**VERA**

**VIOLENT EXTREMISM RISK ASSESSMENT**

**Version 2\***

**\*to be used in conjunction with**

**Risk Assessment Decisions for Violent Political Extremism (D. Elaine Pressman Ph.D) 2009-02**

**PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM**

**Agenda and Documents**

**TRAINER**

**D. E. Pressman, PhD**

**Nederlands Instituut voor Forensische Psychiatrie en Psychologie (NIFP)**

**DJI Ministerie van Veiligheid en Justitie**

**Utrecht, The Netherlands**

**11 en 12 april 2016 & 13 en 14 april 2016**

**VERA-2**

Consultative Version: Pressman and Flockton 2010

 Violent Extremism Risk Assessment

**TRAINING PROGRAM DOCUMENTS (3)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Training Manual- Document 1** **(PROVIDED BY NIFP)** **Contents**1. **VERA Summary Rating form**
2. **VERA Procedural Example Interview Form**
3. **VERA Indicator Definitions**
4. **VERA Working Rating Form**

 |
| **2** | **Document 2- Agenda, Background Articles & VERA 2 Assessment Forms****(TO BE PROVIDED BY NIFP)** **Articles:** **Risk Assessment Decisions for Violent Political Extremism** D. Elaine Pressman, [2009-02] Published by Public Safety CanadaCopyright Her Majesty the Queen, 2009Cat. No.: PS3-1/2009-2-1E-PDF. ISBN No.: 978-1-100-13956-2 *(Also available on the Public Safety Canada website)*1. Background, rationale and procedures to the VERA
2. Comparative Charts of VERA and other risk Assessment Indicators

**Calibrating Risk for Violent Political Extremists and Terrorists: The VERA 2 Structured Assessment**D. Elaine Pressmanand John Flockton, 2012: in The British Journal of Forensic Practice1. Background, rationale and definitions of the VERA 2  **2.** Implications for us |
| **2****@** | **Document 3- Illustration Cases for Training Assessment-** **(PROVIDED BY NIFP).** **Contents:**1. **Introduction to Users**
2. **Cases 1-10.**

 |

**VERA-2**

**TRAINING PROGRAM**

**-Day 1**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **0900 hrs.**  | **Welcome and Introduction to Materials and Objectives** |
| **0930 hrs** | **Background Information, Rationale for the VERA** **Comparison of Indicators from Other Risk Assessment Tools, Relevance**  |
| **1045 hrs** |  **Break**  |
| **1100 hrs**  | **Validity Criteria for Violent Extremism risk assessments. Reliability and Validity Issues.** **Rationale for Use** **Problems of Data Collection** **Importance of measurement for monitoring.**  |
| **12:15 hrs**  | **Lunch Break** |
| **13:15 hrs** | **Review of VERA 2 Risk Indicators, Definitions and Rating Challenges****Case Example: Discussion**  |
| **15000 hrs**  | **Break**  |
| **1515**  | **Case Example continued AND Case 1.**  |
| **1600 hrs** | **Close session** |

 **VERA 2**

**TRAINING PROGRAM**

**-Day 2**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **0900 hrs**  | **Short review, Introduction to Procedures for Analysis, Cases for assessment and analysis Case 2**  |
| **1045 hrs** | **Break**  |
| **1100 hrs.** | **Case 3: Individual ratings and paired comparisons of differences. Reporting and Discussion**  |
| **12:15 hrs**  | **Lunch Break** |
| **13:15 hrs** | **Case 4: Independent/Paired raters for consensus. Confirmation, Reporting to group- and Case 5**  |
| **1500 hrs**  | **Break** |
| **1515**  | **Resume -Ease, Confidence and Importance Issues in Ratings: Predictive Analytics, Computerization of records** |
| **1600 hrs** | **Wrap up and close after summary of benefits and limitations of VERA 2**  |

