

Interviewing Children in Family Law Matters: Values & Vulnerabilities
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Presentation Outline

Professional Questions

Should I interview the child?

If yes, how?

Does age matter?

Can I make credibility judgments?

Brief overview of child memory

Acquisition

Storage

Retrieval

Threats to child memory (with specific research cited as appropriate)

Repeated conversations

External factors

Parental influence

Peer influence

Negative stereotype induction

Co-witness conformity

Rumors

Prevalence

Poor forensic interviewing methods

Bias

Therapy Effects

Source misattribution errors

Given the above, should I interview the child?

Specific methods for interviewing the child

Does age matter?

Credibility

Special circumstances

Alienation and resistant youth

Children with special needs