

1) Inability to meet basic needs (no access to food, clothing, no access to any form of transportation)

Definitions: *“Inability”* means not knowing how, where or from whom to obtain basic needs. *“Basic needs”* means access to food, access to clothing and access to transportation.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they do not know where or how to get food or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they do not know where or how to get clothing or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they do not have a car, someone who could transport them, and if they do not have access to a bus.

2) Inadequate income and/or housing

Definitions: *“Inadequate income”* means financial difficulty. *“Inadequate housing”* means being in a temporary living situation (family, friend or relative). *“Inadequate housing”* can also mean unsafe or too crowded housing.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state that they are having a hard time paying bills (score based on the parent’s perception of their finances) or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they are living in a shelter or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they are temporarily living with a friend, family member or relative because they have no other choice or due to a lack of resources;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they feel that their housing is unsafe due to the conditions of their home or neighborhood (score based on the parent’s perception of their housing) or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they feel their home is too crowded (score based on the parent’s perception of their housing).

3) Social Isolation (1. No one to call in an emergency and no plan in place, 2. No involvement with social service agencies, 3. No access to a phone, 4. Inability to communicate within the community)

Definitions: “*Social isolation*” means no one to call in an emergency and no plan in place, no involvement with social service agencies, no access to a phone, or inability to communicate within the community. Two or more of the above definitions must be met in order to score.

Scoring Guidelines:

ONLY score MOB and/or SO if they have two or more of the four items below:

- MOB and/or SO do not know how they would handle an emergency situation and/or how they would get to a telephone;
- MOB and/or SO feel they have a need for involvement with social service agencies such as WIC, Medicaid, TANF, food stamps, etc. and they are presently uninvolved. Do not score if MOB and/or SO consciously choose not to be involved;
- MOB and/or SO do not have 24-hour access to a telephone in an emergency situation;
- MOB and/or SO do not have the ability to communicate within their community in order to meet their needs due to the inability to read, the inability to speak English in a primarily English-speaking community, being deaf or some other communication barrier.

4) Witness to domestic violence during childhood/adolescence

Definitions: “*Witness*” means seeing or hearing. “*Domestic violence*” for this item ONLY means family violence. “*Family violence*” means a pattern of behavior used by family or household members to establish power and control against their family or household members. “*Family violence*” may include physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse and economic abuse. It may also include threats, isolation, pet abuse, using children and a variety of other behaviors used to maintain fear, intimidation and power over a family or household member.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state that they witnessed their caregiver being abused during childhood/adolescence or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they state that they witnessed their family or household member being abused by their parent, caregiver, household or family member.

5) Instability of care during childhood

Definitions: “*Instability of care*” means MOB and/or SO perceive and/or state their childhood was unstable. “*Instability of care*” can also mean having been raised by multiple caregivers, including multiple foster homes and MOB and/or SO perceived it as a problem.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they perceive and/or state that their childhood was unstable because of feeling unloved, moving often, or running away, etc. or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they had three or more caregivers or foster homes during childhood and felt this was a problem.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB on item # 7 for “feeling unloved” if scored under # 5 for “feeling unloved.”**

6) Raised by an alcoholic, drug-addicted or mentally unstable caregiver

Definitions: “*Alcoholic*” and “*Drug-addicted*” means a caregiver is physically or psychologically dependent on alcohol or drugs and the alcohol or drugs interfere with his/her health, daily living and/or ability to parent. “*Mentally unstable*” means a caregiver’s ability to parent and/or his/her daily living is affected due to a mental illness.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state that during their childhood and/or adolescence their parent or primary caregiver was an alcoholic, drug-addicted or was mentally unstable.
- Score MOB and/or SO if the description of their caregiver’s behavior indicates that they were an alcoholic, drug-addicted or were mentally unstable.

