



## Cracking the Code: Understanding Motives of those Who Perpetrate Domestic and Family Violence and the Connection to Risk and Lethality

**Date:** Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023\*

**Time & Place:** 9:00am to 4:00pm AEDT, **ONLINE**

\*A recording will be available to registrants through to 23/11/23 (30 days).  
Completion certificates are available only for those attending on the day.

**\$49.95 USD**

[Register Here](#)

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### About the Workshop

This 6-hour presentation “cracks the code” on domestic and family violence perpetrator behaviour, presenting an evidence- informed understanding of their differences based on motive. This is ideal for perpetrator intervention professionals, advocates, child safety case managers, therapists, magistrates, lawyers and other professionals working with domestic violence concerns. Those with different motives display different behaviours and present different dangers to their victims and children. Through the use of videos and case examples, this information unlocks a deeper and more nuanced understanding of domestic violence, and provides practical information that can improve safety planning with victims and children, and intervention efforts with persons using violence.



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### About the Presenters

**Dorthy Stucky Halley, LMSW, and Steven M.S. Halley, LCSW** are co-founders and co-directors of the Family Peace Initiative. Steve and Dorthy have been visionary in the development of an evidence-informed motive typology conceived from victims’ voices, and a trauma-focused approach for intervening with persons using violence. They are internationally recognized for their expertise and engaging presentations that bring new understanding for effective response to domestic violence. Complete bios can be found at [familypeaceinitiative.com](http://familypeaceinitiative.com)

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### What Others are saying about *Cracking the Code*

*“Thank you for this highly relevant presentation. Even though I thought that I already had a good understanding of violence, this presentation was full of insightful information I was not aware of.”*

*“This was one of the best trainings I have had on Domestic Violence ever.”*

*“After this training, I definitely feel I will listen with new ‘ears’ the next time I am with someone completing a BIP Assessment.”*

*Compassion • Integrity • Expertise*

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## More about *Cracking the Code*

**Objectives:** The participant will learn to:

- Identify the different motive types of domestic and family violence perpetrators.
- Identify the different risks and lethality factors linked with the different motive types.
- Understand the link between different motives and effective response and programming.
- Identify the different impacts on children related to the different motives.
- Apply the “Motivation Questionnaire Checklist” to specific cases to enhance professional response

**Appropriate Audience Level:** Introductory, Intermediate, and Advanced can all benefit from this presentation.

## Additional Information for Child Safety Workers

The recent Australian study on child maltreatment found that *exposure to domestic violence was the most prevalent individual maltreatment type*.<sup>\*</sup> Understanding the differences in motives of the family violence perpetrator provides the contextual framework in which the violence occurs, and improves the child safety worker’s understanding of the experiences any given child may have had, their related risks, and things that must be considered in safety planning.

The risks for a child to be victimized or observe domestic violence can be profoundly different, dependent on motive. Each of these motive types will be explained, with a focus on child safety and well-being. Workers will apply the “Motivation Questionnaire Checklist” to specific cases to enhance their professional response. This presentation will use case examples to examine not only the impact on the victim, but on children living in that environment. The following chart provides an overview of the different motives and the different messages received by children.

**Motive of Domestic and Family Violence Perpetrators  
and Their Different Messages to Children**

Motive	Value	Message to Child
Entitlement-Based	Authority	Until you are top dog, you are nothing.
Materially-Motivated	Material Assets and Authority	You are both a bother and a financial drain; (or) You are a financial opportunity.
Survival-Based Type I	Relationship	You don’t matter. I need my partner.
Survival-Based Type II	Personal Status	You are my show object. Be perfect.
Sadistic-Based	Pleasure of Hurting, Total Control, and Fooling Others	You are my object to play with and torture; (or) You will never know.

<sup>\*</sup>Matthews, B., Coordinating Author (3, April, 2023) The Australian Child Maltreatment Study: National prevalence and associated health outcomes of child abuse and neglect, *Medical Journal of Australia*, Supplement Vol 218, No. 6.