INTERVIEWING AND COUNSELING ADOLESCENT CLIENTS

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GENERAL TIPS FOR INTERVIEWING

1. Slow Down	2. Be aware of physical space	3 Think about opening and closing	4. Don't take It personally	5 . Provide information and expectations
6. Do not forget about "conditions" in out of home settings	7. Never make promises you cannot keep	8. Language matters: for everyone	9. Increase empowerment and control for youth	10. Building Trust and Rapport takes time, effort and patience

OVERVIEW: GOALS

- Contrast ineffective v. effective interviewing techniques
- Match interview style to developmental, mental health, and psychosocial characteristics of the client

SCENARIO 1

Your client, Sam is 13 years old, and charged with a felony for bringing a knife to school. He has been waiting with an adult male caregiver in the crowded hall of the juvenile courthouse since 8 a.m. It is now 11:30 and the court has advised you the case will be called shortly. You approach Sam and the adult male caregiver and advise Sam that the court wants to call his case so you need to speak to him quickly. You take Sam to the end of the hallway and begin the interview.

ISSUES WITH INTERVIEW 1

SCENARIO 2

- You bring Sam back to the caregiver, and have the following conversation, in the hallway.

ISSUES WITH SCENARIO 2

“DO-OVER” OF INTERVIEWS 1 AND 2

SCENARIO 3 A: DISCUSSING THE CASE

- You are in the process of interviewing Alisa, a 16-year-old African American teen, who is currently detained and charged with a felony for assaulting another youth in a group home. Staff at the group home have identified the client as having Conduct Disorder—Adolescent Onset and ADHD. You have already introduced yourself and explained your role and confidentiality. You are now discussing the facts of the case. The interview is taking place on the unit, in the dayroom but in an office that is glassed in.

ISSUES WITH SCENARIO 3A

SCENARIO 3B: DETENTION

- You have discussed the facts with Alisa – now you are discussing detention

ISSUES WITH SCENARIO 3B

SCENARIO 4 : FOLLOW-UP INTERVIEW IN JUVENILE HALL

- You did not get to see Alisa in juvenile hall on Tuesday. You do make it out on Friday morning. The purpose of this interview is to check in and gather collateral information for the next court date.

ISSUES WITH SCENARIO 4

TAKE HOME: EMBRACE THESE GENERAL TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE INTERVIEWING

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6. Do not forget about "conditions" in out of home settings	7. Never make promises you cannot keep	8. Language matters: for everyone	9. Increase empowerment and control for youth	10. Building Trust and Rapport takes time, effort and patience