

	Domestic Violence Destructive	Domestic Violence Neglectful	Domestic Violence Pre-Competent	Domestic Violence Competent	Domestic Violence Proficient
DEFINITION	Primarily defined by identifiable policies and practices that either actively increase the harm to adult and child survivors of domestic violence and/or make it harder for them to access support and assistance.	Primarily defined by identifiable policies and practices that reflect a lack of willingness or ability to intervene with domestic violence and/or fail to acknowledge how domestic violence's distinct characteristics impact children and families.	Primarily defined by an identifiable gap between the stated relevance and prevalence of domestic violence to the safety and wellbeing of families and child welfare's actual domestic violence policy, training practices, and services infrastructure.	Primarily defined by identifiable policies and practices that use a child-centered perpetrator pattern- and survivor strength-based approach to domestic violence. Domestic violence isn't perceived as an add-on, but instead as a core part of child welfare practice.	Primarily defined by identifiable policies and practices that ensure that domestic violence policies and practices are consistent, dependable, and used throughout the child welfare system.
STATEMENT	"Regardless of the cost, the adult domestic violence survivor must make sure that the children are protected from the violence."	"Domestic violence is only relevant to the children if they see it or hear it. If the couple separates, there are no more domestic violence-related concerns."	"We don't want to re-victimize adult survivors, but our job is child safety" or "We know we need to do a better job with domestic violence cases, but we don't know how to do it."	"The perpetrators' behavior patterns and choices are the source of the child safety and risk concerns" and "Our goal is to keep children safe and together with the domestic violence survivor."	"We cannot achieve our mission around safety, permanency, and the wellbeing of children without being informed about domestic violence throughout our child welfare system."
POTENTIAL OUTCOMES	<p>The risk of harm to adult and child domestic violence survivors from the domestic violence perpetrator is increased.</p> <p>The willingness of adult and child survivors to reach out for assistance, e.g. calling the police if there is a new incident of violence, is reduced.</p> <p>The power that domestic violence perpetrators have over their families is increased.</p> <p>Children may be removed unnecessarily from domestic violence survivors.</p> <p>Child welfare systems expend resources for the unnecessary placement of children.</p> <p>Poor families and families of color are more likely to experience unnecessary economic and family stress due to a focus on resolving the violence by "ending the relationship."</p> <p>Children who attempt to protect one parent from another become caught in the delinquency system.</p>	<p>Assessments of families are incomplete and/or inaccurate and often focused on substance abuse and mental health issues instead of domestic violence.</p> <p>Domestic violence interventions with families do not occur until the violence escalates.</p> <p>When they do occur, these interventions are more likely to be inappropriate and/or ineffective, e.g. a referral to an anger management program when the correct referral is to a men's behavior change program.</p> <p>Decisions made in court can be based on incomplete or incorrect information.</p> <p>Partnerships with adult domestic violence survivors that focus on the safety and wellbeing of the children are weakened by poor practice.</p> <p>Poor women and women of color are more likely to suffer from inadequate or incomplete legal representation or evaluation.</p>	<p>The commitment to improve current practice is weak because it is driven by outsiders encouraging/expecting/demanding improvements.</p> <p>Token change results in no or little real change in paradigm or practice.</p> <p>Child welfare workers are made more aware of the impact of domestic violence on children, but they are not fully equipped to help, resulting in anxiety and unpredictable decisions.</p> <p>Tensions remain between domestic violence agencies and child welfare, interfering with their collaborative work to assist families.</p> <p>Domestic violence perpetrators continue to escape responsibility as parents.</p> <p>A lack of an perpetrator pattern-based approach increases the likelihood that domestic violence perpetrators with privilege will gain dangerous access to children.</p> <p>Fatherhood programming might increase the unsafe access of some domestic violence perpetrators to their children and families.</p>	<p>Child welfare interventions with domestic violence cases are based on more comprehensive and accurate assessments.</p> <p>Children are more likely to remain safe and together with adult domestic violence survivors.</p> <p>Unnecessary out-of-home placements are reduced, resulting in stronger families and communities and more costs saved by child welfare systems.</p> <p>Dependency courts may experience a reduction in domestic violence-related cases.</p> <p>Men of color and poor men who are domestic violence perpetrators may experience more support to improve their parenting and remain safely engaged with their children and families.</p> <p>Child welfare workers and others may experience more workplace satisfaction due to a new paradigm that allows them to practice in ways that are consistent with their social work values.</p>	<p>Cross-system collaboration is improved when stakeholders use common frameworks and languages.</p> <p>Domestic violence and child welfare agencies may experience a reduction in tension and/or improved collaboration.</p> <p>There may be a reduction in domestic violence-related child deaths.</p> <p>Initiatives such as trauma-informed practice and differential responses are more likely to be successful.</p> <p>Adult and child domestic violence survivors are more likely to see the child welfare system as a resource and a support.</p> <p>Vulnerable new parents and delinquent youths are more likely to receive support and assistance for domestic violence issues.</p> <p>The commitment to a perpetrator pattern-based approach may reduce biases in cases involving women's use of violence, same sex relationships, and vulnerable populations.</p>

Domestic Violence-Informed Continuum of Practice