes has empathy or empathy for some	•		2			
the victim(s) of criminal behavior:	Does not have empathy			2			
5. Fatalistic attitude:	Believes some things matter and he or she has a future				0		
	Believes little matters because he or she has			1			
	no future	•					
	Believes nothing matters; he or she will be			2			
	dead before long	•		-			
6. Loss of control over	Believes can avoid/stop antisocial behavior				0		
antisocial behavior:	Somewhat believes can avoid/stop antisocial	•		1			
	behavior	•					
	Believes cannot avoid/stop antisocial behavior			2			
7. Hostile interpretation of	Primarily positive	•			0		
actions and intentions of	Primarily negative	•		1	0		
others in a common non-	Primarily hostile	•		2			
confrontational setting:		•		2			
8. Pro-social	Primarily positive				0		
values/conventions:	Somewhat positive or positive attitude towards	•		1	U		
	some pro-social rules	•		1			
	Does not think pro-social rules apply			2			
	Resents or is hostile to pro-social rules	•		3			

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9. Attitudes/Behavior

Item	Response Category	Static		Dy	Dynamic		
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective		
9. Respect for authority	Respects all or most				0		
figures:	Respects few and resents some			1			
	Respects no and resents many			2			
	Defies or is hostile toward most			3			
10. Tolerance for	Rarely gets upset				0		
frustration:	Sometimes gets upset			1			
	Often gets upset			2			
11a. Belief in use of verbal	Rarely believes is appropriate				0		
aggression to resolve a	Sometimes believes is appropriate			1			
disagreement or conflict:	Often believes is appropriate			2			
11b. Belief in use of physical	Rarely believes is appropriate				0		
aggression to resolve a	Sometimes believes is appropriate			1			
disagreement or conflict:	Often believes is appropriate			2			
12. Readiness for change:	Hostile toward or unwilling to change			3			
	Does not see a need for change			1			
	Believes there may be a need to change				0		
	Committed to changing, or working on				1		
	changing						
13. Successfully meet	Believes he or she will be successful				1		
conditions of supervision:	Unsure if he or she will be successful			1			
	Does not believe her or she will be successful			2			
Maximum		9	6	28	2		

10: SKILLS

Relationship To Re-Offending

A critical developmental task for pre-school children is to gain increasing control over attention (became task-focussed), emotions (anger, frustration, anxiety, disappointment, etc.), and behavior. This is commonly referred to as self-regulation and self-monitoring. Over time, the child must learn to acquire more complicated and sophisticated self-management skills in order to participate fully in academic and social pursuits.

Research suggests that the child's disposition and temperament play an important role in ensuring the development of self-monitoring and self-management skills. Youth in contact with the criminal justice system often display difficulties in focusing their attention, regulating and controlling impulsive behavior, and in solving problems.

The research literature indicates that interventions most successful with juvenile offenders are those that take a cognitive-behavioral approach. This approach focuses on correcting the cognitive deficits that the youth has and then giving the youth the skills to more appropriately manage themselves and their environment. The "Skills" section measures these skill factors and the progress that a juvenile is making in improving these skills while under supervision. There are six factors, each measured by two or three individual items.

General Instructions

There is a three point rating scale for each skill item: Yes, Somewhat, and No. Use this scale to indicate how well the youth possesses each skill.

- **Yes** means the youth possesses the skill as well as any pro-social teenager and that this skill is now a protective factor that will help keep the youth from reoffending.
- **No** means the youth lacks this skill more so than a pro-social teenage and that this deficit places the youth at higher risk for re-offending.
- **Somewhat** means the youth possesses the skill to a degree but has not reached the level of competency where the skill is a protective factor for the youth.

NOTE: Use a general pattern of behaving and not a single instance.

Items

1. Consequential thinking skills:

Youth understands there are consequences, good and bad, to his or her actions. Youth acts to obtain good and to avoid bad consequences. Youth sets positive realistic goals.

A youth who lacks this skill does not understand that there are consequences, both good and bad, to their actions. The youth does not understand that if they do that, then this will happen to them. If they get a good grade in school it was luck or the teacher was easy. If they get a poor grade it was bad luck or the teacher does not like them.

Relationship to re-offending: Because the youth does not understand cause and effect concerning their actions, they do not understand that they can avoid bad consequences and can obtain good consequences.

2. Critical thinking skills:

Youth sees that there are two sides to an argument or a situation. Youth weighs or evaluates the merits of each side. Youth arrives at a conclusion or makes a decision based on this evaluation.

A youth who lacks this skill cannot recognize that most situations involve alternatives, that each alternative has its pros and cons, and that reaching a thoughtful conclusion requires thinking about the pros and cons of each alternative. These three items form a hierarchy of skill. The youth cannot possess the third level of skill without having the other skills in place. First, the youth must be able to recognize that they have a choice.

After they recognize they have a choice, they must be able to think about the outcome for each choice. After they have thought through the outcome of each choice, they must be able decide which choice is the best for them.

3. Problem-solving skills:

Youth can identify/describe problem behaviors. Youth can think of different solutions to resolve the problem. Youth can apply the solution.

A youth who lacks this skill does not know how to solve problems. Because of poor problem solving skills, the youth does not know how to resolve problem situations that can get them into trouble. The youth must possess the consequential thinking and critical thinking skills to be a problem solver. First, the youth must be able to recognize that something is a problem—in particular their criminal behavior. Then they must be able to apply their critical thinking skills to think of alternative solutions to their criminal behavior. Finally, they must be able to apply or live out the best solution that will keep them from re-offending. As a result, problem solving is complex skill that is also hierarchical. 4. Self-monitoring skills for triggers that can lead to trouble:

Identifies external triggers: peers, drug use, situations that lead to trouble. Identifies internal triggers: thoughts, emotions like anger that lead to trouble. Actively monitors triggers.

A youth who is not able to recognize and monitor those triggers that lead them into trouble is at risk of repeating their criminal behavior. There are two types of triggers: internal and external. Internal triggers are thoughts, images needs, or emotions. External triggers are situations, people, and events outside of themselves. A youth who does not understand those situations that get them into further trouble may find themselves in those situations again and commit another crime. This is also a hierarchical skill. The youth must know what the triggers are and then be able to monitor their conduct to be aware when a trigger is present.

5. Self-control skills to avoid getting into trouble:

Can stop thoughts or actions that get him or her into trouble. Knows some self-control techniques to keep from getting into trouble. Uses a self-control technique to keep from getting into trouble.

