

# Forensic Evaluations 101

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# First Contact

- ▶ Please spend at least 15 minutes
- ▶ Be specific about what you want to know
- ▶ Observations and interactions
- ▶ Data obtained
- ▶ Collaterals needed



# What Do You Need?

- ▶ Question
- ▶ Malingering
  - Dramatic behavior
  - Deliberateness and carefulness
  - Inconsistency
  - Rare symptoms
  - Discrepancies in behavior
  - Obvious symptoms and problems
- ▶ Lying about involvement vs. withholding of important information
- ▶ Role of psychologist



# Who/What Should Be Included?

- ▶ Juvenile
- ▶ Caretakers
- ▶ Professionals
  - Treating physicians
  - Treating mental health providers
  - Probation officers
  - Teachers
- ▶ Records



# Competency

- ▶ JACI
  - MCAT (CA)
  - FIT (R)
  - CAST-MR
  - ECST-R
- ▶ Children under 12
- ▶ Mental illness – reality testing
- ▶ Mental retardation or borderline intellectual functioning
- ▶ Learning disabilities
- ▶ Developmental disabilities
- ▶ Deficits in memory or attention



# What is Evaluated?

- ▶ Psychosocial Development
- ▶ Emotional Development
- ▶ Executive Functioning
- ▶ Intellectual Development
- ▶ Maturity



# Adaptive Behavior

## ▶ Can your client function?

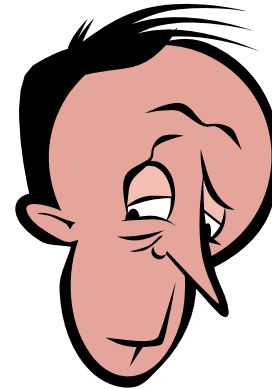
- Communication
- Community Use
- Functional Academics
- Home Living
- Health and Safety
- Leisure
- Self-Care
- Self-Direction
- Social
- Work

## ▶ ABAS-II / Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales



# Mental Health

- ▶ Disorders
  - Mood Disorders
  - Behavioral Disorders
  - Psychosis
  - Anxiety
- ▶ Objective Testing
  - MMPI-A
  - MACI
  - PIY





# Mental Health

- ▶ Screening Tools
  - RCMAS – 2
  - Children’s Depression Inventory
  - Trauma Symptom Checklist
- ▶ Parenting Forms
  - CBCL
  - BASC–2
- ▶ Projectives
  - Rorschach
  - TAT/Roberts–2



# Cognitive Functioning

- ▶ Disorders
  - Learning
  - Mental Retardation
  - Developmental
  - AD/HD
- ▶ WASI
- ▶ WISC-IV/WAIS-IV
- ▶ WJ-III
- ▶ WRAT
- ▶ WMS



# Other features

- ▶ Hearing and vision
- ▶ Sleep deprivation
- ▶ Poor nutrition
- ▶ Cultural expectations
- ▶ Unwillingness to cooperate
- ▶ Parents causing problems

