

Level 2: Critiquing Parenting Plan & Timesharing Evaluations
(formerly referred to as Child Custody evaluations) 7 CLEs/CEs

I. Introduction (9:00-9:15)

- a. Presenter
- b. Participants
- c. Topic
- d. Objectives

II. State of the Art/Science (9:15-9:45)

- a. Review of the research on Child Custody Evaluations (CCEs)
- b. Areas of omission

III. What do Attorneys & Judges Want? (9:30-9:50)

- a. Desired characteristics of CCEs
- b. Stated reasons for CCEs
- c. When should children have a say?

IV. Differences between Therapeutic & Forensic Services (9:50-10:00)

- a. Going beyond the data
- b. Specific differences

-----**Break (10:00 to 10:15)**-----

IV. Differences between Therapeutic & Forensic Services (Cont. 10:15-12:00)

- a. Patient v. Litigant
- b. Orientation
- c. Competency
- d. Hypothesis Testing
- e. Structure
- f. Goals
- g. Judgment
- h. Dual Roles
- i. Confidentiality
- j. Relevance

-----**Lunch (12:00 to 1:00)**-----

V. Common Pitfalls in Parenting Plan Timesharing Evaluations (1:00-2:15)

- a. Professional training not up to date
- b. Not familiar with related research
- c. In appropriate use of computer-generated reports
- d. Opinions need not supported by research
- e. Recommendations not supported by the body of the report
- f. Failure to stick to only one role (evaluators are not therapists, consultants, advisors, etc.)
- g. The appearance of bias Legal Standards (2:15-3:15)
- h. Rules of evidence
- i. Daubert v. Frye

-----**Break 3:15-3:30**-----

VI. Planning A Trial Strategy Around Your Critique (3:30-4:00)

- a. Organize your critique (see handout)
- b. Consult with an expert to affirm your suspicions
- c. Plan your examination of the evaluator
- d. Decide how you will use your expert
- e. Case facts into hypotheticals

VII. Issues Involving Children's Testimony (4:15-4:45)

- a. Children testifying
- b. Cues to children's dysfunctional relationships
- c. The appearance of alienation

VIII. Summary, Follow-Up, & Evaluation of Workshop (5:15-5:30)

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