Youths who have little ability to control themselves will have a difficult time avoiding reoffending if they encounter triggers that lead them to re-offend. These youth lack the ability to avoid criminal behaviors, responding to external or internal triggers without thinking or stopping. These youth maybe impulsive, excitable, and overly active with a low tolerance for frustration. These youth may also be controlled by immediate gratification.

This skill goes beyond monitoring the trigger to being able to control themselves to either avoid the trigger or diffuse its impact upon them. There are techniques for self-control that are taught in cognitive-behaviorally oriented skill building interventions. These techniques include reframing, replacing anti-social thoughts with pro-social thoughts, diversion, relaxation, problem solving, negotiation, and relapse prevention.

6. Interpersonal skills:

Appropriately expresses his or her needs and feelings. Negotiates with others. Carries on a meaningful conversation.

A youth that lacks interpersonal skills is not able to effectively interact with others. This inability may antagonize people around the youth, further alienating the youth from others and potential help. The youth's actions may also create hostility and conflict, leading them into aggressive behavior. In addition, the youth who cannot recognize or take an interest in others is at risk for acting without regard or concern for safety of others. The results of lacking interpersonal skills places the youth at risk because they are not able to meet their needs in a pro-social manner and may use anti-social means to obtain what hey need and want.

Sample Interview Questions

1. Consequential thinking skills	Tell me about one good and one bad thing that has
	happened to you.
	Why did it happen? What did you have to do with it
	happening?
	What did you think might happen when you thought about
	committing the crime?
2. Critical thinking skills	When you are trying to convince someone of something, is
	it hard to figure out what to say?
	When someone is trying to convince you of something, is it
	hard to figure out what to say back to him or her?
	Are you not able to say what you mean so it is understood
	you?
3. Problem solving skills	Tell me about a problem you had in the last week.
	How did the problem come up? And, what did you do about
	it?
	How well did that work?
	Looking back at it, what would you do differently?
4. Self-monitoring skills	What sorts of situations tend to get you into trouble?
	What will happen once you start to get into that situation?
5. Self-control skills	Are you able to avoid these situations?
	When you cannot avoid these situations, what can you do to
	stop yourself from acting?
6. Interpersonal skills	How well do you know your friends? What do they like to
	do?
	What if you and your friend were going to the movies and
	you each wanted to see a different picture, what would
	happen?
	If you were having trouble doing a task, how would you go
	about getting some help?

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Scoring

Item	Response Category		Static		Dynamic	
		Risk	Protective	Risk	Protective	
1a. Consequential thinking	Understands.				1	
skills: Understands there are	Somewhat understands			1		
consequences, good and bad, to his or her actions.	Does not understand.	•		2		
1b. Consequential thinking	Acts to obtain				1	
skills: Acts to obtain good and avoid bad	Sometimes acts to obtain			1		
consequences.	Does not act to obtain			2		
1c. Consequential thinking	Sets positive realistic goals.				1	
skills: Sets positive realistic	Sometimes sets positive realistic goals.			1		
goals.	Does not set positive realistic goals.			2		
2a. Critical thinking skills: Sees that there are two	Sees that there are two sides	•			1	
sides to an argument or a situation	Sometimes sees that there are two sides	•		1		
	Does not see that there are two sides			2		
2b. Critical thinking skills: Weighs or evaluates the	Weighs or evaluates the merits				1	
merits of each side of an argument or a situation	Sometimes weighs or evaluates the merits			1		
	Does not weigh or evaluate the merits	•		2		
2c. Critical thinking skills: Arrives at a conclusion or	Arrives at a conclusion.				1	
makes a decision based on weighing two sides to a	Sometimes arrives at a conclusion.			1		
situation	Does not arrive at a conclusion.			2		
3a. Problem-solving skills:	Can identify/describe problem behaviors.				1	
Can identify/describe	Sometimes can identify/describe problem behaviors.			1		
problem behaviors.	Cannot identify/describe problem behaviors.			2		
3b. Problem-solving skills: Thinks of a number of	Thinks of a number of different solutions				1	
different solutions to resolve the problem.	Sometimes thinks of a number of different solutions			1		
	Does not think of a number of different solutions			2		
3c. Problem-solving skills: Applies a good or	Applies a good or appropriate solution				1	
appropriate solution to resolve a problem.	Sometimes applies a good or appropriate solution			1		
	Does not apply a good or appropriate solution			2		

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Maximum		0	0	36	18
	Does not carry on a meaningful conversation.	•		2	
conversation.	Carries on a somewhat meaningful conversation.	•			
6c. Interpersonal skills: Carries on a meaningful	Carries on a meaningful conversation.	•		1	1
La Internerconal skiller		•		۷	1
	Does not negotiate	· ·		2	
6b. Interpersonal skills: Can negotiate with others	Can somewhat negotiate	· ·		1	I
6 Internersonal skills, Can					1
or her needs and feelings.	Does not appropriately expresses			2	
Appropriately expresses his	Sometimes appropriately expresses	· ·		1	•
6a. Interpersonal skills:	Appropriately expresses.				1
technique to keep from getting into trouble.	Does not use any self-control techniques			2	
5c. Self-control skills to avoid getting into trouble: Uses a self-control	Uses a self-control technique Sometimes uses a self-control technique	•		1	1
getting into trouble.	Does not know any self-control techniques	•		2	
Knows some self-control techniques to keep from	Somewhat knows some self-control techniques	•		1	
5b. Self-control skills to avoid getting into trouble:	Knows some self-control techniques				1
trouble.	Cannot stop thoughts or actions	•		2	
avoid getting into trouble:	Sometimes can stop thoughts or actions	· ·		1	
5a. Self-control skills to	Can stop thoughts or actions		[۷	1
triggers that can lead to trouble: Actively monitors triggers that lead to trouble.	Sometimes actively monitors triggers Does not actively monitor triggers	•		1	
	Actively monitors triggers				1
triggers: thoughts, emotions like anger that lead to trouble.	Cannot identify internal triggers			2	
triggers that can lead to trouble: Identifies internal	Identifies internal triggers Sometimes identifies internal triggers			1	1
situations that lead to trouble.	Cannot identify external triggers			2	
trouble: Identifies external triggers: peers, drug use,	Sometimes identifies external triggers	•		1	
4a. Self-monitoring skills for triggers that can lead to	Identifies external triggers				1

CHAPTER 4: THE WSJCA-RA Pre-Screen Assessment

During the fall of 1998, the juvenile courts started implementing the WSJCA-RA. The courts needed to assess the recidivism risk levels for workload balancing and program eligibility. Some courts have requested a quick, valid, and empirically based prescreening assessment to determine a youth's level of risk early in the court process.

