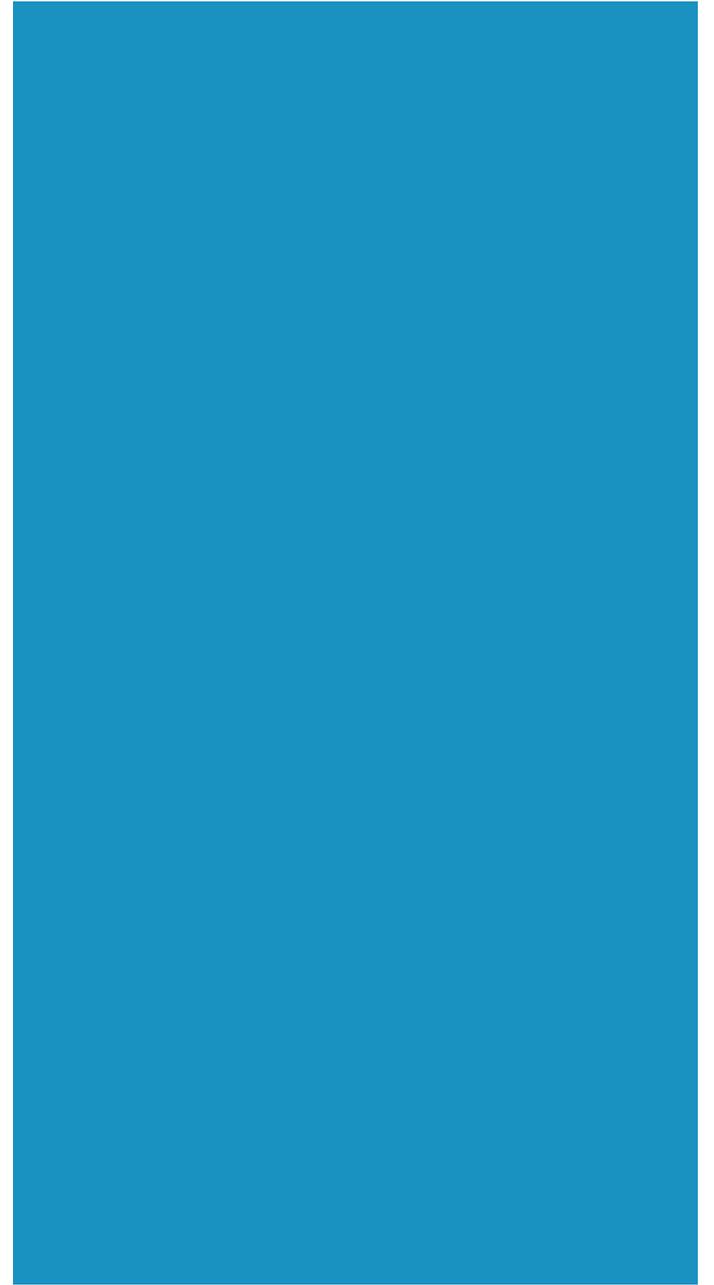




Introductions

Danger vs. Risk





What's In It For You

- An opportunity to check your own practice when differentiating Danger from Risk
- Danger and Risk will now have a standardized meaning for families/DHS/partners/judges
- Learn an easy method for talking with families and partners about Danger and Risk

Agenda

- Danger and Risk Through the Lens of Family First
- NCCD (National Council on Crime and Delinquency)
- Danger and Risk Redefined
- Assessing for Danger and Risk
- Talking with Families about Danger and Risk

Danger and Risk Through the Lens of Family First



Family First Precepts

- Family First is better for kids
- Less trauma = shorter case length = more successful outcomes in the long run
- Keep families safe with their parents, not from their parents



Ongoing Family First Strategies

- ✓ Refining Language
 - Removal versus placement
- ✓ Child Safety Conferences (CSC)



Ongoing Family First Strategies

✓ Four Questions

- What can we do to remove the danger instead of the child?
- Can someone the child/family knows move in to the home to remove the danger?
- Can the caregiver and child go live with a relative or fictive kin?
- Can the child move temporarily to relative or fictive kin?
 - Judges
 - Supervisors



Ongoing Family First Strategies

- ✓ Risk Re-Assessment
- ✓ New Safety Assessment and Safety Plan
- ✓ Tiered Training Approach
 1. SBC Training
 2. Danger vs. Risk
 3. FCS/QRTP Contract Fundamentals





Just and equitable systems.
Research. Policy. Practice.



Structured Decision-Making Model

The SDM® System

A research- and
evaluation-based
decision-support
system.



Tools Are a Prompt for Practice



Tools do not make decisions.



People make decisions.



Tools help people make better decisions.

