“There is hardly anything so necessary as the ability to distinguish between that which is important and that which is not.”

-William Barclay

Domain Dialogue...How is it structured?

**Adult Functioning**

**Caregiver’s Name:** This domain seeks to answer, who is this adult, aside from having children? Information collected here helps inform this adult’s protective capacities or lack of protectiveness, based on general life management, social and personal/intimate partner relationships, problem solving, relevance and meaning of criminal history, self-control, stability, employment history, self-awareness, physical capacity, community involvement, mental health issues or substance use. If DV is present, what is the perpetrator’s pattern of power & control and what is the impact on the caregiver?

**Sources/Interviews (separately/privately), collaterals and observations:**
Who did you interview that provided relevant and specific information about this adult? Is a neighbor collateral relevant? Is a former spouse or partner collateral relevant? Is a counselor, therapist, probation officer, law enforcement, and/or extended family collateral relevant? What do the children say about the daily activities of this adult? What do the other household members say about how this adult acts/behaves?


**Analysis:**
What does the information you have gathered on this adult mean? Are you able to articulate how this adult is or is not acting violently/impulsively/dangerously? How does the information you have collected inform the danger threat below? Do you have the lack of or presence of caregiver protective capacities, an identified danger threat, and a vulnerable child to the danger threats associated with this domain?

☞ The danger threat related to adult functioning is: Parent/Legal Guardian/Caregiver is violent, impulsive, or acting dangerously in ways that seriously harmed the child or will likely seriously harm the child.

Stay tuned for next month’s Practice Points to Ponder - - - Pam Aeppel & Shawna Thomas

Collaborating to support and sustain our new practice model.