

### 5.14: FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT INTERVIEW: FAMILY VERSION

The following interview should be conducted with the student's family. The interview was adapted from the *Functional Analysis Interview Form* (O'Neill, Horner, Albin, Storey, & Sprague, 1990). The interview is designed to gather data from the family about the behavior identified as a problem at school, and about their concerns related to behavior outside of school. This instrument should be used as a guide only. Questions that are not relevant to a particular student should be skipped. Additional questions may be added.

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Student \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_

Respondent (s): \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to student \_\_\_\_\_

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1. What is your understanding of the behaviors that are a problem for your child at school?

2. Are these behaviors that are a problem at school happening at home or in other places?

3. Do you consider these behaviors that are a problem at school, to be a problem at home or in other settings?

4. Have you been concerned about these or other behaviors? (If there is more than one problem behavior, list the behaviors in the order of their significance to the **family**. Make sure that the behavior is defined in a way that can be observed and measured.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. When did the problem behavior (#1 on the list in item 8) begin?

6. How did you respond when the problem behavior first started?

7. What do you think causes or motivates the problem behavior?

8. When is the behavior most likely to occur?

9. How often does this behavior occur?

10. Are there times when this behavior rarely or never occurs? If yes, explain.

11. Are there times when this behavior almost always occurs? If yes, explain.

12. Does this behavior occur more often during certain times of the day? If yes, explain.

13. Is this behavior affected by how many people are around your child?

14. Does this behavior only occur when your child is with certain people?

15. Does this behavior only occur when your child is with certain people?

16. Does this behavior occur only during certain types of activities?

17. Could this behavior be related to something your child has difficulty doing or to skills he/she hasn't learned?

18. What is something your child likes so much it could be a reward?

19. Is your child taking any medications that might affect his/her behavior?

20. Could the behavior be related to being thirsty, hungry or tired?

21. Could this behavior be the result of any form of discomfort such as headaches, stomachaches, blurred vision, ear infections etc.?

22. Could this behavior be caused by allergies?

23. When the problem behavior occurs, are there any other behaviors that are likely to occur with it?

24. Are there any observable events (outside of school) that signal that the problem behavior is about to occur?

25. What usually happens after the problem behavior?

26. Is there anything else that we haven't already talked about, that you would like the school to know about your child or your child's behavior?

\* O'Neill, R.E.; Horner, R.H.; Albin, R.W.; Storey, K. and Sprague, J.R.. (1990)  
Functional analysis of problem behavior: A practical assessment guide. Sycamore Publishing, Sycamore, Il.