7) Verbalized experiencing abuse or neglect during childhood/adolescence

Definitions: “*Child abuse*” means the non-accidental infliction of physical or psychological/emotional injury or sexual abuse by a parent, household member or other person responsible for the care or supervision of the child. “*Child neglect*” means the failure/omission by a caretaker to provide the care, supervision, services or protection necessary to maintain the physical and mental well-being of the child. “*Child abuse and neglect*” can also mean any action that is described that would require someone to call the Department of Children and Families.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state that they were abused or neglected during childhood/adolescence.
- Score MOB and/or SO when abuse is not perceived as abuse because MOB and/or SO felt they “deserved it.” **FAW may have to make a judgment call or;**
- Score MOB and/or SO if they felt abused or neglected regardless of the discipline method used.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB and/or SO under # 7 if MOB and/or SO are already scored under # 5 for “feeling unloved.” If # 5 was scored, only score MOB and/or SO for # 7 if additional abuse and neglect is described.**

8) MOB and/or SO placed in protective care (i.e. with relative or state)

Definitions: “*Protective care*” means measures were taken to ensure that children were removed from their homes and placed either temporarily or on a long-term basis with relatives, non-relatives or in substitute care.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they were removed from their homes by child protective services due to their parent’s/caregiver’s inability to care for them, abuse or neglect or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they were voluntarily given up by their parent or caregiver due to abuse or neglect or their parent’s inability to care for them as a child with or without child protective services involvement.

9) Current mental illness requiring treatment or hospitalization

Definitions: “*Current*” means within the last 12 months. A “*mental illness*” is defined as a disorder of the brain that results in a disruption in a person's thinking, feeling, moods, and ability to relate to others, work and to parent. “*Mental illnesses*” may include, but is not limited to, depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, anxiety disorders, autism, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder and personality disorders. “*Treatment*” can include medication prescribed by a professional, electric shock therapy, counseling, group therapy, institutionalization, etc.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they have had a mental illness or diagnosis within the last twelve months or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they state that a professional such as a counselor, doctor, midwife or psychiatrist has provided/recommended treatment or hospitalization within the last twelve months or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they currently have a mental illness and have stopped taking their medication without the permission of the professional.

WARNING:

- **You can only score MOB and/or SO for stopping the use of their medication without the permission of a professional if this question is asked. Scoring is only supported if asked and documented.**
- **Do not score MOB under # 9 if symptoms of depression began since becoming pregnant. This would be scored under # 20.**

10) Active substance abuse in home environment by anyone other than MOB (within last 12 months or since becoming a parent)

Definitions: “*Active*” means within the last twelve months or since becoming parent. “*Substance abuse*” means being under the influence of alcohol or drugs. “*Home environment*” means the primary residence or place of care of the children. “*Home environment*” can also mean exposure to the child. “*Anyone*” is defined as any individual who lives in the home or has regular contact with the children or caregiver, including SO.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB for having substance abuse in the home environment if anyone in the household other than MOB is under the influence of alcohol or drugs or;
- Score MOB if the children are around SO or anyone else who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs or;
- Score SO if he is under the influence of alcohol or drugs while in the home environment or around the children.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB if she is the one abusing substances. If MOB is abusing substances, score under # 18.**
- **If MOB/SO is a minor, avoid double-scoring. Do not score MOB/SO if she is around a parent or drug-addicted caregiver scored under #6.**

11) Verbalized suicide ideation and/or attempted suicide (within the last two years or since becoming a parent)

Definitions: “*Suicide ideation*” means thinking about "giving up" on life, taking one’s own life, and thinking about killing oneself. “*Attempted suicide*” means any action taken with the goal of ending one’s own life.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state that they have contemplated or have attempted taking their own life within the last two years or since becoming a parent.

12) History of mental illness or substance abuse requiring treatment or hospitalization

Definitions: “*History*” means more than twelve months ago or prior to becoming pregnant. A “*mental illness*” is defined as a disorder of the brain that results in a disruption in a person's thinking, feeling, moods, and ability to relate to others, work and to parent. “*Mental illnesses*” may include, but is not limited to, depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, anxiety disorders, autism, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder and personality disorders. “*Substance abuse*” means being under the influence of alcohol or drugs. “*Treatment*” can include attendance at AA, NA, counseling, detox, etc.