In response, the Institute developed empirically validated recidivism risk levels from a sub-set of items on the WSJCA-RA. The items validated include those in the Criminal History Domain and a few items measuring parental control, peer influences and drug/alcohol abuse. Two samples of youth were used in the study: youth adjudicated during 1995 and youth administered the Early Intervention Program (EIP) Risk Assessment. Chapter 2 contains a detailed description of the validity of the Pre-Screen Assessment.

The EIP assessment did not include information measuring a youth anti-social attitude and social skill deficits. Therefore the Pre-Screen does not include a scoring for this information. So it is possible that a youths' level of risk maybe higher than that indicated by the Pre-Screen. As a caution, Pre-Screen Attitude/Behavior Indicators were added to capture some information that may indicate the youth is of higher risk.

I. Intended Use of the Pre-Screen Risk Assessment:

The use of the pre-screen instrument is at the discretion of the courts. The pre-screen can be used at intake or at any subsequent point in the adjudication process to identify the youth's level of risk.

II. Scoring the Pre-Screen Risk Assessment:

There are three sections on the Pre-Screen Risk Assessment: Criminal History, Social History, and Pre-Screen Attitude/Behavior Indicators. The Criminal History and Social History sections are scored separately and the two scores are used to determine the level of risk in the Risk Level Definition table at the end of the Pre-Screen instrument.

The Pre-Screen Attitude/Behavior Indicators are provided as a pre-caution to determine whether a low pre-screen level of risk needs to be overridden and a full assessment done. Since the pre-screen does not include any items for attitudes and skills, it may incorrectly classify a youth low risk when in fact the youth's attitude and skill deficit indicates a higher risk level.

Once the Pre-Screen is completed, the responses to each item must be entered into the risk assessment software. The full assessment can then be completed using the pre-screen information already entered.

For the Criminal History section, the score for each of the 10 items is given in the column on the right. The appropriate number is entered for each item, and then the score corresponding to the number is circled in the last column.

To illustrate, assume a youth was 15 years old at the time of the offense for which the youth was referred to juvenile court for the first time. You would enter 15 in the second column and then circle the score of 2 indicating the youth was 15.

Each item is scored and the total number of points for all 10 criminal history items is entered in the Criminal History Score row.

In the Social History section, determining an item score may require answering one or more questions and then circling the appropriate score based on the set of answers.

For example, determining a youth's school score requires answering four questions about enrollment, conduct, attendance and academic performance respectively. A youth who was enrolled in school and had calls to police, or a truancy petition or equivalent, or was failing most classes would get a score of 1.

Each item is scored and the total number of points for all items is entered in the Social History Score row.

The youth level of risk is determined from the Risk Level Definition table using both the Criminal History Score and the Social History Score. For example, assume a youth has a Criminal History score of 6 and a Social History score of 8. Go down the column labeled Criminal History until you hit the row 5 to 7 which includes the Criminal History score of 6. Now go across the row until you come to the Social History Risk Score column labeled 6 to 9 which includes the Social History Score of 8. This cell is labeled *Moderate*, which means the youth has a moderate level of risk.

After the risk level is determined, review the Pre-Screen Attitude/Behavior Indicators to be sure that the youth does not appear to have a higher level of risk than indicated by the pre-screen scoring. If the Pre-Screen Attitude/Behavior Indicators reveal that the youth may be of higher risk, then have a complete assessment done for the youth.

Note the scoring of the social history items on the Pre-Screen does not have to match the full screen scoring.

RESOURCE MANUAL AND SCORING GUIDE Pre-Screen Empirical Validation

III. Empirical Development of WSJCA-RA Levels of Risk

During the fall of 1998, the juvenile courts started implementing the WSJCA-RA. The courts need to assess the recidivism risk levels for workload balancing and CJAA program eligibility. In response, the WSJCA-RA Pre-Screen was developed from a subset of items on the WSJCA-RA. The items included in the Pre-Screen are those in the Criminal History Domain of the WSJCA-RA and a few items measuring parental control, peer influences and drug/alcohol abuse. Two samples of youth were used in a validation study: youth adjudicated during 1995 and youth administered the Early Intervention Program (EIP) Risk Assessment. The validation study established empirically validated recidivism risk levels for the WSJCA-RA Pre-Screen.

The validity of the criminal history domain on the WSJCA-RA. JUVIS was analyzed using data for youth adjudicated during 1995. These youth have an 18-month follow-up period and a 12-month justice system process period, in order for the criminal history domain to be fully validated using these data.

Items from the EIP Risk Assessment were validated using data from youth, who were administered the Washington State EIP Risk Assessment. The WSJCA-RA includes all but one of the items that are on the EIP Risk Assessment. The ability of the EIP Assessment to predict the six-month recidivism rate for this sample of youth was analyzed. This is a limited validation because the sample group consists of youth placed on probation for the first time; and there is only six-month recidivism data for these youth.

Validating the Criminal History Domain of the WSJCA-RA

The WSJCA-RA criminal history score of youth adjudicated during 1995 was constructed from JUVIS data. The relationship between this criminal history score and 18-month recidivism was analyzed. Figure 1 illustrates this relationship for two groups of youth: youth granted diversion and youth placed on probation. Group membership was also based on JUVIS data.





For a given criminal history score, the 18-month recidivism rate for the diversion and probation groups are nearly identical. That is, the criminal history score is a valid predictor for both groups of youth.

A multivariate statistical analysis (logistic regression) was conducted to determine which criminal history variables contributed to prediction. All the variables except escapes make a statistically significant contribution. Escapes had a low incidence rate in the population.

Results: The WSJCA-RA criminal history domain is a valid predictor of 18-month recidivism.

RESOURCE MANUAL AND SCORING GUIDE Pre-Screen Empirical Validation

Figure 2 illustrates the distribution of criminal history scores for the two groups. Seventy-one percent of the youth placed on diversion have criminal history scores below 3 compared to 19 percent for youth placed on probation. Thirty-three percent of youth placed on probation had scores above 7 compared to 1 percent of the youth given diversion.



Figure 2: Percentage of Youth With a Criminal History Score for Youth Adjudicated During 1995

Results: The criminal history domain of the WSJCA-RA is a valid predictor of recidivism for youth granted diversion and youth placed on probation. The two community supervision groups have different distributions of criminal history risk scores.

