

Handout for Assessment: Protective and Risk Factors

	Risk Factors	Protective Factors
Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug and alcohol use Being male Aggression Psychiatric conditions e.g. ADHD Early behaviour problems in school Watching violent television Low IQ Medical, physical difficulties Favourable attitude to negative and delinquent behaviour Dishonesty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being critical and judgmental of delinquent behaviour High IQ Being female Knows there are consequences for inappropriate behaviour (in other words does not believe they can do as they please and there is nothing their parents or anyone else can do about it).
Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty Parent involvement in criminal behaviour Poor parent-child relationship Harsh, lax, or inconsistent discipline Poor supervision Broken home Separation from parents Parents are abusive Neglect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family has warm, supportive relationships with other parents or other adults Parents approve of child's friends Parental monitoring Marital harmony
School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor attitude and performance at school School discipline is unclear or not consistently enforced Teachers are demoralized or burnt out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to schooling Receives recognition for efforts and positive activities at school
Peer Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor at making or keeping friends Friends who are a bad influence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friends who are involved in positive activities
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime, drugs and poverty are common in neighbourhood Neighbors and community do not support family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing family involvement in church or community activities

Adapted from the Surgeon General's Report on Youth Violence