

LEGAL SERVICE PROVIDERS INTERVIEW FORM

1. Background information – job title, # years of experience in this work, types of legal issues seen, information about their role in assisting clients, etc.
2. What are some of the barriers that women survivors of domestic violence face when dealing with civil legal issues? [Probe: access to legal representation, issues with the court, interference by partner]
3. What challenges do you face in working with this group of women? [Probe: What challenges are there in providing legal services to this group of women? Examples: women not showing up for court, dropping the case, etc.]
4. In your opinion, do women who have full legal representation (a lawyer throughout the court process – i.e., not a legal advocate or victim advocate or legal advice) have any advantages over women who don't? If yes, what are they? If no, why not? [Probe: better outcomes, better support/less stress, fewer delays due to incorrectly filling out forms, etc.]
5. Are there things you've seen as a legal services professional that are things women typically don't know about, or things women have tried on their own (such as filings or other legal procedures) that they did incorrectly?
6. In your estimation, what percentage of women who need legal representation actually get it?
7. What factors do you think lead to successful outcomes in these types of cases? [Probe: attorney/client relationship, legal philosophy, legal strategy]
8. What additional issues, if any, do non-English speaking women face?
9. What kind of changes, if any, would you like to see regarding civil legal representation for this group of women?