* **NOTE:** *Although autism is classified as a mental illness in the DIAGNOSTIC AND STATISTICAL MANUAL OF MENTAL DISORDERS – FOURTH EDITION (DSM IV); it has also been listed as one of five specific developmental disabilities in Florida Statute 393 and is recognized as such by Florida's Agency for Persons with Disabilities.*

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB if she states that she received treatment or was hospitalized for mental illness more than twelve months ago.
- Score MOB if she states she received treatment for substance abuse prior to becoming pregnant.
- Score SO if he received treatment or was hospitalized for mental illness or substance abuse more than twelve months ago.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB and/or SO here if it is an ongoing problem for mental illness. This would be scored under # 9.**

13) History of alcohol/substance abuse that didn't result in treatment or hospitalization

Definitions: “*History*” means more than twelve months ago or prior to becoming pregnant. “*Substance abuse*” means being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they had a history of alcohol/substance abuse that did not result in treatment or hospitalization more than twelve months ago or prior to becoming pregnant.

14) MOB and/or SO has committed violence against another person

Definitions: “*Violence against another*” means MOB and/or SO engaged in any physical action or behavior against any individual other than a partner.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they have, in the last year, engaged in more than one violent act or violent crime against another person even if they did not initiate it, regardless of whether the police were involved or not. or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they have, in their lifetime, engaged in three or more violent acts or violent crimes against another person even if they did not initiate it, regardless of whether the police were involved or not. or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they have initiated any violent act or violent crime against another person with intent to harm them, regardless of whether the police were involved or not.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB and/or SO here if the violent act/crime was domestic violence. This is scored under # 24 or # 25.**

15) MOB and/or SO repeated three or more victimless crimes (arrested and/or convicted for theft, possession, vandalism, etc.) or any one of the following: DUI, drug dealing or prostitution charge or currently involved in the criminal justice system

Definitions: “*Victimless crimes*” means an individual has been arrested and/or convicted for theft, possession, vandalism, etc. “*Currently involved in the criminal justice system*” means an individual is in jail, on probation, on parole, out on bail, doing community service, etc. at the time of assessment.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they are currently involved in the criminal justice system (in jail, on probation, on parole, out on bail, doing community service, etc.) or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they have ever been charged with DUI, drug dealing or prostitution even if it was one time or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they have committed three or more victimless crimes (theft, possession, vandalism, etc).

16) Late prenatal care (12 weeks or later)

Definitions: “*Late*” means twelve weeks or later. “*Prenatal care*” means health care during pregnancy before the baby is born.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB if she started prenatal care at twelve weeks or later unless she specifically states that she attempted prenatal care before twelve weeks and was unable to receive a visit due to Medicaid policies and/or provider availability.

WARNING:

- **Do not score SO.**
- **Avoid double-scoring MOB on # 16 & # 17. If MOB is scored on # 17, do not score # 16.**

17) Little or no prenatal care (less than 5 visits) or poor compliance with treatment or medication

Definitions: “*Little or no prenatal care*” means less than five prenatal visits completed before birth of the baby (postnatal assessment). “*Little or no prenatal care*” also means the inability to complete at least 5 prenatal visits prior to the birth of the baby. “*Poor compliance*” means not following recommendations made by a professional regarding care that should be taken while pregnant. Examples of recommendations made by professionals may include, but are not limited to, bed rest and following healthy diet due to gestational diabetes.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB if she received less than five prenatal visits before the birth of the baby, or;
- Score MOB if she will not be able to complete at least five prenatal visits prior to the birth of her baby or;
- Score MOB if she does not comply with treatment or medication prescribed by a professional regarding her pregnancy.

WARNING:

- **Do not score SO.**
- **Avoid double-scoring MOB on # 16 & # 17. If MOB is scored on # 17, do not score # 16.**

18) Upon knowledge of pregnancy, continued use of alcohol (drinking) or drugs and/or baby/mother has positive drug screen

Definitions: “*Use of alcohol or drugs*” means engaging in or consuming alcohol and/or drugs.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB if she continued to use alcohol and/or drugs after she found out she was pregnant or;
- Score MOB if she had a positive drug screen or;
- Score MOB if she started drinking alcohol or using drugs during pregnancy.

