### Increase Evaluator Competence, Avoid Preventable Errors, and Reduce Bias: To Decision Tree or Not?

Symposium on psychological expertise and psychosocial in family matters

Leslie M. Drozd, PhD

leslie@lesliedrozdphd.com



Présenté par la Chaire d'excellence en enseignement UQTR sur l'expertise psychologique et psychosociale en matière familiale

Les 9 et 10 février 2024

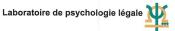
#### Événement tenu en comodalité

à l'Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec à Montréal et en ligne

Pour toute question : chaire.expertise.psy@uqtr.ca



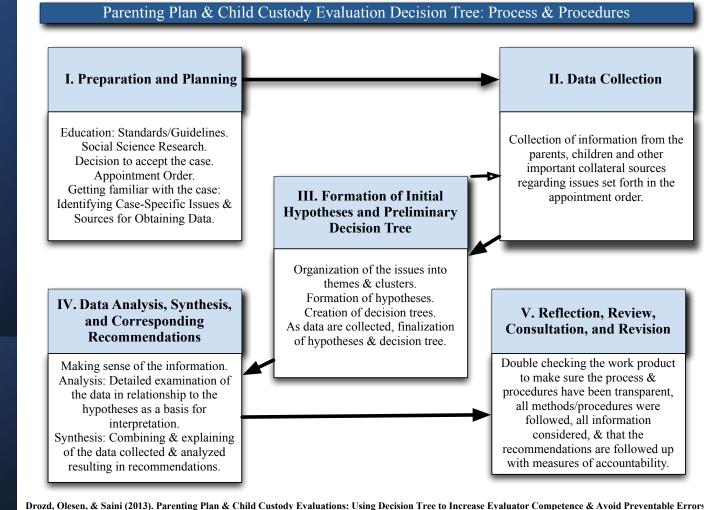






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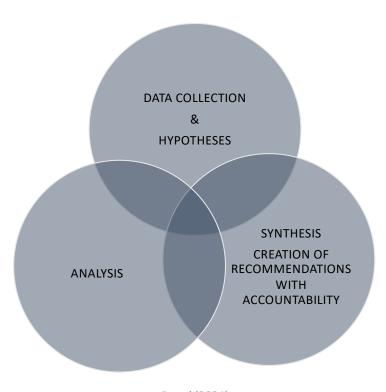
# Parenting Plan & Child Custody Evaluation Decision Tree: Process & Procedures

