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Home Study / Social Study

Procedure:

Clinical Semi-Structured Interviews:

- Each parent will have two/three individual interviews.
- Each session is one hour. Each child will have one/two interviews.
- Additional interviews will be requested if needed.
- If the child is four or under, there will be one parent/child observation for each parent in lieu of an individual interview for the child.
- If either parent is engaged or in a relationship-that person will also have a session. Any other person living in the home will have a session with Dr. Baker.

Parent/Child Observations:

If the child is under 4 years of age, the parent and the child will come to Dr. Baker's office for 45-60 minutes of observed play.

Home Visit:

Dr. Baker will visit the each home during a time when all parties are present. These visits last approximately one hour.

Review of pertinent materials:

School documentation, medical records, letters of reference, past legal documentation.

Phone Consultations:

When the child is of school age or attending a child care facility, child care providers/teachers will be contacted by phone.

Parent Phone Conference:

When the study is being conducted for an uncontested adoption, Dr. Baker will contact the biological parent by phone to verify his/her support of the adoption.

Report:

The home study information and recommendation will be provided in a written report issued by Dr. Baker. This report is comprehensive and in most aspects follows the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Guidelines for conducting a social study for adoption. The report is approximately 8-12 pages long.

Collateral Contacts:

Phone consultations with other professionals involved with the family – psychologists, psychiatrists, therapists, CPS investigators, medical doctors.

CPS Verified Background Check:

Parent must submit this form to The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. This should be submitted immediately. It can take months to receive results. The form is on our website listed as F-500-2970. The directions to complete this form are on the document itself.

Documents Needed:

- **Child's Final Report Card from previous school year**
- **Child's report cards from current year**
- **Three letters of reference (friend, family, work) with contact info.**
- **Child's Shot records**
- **Child's Medical Records for any major illnesses**
- **Copy of your most recent pay stub**
- **Resume or Vita**
- **List of residences for past 5 years**
- **List of employers for past 10 years with reasons for leaving**
- **Current Employer Supervisor Name and Phone Number**