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The CARE-Index use in the forensic evaluation for the child protective project.

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Topic: Court work

The present work is a qualitative study for a little group of subjects. It draws inspiration from literature about the CARE-Index (Crittenden, 2005) and its use in addition of other family informations gathered by forensic evaluation. The CARE-Index is a valid screening tool of the relational risk and it is useful in the decision making for child protection.

I present three cases, brought to Child Protection Service's attention by the Court for Minors in Milan. In particular I describe how the functional information coming from CARE-Index and DMM model are useful with other information of forensic evaluations (personal history, psychodiagnostic and psychosocial evaluation for the adults, couple history, psychophysical infant well-being, etc.) for decision making in supporting project to the families and child protection. The taking charge of these cases is still ongoing.

How it uses the DMM

The DMM model is useful to distinguish the risk cases from those not at risk.

Moreover, it is useful to distinguish cases of protection from those needing support. Furthermore, it allows to understand at which level of the family system and concerning which needs it is opportune to provide support to adults and children.

What it can contribute to the DMM

The present work shows how the CARE-Index and the DMM model can give a valid assistance to forensic evaluation work, to minors' protection, to clinical and supporting work to the families brought to the attention of the Court of Minors.