Evidence of Domestic Violence

1 - 3 minor incidents of physical violence which were short in duration. Victim did not seek medical treatment.

Intense verbal abuse.

Risk factors/Potential vulnerabilities

Victim was not drawn into incidents.

Control by abuser is not intense.

Protective factors

Child/mother relationship is nurturing, protective and stable.

Significant other in child's life is positive and nurturing relationship.

Abuser accepts responsibility for abuse and violence.

Abuser indicates genuine remorse and is willing to seek support for abusive behaviour.

Victim has positive support from family/ friends/relatives.

Victim appears emotionally strong (not worn-down by the abuse).

Victim sought appropriate support and/or was seeking to accept help from other agencies.

BME (Black, Minority, Ethnic) issues

Ask yourself the following questions:

If this parent...

Victim has insight into the risks to child/ren - attempts to use protective strategies but abuser's violence & control is intense.

Older child/ren use protective strategies.

Victim's serious and/or severe physical violence - life threatening violence. Attention to the frequency, duration and severity of violent behaviour children exposed to.

Threats to children or adult victim.

Predicted recidivism.

Abuser uses threatening, aggressive behaviour towards professionals.

History of childhood abuse/disruptive childhood experiences abuser and/or victim.

Age disparities - abuser and/or victim under 25 with limited support with personal vulnerabilities.

Victim uses physical abuse on children as an alternative to harsher physical abuse by abuser.

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Abuser contra acts abuser's minimisation of abuse-risk of removal.

Abuser is Boyfriend/Father figure. Family unit has step-childrens.

Abuser's abuse of pets/animals/used to intimidate.

Abuser's violation of protective and/or child contact orders.

Abuser's minimisation of abuse-risk of removal.

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