

NOTE: C1A-C9B need to be recorded to match previously used questionnaire.  
Prefix variable names with either M1 (mother) or F1 (father)

TCID \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mother Father  
(Please circle)

### Parenting Possibilities Questionnaire

The stories below describe common events in everyday family life. When you read each story, please pretend the child in it is \_\_\_\_\_. After each story is a set of possible reasons. For each reason, think about how well it explains what happened, and tell us what you think using this scale:

probably not why  
this happened;  
not a good reason

1

a small chance this  
was the reason for  
what happened; an  
unlikely reason

2

could be why  
this happened;  
a good reason

3

probably why  
this happened;  
a very good  
reason

4

Stories: Please read each story and the reasons and circle a number.

1. Your child throws a temper tantrum, so you send him to his room. You hear him get quieter, and a little while later you go back to check on him. You find him sitting on the floor with crayons and paper, and there are crayon marks all over the floor and walls. This probably happened because:

- |  |   |         |          |       |          |  |
|--|---|---------|----------|-------|----------|--|
|  |   | not why | unlikely | maybe | probably |  |
| a. he was upset and getting back at you. | 1 | 2       | 3        | 4     | CIA      |  |
| b. he was coloring carelessly.           | 1 | 2       | 3        | 4     | CIC      |  |

2. You are working on a craft project or hobby, and your child comes in and starts to mess with your stuff. This probably happened because:

- |  |   |         |          |       |          |  |
|--|---|---------|----------|-------|----------|--|
|  |   | not why | unlikely | maybe | probably |  |
| a. she wanted to help you with the project.                    | 1 | 2       | 3        | 4     | C2B      |  |
| b. she was trying to get in your way and give you a hard time. | 1 | 2       | 3        | 4     | C2D      |  |

3. Your child asks for a snack right before dinner, and you say no. He goes off and starts to roll a large toy car along the floor. The car hits a lamp and it crashes to the floor. This probably happened because:

- |   |   |         |          |       |          |  |
|---|---|---------|----------|-------|----------|--|
|   |   | not why | unlikely | maybe | probably |  |
| a. he was angry because he couldn't have a snack. | 1 | 2       | 3        | 4     | C3B      |  |
| b. he didn't see the lamp.                        | 1 | 2       | 3        | 4     | C3D      |  |

4. You and your child are playing together and you two start to "rough house" a little. You are having fun, your child is laughing, but suddenly she pulls your hair real hard. This probably happened because:

- |  |   |         |          |       |          |  |
|--|---|---------|----------|-------|----------|--|
|  |   | not why | unlikely | maybe | probably |  |
| a. she didn't know what she was doing. | 1 | 2       | 3        | 4     | C4A      |  |

- b. she thought it would be fun. 1 2 3 4 C4B
5. You ask your child to help set the table and hand him a plate to take to the table. You hear a crash and you look. The plate is in pieces at your child's feet. This probably happened because:  
not why unlikely maybe probably
- a. he couldn't quite put the plate on the table correctly. 1 2 3 4 C5B
- b. he didn't like having to do the chore. 1 2 3 4 C5D
6. You and your child are out walking. You trip on the sidewalk and nearly fall. You're a little embarrassed. Your child laughs. This probably happened because:  
not why unlikely maybe probably
- a. she enjoyed seeing you stumble. 1 2 3 4 C6A
- b. she didn't know what happened. 1 2 3 4 C6B
7. Imagine you are in the kitchen making dinner. Your child is bouncing a ball in the other room. You tell him or her to stop and your child starts getting upset. The next thing you know the ball has hit you in the back and it hurts. This probably happened because:  
not why unlikely maybe probably
- a. the ball slipped away from your child. 1 2 3 4 C7A
- b. your child threw the ball at you. 1 2 3 4 C7B
8. Your child has asked permission to spend the night at a friend's house and you said no. You know your child is upset. Later you hear a crash in the next room and find your child next to a broken lamp. This probably happened because:  
not why unlikely maybe probably
- a. your child got angry at you. 1 2 3 4 C8A
- b. your child was not paying attention and accidentally bumped the lamp. 1 2 3 4 C8B
9. Imagine that you are sitting at the dinner table with your child. Your child is playing with his/her food and looks a little upset. You tell your child to hurry up. You look away for a moment and the next thing that happens is that your child's food has been spilled in your lap. This probably happened because:  
not why unlikely maybe probably
- a. your child accidentally spilled it. 1 2 3 4 C9A
- b. your child got angry and spilled it on you. 1 2 3 4 C9B