Danger and Risk Redefined



Dysfunctional ≠ Danger

- Who in the room knows a dysfunctional family?
- Should their children automatically be removed?
- Who in the room grew up in a dysfunctional family?
- Are there varying levels of dysfunction?
- Dysfunctional is not automatically dangerous.

Danger

DANGER is the **imminent** threat of **serious harm**

Imminent – expectation that harm could occur in the very near future

Danger replacing safety terminology - why this language shift to danger?



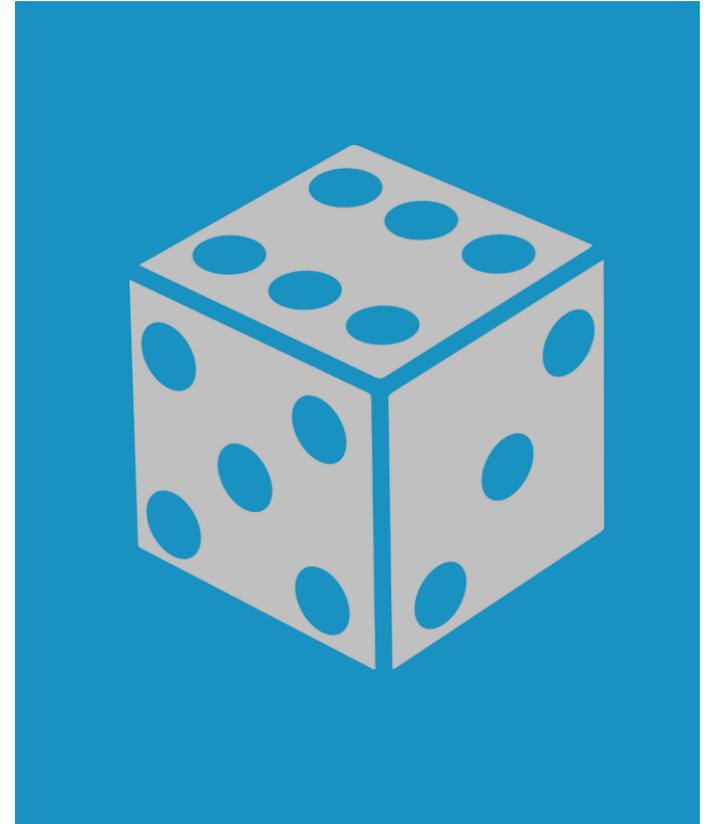
Danger Does Not Equal Removal

However, danger does signal for immediate action by the Department of Human Services:

- Demands consultation with your Supervisor
- May require the development of a Safety Plan
- May require the development of an Action Plan
- May be more effectively resolved by the worker presenting the case to a Child Safety Conference or during group supervision.

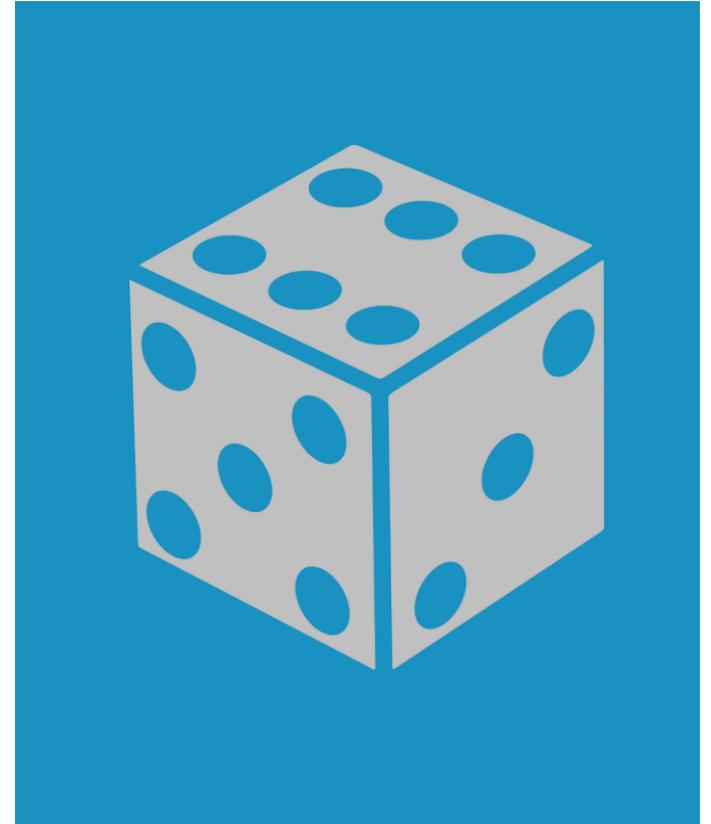
Risk

RISK is the **likelihood** of **future involvement** with child protection.

