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Legal psychological assessment for the divorce process - Sample format

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Abstract

Divorce cases in Albania have increased in recent years and have become a serious problem, involving not only the separation of a couple but also the determination of child custody. The divorce process and the assessment for custody is one of the most difficult and complex processes in the field of clinical and legal psychology. The legal psychological assessment of the family is an aid to the Court in making a decision on the judicial process. In this paper, the aim is to convey professional knowledge and aspects of the assessment process in divorce cases by providing methods, types of psychological tests and an example of the format of the assessment report. Domestic and foreign literature has been reviewed and 223 legal psychological assessments for divorce processes with minor children in the Elbasan district have been examined.

Information is presented on the use of psychological tests in divorce evaluations and child custody determinations. According to the authors, review of psychological reports, it was concluded that, for a legal psychological evaluation to be complete, it should include specialized clinical procedures for observing the family system (Darlington, Lausanne Trilogue Play Clinic), DSM-V, instruments for validating evidence (CBCA, SVA), and psychological tests for personality assessment (MMPI-II, Eysenck) and projective tests (TAT, CAT, Graph Paper Tests, Blacky Pictures, etc.) as well as the Rosenberg Self-Assessment Test, etc. Providing an example of writing a legal psychological evaluation format is a contribution to researchers, young professionals and students in the field.

Keywords: assessment, clinical psychologist, divorce, legal psychologist