RESOURCE MANUAL AND SCORING GUIDE Pre-Screen Empirical Validation

Preliminary Validity From the EIP Risk Assessment

Figure 3 illustrates the correspondence between the predictive capability of the criminal history domain of the WSJCA-RA for youth adjudicated in 1995 and youth given the EIP Risk Assessment. The recidivism rate for the EIP assessment sample is lower than the 1995 sample since the EIP rate is based on a six-month follow-up period. The six-month recidivism rate of the youth given the EIP assessment, however, is nearly identical to the six-month rate for the 1995 adjudication group. All recidivism rates increase with increasing risk score rates. Very few youth given the EIP assessment have criminal history risk scores above 7 because the EIP sample includes only youth placed on probation for the first time.





Results: The WSJCA-RA criminal history domain is a valid predictor of recidivism for youth placed on probation for the first time and given the EIP assessment. The sixmonth recidivism rates of the EIP sample and the 1995 adjudication group are nearly identical. The difference between the six-month and 18-month recidivism rates increase as criminal history increases. The higher the risk level of a group, the more the six-month recidivism rate underestimates the 18-month rate.

Social History Items

The next question is whether the social history items on the EIP Risk Assessment that are also on the WSJCA-RA add to the predictive capability of the criminal history items. These items include personal, school, family, and peer risk factors. Figure 4 illustrates for youth given the EIP assessment how a high social history risk score raises the recidivism rate for youth with a given criminal history score, and how a low social history risk score lowers the recidivism rate. The dashed line in Figure 4 represents the recidivism rates of all youth given the EIP assessment regardless of their social history risk score. Youth with a moderate social history risk score of 5 to 10 have a recidivism rate identical to that of the entire group of youth.

If the influence of the social history risk score with these data was additive, all the lines would be parallel and differ by an average of 10 percentage points. However, the recidivism rate for youth with low social history risk scores remains low as the criminal history score increases. The recidivism rates for high social history risk scores remain high even at low criminal history scores.





Results: Low social history risk reduces the recidivism of youth with higher criminal history scores, and high social history risk increases the recidivism of youth with lower criminal history scores.

WAJCA-RA Domain 10 Skills July 31, 1998

Table 1 presents the number and percentage of youth in the EIP sample by each combination of criminal history and social history risk score displayed in Figure 4. These data under-represent higher criminal history scores because they are based on youth placed on probation for the first time.

Table 1: Number and Percentage of EIP Assessment Youth for EachCombination of Criminal History and Pre-Screen Social History Risk Scores

Criminal	Minimal Social History Risk Score							
History	0 to 5	6 to 9	10 to 17	Total				
Score								
0 to 2	55 (4%)	65 (5%)	38 (3%)	158 (11%)				
3 to 4	101 (7%)	136 (10%)	109 (8%)	346 (25%)				
5 to 7	159 (11%)	306 (22%)	235 (17%)	700 (50%)				
8 to 31	19 (1%)	84 (6%)	97 (7%)	200 (14%)				
Total	334 (24%)	591 (42%)	479 (34%)	1,404 (100%)				

Risk Levels Based on Pre-Screen Risk Assessment

Table 2 illustrates how the WSJCA-RA criminal history and the EIP social history risk scores can be combined to define levels of risk. Groups of youth with 6-month recidivism rates of 10 percent or less are defined as low risk. Recidivism rates of 11 to 25 percent define as moderate risk, and 6-month recidivism rates above 25 percent are high risk.

Table 2: Risk Level Definitions Using Criminal History andEIP Social History Risk Scores

Criminal History	EIP Social History Risk Score							
Score								
	0 to 5	6 to 9	10 to 18					
0 to 2	Low (5%)	Low (8%)	Moderate (18%)					
3 to 4	Low (6%)	Moderate (15%)	High (28%)					
5 to 7	Low (7%)	Moderate (22%)	High (31%)					
8 to 31	Moderate (16%) High (33%) High (35%)							

Conclusions:

The Institute has empirically determined that the criminal history domain and items from the WSJCA-RA that are on the EIP Risk Assessment can determine risk levels. These items may be used as a pre-screen to identify low risk youth early in the juvenile justice process. Chapter 4 describes the WSJCA-RA in detail.

The Institute recommends the juvenile probation counselor complete the full WSJCA-RA on all youth within 30 days of being placed on supervision. The full assessment is

needed to validate the WSJCA-RA and is needed to discover whether other items on the WSJCA-RA are more predictive than items on the pre-screen tool.

Washington State Juvenile Court Pre-Screen Risk Assessment

1	Name JUVIS Control Number _	Re	ferral R						
I	Initiated// SCOMIS Number 8- _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _								
	Criminal History								
Ro	ferrals, rather than offenses, are used to assess the persistence of re-offending by the yo	uth							
	uth has been living in Washington State since age: Enter 0 if from birth	<i>uu</i> .							
	her states in which youth has lived since age 10:								
0.1		Enter the n	Imber and then						
			propriate score						
1.	Age at first offense: The age at the time of the offense for which the youth was referred to juvenile court for the first time on a non-traffic misdemeanor or felony that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition.		0 – Over 16 1 – 16 2 – 15 3 – 13 to 14 4 – Under 13						
2.	Misdemeanor referrals: Total number of referrals in which the most serious offense was a non-traffic misdemeanor that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed).		0 – None or one 1 – Two 2 – Three or four 3 – Five or more						
3.	Felony referrals: Total number of referrals for a felony offense that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed).		0 – None 2 – One 4 – Two 6 – Three or more						
4.	Weapon referrals: Total number of referrals in which the most serious offense was a firearm/weapon charge that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed), or a weapon enhancement finding.		0 – None 1 – One or more						
5.	Against-person misdemeanor referrals: Total number of referrals in which the most serious offense was an against-person misdemeanor that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed). An against-person misdemeanor involves threats, force, or physical harm to another person such as an assault, sex, coercion, harassment, obscene phone call, etc.		0 – None 1 – One 2 – Two or more						
6.	Against-person felony referrals: Total number of referrals for an against-person felony that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully completed). An against-person felony involves force or physical harm to another person such as homicide, murder, manslaughter, assault, rape, sex, robbery, kidnapping, domestic violence, harassment, criminal mistreatment, intimidation, coercion, obscene harassing phone call, etc.		0 – None 2 – One or two 4 – Three or more						
7.	Disposition orders where youth served at least one day confined in detention: Total number of disposition and modification orders in which youth served at least one day physically confined in a county detention facility. A day served includes credit for time served. Detention includes physical confinement in a county detention facility.		0 – None 1 – One 2 – Two 3 – Three or more						
8.	Disposition orders where youth served at least one day confined under JRA: Total number of disposition orders and modification orders in which the youth served at least one day confined under the authority of the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA). A day served includes credit for time served.		0 – None 2 – One 4 – Two or more						
9.	Escapes: Total number of attempted or actual escapes that resulted in a conviction.		0 – None 1 – One 2 – Two or more						
	Failure-to-appear in court warrants: Total number of failures-to-appear in court that resulted in a warrant being issued. Exclude failure-to-appear warrants for non-criminal matters.		0 – None 1 – One 2 – Two or more						
Cri	minal History Score: (Maximum of 31 points)								

