

Case Scenario One

<Name>

<University Name>



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Ms. A has been referred for assessment to determine whether she has diminished capacity to parent. As a result of the referral, the MMPI-2 was administered to determine her personality structure and psychopathology (Ingram & Ternes, 2016). The following is a review of the results of the MMPI-2.

Case Study Data Set and the Daubert Standard

In order to utilize the information gathered from the assessment, the information must meet the five criteria of the Daubert Standard to be admissible and relied upon in court. The information gathered in this interview addresses the Daubert Standard as follows: the assessments administered to Ms. A can be and have been tested; the MMPI-2 has been subjected to peer review and publication and its error rate is known; there are standards controlling the administration and interpretation of the results of the assessment; and it has widespread acceptance in the psychology community (Williams, Butcher, & Paulsen, 2019). Thus, the case study data set meets the Daubert Standard.

Evaluation of Interview Information

The interview information contained in the case study has significant implications for the risk assessment as Ms. A reports significant issues with mental health as well as substance abuse. Both of these elements present significant risk in regard to her capacity to parent.

Evaluation of Collateral Information

The collateral information in the case study, particularly the information about Ms. A becoming lost on her way to the appointment, suggests elevated risk and should be considered in the evaluation of her capacity to parent. Also, while she reported no drug use in the past six months, there is also a report of crack cocaine use in the past 90 days that conflicts, providing collateral evidence of the disordered thinking she may be experiencing.

Recommendations Report for Risk Management

Based upon the above, Ms. A is a Gamma risk typology whose likely noncompliance with continued therapeutic intervention places her children at continued risk for neglect (Chandler, 2014). Accordingly, she should participate in rehabilitation skills training, her children should be placed with a guardian or kinship placement. Supervised visitation should be required.



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References

- Chandler, D. S. (2014). *Essentials of Forensic Family Psychotherapy*. Pearson.
- Ingram, P. B., & Ternes, M. S. (2016). The detection of content-based invalid responding: A meta-analysis of the MMPI-2-Restructured Form's (MMPI-2-RF) over-reporting validity scales. *The Clinical Neuropsychologist*, 30(4), 473-496.
- Williams, C. L., Butcher, J. N., & Paulsen, J. A. (2019). Overview of multidimensional inventories of psychopathology with a focus on the MMPI-2. In *Handbook of Psychological Assessment* (pp. 397-417). Academic Press.



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