

Risk Assessment

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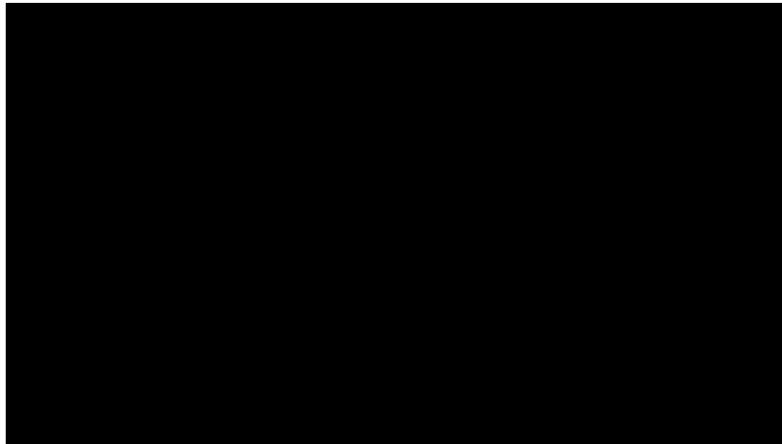
Defining Risk – Assessing Lethality

- Jacquelyn Campbell, PhD,RN-Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing
- *Danger Assessment*, 20 questions
- Tool to predict risk of homicide to women by male intimate partner
- Developed in consultation with battered women, shelter providers, law enforcement and clinical experts on battering



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Jacquelyn Campbell Talking about Risk Assessment



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Jacquelyn Campbell's Risk Assessment Tool

DANGER ASSESSMENT

Jacquelyn C. Campbell, Ph.D., R.N. Copyright 2003, update 2018 www.dangerassessment.com

Several risk factors have been identified by researchers (men) or women and men in violent relationships. We cannot predict what will happen in your case, but we would like you to be aware of the danger of homicide in situations of abuse and for you to see how many of the risk factors apply to your situation. Using the calendar, please mark the approximate dates during the past year when you were abused by your partner or ex-partner. Write on that date how bad the incident was according to the following scale:

1. Slapping, pushing, pinching and/or lasting pain
2. Pinching, shaking brain, cut, burn, breaking long bone
3. "Beating up"; severe confusion; burns, broken bones
4. Threat to use weapon; head injury, internal injury, permanent injury, miscarriage or choking* (use a © in the date to indicate choking/strangulation/cut off your breathing - example 4©)
5. Use of gun or knife

If any of the descriptions for the higher number apply, use the higher number.)

Mark Yes or No for each of the following. (*Refers to your husband, partner, ex-husband, ex-partner, or whoever is currently physically hurting you.)

1. Has the physical violence increased in severity or frequency over the past year? _____
2. Does he threaten to kill you? _____
3. Have you left him after living together during the past year?
3a. (If have never lived with him, check here _____)
4. Is he unemployed? _____
5. Has he ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a lethal weapon?
(If yes, was the weapon a gun? _____)
6. Does he threaten to kill you? _____
7. Has he avoided being arrested for domestic violence? _____
8. Does he have a child that he does not help? _____
9. Has he ever tried to choke/strangle you or cut off your breathing? (If yes, has he done it more than once, or did it make you pass out or black out or make you dizzy?) _____
10. Does he use illegal drugs? By drugs, I mean "uppers" or amphetamines, "meth", speed, angel dust, cocaine, "crack", street drugs or narcotics.
11. Does he use alcohol or prescription drugs?
12. Does he have an alibiistic or protective attitude?
13. Does he control most or all of your daily activities? For instance: does he tell you who you can be friends with, when you can see your family, how much money you can use, or when you can take the car? (If yes, but you do not let him, check here _____)
14. Is he jealous or constantly jealous of you? (For instance, does he say "If I can't have one, no one can?") _____
15. Have you ever been beaten by him while you were pregnant? (If you have never been pregnant by him, check here _____)
16. Has he ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
17. Does he ever threaten to harm your children?
18. Do you believe he is capable of killing you?
19. Does he follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes or messages, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want him to?
20. Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?

*See page 10 for answers

Thank you. Please talk to your nurse, advocate or counselor about what the Danger Assessment means in your situation.

