



Theories of Child Endangerment (TCE)

Theory Defined: A testable method of explaining certain behavior or circumstances, based on observation, experimentation and reasoning.

Question: What conditions, hazards, or dangers are present in a drug environment that could pose a risk to a child in violation of Penal Code section 273a (a) or (b)?

1. Physical abuse
2. Sexual abuse
3. Emotional abuse
4. Neglect
5. Drugs (accidental overdose of children)
6. Needles/syringes
7. Smoking pipes
8. Weapons (guns, knives, swords, pepper spray, taser, etc.)
9. Booby traps
10. Marijuana grows
11. Clan lab in structure
12. Danger of explosion
13. Danger of fire
14. Toxic fumes (from chemicals, lab or second hand drug smoke)
15. Dangerous/hazardous chemicals
16. Contaminated food/drink
17. Contaminated structure/house/vehicle/items
18. Pornographic photographs, materials, or sex toys
19. Children being provided drugs
20. Children being traded for drugs and/or sex
21. Evidence of domestic violence
22. Dangers associated with being around people under the influence (parents vs. others)
23. Dangers associated with being around drug trafficking (drug rip-off, deviant people)
24. Dangers associated with gang activity/members
25. Inappropriate sleeping conditions
26. Lack of food, support, discipline, encouragement, guidance, grooming, and supervision
27. Lack of medical/dental care (chronic health problems)
28. Lack of/or immunization delay
29. Children testing positive for drugs/chemicals
30. Lack of parental care increases risk of injury to children
31. Children in a car with a DUI driver
32. Social/emotional consequences (school problems, criminal behavior, homelessness, unemployment, addictions, isolation, poor peer relations, poor anger management, feelings of guilt and shame, chaotic lifestyle, and attachment disorder)
33. Code enforcement, fire and building violations