



Parent-child relationship

Engagement questions to help mothers feel connected to their child and promote confidence and a positive relationship

How would you describe your relationship with your child?
How do you think your child would describe their relationship with you?
What is important to you as a mother?
What kind of relationship do you hope for with your children?
What would you like your children you learn from you?
How do you hope your children remember you when they look back on this time?

Exploring with mothers the impacts of FDV on children

What is important to you in your relationship with your children?
How has their father's use of violence undermined your relationship with your children?
What have you found helpful in trying to limit the effects of his use of violence on your relationship with your children?
How have you and your children managed to have a relationship despite the violence?
How would you like to continue to nurture your relationship with your child?



Emotions and behaviours

Engagement questions to help mothers understand and respond to their child's behaviour and develop language for emotions with them

Could you tell me a bit about your child?
What do they enjoy doing?
What are they good at?
What is it you appreciate about your child?
What happens for your child when they're upset?
What is it you find a bit challenging about them but still appreciate?

Exploring with mothers the impact FDV on children

How do your children show you that they are worried about their own or your safety?
What have you noticed about how the children's emotions and behaviours are immediately affected by an incident of violence?
How do you think the children's overall emotions and behaviours have changed as a result of living with the violence?
What have you found helpful in responding to your children when you see they are affected in that way?
How would you like to continue to respond to your children? What would help you to do that?



Routines

Engagement questions to highlight/encourage the development of routines and rituals in children's lives

Exploring with mothers the impact FDV on children

What activities do you enjoy doing together?	How has their father's use of violence affected these routines and activities?
When do you find it the best time or days to do things with your child?	How have you managed to preserve these routines and activities, despite the violence?
What does your regular week look like with your child?	How have the children tried to preserve their favourite routines and activities with you?
What kinds of routines or regular family rituals do you have?	What might be helpful to you in maintaining your children's routines and activities into the future?
How does your child go with managing daily routines like doing homework, going to bed or getting organised for school or sport?	
Do you have any small traditions in your family that you try to maintain?	



Communication (and meaning making)

Engagement questions to support mothers in understanding the impact of adult issues on their child

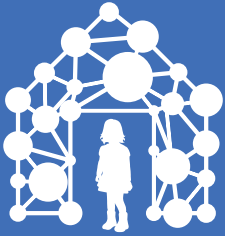
Exploring with mothers the impact FDV on children

What opportunities do you get to spend time talking with your child?	How do you think your children make sense of their father's use of violence?
What are the best times for you and your child to talk about things?	What sorts of conversations have you had with your children about the violence?
Are there particular activities they like to do that helps them to talk?	To what extent do you think your children might feel as though they are to blame for their father's use of violence?
What do they like to talk about?	Are there conversations you have had which have helped the children understand that the violence is not their fault in any way?
What are some things your child says or does to help you understand what they need?	How could you continue to support your children to communicate with you about what's happening for them into the future?

Engagement questions to support mothers to develop a consistent and positive support network for their child

Exploring with mothers the impact FDV on children

Who does your child enjoy spending time with outside of immediate family?	How has their father's use of violence limited or undermined your children's social and support networks?
Who supports you as a family?	How have you enabled your children to continue to stay connected to significant relationships and networks despite this violence?
Who would also appreciate the same things about your child as you?	What do you think is going to help maintain your children's support networks into the future?
Does your child have any close friends or a group of friends?	
As their parent, what's it's like for you to know your child has these friendships/relationships? How come?	
Are there things you do to support your child's friendships in any way?	



Support networks for the child

Delivery partners:



The National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health under the National Support for Child and Youth Mental Health Program

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