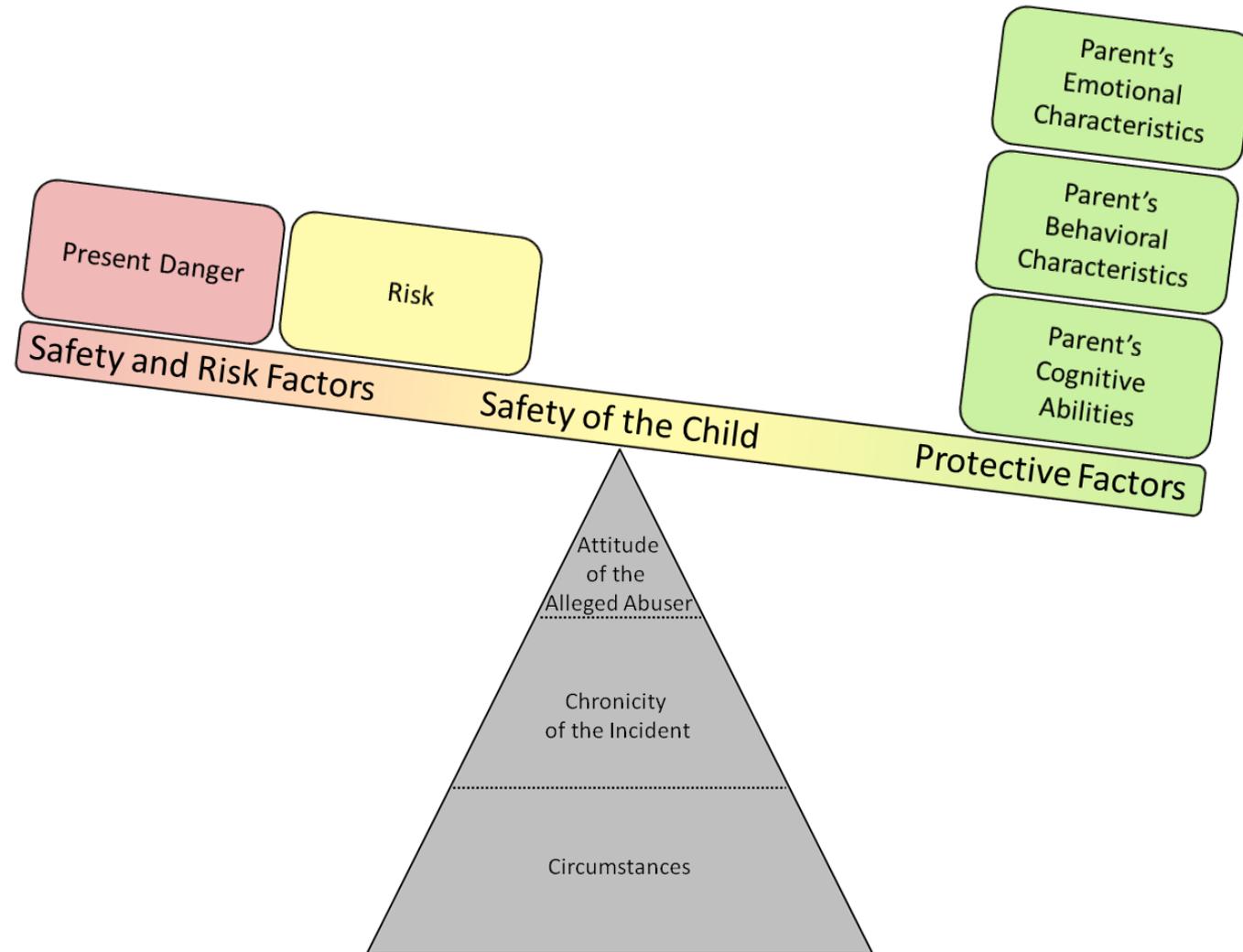


Risk

- All families have risk
- The identification of risk factors help us determine the focus of the change process and issues that will impact successful interventions
- Our new risk assessment and re-assessment tools will help us to make more informed decisions



Risk Factors



Danger Factors vs. Risk Factors

	Danger Factors	Risk Factors
Allegation	Current harm/Injury	Future harm/danger
Severity	Serious	Continuum from mild to serious
Actuality	Present/Impending	Possibility
Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Time sensitive conditions ▪ Child vulnerabilities are taken into account such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Age – Physical ability – Cognitive ability – Developmental status – Emotional security – Family loyalty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Behaviors ▪ Motives ▪ Perceptions ▪ Beliefs ▪ Family conditions as a whole ▪ Family environment that creates danger for the child in the foreseeable future
Assessment Completed	<p>Critical points throughout the life of the case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initial CA/FA assessment visit ▪ Completion of assessment ▪ Initiation of unsupervised visitation ▪ Prior to reunification/THV ▪ Prior to case closure ▪ Whenever circumstances suggest a child may be in an unsafe situation/new allegations of abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Completion of CA/FA assessment ▪ New reported allegations of abuse ▪ Changing family conditions ▪ Changes to visitation ▪ Prior to reunification/THV ▪ Prior to case closure