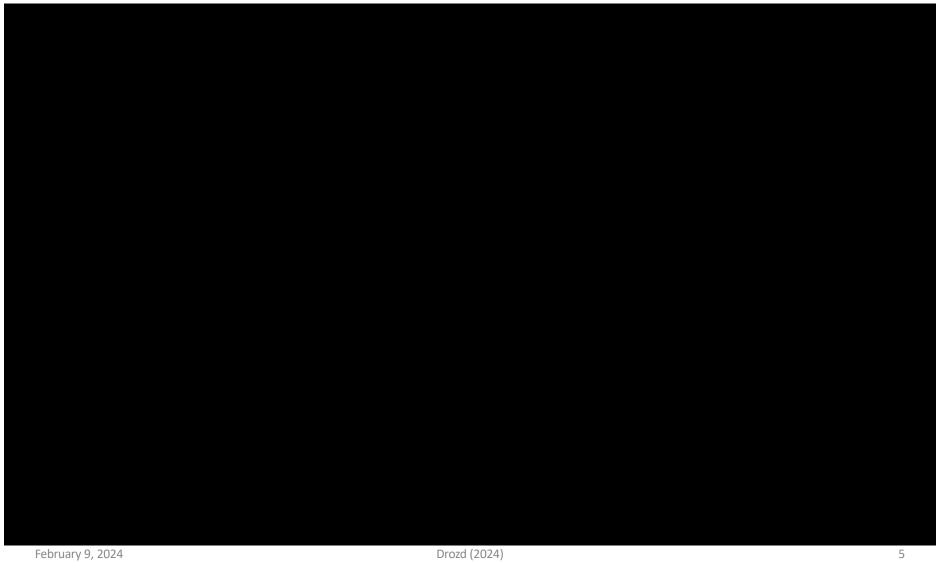


leslie@lesliedrozdphd.com OlesenPhD@aol.com michael.saini@utoronto.ca

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### Keep them separate





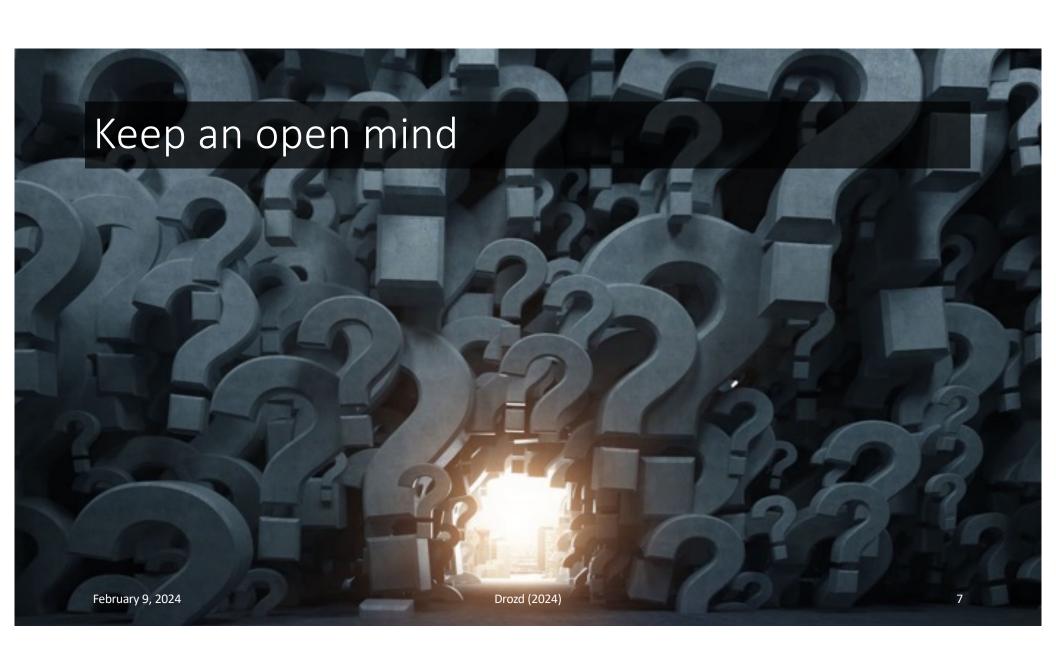
### STOP!

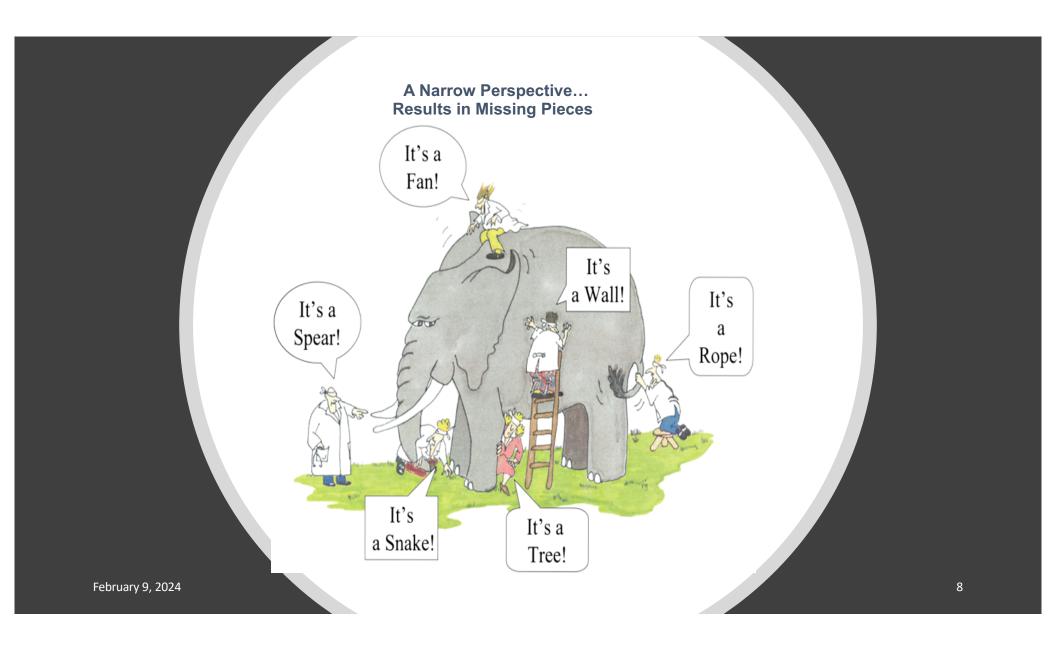
Don't miss anything..... whether large or small, clearly visible or hidden.....

