

Arizona v. Calvin Client
Preliminary Risk and Protective Factor Assessment

U.S. Department of Justice - Government Data

Risk Factors¹ for Delinquency and Violence;
and
Protective Factors² That Buffer Against the Risks.

Strongest Prevention of Youth Violence is Low Risk Factors; High Protective Factors

Of the approximately 70 categories (not including subcategories) of risk factors as delineated by the Department of Justice, based on the most preliminary of mitigation inquiry, Mr. Client was exposed to over 70% of the risk factors with positive details in 49 categories.

Of the approximately 13 categories (not including subcategories) of protective factors delineated by the Department of Justice, again based on our preliminary investigation, Mr. Client experienced only two intervening protections.

More time is needed to accurately and fully evaluate Mr. Client's exposure to risk factors and the potential protective factors. Compared to many children exposed to such a high number of risk factors, Mr. Client has done quite well in that he has not been involved in extreme first hand violence and, prior to the current arrest and, despite mental retardation, was able to successfully maintain employment.

¹ The United States Department of Justice has identified, in great detail, the potential risk factors contributing to youth violence in America. (See <http://www.usdoj.gov/youthviolence.htm>)

² The United States Department of Justice has also identified certain "protective factors" which buffer the risk of youth violence. (See <http://www.usdoj.gov/youthviolence.htm>)

Risk factors (Established by U.S. Department of Justice)	Mr. Client - Details
0 - 6 years old	
ethnicity	Mexican American
mother's age at birth	
neighborhood scene (violent, poor, ethnic mix)	Violent, impoverished, inadequate housing and social services.
perinatal difficulties	As yet unknown.
birth weight	As yet unknown
physical abnormalities	Facial, high fever at one year, near death hospitalization
brain damage	possible
family history of criminal behavior	Yes.
family history of substance abuse	Yes.
family conflict	Yes.
parental attitudes to/involvement in crime/substance abuse	Multiple caregivers involved in criminal/drug activity.
child maltreatment	Yes.
parent-child separation	Absent father. Mother absent for prolonged periods while working and away from home. Mr. Client spent extended time periods with extended family members.
transitions/mobility	High. Yes - homeless, lived with relatives.
domestic violence (target, witness, multiple types of)	Yes.

Risk factors (Established by U.S. Department of Justice)	Mr. Client - Details
age 6 - adolescence	
extreme economic deprivation	Yes.
community disorganization	Yes.
neighborhood scene (violent, poor, ethnic mix)	Violent, poor, crime ridden, ethnically segregated.
transitions/mobility	Numerous moves, unstable living environments.
runaway from home	No.
access to firearms/weapons	Yes, through cousin Johnny.
media portrayals of violence	Yes.
family management problems	Yes.
family conflict	Yes.
parent-child separation	Yes.
parental attitudes to/involvement in crime/substance abuse	See above.
delinquent siblings	No.
early/persistent antisocial behavior	No.
academic failure/lack of commitment	Yes.
truancy	Yes.
school transitions	Yes, numerous.
drop out of school	Yes.
association with delinquent and violent peers	Yes.
gang membership	Yes.
peer rejection	Yes.
favorable attitude to delinquency/violence	No.
early initiation to violence	Yes - through family.
aggressiveness	No.
constitutional factors (intelligence, hyperactivity, ADD, ADHD)	Mental retardation, ADHD, OCD.
employment history	Yes.

Risk factors (Established by U.S. Department of Justice)	Mr. Client - Details
other factors	
poverty	Yes.
gender issues	Unknown.
resiliency	Need more information.
bonding to + role models	Poor bonding, no stable, positive adult male role models.
healthy beliefs/clear standards	Unknown.
early interventions	Unknown.
sexual abuse	Unknown. Increased likelihood.
physical abuse	Yes.
psychological abuse	Yes.
childhood neglect	Yes.
genetic factors	Yes. Genetic factors for alcoholism.
neurological/physical factors	Unknown.
harsh/negative environments	Yes.
troubled relationships	Yes.
community disorganization(drug traffic, crime, gangs, housing)	Yes.
neighborhood scene (violent, poor, ethnic mix)	Violence, impoverished.
availability of drugs/firearms	Drugs - yes. Firearms - yes.
violence/racial prejudice	Yes. Segregated neighborhood.
parental psychopathology	Unknown.
family size	Fair size extended family.
divorce/family structure	Multiple shifting relationships.
teenage parenthood/age of first childbearing	No.
large family size	Yes.
psychiatric/psychological disorder	Unknown.
multi-generational family distress	Yes.
alcoholism/substance abuse, dependence	Yes.
domestic violence	Yes.

Risk factors (Established by U.S. Department of Justice)	Mr. Client - Details
other factors - continued	
witnessing violence/sex/rape	Yes.
multiple concussions	Unknown. Likely.
teenage onset alcohol/drug dependence	No.
adoption/foster/alternate parenting	Brief stay in foster care.
employment history	Yes.

Protective factors to Buffer the Risks or Inhibit Violence and Delinquency (Established by U.S. Department of Justice)	Mr. Client - Details
Individual	
Female gender	No.
Intelligence [Opportunity to learn?]	Impaired.
Positive Social Orientation	Impaired.
Resilient Temperament [Learned from family?]	Unknown.
Social	
Bonding to Positive Role Models	No.
Family members	Yes.
Teachers	Unknown.
Coaches	None known.
Youth leaders	None known.
Friends	Changes over time. Sequestered by Mom when young.
Other	
Health beliefs and clear standards for behavior which promote nonviolence and absence of drugs or alcohol	Unknown.
Intervention	
Effective early intervention	None known.

Individual Factors:

- ▶ Hyperactivity
- ▶ Concentration problems
- ▶ Aggressiveness
- ▶ Poor cognitive development
- ▶ Early initiation of violent behavior
- ▶ Involvement in other forms of anti-social behavior
- ▶ Beliefs and attitudes favorable to deviant or antisocial behavior

Family Factors:

- ▶ Parental criminality
- ▶ Child maltreatment
- ▶ Poor family management treatment
- ▶ Low levels of parental involvement
- ▶ Poor family bonding and family conflict
- ▶ Residential mobility
- ▶ Parental attitudes favorable to violence and substance abuse
- ▶ Parent-child separation
- ▶ Divorce
- ▶ Large family size
- ▶ Parent Psycho-pathology

School Factors:

- ▶ Academic failure
- ▶ Low bonding to school
- ▶ Truancy and dropping out of school
- ▶ Frequent school transitions
- ▶ High delinquency rate schools

Peer-Related Factors:

- ▶ Delinquent siblings
- ▶ Delinquent peers
- ▶ Gang membership
- ▶ Peer rejection

Community and Neighborhood Factors

- ▶ Poverty
- ▶ Community disorganization (crime, drug-selling, gang, poor housing)
- ▶ Availability of drugs and firearms
- ▶ Neighborhood adults involved in crime
- ▶ Exposure to violence and racial prejudice

The foregoing DOJ material is aligned with a defense presentation that the hallmark conditions for becoming a competent adult include security, safety, and stability and these conditions are often corrupted by the situations and events outlined below. We have evidence that many of the following situations and events existed in and influenced Mr. Client's life.

Neglect
Abuse
Mental Illness
Marital Conflict
Domestic Violence
Emotional Neglect
Chaos
Disruptive Attachments
Peer Isolation
Rejection
Extreme Poverty
Corruptive Community/Family Influences
Sexual Trauma
History of Multi-generational Mental Illness
Compromised Intellectual and Adaptive Functioning
Brain Damage