Danger vs. Risk

Danger



Risk



Danger vs. Risk

- Confidence educating external partners (legal, contracted providers, etc.) on the meaning of Danger and Risk and how they differ
- A change in how we talk about the differences between Danger vs. Risk with families, our partners, and within our team at DHS

Practice Danger vs. Risk

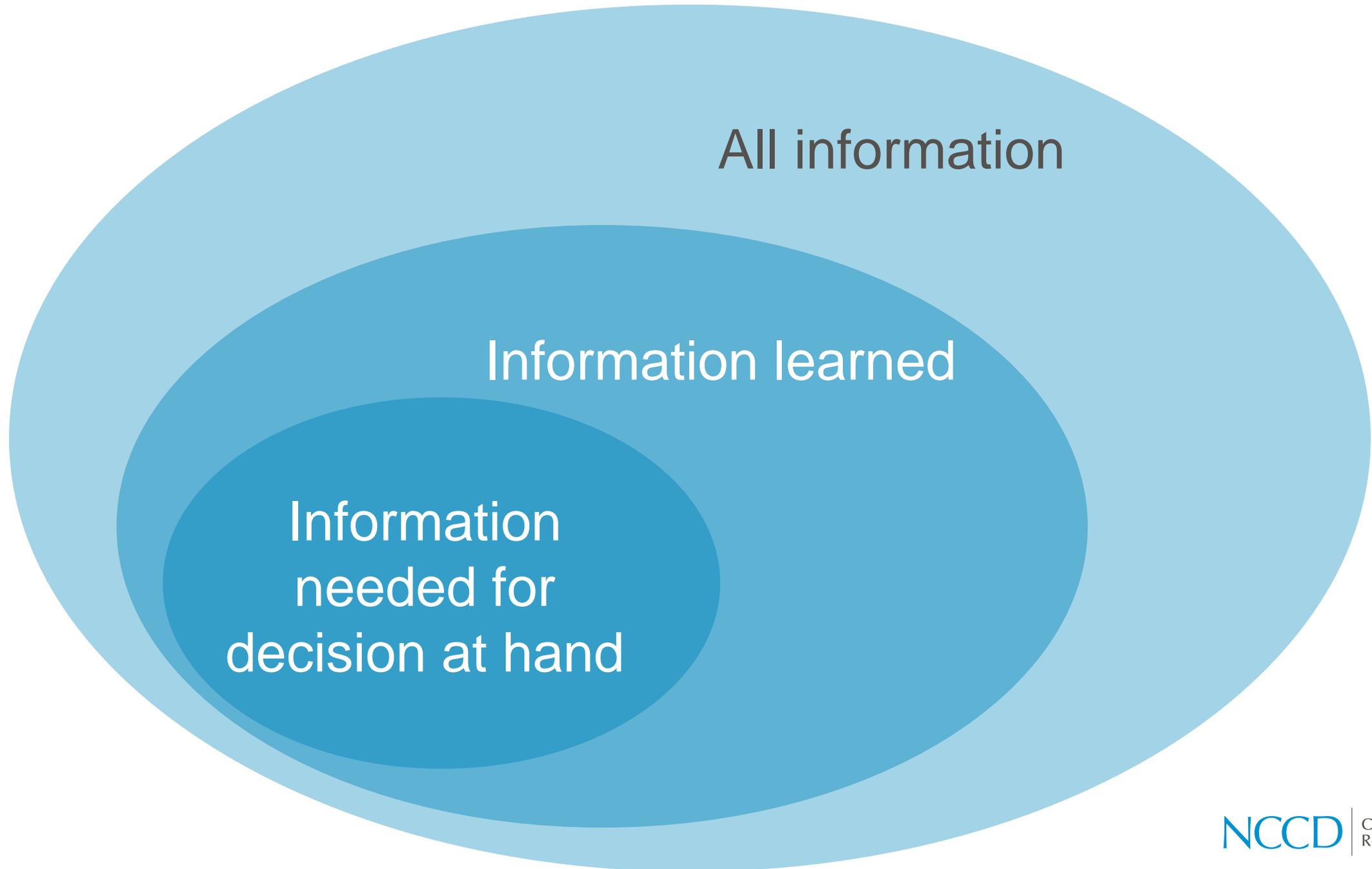


IMMINENT DANGER OR RISK?

