

Permission To Use Danger Assessment

Thank you for your interest in the Danger Assessment instrument. The challenge for those who encounter abused women is to identify those with the highest level of danger. The "Danger Assessment" instrument has been used by law enforcement, health care professionals, domestic violence advocates and researchers for 25 years.

To use the Danger Assessment to its fullest extent, a scoring system, which has been updated and validated, is available to interpret the Danger Assessment results. The Danger Assessment is best used by a person certified to administer the assessment and interpret the scoring system. Certification programs in various formats can be found at www.dangerassessment.com.

There is no charge and no further permission needed for the use of this instrument as long as the reference is properly cited (see below). However, it has a copyright to indicate that it may *not* be *changed* in any way without specific permission from me. Please reference the following:

Campbell, JC. (2004). *Danger Assessment*. Retrieved May 28, 2008, from <http://www.dangerassessment.org>.

Campbell JC, Webster DW, Glass N. (2009). The danger assessment: validation of a lethality risk assessment instrument for intimate partner femicide. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 24(4):653-74.

There is a charge to become certified to use the scoring system; see the rest of the website for details.

The Danger Assessment is a project in process. It is continually being checked for accuracy and usefulness. In light of that, we ask that you share the results of any research (raw or coded data) which is conducted using the instrument. The following information would be extremely valuable:

- an approximate number of women with whom the instrument was used,
- a description of their demographics,
- their mean score, and
- the setting in which the data was collected.

Comments (positive and negative) and suggestions for improvement from battered women themselves, advocates, and professionals who are involved in its use are also being collected. Please send this information to the address below.

I look forward to your feedback regarding the Danger Assessment.

Sincerely,
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DANGER ASSESSMENT

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Several risk factors have been associated with increased risk of homicides (murders) of women and men in violent relationships. We cannot predict what will happen in your case, but we would like you to be aware of the danger of homicide in situations of abuse and for you to see how many of the risk factors apply to your situation.

Using the calendar, please mark the approximate dates during the past year when you were abused by your partner or ex partner. Write on that date how bad the incident was according to the following scale:

1. Slapping, pushing; no injuries and/or lasting pain
2. Punching, kicking; bruises, cuts, and/or continuing pain
3. "Beating up"; severe contusions, burns, broken bones
4. Threat to use weapon; head injury, internal injury, permanent injury
5. Use of weapon; wounds from weapon

(If **any** of the descriptions for the higher number apply, use the higher number.)

Mark **Yes** or **No** for each of the following. ("He" refers to your husband, partner, ex-husband, ex-partner, or whoever is currently physically hurting you.)

- ___ 1. Has the physical violence increased in severity or frequency over the past year?
- ___ 2. Does he own a gun?
- ___ 3. Have you left him after living together during the past year?
3a. (If have *never* lived with him, check here ___)
- ___ 4. Is he unemployed?
- ___ 5. Has he ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a lethal weapon?
(If yes, was the weapon a gun? ___)
- ___ 6. Does he threaten to kill you?
- ___ 7. Has he avoided being arrested for domestic violence?
- ___ 8. Do you have a child that is not his?
- ___ 9. Has he ever forced you to have sex when you did not wish to do so?
- ___ 10. Does he ever try to choke you?
- ___ 11. Does he use illegal drugs? By drugs, I mean "uppers" or amphetamines, "meth", speed, angel dust, cocaine, "crack", street drugs or mixtures.
- ___ 12. Is he an alcoholic or problem drinker?
- ___ 13. Does he control most or all of your daily activities? For instance: does he tell you who you can be friends with, when you can see your family, how much money you can use, or when you can take the car? (If he tries, but you do not let him, check here: ___)
- ___ 14. Is he violently and constantly jealous of you? (For instance, does he say "If I can't have you, no one can.")
- ___ 15. Have you ever been beaten by him while you were pregnant? (If you have never been pregnant by him, check here: ___)
- ___ 16. Has he ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?
- ___ 17. Does he threaten to harm your children?
- ___ 18. Do you believe he is capable of killing you?
- ___ 19. Does he follow or spy on you, leave threatening notes or messages on answering machine, destroy your property, or call you when you don't want him to?
- ___ 20. Have you ever threatened or tried to commit suicide?

___ Total "Yes" Answers

Thank you. Please talk to your nurse, advocate or counselor about what the Danger Assessment means in terms of your situation.

DANGER ASSESSMENT REFERENCE LIST

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