Title: A Review of Critical Qualifications and Knowledge Domains for Violence Risk and Threat Assessment Evaluators

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Abstract:

In their recently published research article *The Evolving Nature of Threat and Violence Risk Assessment in College Counseling Centers*, Dr. Van Brunt and his team outline the historical and current context of threat assessment and violence risk in higher education, highlighting the evolving roles of college counseling centers in the threat assessment process for students displaying signs of concerning behaviors. The authors explore the academic degrees and fields of study needed to provide these assessments. They also provide a detailed outline of the various knowledge domains needed to demonstrate understanding, competency, and proficiency in threat assessment.

There are many paths to developing expertise in behavioral violence risk and threat assessment, including law enforcement, military, forensic and clinical psychology, social work, criminology, executive protection, safety/security and emergency preparedness, human resources, and student discipline/conduct. Ensuring those who offer the assessments are well vetted in their academic history, domain knowledge, and experience is critical to ensure that the assessment conducted is in line with current research.

In this session, Dr. Van Brunt will review these findings and outline several paths to proficiency when it comes to conducting a behavioral threat assessment. Three case examples of violence risk threat assessments will be provided to participants involving threat cases in the elementary/early education, college/university, and workplace settings to demonstrate the importance of sufficient evaluator credentials and subject matter expertise. The case examples will be provided electronically to participants for further review, and the session will be dedicated to an overview of suggested training and specific domain subject matter expertise. Additionally, the author will review recent advances in the use of artificial intelligence in the violence risk and threat assessment process, including devices that provide transcripts and automated summaries of recordings.

Biography:

Brian Van Brunt, EdD, is the Director of Behavior and Threat Management for D-Prep Safety. Author of over a dozen books, Brian has spent time as a child and family therapist, university professor, assistant deputy director of training at Secure Community Network, partner at TNG, and president of the National Association for Behavioural Intervention and Threat Assessment (NABITA). He is an internationally recognized expert in behavioral intervention, threat assessment, crisis preparedness, mental illness, and instructional design. Brian has provided consulting services to schools, colleges, and universities across the country and abroad on a wide variety of topics related to student mental health, counseling, campus violence, and behavioral intervention.