EARLY SEPARATION AND LOSS
AS CONTRIBUTING FACTORS IN HOMICIDE

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Early separation and loss issues have been well documented in literature as leading to depression. Early studies show anaclitic depression in infants resulting in physical deterioration, withdrawal, and death. Many studies in psychology as to the origin of aggressive and violent behavior concentrate on attachment theory. Some such studies identify early interpersonal relationships involving intense, anxious, or even nonexistent (neglectful) patterns influencing personality development. This article reviews studies regarding early loss, as well as court testimony and case histories of homicidal behavior in individuals with a significant background of separation and loss.

THE LINK BETWEEN BORDERLINE PERSONALITY
DISORDER AND HOMICIDAL BEHAVIOR

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When someone is murdered, the first question asked is, why? This article will attempt to provide one possible explanation to that question. The authors will also discuss the impact that a defendant's borderline personality disorder has on legal issues such as criminal responsibility, legal strategy, sentencing and the attorney-client relationship.

INVESTIGATING SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGATIONS
IN CHILD CUSTODY CASES

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Most of the available research focusing on sexual abuse allegations in child custody cases was performed 10-20 years ago. The present study was conducted in an effort to offer updated findings specifically related to child custody practice involving sexual abuse allegations. A group of child custody evaluators (N=92) were surveyed about this topic using an Internet-based program. The following areas were explored: demographic characteristics of the alleged victim, perpetrator, and accuser; evaluation procedures and time spent; dealing with the alleged victim being concurrently in therapy; usefulness of different data sources; substantiation rate; and factors involved in non-substantiated cases. While most of the current findings were consistent with past research, the time spent on the evaluation and report was found to be much greater. In

addition, the average substantiation rate for these accusations was lower. Implications for practice are discussed, along with suggested strategies to minimize the risks involved in performing such evaluations.

USING ACID TO IMPROVE CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENTS WITH WRITTEN AND AUDIO STATEMENTS

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Investigators are continually faced with the task of detecting deception. Assessment Criteria Indicative of Deception (ACID) is a system of interviewing and credibility assessment that maximizes verbal cues to detect deception, and teaches content analysis that highlights attempts to withhold, distort, or manipulate information. The ACID technique has been successful in discriminating honest from deceptive statements when credibility determinations are made either by statistical methods or trained raters. Unfortunately, the training has required several hours and application has required the time-consuming process of transcription. The current study demonstrates the utility of ACID following a brief training, and compares the credibility ratings made from analysis of transcripts to the credibility ratings made from the analysis of audio recordings. Twenty-nine university undergraduate and graduate students read or listened to a series of eight transcripts. Raters were provided with accounts before training and 4 accounts after training. Prior to training, raters performed at 55% accuracy. Following training, raters performed at 71% accuracy. Additionally, there was an untrained control group that performed at 53% accuracy. Of note, the post-training performance was identical for accounts presented in written and audio formats. In sum, the ACID technique was reliable, valid, easy to train, and showed that accurate decisions can be made from simple audio recordings.