WARNING:

- Do not score SO.
- Avoid double-scoring. CANNOT score # 18 and # 23 at the same time.
- Do not include the use of tobacco. See # 19.

19) Upon knowledge of pregnancy, continued smoking/use of tobacco

Definitions: “*Smoking*” means the use of tobacco products.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB if she continued to smoke/use tobacco after she found out she was pregnant or;
- Score MOB is she started to smoke/use tobacco after she found out she was pregnant.

WARNING:

- Do not score SO.

20) Current maternal depression

Definitions: “*Depression*” means a disorder that affects the way a person eats and sleeps, feels about themselves, and the way the person thinks about things.

“*Depression*” can include irregular appetite, sleep disturbances, anxiety, irritability and/or moodiness.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB if she states she is depressed or;
- Score MOB if she indicates she is experiencing irregular appetite, sleep disturbances, anxiety, irritability and/or moodiness since becoming pregnant.

WARNING:

- **Do not score SO.**
- **Do not score MOB if she is on her medication around the time of assessment.**
- **Do not score MOB if symptom free and/or on medication around the time of assessment.**
- **This is not a clinical diagnosis.**

21) No medical home for child or children

Definitions: “*Medical home*” means a doctor, pediatrician, medical provider such as health department where a continuum of care is provided. Emergency rooms and hospital outpatient are not considered “medical homes.”

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if MOB is nine months pregnant and they do not have a medical home chosen for their baby’s follow up care or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they have had their baby and they have not chosen a medical home for their baby or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they have older children that do not have a medical home for follow up care.

22) Child or other family members or caregivers in home with special needs (developmental, physical or medical disabilities or behavioral, learning disorder)

Definitions: “*Special needs*” means the MOB, the SO, the child, a family member or caregiver has a developmental, physical or medical disability or a behavioral learning disorder.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if there is a child in the home with special needs or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if there is a family member (other than children, MOB and/or SO) in the home with special needs and MOB and/or SO state that the **situation is stressful** or;
- Score MOB if she has a special need or;
- Score SO if he has a special need.

23) Self-reported the use of drugs and/or alcohol during pregnancy prior to knowledge of pregnancy

Definitions: “*Self-reported*” means MOB stated that she used drugs or alcohol. “*Use of alcohol or drugs*” means engaging in or consuming alcohol and/or drugs.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score if MOB self-reports having used alcohol or drugs during pregnancy before she was aware that she was pregnant.

WARNING:

- **Do not score SO.**
- **Avoid double-scoring. CANNOT score # 18 and # 23 at the same time.**
- **Do not include the use of tobacco. See # 19.**

24) Currently (within the last 12 months) victim of domestic violence or other abuse

Definitions: “*Currently*” means within the past twelve months. “*Domestic violence*” means a pattern of behavior used by adults or adolescents to establish power and control against their intimate partners or former partners. “*Domestic violence*” may include physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, verbal abuse and economic abuse. It may also include threats, isolation, pet abuse, using children and a variety of other behaviors when used to maintain fear, intimidation and power over one's partner.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they were a victim of domestic violence by a current or previous partner within the last twelve months.

25) Past abusive relationships (not related to childhood)

Definitions: “*Past*” means more than twelve months ago. “*Abusive relationships*” means domestic violence.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they indicate they were a victim or aggressor of domestic violence with a current or previous partner more than twelve months ago.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB and/or SO here if the abuse relates to the parent's childhood.**

26) Limited contact with close friends and/or family

Definitions: “*Limited contact*” means an individual does not have ongoing emotional support or close friends and family.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they do not have at least one or more support system, friend or family member to turn to in times of stress.
- Score MOB and/or SO if their only support system is their intimate partner and domestic violence is present.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB and/or SO if their support system, friend or family is far away as long as they feel that they can reach out to them when needed.**

27) Expressed fear of violence in the home

Definitions: “*Fear of violence in the home*” means an individual feels afraid that violence is likely to occur in the home.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state that they feel afraid that violence is likely to occur in their home.