Washington State Juvenile Court Pre-Screen Risk Assessment

Social History					
Check the boxes and then circle the appropriate sco					
Youth's Gender	Male:	1			
Youth's current school enrollment status, regardless of attendance: If the youth is in home school as a result of being expelled or dropping out, check the expelled or dropped out box, otherwise check enrolled.	 Graduated, GED Enrolled full-time Enrolled part-time Expelled 				
Youth's conduct in the most recent term: Fighting or threatening students; threatening teachers/staff; overly disruptive behavior; drug/alcohol use; crimes, e.g., theft, vandalism; lying, cheating, dishonesty. <i>Check all that apply.</i>	 No problems Problems reported by teachers Calls to parents Calls to police 				
Youth's attendance in the most recent term: Full-day absence means missing majority of classes. Partial-day absence means attending the majority of classes and missing the minority. A truancy petition is equal to 7 unexcused absences in a month or 10 in a year.	 No unexcused absences Some partial-day unexcused absences Some full-day unexcused absences Truancy petition filed, or equivalent full-day unexcused absences, or withdrawn within last six months 				
Youth's academic performance in the most recent school term: Check all that apply.	 ☐ Honor student ☐ Failing some classes ☐ C or better ☐ Failing most classes ☐ Lower than C 				
	Enrolled and: misconduct reported but no police calls, or some full-day unexcused absences, or failing some classes. Enrolled and: calls to police, or truancy petition or equivalent, or failing most classes. Dropped out, expelled or suspended.	1 2 2			
Friends the youth actually spends his or her time with: Check all that apply.	 No companions, no consistent friends Positive pro-social friends Negative anti-social friends Gang member/associate No friends or positive and negative friends All negative anti-social friends 	- <u></u> 1 2			
Court-ordered or DSHS voluntary out-of-home and shelter care placements exceeding 30 days: Enter zero if none, up to a maximum of 5 placements. Exclude JRA commitments.	Gang member/associate	3			
	One or more	1			
Runaways or times kicked out of home: Include times the youth did not voluntarily return within 24 hours. Include incidents not reported by or to law enforcement. Enter up to a maximum of 5.	Runaways Kicked out				
	One Two or more	1 2			
Problems of family members who are currently living in the household: Check all that apply. Mother and father refer to current parent or legal guardian.	MotherFatherSibling(s)No problemsAlcoholDrugMental healthPhysical healthEmploymentFinancialJail/imprisonmentSibling(s),mother or father jail/imprisonment	1			
Current parental rule enforcement and control:.	 Youth usually obeys and follows rules Sometimes obeys or obeys some rules Consistently disobeys, and/or is hostile 	0 1 2			

Washington State Juvenile Court Pre-Screen Risk Assessment

Assess whether alcohol or drug use disrupts the youth's life. Disrupted functioning involves problems in: education, family conflict, peer relationships, or health consequences. Disrupted functioning usually indicates that treatment is warranted. Indicate whether alcohol and/or drug use often contributes to criminal behavior; their use typically precipitates committing a crime, there is evidence or reason to believe the youth's criminal activity is related to alcohol and/or drug use.				
Alcohol use:	□ None □ Use □ Use disrupts function			
Drug use:	□ None □ Use □ Use disrupts function			
Alcohol use contributes to criminal behavior:	□ No □ Somewhat □ Yes			
Drug use contributes to criminal behavior:	□ No □ Somewhat □ Yes			
	Disrupted function or contributes to crime	2		
For abuse and neglect, include any history that is suspected, neglect proven to be false.	whether or not substantiated; exclude reports of abuse or			
Victim of physical or sexual abuse: Parents include biological parents, stepparents, adopted parents and legal guardian or caretaker. Check all that apply.	Other Outside Abused by: Parent Sibling Family None Image: Comparison of the second sec			
Victim of neglect:				
	Victim of neglect: Yes:	2		
Mental health problems: Such as schizophrenia, bi-polar, mood, thought, personality and adjustment disorders. Exclude substance abuse and special education since those issues are considered elsewhere. Confirm by a professional in the social service/healthcare field. Check all that apply.	 None Diagnosed with mental health problem(s) Medication prescribed Treatment Mental health problems: Yes: 			
Social History Score: (Maximum of 18 points)				
	/Behavior Indicators			
Violence/anger: Reports of displaying a weapon, fighting, threats, violent outbursts, violent temper, fire starting, animal cruelty, destructiveness, volatility, intense reactions.	□ No reports □ Reports			
Sexual aggression: Reports of aggressive sex, sex for power, young sex partners, voyeurism, exposure, etc.	No reports Reports			
Accepts responsibility for anti-social behavior:	 Accepts responsibility Minimizes, denies, justifies, excuses, or blames others Accepts anti-social behavior as okay Proud of anti-social behavior 	3		
Pro-social values/conventions:	 Primarily positive attitude towards Somewhat positive attitude, positive attitude toward so 	ome		

	Somewhat positive attitude, positive	ositive attitude to	ward some	
	Does not think they apply to him or her			
	Resents or is hostile to pro-so	cial values/conv	entions	
Belief in use of aggression to resolve a disagreement or	Believes use of aggression is:	<u>Verbal</u>	Physical	
conflict:	Rarely appropriate			
Verbal: yelling and verbal intimidation	Sometimes appropriate			
Physical: fighting and physical intimidation	Often appropriate			

Risk Level Definitions Using Criminal History and Social History Risk Scores

Criminal History Score	Social History Risk Score					
	0 to 5	0 to 5 6 to 9 1				
0 to 2	Low	Low	Moderate			
3 to 4	Low	Moderate	High			
5 to 7	Low	Moderate	High			
8 to 31	Moderate	High	High			