|  |
| --- |
| VERA-2VIOLENT EXTREMISM RISK ASSESSMENT**Working Rating Form** **Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ID # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Current Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Reason for Referral: : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Date of Birth \_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Age\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ M\_\_\_\_\_ F\_\_\_\_\_****===============================****SUMMARY SPJ RISK RATING** **(Circle)****LOW, MODERATE, HIGH****VERA****VIOLENT EXTREMISM RISK ASSESSMENT****Version 2** **WORKING RATING FORM** **D. Elaine Pressman and John Flockton, 2010****13.9.14** |
|  | **VERA 2 ITEMS**  | **Low**  | **Moderate** | **High**  |
| **BA.** | **BELIEFS-ATTITUDES****[IDEOLOGY]**  |  |  |  |
| BA.1  | Attachment to ideology justifying violence |  |  |  |
| BA.2 | Victim of personal or group injustice and grievances  |  |  |  |
| BA.3 | Dehumanization of identified targets of injustice  |  |  |  |
| BA.4 | Rejection of democratic pluralistic society and values |  |  |  |
| BA.5 | Feelings of hate, frustration, persecution and/or alienation |  |  |  |
| BA.6 | Hostility to National Collective Identity/ Identity Conflict   |  |  |  |
| BA.7 | Lack of understanding or empathy for those outside own group |  |  |  |
| **CI.** | **CONTEXT & INTENT**  |  |  |  |
| CI.1 | Seeker, consumer, developer of violent extremist materials  |  |  |  |
| CI.2 | Identification of target (person, place, group) in response to perceived injustice  |  |  |  |
| CI.3 | Active personal contact with violent extremists  |  |  |  |
| CI.4  | Anger and expressed intent to act violently  |  |  |  |
| CI.5 | Expressed desire to die for cause or martyrdom |  |  |  |
| CI.6 | Expressed intent to plan, prepare violent action  |  |  |  |
| CI.7 | Susceptible to influence, authority, indoctrination  |  |  |  |
| **HC.** | **HISTORY & CAPABILITY** |  |  |  |
| HC.1 | Early exposure to pro-violence militant ideology  |  |  |  |
| HC.2 | Network of family, friends involved in violent action |  |  |  |
| HC.3**\*** | Prior criminal history of violence |  |  |  |
| HC.4  | Tactical, paramilitary, explosives training  |  |  |  |
| HC.5\* | Extremist ideological training,  |  |  |  |
| HC.6 | Access to funds, resources, organizational skills |  |  |  |
| **CM** | **COMMITMENT & MOTIVATION**  |  |  |  |
| CM.1 | Driven by perceived noble cause/ Glorification of violent action/ religious obligation  |  |  |  |
| CM.2 | Driven by opportunism, excitement, adventure  |  |  |  |
| CM.3 | Driven by comradeship, group belonging, status in group, social needs  |  |  |  |
| CM.4 | Driven by moral imperative, moral superiority, identity |  |  |  |
| CM.5  | Driven by excitement, adventure |  |  |  |
| **P.** | **PROTECTIVE ITEMS**  |  |  |  |
| P.1 | Re-interpretation of ideology less rigid, absolute |  |  |  |
| P.2 | Rejection of violence to obtain goals |  |  |  |
| P.3 | Change of vision of enemy |  |  |  |
| P.4 | Involvement with offence-related programs |  |  |  |
| P.5 | Community support for non-violence  |  |  |  |
| P.6 | Family support for non-violence |  |  |  |
|  | ADDITIONAL INDICATORS  |  |  |  |
| **SPJ** | **VERA FINAL JUDGMENT**  | **Low** | **Moderate**  | **High** |
|  | **OTHER COMMENTS**  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **VERA****VIOLENT EXTREMISM RISK ASSESSMENT****Version 2** **D. Elaine Pressman and John S. Flockton****Summary Rating Form****Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ MIN or ID # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Current Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Current Convictions:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Current Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Date of Birth \_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Age\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ M\_\_\_\_\_ F\_\_\_\_\_****Date of Evaluation \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****===============================****SUMMARY SPJ RISK RATING** **(Circle)****LOW, MODERATE, HIGH****VERA-2 Summary Rating Form**  |
|  | **ITEMS**  | **Low**  | **Moderate** | **High**  |
| **BA.** | **BELIEFS, ATTITUDES, IDEOLOGY,**  |  |  |  |
| BA.1  | Attachment to ideology justifying violence |  |  |  |
| BA.2 | Victim of injustice and grievances  |  |  |  |
| BA.3 | Dehumanization of identified targets of injustice  |  |  |  |
| BA.4 | Rejection of democratic society and values |  |  |  |
| BA.5 | Feelings of hate, frustration, persecution, alienation |  |  |  |
| BA.6 | Hostility to national collective identity  |  |  |  |
| BA.7 | Lack of empathy, understanding outside own group |  |  |  |
| **CI.** | **SOCIAL CONTEXT & INTENTION**  |  |  |  |
| CI.1 | Seeker, consumer, developer of violent extremist materials  |  |  |  |
| CI.2 | Identification of target (person, place, group) in response to perceived injustice  |  |  |  |
| CI.3 | Personal contact with violent extremists  |  |  |  |
| CI.4  | Anger and expressed intent to act violently  |  |  |  |
| CI.5 | Expressed desire to die for cause or martyrdom |  |  |  |
| CI.6 | Expressed intent to plan, prepare violent action  |  |  |  |
| CI.7 | Susceptible to influence, authority, indoctrination  |  |  |  |
| **HC.** | **HISTORY, CAPABILITY, ACTION** |  |  |  |
| HC.1 | Early exposure to pro-violence militant ideology  |  |  |  |
| HC.2 | Network (family, friends) involved in violent action |  |  |  |
| HC.3 | Prior criminal history of violence  |  |  |  |
| HC.4 | Tactical, paramilitary, explosives training  |  |  |  |
| HC.5 | Extremist ideological training  |  |  |  |
| HC.6 | Access to funds, resources, organizational skills |  |  |  |
| **M** | **MOTIVATION**  |  |  |  |
| M.1 | Glorification of violent action  |  |  |  |
| M.2 | Motivated by criminal opportunism  |  |  |  |
| M.3 | Driven by comradeship, group belonging, status  |  |  |  |
| M.4 | Driven by moral imperative, moral superiority,  |  |  |  |
| M.5 | Driven by excitement, adventure |  |  |  |
| **P.** | **PROTECTIVE ITEMS**  |  |  |  |
| P.1 | Re-interpretation of ideology less rigid, absolute |  |  |  |
| P.2 | Rejection of violence to obtain goals |  |  |  |
| P.3 | Change of vision of enemy |  |  |  |
| P.4 | Involvement with offence-related programs |  |  |  |
| P.5 | Community support for non-violence  |  |  |  |
| P.6 | Family support for non-violence |  |  |  |
| **SPJ** | **VERA FINAL RATING**  | **Low** | **Moderate**  | **High** |