		Danger	Risk
1.	A pot of boiling water is sitting on the edge of the stove, and a 3-year-old is in the kitchen unsupervised.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.	Mom has four prior child protective services (CPS) investigations in the past year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Dad has untreated mental health concerns.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	After drinking a lot of alcohol, grandmother (the primary caregiver) passes out on the couch while holding a 3-month-old infant.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	Stepmother uses a belt to whip a 13-year-old girl after she returned home after her curfew. Welts on the girl's back are visible and significant.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	An 8-year-old boy's arm was broken as a result of physical abuse when he was 5 years old.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Dad has a history of being abused as a child.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.	There is a history of domestic violence incidents and a report of a recent violent physical assault between mom and dad when the kids were home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.	The family previously received ongoing services from CPS.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.	Mom has a history of substance abuse, but she has been receiving services and has been sober for the past year.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Assessing for Danger and Risk





All information

Information learned

Information
needed for
decision at hand



Caregiver



Behavior



Impact on the
Child

Practice CBI



CBI ACTIVITY



Please review the following statements and identify all three parts of caregiver, behavior, and impact on the child (CBI). If one or more components are not present, indicate "not present" for that component.

1. Pediatrician is concerned about abnormal and drastic weight loss in the children due to parents' restricting food as a form of punishment.

Caregiver	Behavior	Impact on Child

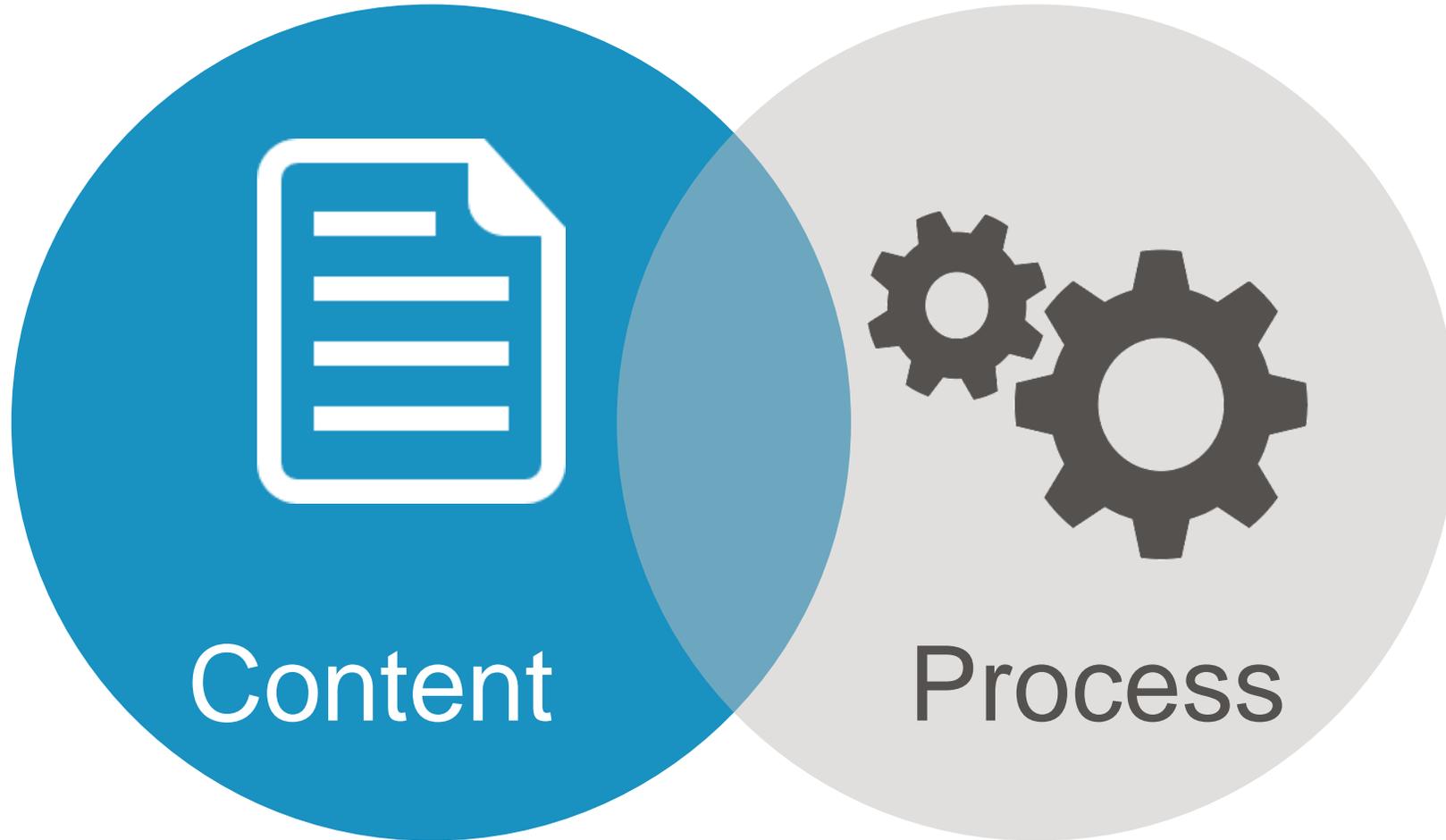
2. An 8-year-old boy discloses alleged sexual abuse to his primary school teacher. The boy alleges that his father touched and poked his "privates." The boy does not provide much information about the incident but says it happened when he lived with his mom. The boy currently lives with his mom and siblings.