WARNING:

- **Do not score if violence has already occurred and you have scored # 24.**

28) Current physical response to anger (throw things, hit, punch, slap, etc)

Definitions: “*Current*” means within the past twelve months. “*Physical response to anger*” means any physical action or behavior an individual engages in when angry. “*Physical response to anger*” includes throwing things, hitting, punching, slapping, etc.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they indicate that they have thrown things, hit things, punched things or slapped things when angry within the last twelve months.

WARNING:

- Do not score MOB and/or SO for #28 if the violence is against another, this is scored under # 14.

29) Inappropriate coping mechanisms

Definitions: “*Inappropriate coping mechanisms*” means dealing with stressful situations in a way that could compromise the health and safety of the child(ren) had the child(ren) been present. Examples include: leaving children unattended, driving erratically, etc.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score if MOB and/or SO indicate that they deal with stressful situations in a way that could compromise the health and safety of the child(ren) had the child(ren) been present.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB and/or SO here for any items that have been scored elsewhere.**
- **Score only if the behavior would place a child in jeopardy.**

30) Negative verbalization about the baby (expressed disapproval, anger, hostility)

Definitions: “*Negative verbalization*” means an individual makes negative statements about the baby and/or pregnancy including expressing disapproval, anger regarding the baby and/or pregnancy or hostility towards the baby. “*Negative verbalization*” can also mean an abortion/adoption was sought or attempted.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they are presently angry or upset about the baby and/or pregnancy or;
- Score MOB if she states she considered having an abortion and/or giving her baby up for adoption even if she no longer feels that way or;
- Score MOB if she states she attempted to have an abortion and/or to give up her baby or;
- Score SO if he wanted MOB to get an abortion or;
- Score FOB if he feels the baby is not his child or;
- Score SO if he wanted MOB to give the baby up for adoption.

31) Verbalized unrealistic expectations about child developmental milestones, toilet training (before 18 months or older than five years) and/or walking (before nine months or older than 16 months)

Definitions: “*Verbalized unrealistic expectations*” means the individual provides rigid responses regarding child development that do not fit what is appropriate for a child’s developmental stage, particularly with regards to toilet training and walking. “*Rigid*” means the individual is firm and unbending on his/her response. There is no room for any other alternative or expectation.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they are rigid in their expectation about when they expect their child to be toilet trained, or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they are rigid in their expectation about when they expect their child to walk.

WARNING:

- **Do not score MOB and/or SO if they do not know about developmental milestones.**

32) Limited awareness of discipline options or leaves a crying child unchecked for longer than ten minutes

Definitions: “*Limited awareness of discipline options*” means an individual does not provide three different responses to disciplining a nine-month-old child when the same scenario is posed three times (refer to scenarios in training manual). “*Limited awareness of discipline options*” also means an individual does not provide three different responses to disciplining a two-year-old child when the same scenario is posed three times (refer to scenarios in training manual). Finally, “*Limited awareness of discipline options*” means an individual would spank a child as a first option when disciplining or use time-out inappropriately.

Scoring Guidelines:

Score this item by using the scenarios taught in FAW Core training.

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they would spank their two-year-old child as a first option to disciplining their child without describing any other techniques first or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they would spank their nine-month-old child as any option to disciplining their child or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they would leave a crying child less than three months of age unchecked for longer than 10 minutes or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they provide an inappropriate response to disciplining their child in relation to their child’s age. For example, score if they state that they would put a nine-month-old in time-out or keep a child in time-out longer than is appropriate for the age of the child or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they do not provide three different responses to disciplining a nine-month-old child when the same scenario is posed three times or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they do not provide three different responses to disciplining a two-year-old child when the same scenario is posed three times or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they would not do anything at all to discipline their child or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they will let the other parent/caregiver handle it.