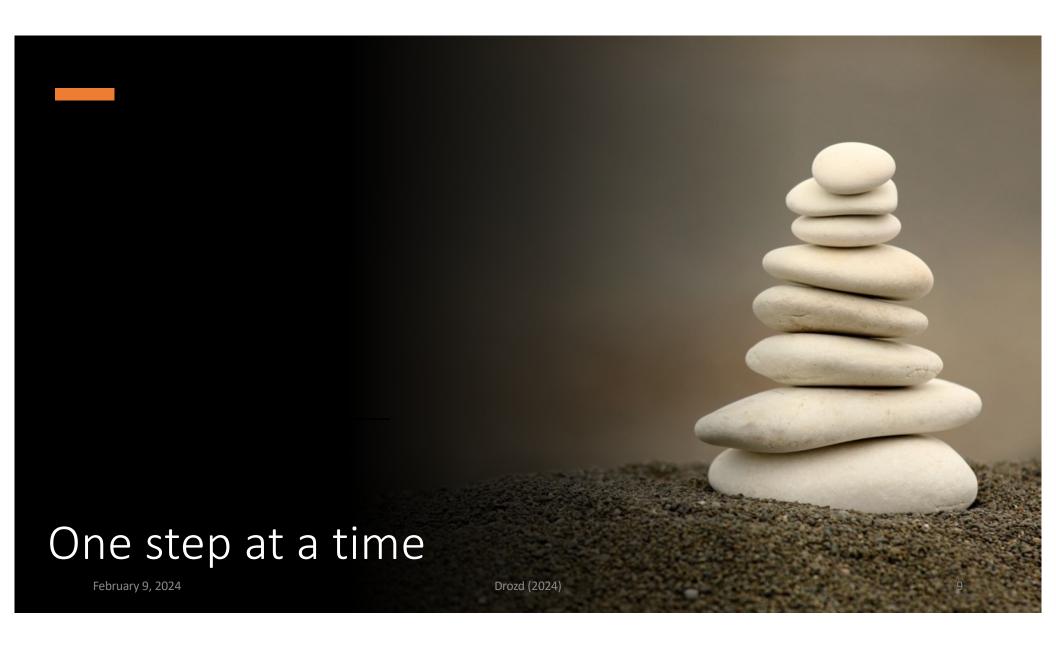
AND Question everything.....

AND Consider everything with an inquisitory & open mind









What is the optimal parenting time that the Child\*should spend with each parent?

Optimal
Parenting
Time
Decision
Tree

Safety Issues

Children's Strengths & Weaknesses

Children's Relationships Parent A's & Parent B's Mental Stability & Parenting Capacity

Parent A's & Parent B's Relationship

Logistics

Intimate Partner Violence

Child Abuse & Neglect: Physical, Sexual Psychological

Substance Misuse and Abuse

Adjustment and Resiliency

Children's Temperament

Children's Perspective and Wishes

Age and Stage of Development

Children's relationships historically

Children's current relationship with each parent

Sibling relationships

Children's relationship with extended family

Children's relationship with peer networks

Mental stability

Parenting capacity
Attunement

Nurturance
Protection
Teaching
Promoting children's
separate and unique
needs

Parenting problems

Hyper-vigilant Intrusive Too lax / too rigid Self-centered Enmeshed Communication

Gatekeeping
Adaptive /
Maladaptive
Facilitative /
Restrictive /
Protective

Supports the other parent's autonomy as a parent

Distance / time between homes

Proximity of children's social/ educational networks

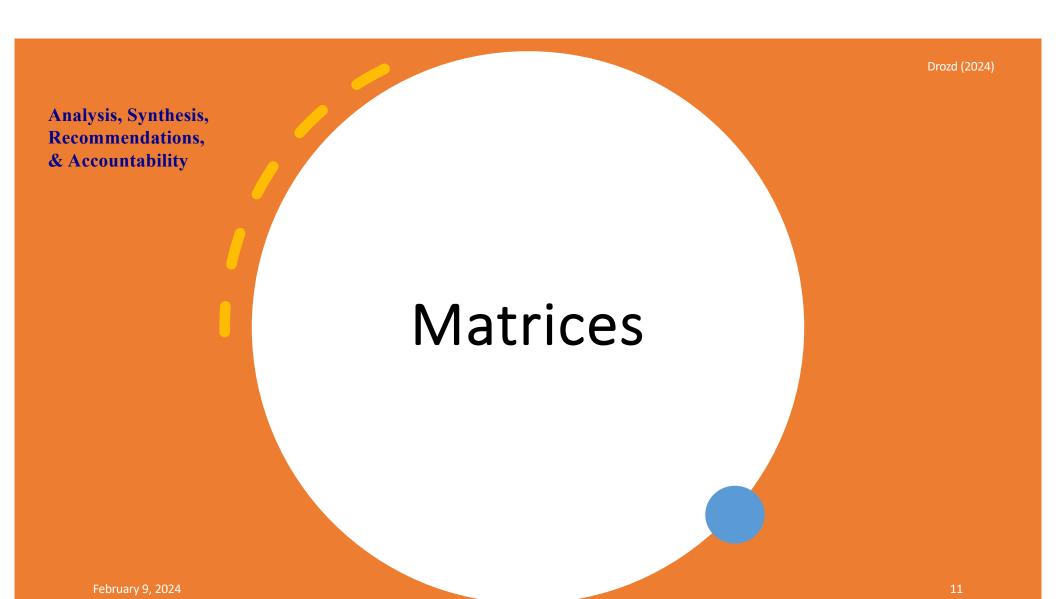
Degree of synchronicity of parents' calendars

