



Psychological Evaluations

Application to the Findings

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~~*DHS has made reasonable efforts to provide services to make it possible for the child to safely return home.*~~

- Was there a need for an evaluation (was it required)?
 - Court ordered
 - Action agreement
 - rational relationship to basis of jurisdiction*
 - Case law
 - Policy
- Was a referral for an evaluation made by DHS?
- Was the referral timely?

~~*DHS has made reasonable efforts to provide services to make it possible for the child to safely return home.*~~

Was the evaluation appropriate?

- Scope of evaluation
- Cultural issues
- Language
- Reading ability
- Cognitive skills

DHS has made reasonable efforts to provide services to make it possible for the child to safely return home.

Was the evaluation valid?

- Incomplete background information
- Distorted
 - Alcohol or Substance
 - Trauma or Illness
 - Cognitive Abilities
 - Reading Level
- Cultural Issues
 - Lack of Fluency in English
 - Cultural Differences
 - Lack of Background Information
 - Validity of Testing Instruments

~~*DHS has made reasonable efforts to provide services to make it possible for the child to safely return home.*~~

- Did DHS make timely referrals for services recommended in the evaluation?

The parents have made sufficient progress to make it possible for the child to safely return home.

- Have the parents participated in recommended services?
- Did the psychologist note progress in services participated in to date?

The permanency plan is the most appropriate plan for the child.

- Did the psychologist indicate that the parent's **diagnosis** is treatable?
- What was the psychologist's **prognosis for change** positive?
- Did the psychologist make **recommendations** regarding the plan?
- Is the parent making substantial progress?



Recommendations:

- DHS immediately refer the parent to services as recommended in the psychological evaluation.
- DHS refer the parent for another evaluation due to:
 1. cultural appropriateness of the first evaluation
 2. validity of the first evaluation
(substance use or trauma)
 3. progress by the parent suggests reconsideration of prognosis