

CASE NO

IN THE COURT

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHILDREN ACT 1989

BETWEEN:

Name of applicant Applicant

And

Name of first respondent 1st
Respondent

SECTION 37 REPORT PREPARED ON BEHALF
OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF WANDSWORTH

Name: (your name)
Address: (your work address)

This report has been prepared for the court and should be treated as confidential. It must not be shown nor its contents revealed to anyone other than a party or a legal adviser to such a party. Such legal adviser may make use of the report in connection with an application for Public Funding.

1. I am the Social Worker allocated to this family since (date). I qualified as a Social Worker in (date) having obtained (qualification) from (institution where gained qualification). I have been employed as a Social Worker by the London Borough of Wandsworth since (date).
2. This report is prepared pursuant to an Order of the Court dated (date). The matters referred to in this report are either from my own personal knowledge or from the Social Services file.
3. Add in a conclusion ie I have concluded that it is/is not appropriate for a CO/O to be sought by the LA

4. FAMILY COMPOSITION

3.1. Child(ren) subject of the application and non-subject children where vulnerable

Name of child	Gender	Date of birth	Age	Ethnicity

3.2. Adult parties to the proceedings

Name of party	Gender	Relationship to child(ren)	Date of birth	Ethnicity

5. ENQUIRIES

For the purpose of preparing this report I have made the following enquiries:

- 21.12.98 Office visit by Mr Smith
- 22.12.98 Office visit by Mrs Smith
- 28.12.98 Home visit to Mrs Smith with Jason. Julie was also present.
- 04.01.99 Home visit to Mr Smith and Jason
- 05.01.99 Telephone conversation with Dr Doolittle/HV/etc.

I have read the statements and court papers that were forwarded to me, namely, 04.09.00 statement of Mr Smith and 10.10.00 statement of Mrs Smith.

I have undertaken statutory checks as follows:

Social Services, Child Protection Register, Probation Records,
Others according to local practice. *(If statutory checks reveal anything, indicate that it will be referred to later in the report).*

6. SUMMARY OF APPLICATION AND KEY ISSUES

Summarise in clear, straight forward language the key issues in the family
State the application(s) before the court and what the court has asked you to do

7. CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHILDREN

Where and with whom children are living? What is their contact with the non-resident parent?

8. THE RELEVANT CHRONOLOGY

ie not just lifted from the main chronology and only containing information relevant to the named parties of the proceedings

Date	Incident or sequence of incidents relevant to the child's protection and/or welfare	Significance	Source (agreed or disputed)
[]	[]	[]	
[]	[]	[]	
[]	[]	[]	

9. THE PARTIES PROPOSALS

APPLICANT – JOHN SMITH

Living situation

Attitude to and reasons for application

Attitude/understanding of children's needs/wishes regarding this application

Proposals

Specific concerns, with supporting evidence

Response to other party's allegations

RESPONDENT – JILL SMITH

Living situation

Attitude to and reasons for application

Attitude/understanding of children's needs/wishes regarding this application

Proposals

Specific concerns, with supporting evidence

Response to other party's allegations

10. CHILD IMPACT ANALYSIS

Each section to include an evaluation. Each child to be dealt with separately, with section referring to sibling group (if appropriate).

The ascertainable wishes and feelings of the children concerned:

To include what child says/expresses. Also include your observation and interpretation.

Their physical, emotional and educational needs:

Include information from Health Visitor, GP, Psychologist, school and any other professional involved with the child.

The likely effect of any change of circumstances

Include change in any contact arrangement.

Their age, sex, background and any characteristics which the Court considers relevant

Professional assessment of needs of child in relation to these criteria as it affects, potential arrangements.

Any harm which they have suffered or are at risk of suffering

Any additional information from Social Care Services/NSPCC/any other agency, including schools, which relates to harm

Include details of any action taken to minimise risk

Include the consequences of domestic violence

Include assessment of any emotional abuse the child may suffer as a result of parental conflict/behaviour.

11. ANALYSIS OF PARENTING CAPABILITY

How capable are each of the parents at meeting their needs

Your assessment of capability of each parent and any other persons in the light of allegations and counter-allegations

Take into account own observations and those other professionals

12.OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COURT

*State what kind of orders the Court can consider making in this case.
e.g. no order, residence order, contact order, specific issue order, prohibited steps order. Also consider the no order principle.*

13.PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT

*Analysis of pertinent points from Welfare Checklist
Outline options, including pros and cons
State if any agreement reached is in the child’s best interests
If significant risk to a child has been identified, include comment or either action taken if proposed*

14.RECOMMENDATIONS

- You need to state here:*
- why a Care or Supervision order is not appropriate [if it is appropriate – please seek legal advice] and why*
 - any other services/ assistance that will be given to the child or the child’s family*
 - any other action that should be taken in respect of the child.*

What is each child’s best interests, and why, in the short term How can the situation be moved forward into the long term Who other than the LA can support the parties? If further assessments/work is required, specify what, why and timescales [Type text] 8 What in your professional opinion would be the best order for the court to make and why.

I write this report believing the contents to be true and knowing that it may be placed before the Court.

Signed Date:.....
Name, Social Worker, London Borough