Risk Level: ____

Name _		Last	First	JUVIS Control Number _ Referral R _
Initiated		// onth Day	Year	SCOMIS Number _ -8- _ _ _ - _
			S	ECTION 1: Criminal History
Referrals,	rath	er than offens	ses, are used to asses	s the persistence of re-offending by the youth.
Youth has	s be	en living in V	Nashington State sine	ce age: Enter 0 if from birth
Other stat	es i	n which you	th has lived since age	e 10:
	1.	the first time		ne time of the offense for which the youth was referred to juvenile court for meanor or felony that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred n.
				d 3 are mutually exclusive and should add to the total number of referrals ljudication, or deferred disposition
	2.	misdemeand		nber of referrals in which the most serious offense was a non-traffic inviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition v completed).
	3.			referrals for a felony offense that resulted in a conviction, diversion, lisposition (regardless of whether successfully completed).
	nat ir	nvolve an aga		and 6 are mutually exclusive and should add to the total number of offense that resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or
	4.	that resulted	in a conviction, divers	f referrals in which the most serious offense was a firearm/weapon charge ion, deferred adjudication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether on enhancement finding.
	5.	an against-p disposition (person misdemeanor th regardless of whether s e, or physical harm to a	ferrals: Total number of referrals in which the most serious offense was at resulted in a conviction, diversion, deferred adjudication, or deferred successfully completed). An against-person misdemeanor involves another person such as an assault, sex, coercion, harassment, obscene
	6.	conviction, d completed). murder, mar	diversion, deferred adju An against-person felo nslaughter, assault, rap	Total number of referrals for an against-person felony that resulted in a dication, or deferred disposition (regardless of whether successfully ony involves force or physical harm to another person such as homicide, e, sex, robbery, kidnapping, domestic violence, harassment, criminal n, obscene harassing phone call, etc.
	7.	disposition o county deter	orders and modification	served at least one day confined in detention: Total number of orders in which the youth served at least one day physically confined in a ved includes credit for time served. Detention includes physical facility.
	8.	disposition o	orders and modification	served at least one day confined under JRA: Total number of orders in which the youth served at least one day confined under the tion Administration (JRA). A day served includes credit for time served.
	9.	Escapes: To	otal number of attempt	ed or actual escapes that resulted in a conviction.
	10.			nts: Total number of failures-to-appear in court that resulted in a warrant opear warrants for non-criminal matters.

	SECTION 2: School			
Fro	m school records and from the interview:			
1.	Youth's current school enrollment status, regardless of attendance: If the youth is in home school as a result of being expelled or dropping out, check the expelled or dropped out box, otherwise check enrolled if in home school.		Graduated, GED Enrolled full-time Enrolled part-time	 Suspended Dropped out Expelled
2.	Type of school in which youth is enrolled: Name of School Current or highest grade level attained		Public academic Vocational Alternative GED Program	 Private academic Home school College Other
3.	□ Youth is a special education student or has a formal diagnosis of a special education need: Check all that apply.		Learning Behavioral Other:	 Mental retardation (ADHD/ADD)
4.	Youth believes there is value in getting an education:		Somewhat believe	n education is of value s education is of value education is of value
5.	Youth believes school provides an encouraging environment for him or her:		Believes school is Somewhat believe Does not believe	
6.	Total number of expulsions and suspensions since the first grade: Enter the number up to 10. Enter 0 if none.		Number of exp	oulsions or suspensions
7.	Age at first expulsion or suspension: Leave blank if never expelled or suspended.		Age at first exp	oulsion or suspension
	Check this box and complete the following section if the youth has been months, regardless of attendance.	enre	olled in a community	/ school during the last
8.	Teachers/staff/coaches the youth likes or feels comfortable talking with: Enter the number of adults; if none, enter 0.		Number of teac	hers/staff/coaches
	Names:			
9.	Youth's involvement in school activities during most recent term: school leadership; social service clubs; music, dance; drama, art; athletics; other extracurricular activities.		Involved in two or Involved in one ac Interested but not No interest in scho	tivity involved in any activities
10.	Youth's conduct in the most recent term: fighting or threatening students; threatening teachers/staff; overly disruptive behavior; drug/alcohol use; crimes, e.g., theft, vandalism; lying, cheating, dishonesty. <i>Check all that apply.</i>		No problems Problems reported Calls to parents Calls to police	by teachers
11.	Youth's attendance in the most recent term: Full-day absence means missing majority of classes. Partial-day absence means attending the majority of classes and missing the minority.		Some full-day une	inexcused absences
	A truancy petition is equal to 7 unexcused absences in a month or 10 in a year.			ces, or withdrawn within
12.	Youth's academic performance in the most recent school term: Check all that apply.		Honor student C or better Lower than C	 Failing some classes Failing most classes
13.	Interviewer's assessment of the youth staying in and graduating from high school or an equivalent vocational school:			n school and graduate vill stay and graduate ay and graduate

 supervised pro-social community activities such as religious group/church, community group, cultural group, club, athletics, or other community activity. Involved in one activity Interested but not involved Not interested in any activities 2. Unstructured recreational activities: Youth engages in activities that positively occupy the youth's time, such as reading, hobbies, etc. Involved in one activity Involved in two or more activities Involved in one activity Involved in one activities Involved in two or more activities Involved in one activity Involved in one activity Involved in one activities		SECTION 3: Use of Free Time	
occupy the youth's time, such as reading, hobbies, etc.	1.	supervised pro-social community activities such as religious group/church,	Interested but not involved
	2.		