33) Parent(s) verbalizes the need to physically punish a child one year of age or younger

Definitions: “*Physically punish*” means the individual states they would use some sort of physical action to discipline a child including tapping the child on the hand, swatting the child on the bottom, spanking, etc.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they would physically punish a child one year or younger.

34) Verbalized feelings of inadequacy about parenting or no positive statements

Definitions: “*Feelings of inadequacy about parenting*” means that an individual verbalizes that they do not feel they will succeed at parenting or feel hopeless about being a parent. “*No positive statements*” means that an individual does not verbalize any positive statements about the baby or about being a parent.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if, in response to questions about how they feel about the baby, their answers are ambiguous and/or indifferent or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they express concerns about their ability to be a good parent.

WARNING:

- **Do not score # 34 for “no positive statements” if # 30 is scored.**
- **Score # 30 and # 34 if the parent expresses concern about their ability to parent in addition to negative verbalizations.**

35) CPS report on parent(s) made (prior or present)

Definitions: “*CPS report made on parent (prior or present)*” means that an individual or agency has called the abuse hotline or CPS about MOB and/or SO in the past or present to report suspicion of abuse or neglect. “*Report made*” means all reports regardless of findings. “*CPS report made on parent*” can include the parent’s own children, children they supervised and/or worked with, relative’s children, friend’s children, etc.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state CPS was called on him/her in the past or present even if the report was not substantiated.

WARNING:

- **MOB and/or SO can be scored for # 35 and # 36 at the same time.**

36) Parent’s other children placed in protective care or termination of parental rights

Definitions: “*Placed in protective care*” means the Department of Children and Families took measures to ensure that children were removed from their home and placed either temporarily or on a long-term basis with relatives, non-relatives or in substitute care. “*Termination of parental rights*” means a court ended the legal parent-child relationship.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if any of their other children have ever been removed from their home by the Department of Children and Families due to their inability to care for them, abuse or neglect even if their children returned home or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if their parental rights have ever been legally terminated due to abuse or neglect or their inability to care for their child.

WARNING:

- **MOB and/or SO should be scored for # 35 if # 36 is scored.**

37) Less than a high school education and/or no GED

Definitions: “*Less than a high school education*” means that at the time of assessment an individual has not received a diploma that specifies they have successfully completed high school. “*No GED*” means that at the time of assessment, an individual has not successfully passed a series of tests through their state education system to qualify for a high school equivalency certificate.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they have not finished high school or are in the process of finishing high school or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they have not passed the GED or are in the process of taking their GED.

38) Parent is less than 18 years old

Definitions: “*Less than 18 years old*” means that at the time of assessment, an individual is 17 years of age or younger.

Scoring Guideline:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they are 17 years of age or younger even if their birthday is just around the corner. (Score based on their age at the time of assessment.)

39) Not legally married or separated

Definitions: “*Not legally married*” means that the couple is not married to each other through the courts or a church. “*Separated*” means that the couple is legally married, but they are currently separated, not living together or are seeking a divorce.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they are not married to each other at the time of assessment or;
- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they are married to each other, but separated.

40) Observed or parent verbalized a sense of hopelessness, victimization, being overwhelmed, etc.

Definitions: “*Observed*” means the FAW saw or heard something that made him/her sense that MOB and/or SO is feeling hopeless, victimized, is overwhelmed or is experiencing grief or loss to the point that it is affecting their ability to function. “*Parent verbalized*” means MOB and/or SO stated they feel hopeless, victimized, overwhelmed, grief or loss or have no goals and cannot imagine that things will ever improve.

Scoring Guidelines:

- Score MOB and/or SO if you observe or they verbalize a sense of hopelessness, victimization, or being overwhelmed.
- Score MOB and/or SO if they state they have no goals and it is affecting their ability to function.

WARNING:

- **Avoid double-scoring. This item is intended to be scored when other items on the tool do not capture what MOB and/or SO verbalized. It can also be used to capture any observations the FAW made that are not captured elsewhere on the HFFAT.**