

SESSION 2 BLEUX CASE: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

This glossary identifies commonly used terms used among the judicial system, child welfare system, and CASA/GAL

| TYPES OF TRAUMA | |
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| TERM | DEFINITION |
| Acute | A type of trauma that results from a single incident i.e. car accident |
| Chronic | A type of trauma that is repeated and prolonged i.e. domestic violence or abuse |
| Complex | A type of trauma that occurs repeatedly and cumulatively, usually over a period of time and within specific relationships and contexts i.e. child abuse |
| Historical | Refers to the cumulative emotional harm of an individual or generation caused by a traumatic experience or event i.e. slavery, forced placement in boarding schools. |
| ATTACHMENT | |
| Attachment | The emotional bond between the child and the parent |
| Secure Attachment | “Feel confident that the attachment figure will be available to meet their needs. They use the attachment figure as a safe base to explore the environment and seek the attachment figure in times of distress. Securely attached infants are easily soothed by the attachment figure when upset. Infants develop a secure attachment when the caregiver is sensitive to their signals, and responds appropriately to their needs.” ¹ |
| Insecure Attachment | “They do not seek contact with the attachment figure when distressed. Such children are likely to have a caregiver who is insensitive and rejecting of their needs.” |

¹ <https://www.simplypsychology.org/mary-ainsworth.html>

| CAREGIVERS | |
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| TERM | DEFINITION |
| Fictive Kin | Non relatives but close relationships to the family and people who are known to the child or children. |
| Foster Parent | Adults who provide a temporary home and everyday nurturing and support for children who have been removed from their homes. The individual(s) may be relatives or nonrelatives and are required to be licensed in order to provide care for foster children. |
| Kinship Guardianship | Subsidized alternative to adoption for children or youth who have been placed with relatives or sometime fictive kin. |
| OTHER TERMS | |
| Family Reunification | Refers to the process of returning children in temporary out-of-home care to their families of origin. Reunification is both the primary goal for children in out-of-home care as well as the most common outcome. |
| Concurrent Planning | A type of permanency planning which involves working with families towards reunification while developing an alternative permanency placement plan. |
| Placement Stability | Ensuring that children remain in stable out-of-home care, avoiding disruption, removal, and repeated placements that have harmful effects on child development and well-being. In the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews, placement stability is one of the four composites used as the basis for national standards for Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations. |