Caregiver	Behavior	Impact on Child

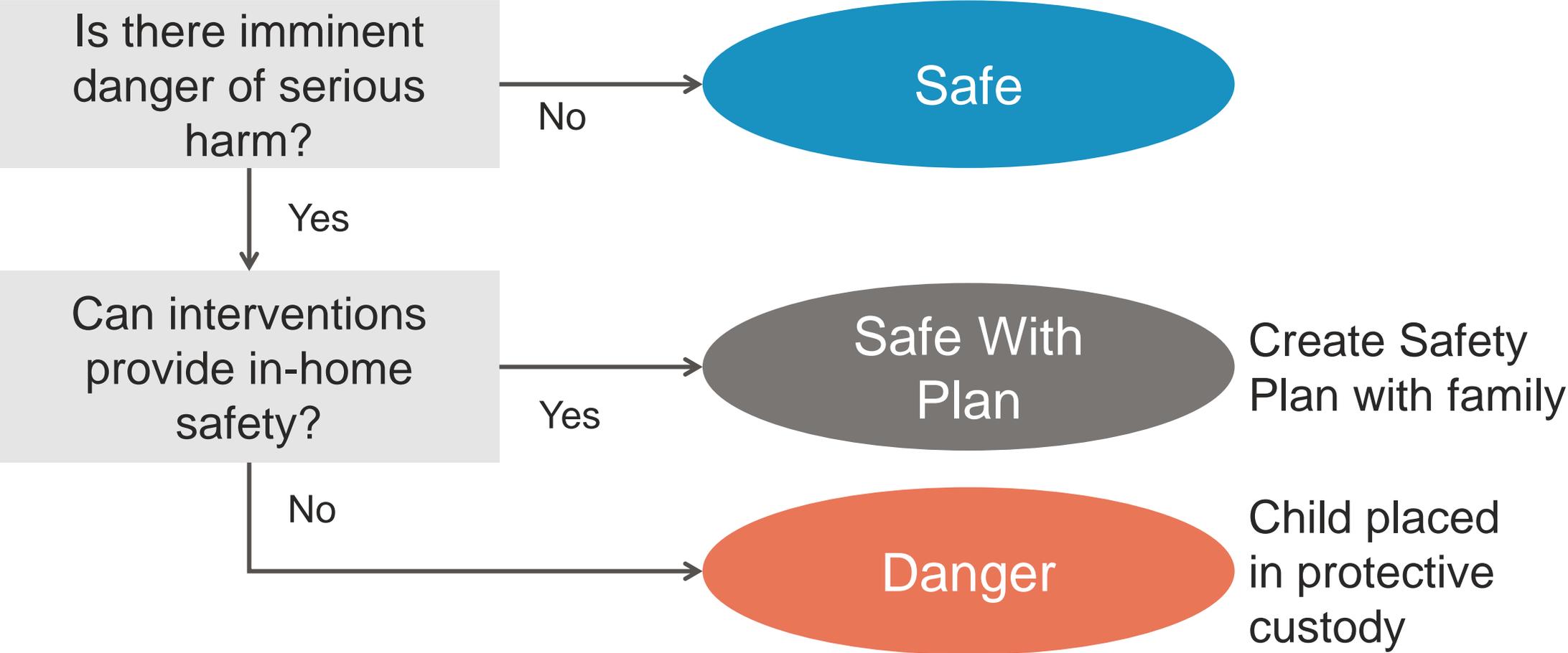


Assessing Is a
Continual Process

Family Engagement in Safety Planning



Can the Child Safely Remain Home?



Tool Comparison

Safety Plan



- Strategies for controlling danger
- Time sensitive
- Plan is closely monitored
- Back-up plan is developed

Action Plan



- Steps for controlling risk factors
– Could incorporate into steps of an initial case plan
- Task completion tool
- Continually assess progress for task completion
- Team supports ongoing progress for plan/tasks

The Action Plan should not be used as a Safety Plan. If there are immediate dangers that must be addressed, those should be addressed via a Safety Plan. The Action Plan should not be used to make even temporary or voluntary changes in child custody.

