

Interview Worksheet

Can he talk, in specifics,
about his violence?

Initial reason for referral:

Specific details of incident(s) that precipitated his referral to counseling

Who does he say is
responsible for his behavior?

Does he currently have
physical access to the
victim?

Current relationship status/children:

Current level of contact with the victim, involvement of children

Is there a recent separation
or a pending divorce?

Has previous involvement in
the system been effective?

Current status within legal system:

DCF, Probation, Family Relations, Pre-violation, etc.

Does he respect court
orders?

Is he tired of living a "street
life?"

Criminal history:

Number of domestic violence arrests and other criminal history

Physical Violence:

Severity, frequency, first, most recent, types, violence during pregnancy, use of weapons, violence towards children

Threats of Violence

Are his threats believable?

Threat to kill, do physical harm, hurt himself, hurt children, hurt her family, hurt her male friends, new boyfriends

**Is he a threat to legal system
and other public people?**

**What kind of threats has he
made about separation or
divorce?**

Intimidation

**Is his behavior
unpredictable?**

Destruction of property, physical size, history of violence in and out of the relationship, military history, presence or display of weapons, martial arts experience, gang involvement

**Under what conditions, does
his victim(s) start fearing his
violence and abuse?**

**Has he destroyed objects of
significant personal
meaning?**

**Will he let her have her own
friends, family, counselor?**

Boundary Violations/Possessiveness

Sexual abuse, stalking, aggressive or wanton violation of protective or restraining orders, abuse in front children and other people, repeated ignoring her requests for time space to be alone.

**Can he acknowledge her
right to freedom and
independence?**

**Is sex a central issue in his
life?**

**Does he force her to have
sex against her will?**

Does he have a plan and the means to kill himself?

Suicidality

Recent thoughts, recent attempt, past thoughts, past attempts, suicide threats as tactic of control

Does he threaten suicide to control his family?

Does he see the controlling effects of his substance abuse?

Substance Abuse

Frequency, types of drugs, current or previous involvement with treatment, length of sobriety or clean time, intensification of fear, control over money, involvement in illegal activities

Does he see his substance abuse and control issues as two separate problems?

Does use substances before the violence and/or after the violence?

Does have the ability to interact with others?

Psychiatric History

Medication, diagnosis

If he's under a doctor's care, is he still taking his medication?

Is he mixing medication with alcohol or other drugs?

Does he have a commitment to not repeat the abuse he saw?

Past History

Violence in family of origin, first exposure to violence in home, extended family or community, gender relations in family of origin, abuse and violence in previous relationships

Did learn how to handle his feelings of helplessness, fear and sadness growing up?

Assessment Summary of Client

**Levels of control, severity of violence,
possessiveness**

Awareness of effects on partner(s)

Awareness of effects on children

**Willingness and ability to be accountable and
engage in a process of change**

Responsiveness to outside interventions

Aggravating factors