



**Interviewing Considerations:**  
*From the Social Worker's Perspective*

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**Things That Need to Be Considered:**

- The Nature of the Investigation Itself
- The Context of the Interview Setting
- The Interviewing Approach of the Social Worker
- Developmental Issues of the Child



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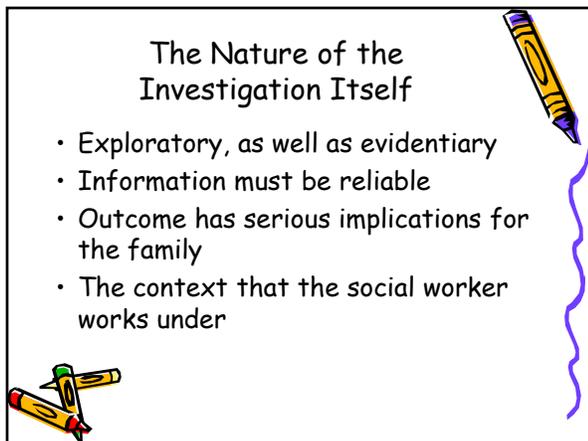
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**The Nature of the Investigation Itself**

- Exploratory, as well as evidentiary
- Information must be reliable
- Outcome has serious implications for the family
- The context that the social worker works under



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### The Context of the Interview Setting

- Create a context that optimizes child's concentration, memory, communication, motivation, relatedness & emotional regulation
- Child-centered
- Social Support



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### The Interviewing Approach of the Social Worker

- Rapport-Building
- Developmental Assessment
- Preparation & Instructions
- Direct vs. Open-ended Questions
- Flexibility & Following the Child's Lead
- Closure



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### Developmental Issues of the Child

- Age & Suggestibility
- Emotional State
- Cognitive Functioning
- Language Acquisition
- Overall Level of Functioning



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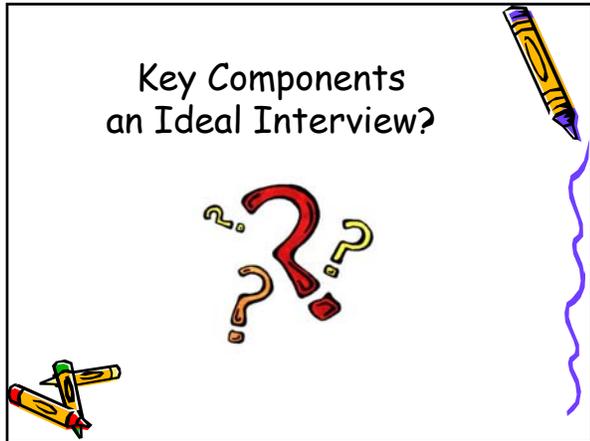
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**Key Components  
an Ideal Interview?**



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**References:**

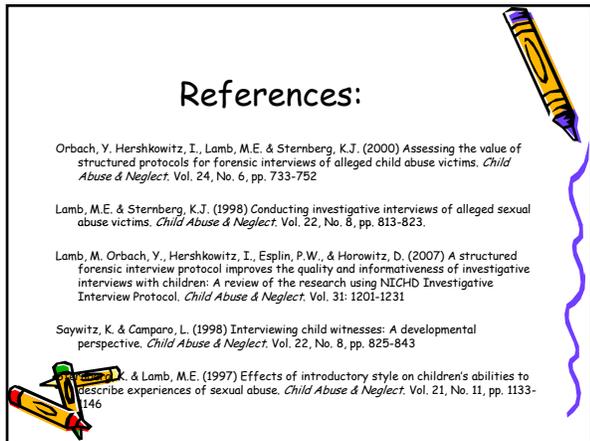
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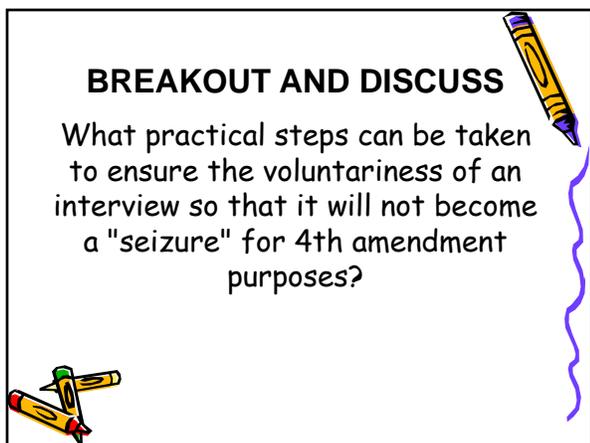
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**BREAKOUT AND DISCUSS**

What practical steps can be taken to ensure the voluntariness of an interview so that it will not become a "seizure" for 4th amendment purposes?



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