Talking with Families About Danger and Risk





Talking With Families About Danger and Risk

Danger and Risk Statements

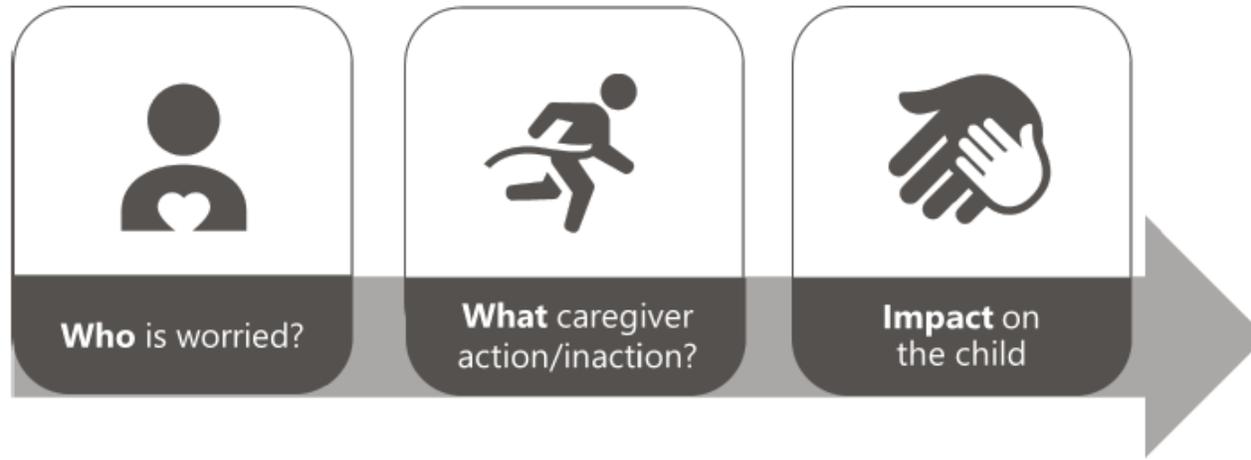
Clear, specific statements about the danger or harm that has happened to the child. Include details, not judgment!