	SECTION 4: Employment						
1.	History of employment: Check all that apply.	Has b Was f Was f	r employed been successfully employed fired or quit because of poor performance fired or quit because he or she could not get with employer or coworkers				
Со	mplete following section only if the youth has ever been employed						
2.	Total number of times youth has been employed:		Number of times				
3.	Number of weeks of longest period of employment:		Number of weeks				
4.	Positive personal relationship(s) with employer(s) or adult coworker(s):		Number of adults				
5.	Youth is currently employed:] No	□ Yes				

	SECT	15: Rela	itio	ionships			
1.	Number of existing positive adult non-family relat Adults who can provide support and model pro-socia such as religious leader, club member, community per any other non-family adult(s). <i>Enter number of adults up to five. Enter 0 if there are</i>		al behavior, person, or		Number of existing non-family adult relationship(s)		
2.	Pro-social community ties: Youth feels there are people his or her community who discourage him or her from ge into trouble or are willing to help the youth.				□ Somewhat		
	ti-social peers are youth who are hostile to or disrupti ers.	ve c	of the lega	al s	social order; who violate the law and the rights of		
3.	time with:□FriendCheck all that apply.□Friend			ends or companions, no consistent friends ds who have a positive pro-social influence ds who have a negative anti-social influence member/associate			
4.	Role of youth among peers: Check all that apply.	 A leader who gets others into trouble A peer who gets into trouble when in a group An immature follower who gets into trouble for attention, status and acceptance An independent youth who gets into trouble on his or her own 					
5.	Admiration/emulation of tougher anti-social peers:	 Youth does not admire, emulate tougher anti-social peers Youth minimally admires, emulates tougher peers Youth admires, emulates tougher peers 					
Col	mplete the following information for a youth who asso	ciat	tes with a	n a	anti-social peer group or gang.		
6.	Number of months the youth has been associating with anti-social friends/gang:	Months has associated with anti-social friends Months has associated with gang					
7.	Amount of free time the youth spends with anti- social peer group:		Spends Spends	thr eig	one or two hours of free time per week three to seven hours of free time per week eight to 14 hours of free time per week all or nearly all of free time		
8.	Strength of loyalty to anti-social peers: Check all that apply.	 Would sometimes lie or cheat for peers Would consistently lie or cheat for peers Would sometimes steal, fight, or do other serious acts for p Would consistently steal, fight, or do other serious acts for p 			onsistently lie or cheat for peers ometimes steal, fight, or do other serious acts for peers		
9.	Strength of anti-social peer influence:	□ Usually g □ Almost al			es not go along with the anti-social peers goes along with the anti-social peers Ilways goes along with the anti-social peers e anti-social peers		

	SECTION 6A: Environment in Which the Youth Was Primarily Raised							
1.	Age when last living with biological parents: Parents refers		<u>Mother</u> <u>Father</u>					
	to parents or legal guardians responsible for youth.		ll living with, or e last living with					
2.	Problems of family members who were living in the household: Check all that apply.	Alc Dru Me Ph En Fin	problems cohol ug ental health ysical health nployment nancial il/imprisonment	<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>	Sibling		
3.	Court-ordered or DSHS voluntary out-of-home and shelter care placements exceeding 30 days: <i>Enter zero if none, up</i> <i>to a maximum of 5 placements. Exclude JRA commitments.</i>		Number of p					
4.	Runaways or times kicked out of home: <i>Include times the</i> youth did not voluntarily return within 24 hours. Include incidents not reported by or to law enforcement. Enter zero if none, up to a maximum of 5.		Number of ru					
5.	Petitions filed: Check all that apply.		No dependency Youth-at-risk CHINS] ARP] Depend			
6.	Parental love, caring, and support of youth:		 Consistent love, caring, and support Inconsistent love, caring, and support Indifferent, uncaring, uninterested, unwilling to he 				o help	
7.	Family member(s) youth feels close to or has good relationship with: Check all that apply.		I Male Sibling □ Female sibling				etaker	
8.	Family provides opportunities for youth to participate in family activities and decisions affecting the youth:		No opportunities Some opportuni Opportunities fo	ties for inv	volvement	provided		
9.	Level of conflict between parents, between youth and parents, among siblings: Check the most serious level that applies.		Verbal intimidati Threats of physi Physical/sexual	nat was well managed ion, yelling, heated arguments			\$	
10.	Parental supervision: Parents know who youth is with, when youth will return, where youth is going, and what youth is doing.		Good supervision Some good sup Inadequate super-	ervision				
11.	Parental rule enforcement and control:		Youth usually of Youth sometime Youth consister Youth Consiste	ies obeys	or obeys	s some ru		
	Consistent appropriate discipline—punishment for bad behavior and rewards for good behavior: Check all that apply. Appropriate means clear communication, timely response, and response proportionate to conduct. Rewards include affection, praise, or other tangible means.		propriate Punishr Usually Sometimes Rarely		Appropriate Usually Sometin Rarely	nes		
	Characterization of discipline: Check all that apply.		Appropriate pun Overly severe p Insufficient puni Little or no punis	unishmen shment shment	t	ly protecti or no rew	nt ve	
14.	Parental characterization of youth's anti-social behavior:		Disapproves of Minimizes, deni blames others/c Accepts youth's Proud of youth's	es, justifie ircumstan anti-socia	s, excuse: ces Il behavior	s behavio ^r as okay	r, or	

Washington State Juvenile (Court Risk Assessment
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	SECTION 6B: Current Living Arrangements						
1.							
_	length of time living with current family:	<u> </u>	Years and months living with current family				
2.	The youth's current living arrangements:		Father Dother Stepparent				
	Check all that apply.		Siblings Other relatives Other adult Foster/group home Independent				
			Transient				
	Check this box and complete items 3 - 5 if youth is living with at leas						
3.	Family annual income:		Under \$15,000				
•			\$35,000 - \$49,999				
4.	Health insurance and Title 19 eligibility: Check all that apply.		Has health insurance				
			Eligible for Title 19				
5.			No family support network				
	can provide additional support:		Some family support network Strong family support network				
<u></u>	malate the following eaction only if different from family in which priv						
6.	mplete the following section only if different from family in which prin Problems of family members who are currently living in the	liain	Mother Father Sibling(s)				
0.	household: Check all that apply. Mother and father refer to		No problems				
	current parent or legal guardian.		Alcohol				
			Drug 🗆 🗆				
			Mental health				
			Physical health				
7.	Current nevented level paring and support of voluth	┼─	Jail/imprisonment □ □ Consistent love, caring, and support				
1.	Current parental love, caring, and support of youth:						
			Indifferent, uncaring, uninterested, unwilling to help				
			Hostile toward youth, berates and belittles				
8.	Current family member(s) youth feels close to or has good		•				
	relationship with: Check all that apply.		Male sibling				
			Extended family				
9.	Current family provides opportunities for youth to participate		No opportunities for involvement provided				
	in family activities and decisions affecting the youth:	 Some opportunities for involvement provided Opportunities for involvement provided 					
10	Current level of conflict between parents, between youth and						
10.	parents, among siblings: Check the most serious level that						
	applies.						
			Physical/sexual abuse: domestic violence				
11.	Current parental supervision: Parents know who youth is with,		•				
	when youth will return, where youth is going, and what youth is						
10	doing.						
12.	Current parental rule enforcement and control:						
13.	Current consistent appropriate discipline—punishment for	_	ppropriate Punishment Appropriate Rewards				
	bad behavior and rewards for good behavior: Check all that						
	apply. Appropriate means clear communication, timely response,		• •				
	and response proportionate to conduct. Rewards mean affection,		Rarely				
	praise, etc.	\perp					
14.	Current characterization of discipline:						
	Check all that apply.						
			Insufficient punishment □ Overly protective Little or no punishment □ Little or no rewards				
15	Current parental characterization of youth's anti-social		•				
15.	behavior:						
	Nonutron.		blames others/circumstances				

