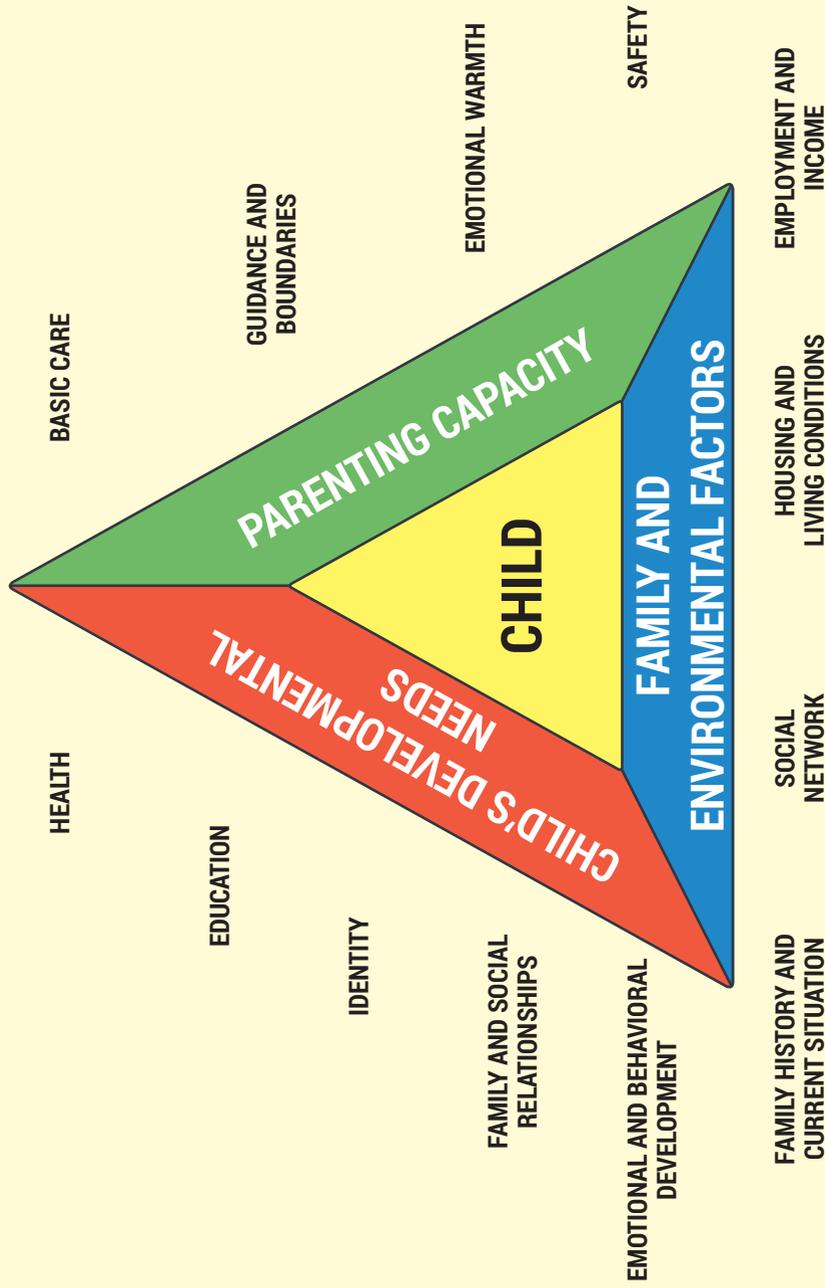




# CHILD WELFARE TRIANGLE





**The approach of child welfare assessment must be child centred – the child must be seen and kept in focus throughout the assessment.**

The child welfare triangle has three interrelated domains with several dimensions in each. The interaction or the influence of each dimension must be thoroughly explored and carefully assessed to understand how they affect the situation and the welfare of the child and the family.

<b>CHILD'S DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS</b>	<b>Health</b>	The child's physical and mental wellbeing, growth and development. The parents' capability to ensure the child's healthy wellbeing.
	<b>Education</b>	The child's capability to cope in learning environment, possibilities to promote their intellectual development and learning. The parents capability to support the child's educational wellbeing.
	<b>Identity</b>	The child's self-image, self care skills, growing sense of self as a separate and valued person. The parents' capability to support and empower the child's positive self-reliance and individual development.
	<b>Family and social relationships</b>	The child's social relationships with family and other people involved in their life. The parents capability to ensure a supportive environment for the child's development and positive relationships.
	<b>Emotional and behavioral development</b>	The child's emotional development, appropriateness of the child's actions and feelings in different situations and environment. The parents capability to support the child in their emotional and behavioral development.
<b>PARENTING CAPACITY</b>	<b>Basic care</b>	The parents' capability of providing the child's basic needs inc. the physical needs of the child, appropriate medical and dental care.
	<b>Guidance and boundaries</b>	The parents' capability to offer guidance and set boundaries, to guide the child appropriately and to support the child's skill development.
	<b>Emotional warmth</b>	The parents' capability to ensure that the child's emotional needs are met and to offer the child stability and security in relationships with significant people in their life.
	<b>Safety</b>	The parents' capacity to ensure a safe environment for the child and to protect the child from harm and danger.
<b>FAMILY AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS</b>	<b>Family history and current situation</b>	The impact of past and present experiences of the family members on the wellbeing and the current situation of the child.
	<b>Social network</b>	The family's social network (inc. relatives, neighbours and community), availability of community resources and the importance attached to them.
	<b>Housing and living conditions</b>	The family's living situation and conditions and their appropriateness to the needs and wellbeing of the child.
	<b>Employment and income</b>	The economic situation of the family, the employment of the adults in the household and its effect on the child's welfare.

**CHILD WELFARE ASSESSMENT PROCESS SHOULD INVOLVE THE CHILD AND FAMILY AS WELL AS ALL THE PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE WORKING WITH THEM.**