Practice Talking about Danger and Risk with Families



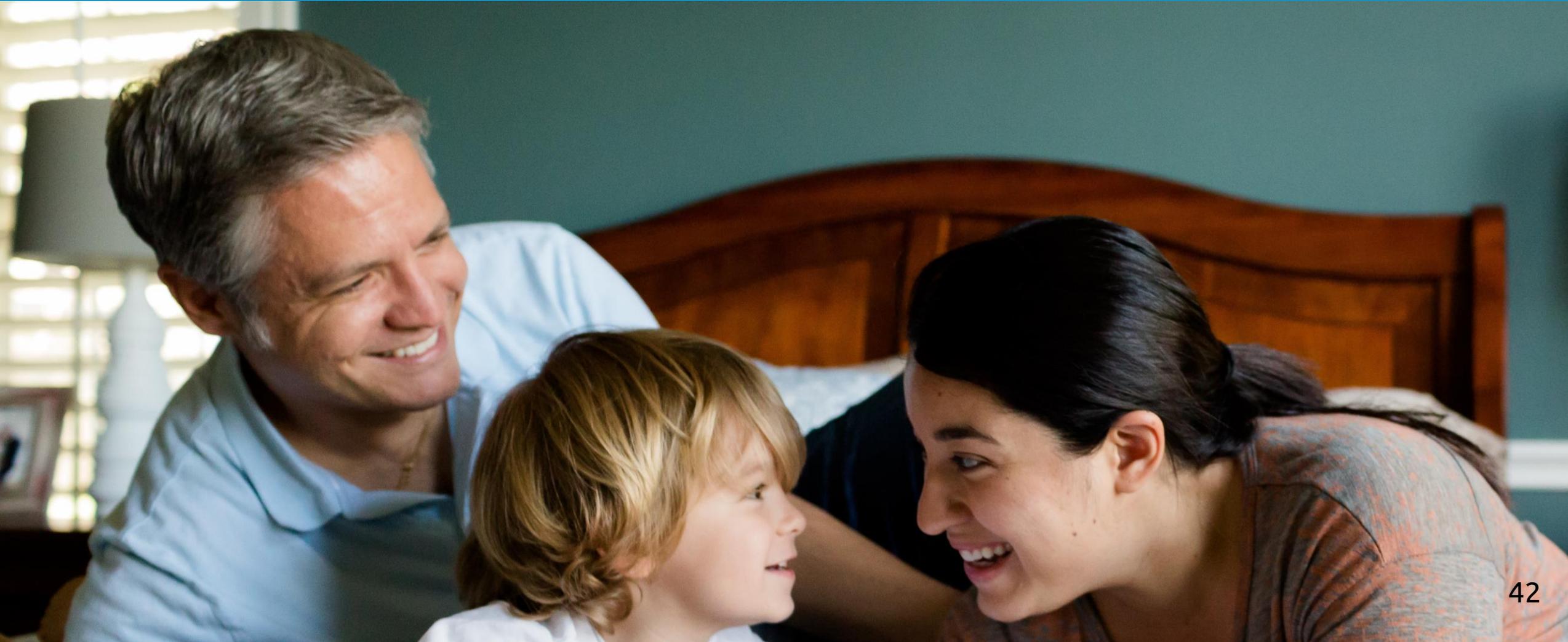
DANGER STATEMENT PRACTICE



Create a danger statement below and share with a partner.

How does this differ from your current practice? How might this look in practice? What other thoughts did you have when developing your danger statement? Would you make any changes if you were talking about danger with a support network member? A supervisor?

Takeaways



Thank You to the following staff for their contributions and time with Danger vs. Risk!

- Terri Naegele
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- Mindy Druschel
- Doug Sedgwick
- Yvonne Culpepper
- Kate Roy
- Maggie Gibson
- Steve Sherman
- Connie Jones

Questions?

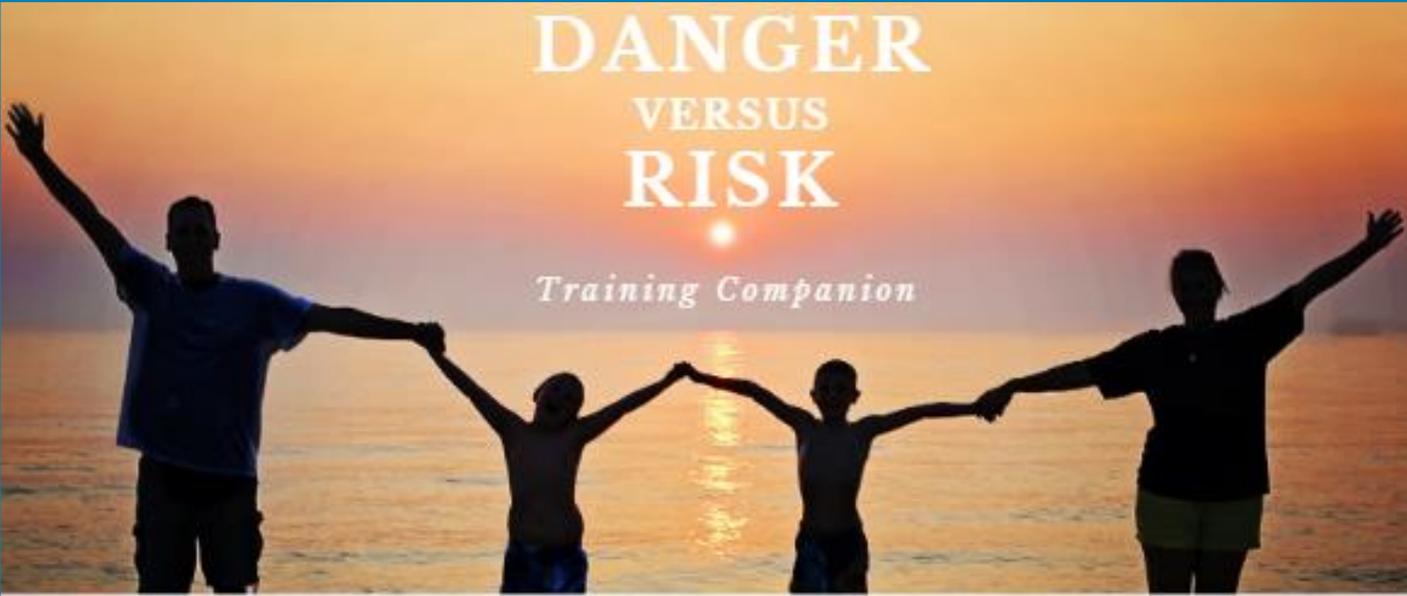
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Training Companion



**DANGER
VERSUS
RISK**

Training Companion

DANGER DOES NOT EQUAL REMOVAL

However, danger does signal for immediate action by the Department of Human Services.

The presence of danger in a case:

- Demands consultation with your supervisor

Risk is the likelihood of future involvement with child protection.

All families have risk. The identification of risk factors help