SECTION 7: Alcohol and Drugs

pro	sess any alcohol and drug usage by the youth relative to its d blems in any one of these four life areas: education, family co rupted functioning usually indicates that treatment is warrante	onflict, pee					
1.	Alcohol use:		□ None □ Use □ Use c		unction		
2.	Drug use:		□ None □ Use □ Use c	lisrupts fu	unction		
со	licate whether alcohol and/or drug use often contributes to cri mmission of a crime. That is, there is evidence or reason to b d/or drug use.						
3.	Alcohol use contributes to the youth's criminal behavior	r:	🗆 No		Somev	vhat	□ Yes
4.	Drug use contributes to the youth's criminal behavior:		🗆 No		Somev	vhat	□ Yes
_	SECTION 8:						
	r abuse and neglect, include any history that is suspected, wh glect proven to be false.	ether or n	ot substa	ntiated; e	exclude re	ports of abi	ise or
1.	Victim of physical or sexual abuse: Parents include biological parents, stepparents, adopted parents and legal guardian or caretaker.	Abused None Physical		arent □	Sibling	Other <u>Family</u> □	Outside <u>Family</u> □
	Check all that apply.	Sexual a					
2.	Victim of neglect:	🗆 No		□ Yes			
3.	Mental health problems: Such as schizophrenia, bi-polar, mood, thought, personality and adjustment disorders. Exclude substance abuse and special education since those issues are considered elsewhere. Confirm by a professional in the social service/healthcare field. Check all that apply.		nosed with cation pre		health pro	blem(s)	
4.	Violence/anger: Reports of displaying a weapon, fighting, threatening people, violent outbursts, violent temper, fire starting, animal cruelty, destructiveness, volatility, intense reactions.	□ No re	ports	Repo	orts		
5.	Sexual aggression: Reports of aggressive sex, sex for power, young sex partners, voyeurism, exposure, etc.	□ No re	ports	Repo	orts		
6.	Sexual vulnerability/exploitation: Reports that youth is being sexually exploited or being taken advantage of by an older or more sophisticated person, including prostitution.	□ No re	ports	Repo	orts		

Washington	State	Juvenile	Court	Risk	Asses	sment
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	SECTION 9: Attitudes/Behaviors						
1.	Attitude before, during and after committing crime(s): Check all that apply.	Before During After Image:					
2.	Purpose for committing crime(s): Check all that apply.	 Anger Money or material gain including drugs Revenge Excitement, amusement, or fun Impulse Peer status, acceptance, or attention Other 					
3.	Accepts responsibility for anti-social behavior:	 Accepts responsibility Minimizes, denies, justifies, excuses, or blames others Accepts anti-social behavior as okay Proud of anti-social behavior 					
4.	Empathy, remorse, sympathy, or feelings for the victim(s) of criminal behavior:	 Has empathy for his or her victim(s) Has some empathy for his or her victim(s) Does not have empathy for his or her victim(s) 					
5.	Fatalistic attitude:	 Believes some things matter and he or she has a future Believes little matters because he or she has no future Believes nothing matters; he or she will be dead before long 					
6.	Loss of control over anti-social behavior:	 Believes he or she can avoid/stop anti-social behavior Somewhat believes anti-social behavior is controllable Believes his or her anti-social behavior is out of his or her control 					
7.	Hostile interpretation of actions and intentions of others in a common non-confrontational setting:	 Primarily positive view of intentions of others Primarily negative view of intentions of others Primarily hostile view of intentions of others 					
8.	Pro-social values/conventions:	 Primarily positive attitude toward pro-social values/conventions Somewhat positive attitude; or, positive attitude toward some values/conventions Does not think pro-social values/conventions apply to him or her Resents or is hostile to pro-social values/conventions 					
9.	Respect for authority figures:	 Respects most authority figures Resents some authority figures Resents most authority figures Defies or is hostile toward most authority figures 					
10.	Tolerance for frustration:	 Rarely gets upset over small things or has tantrums Sometimes gets upset over small things or has temper tantrums Often gets upset over small things or has tantrums 					
11.	Belief in use of aggression to resolve a disagreement or conflict: Verbal: yelling and verbal intimidation Physical: fighting and physical intimidation	Believes use of aggression is:VerbalPhysicalRarely appropriate□□Sometimes appropriate□□Often appropriate□□					
12.	Readiness for change:	 Hostile toward change or unwilling to change Does not see any need for change Believes there may be a need to change Committed to changing or working on changing 					
13.	Successfully meeting conditions of supervision:	 Believes he or she will be successful Unsure if he or she will be successful Does not believe he or she will be successful 					

	SECTION 10: Skills			
		Yes	Somewhat	No
1.	Consequential thinking skills: Youth understands there are consequences, good and bad, to his or her actions. Youth acts to obtain good and to avoid bad consequences. Youth sets positive, realistic goals.			
2.	Critical thinking skills: Youth sees that there are two sides to an argument or a situation. Youth weighs or evaluates the merits of each side. Youth arrives at a conclusion or makes a decision based on this evaluation.			
3.	Problem-solving skills: Youth can identify/describe problem behaviors. Youth can think of different solutions to resolve the problem. Youth can apply an appropriate solution.			
4.	Self-monitoring skills for triggers that can lead to trouble: Identifies external triggers: peers, drug use, situations that lead to trouble. Identifies internal triggers: thoughts, emotions, like anger, that lead to trouble. Actively monitors triggers.			
5.	Self-control skills to avoid getting into trouble: Can stop thoughts or actions that get him or her into trouble. Knows some self-control techniques to keep from getting into trouble. Uses a self-control technique to keep from getting into trouble. <i>Techniques include reframing, replacing anti-social thoughts with pro-social thoughts, diversion, relaxation, problem solving, negotiation, relapse prevention.</i>			
6.	Interpersonal skills: Appropriately expresses his or her needs and feelings. Negotiates with others. Carries on a meaningful conversation.			