Religious and holiday schedule

**Exchanges** 

Transition of children's items

Optimal Parenting Time Decision Tree Based Upon Shared Parenting Mega-Analysis, AFCC, Toronto Leslie M. Drozd, Ph.D., Nancy W. Olesen, Ph.D., & Michael Saini, MSW, Ph.D. (2014) leslie@lesliedrozdphd.comcom; nancywolesen@gmail.com; michael.saini@utoronto.ca



### Data Collection

Leslie M. Drozd, Ph.D., Nancy W. Olesen, Ph.D., & Michael Saini, MSW, Ph.D.(2013)

Parenting Plan & Child CustodyEvaluations: Using Decision Trees to Prevent Evaluator Bias and Increase Evaluator Competence

Custody Evaluation Assessment Matrix I

Source of Concern	Mother's Information	Father's Information	Child 's Information	Collateral Information	Evaluator Observations		
Intimate Partner or Domestic Violence							
Child Abuse/Maltreatm	ent and/or neglect						
Cilità Musc/Maitreath	ient and/or negreet	T					
6.1.4.41							
Substance Abuse		T			1		
				1			
Mental health					T.		
Child's adjustment							
Child's preferences							
Parenting Competency							
Co-Parenting Capacity							
Relocation	•	<u> </u>	•	•	•		
Other Issues Relevant t	Other Issues Relevant to Situation						
	+		+	1			
	1	1	1	1	1		

## Analysis

Parenting Plan Evaluation Matrix II: Analysis							
Source of Concern	Summary of Information	Analysis of Information: Reliability & Validity	Inferences: Safety, Access, Transitions, Decision-Making				
Intimate Partner or Domestic violence							
Child Abuse/Maltreatment and/or Neglect							
Substance Abuse							
Mental Health							
Parenting Competenc	у		_				
Co-parenting Capacit	y		_				
Relocation							
Other Issues							

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### • Synthesis:

#### • Creation of Recommendations

Data Matrix III: Analysis, Synthesis, Recommendations, & Accountability

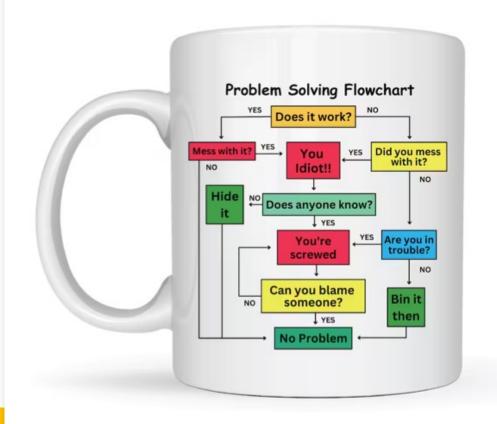
The state of the s	111111 20 1112		
Themes	Additive? Synergistic?	Parenting Plan Implications and	Accountability
(Level II Inferences: Analysis)	Antagonistic?	Recommendations	
[List Hypotheses under each	Direction?	(Level IV Inferences: Synthesis)	
theme.]	(Level III Inferences: Analysis)		
			<u>.</u>
Safety			
Child's Issues			
Child's Issues		T	
Parent's Issues			
Children's preferences			
Parenting Competency		T	
Co-parenting Capacity			
Co-parenting Capacity		I	
Gatekeeping			
Оанскосринд		1	
Relocation			
Etc.	•		
<u> </u>			
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### What's Your Way?

- Know yourself well enough to create your own way & your own process to.....
- Increase Evaluator
   Competence, Avoid
   Preventable Errors, and
   Reduce Bias



### **Contact Information**

Leslie M. Drozd, Ph.D. Seattle, Washington Email:

leslie@lesliedrozdphd.com



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