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Danger Assessment

- Dangerassessment.org
- Formal training/certification
- Answers come from victim/survivor
- Scored/questions weighted
- Assessment informs work of Prosecutors, but also looking at offender information and case facts

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Applying the Assessment Tool to assess the case

Two jurisdictions look at risk
assessment

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Who we are

Hilary

Michelle

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Applying the tools to real life

- To help assess release conditions
- To determine a fair bond
- To gather evidence
- To give insight into DV history
- To determine how to allocate resources amongst cases
- To obtain a sworn affirmation of the facts (Forfeiture by wrongdoing)
- To determine appropriate plea and conditions
- To determine risk for future homicide

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The police and the assessment tool

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Maricopa County

- Compliance Check Program:
- A supervisor at the police department may use the Risk Assessment to determine if police should do a follow-up check on the victim.
- Police will confirm release conditions
- If the Defendant is in violation of his release conditions, he will be arrested.
- Programs has led to increased safety and cooperation by victims

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NYPD

- Domestic Incident Report (DIR)
- Fill out at scene or police precinct by police with victim
- Risk questions on DIR
- Victim fills out factual narrative and signs
- DA's Offices have access to NYPD DIR database
- Amended form 2015 created with input from DA's Offices

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NYPD

- Top Offender Prioritization Tool
- Prioritize Open DV Complaints
- Collect Intelligence from multiple NYPD databases
- Score Metrics
- Rank DV Offenders
- Home visits
- List Sent to DA's Offices Weekly
- DA Arrest Alert System

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Prosecutors' Offices and Risk Assessment

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Maricopa County

- Who is this form issued to?
- When does the form get filled out?
- Who fills it out?
- Who gets a copy?
- Given to Judge
 - Has to consider it under statute for determining bail conditions
- Used by Prosecution later

Form 4 Release Questionnaire Addendum Intimate Partner Risk Assessment*			
Law Enforcement Agency _____	Report No. _____		
Question	Yes	No	
1. Has the physical violence increased in frequency or severity over the past six months? a. Alternate wording: Is the pushing, grabbing, hitting, or other violence happening more often?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Is he/she violent and constantly jealous of you?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Do you believe he/she is capable of killing you?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Have you ever been beaten by NAME SUSPECT while you were pregnant ? (e.g. hit, kicked, shoved, pushed, thrown, or physically hurt with a weapon or object)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Has he/she ever used a weapon or object to hurt or threaten you?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Has he/she ever tried to kill you?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Has he/she ever chocked/strangled/suffocated you? If this has happened more than once , check here	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> More than Once?		
Tier 2: Ask on scene or during follow up.			
8. Does he/she control most or all of your daily activities ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Does he/she have money or possess a gun ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Has he/she ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. Does he/she use illegal drugs or misuse prescription drugs ? (e.g. meth, cocaine, painkillers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. Has he/she threatened to harm people you care about ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. Did you end your relationship with him/her within the past six months? Does he/she know or sense you are planning on ending your relationship with him/her?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. Has he/she experienced significant financial loss in the last six months?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. Is he/she unemployed ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16. Has he/she ever threatened or tried to commit suicide ?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Yes to 2 or 3 questions = "Elevated Risk"
Yes to 4 or more questions = "High Risk"

*Elevated Risk and High Risk cases trigger law enforcement officers to offer follow up responses in the form of providing or connecting victims to supportive resources or resource information.

Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence - 800-762-6400

National Domestic Violence Helpline - 800-799-7233

Victim referred for follow up based on responses to the tool

Victim referred for follow up based on the officer's professional judgment

No referral

*Otherwise known as Domestic Partner Lethality Assessment

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Maricopa County

- At scene police fill out form with victim and sometimes with help of victim advocate
- Hybrid tool
- Defendant is arrested – go to court initial appearance
- 48 hours to bring the case for charging

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Maricopa County

- ADA is assigned for charging according to experience and case complexity
- If case filed, determine if case goes to Preliminary hearing/Grand Jury
- Charging attorney prepares a plea offer – will attempt to notify the victim
- Sometimes defer plea negotiations to comply with notification to victim
- If goes to GJ – if true bill – case goes back to charging bureau and gets assigned for trial or further plea negotiations

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Kings County

- Police-Domestic Incident Report (DIR-NY State Statute)
- DA's Office-general intake bureau writes up case
- Arraignment –Bail argument-Risk factors on DIR
- Early Victim Engagement (EVE)-telephone victim from court and ask questions about risk

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Kings County

- Domestic Violence Bureau for assignment
- Daily initial screen by Supervising Social Worker for high risk cases
- Assignment to Misdemeanor, Grand Jury, Felony ADA
- DV Intake Form/Risk Factors
- ADA reviews with Supervisor - DIR, Intake Form, Facts of Case, Criminal record
- Referrals for other services (VSU/FJC)

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Using the risk assessment to talk to a victim about risk

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Commonalities

- Building the cases
- Assigning senior/specialized prosecutors
- Talking to victims about risk
- Safety Planning
- Relocation/Shelter/Phones
- Counseling
- Civil service referrals

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Doesn't matter how you do it



And you do it often