

APPENDIX D

OUTLINE OF CLINICAL MODEL OF ASSESSMENT:

- A. Custodial parent interview: 50-70 minutes (approximate)
- review of limits of confidentiality
 - parents' immediate concerns about the child or other parent
 - brief background history
 - history of relationship with noncustodial parent
 - child's developmental history
 - parenting history
 - parents' understanding of the child's needs
 - parents' concerns and wishes in the present litigation
 - optional psychological testing (can be done on a subsequent day)
 - obtain releases of information for relevant collaterals
- B. Observation of child and custodial parent in play setting: 20-30 minutes.
- review of limits of confidentiality and explanation of the role of the evaluator
 - note quality of the interaction between parent and child
 - structured tasks
- C. Individual interview of the child: 30-40 minutes.
- start with open ended play and general questions to put the child at ease
 - try to get a sense of the child's concerns and experience of the family disruption
 - move to more direct questions about specific issues in the case
 - give the child an opportunity to ask questions and ask if there is anything he or she wants the evaluator to tell the judge for him or her
- D. Observation of the noncustodial parent in play setting: 20-30 minutes (as above).
- E. Noncustodial parent interview: 50-70 minutes (as above).
- F. Collateral contacts
Record Review
- IV. Report writing

Documentation of the family's current presentation is important to future legal proceedings which are common in this population.

The report will consist primarily of the clinician's interviews, descriptive observations of family members and their interaction.

Conclusions will be limited and recommendations will be primarily of a short term nature due to the limited data available to the clinician.