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Contents; Preface; Preface to the Second Edition; Introduction; References; Contributors; Chapter 1: From Empirical Findings to Custody Evaluations; Chapter 2: Legal and Ethical Issues in Child Custody Evaluations; Chapter 3: Observations of Parents, Caretakers, and Children for Child Custody Assessment; Chapter 4: Use of Psychological Tests in Child Custody Evaluations; Chapter 5: An Updated Review of the Effects of System and Estimator Variables on

Child Witness Accuracy in Custody Cases

Chapter 6: The Importance of Attachment in Custody Evaluations: Toward the Best Interest of the ChildChapter 7: Improving the Quality of Parent-Child Contact in Separating Families with Infants and Young Children: Empirical Research Foundations; Chapter 8: Divorce, Custody, and Visitation in Middle Childhood; Chapter 9: Custody Evaluations of Adolescents; Chapter 10: Adopted Children and Custody Arrangements;

Chapter 11: Medically III Children and Adolescents; Chapter 12: Parental Sexual Orientation, Social Science Research, and Child Custody Decisions

Chapter 13: Child Custody Evaluations of Parents with Major Psychiatric DisordersChapter 14: Child Adjustment and High-Conflict Divorce; Chapter 15: Evaluating Child Sexual Abuse Allegations; Chapter 16: Rejection in Cases of Abuse or Alienation in Divorcing Families; Chapter 17: Joint Custody: A Judicious Choice for Families-But How, When, and Why?; Chapter 18: Conclusions and Prospects; Author Index; Subject Index

Sommario/riassunto

The legal system requires mental health professionals to provide research summaries to support their evaluations in child custody cases. Contributions from leading developmental researchers, legal professionals, and clinicians describe how scientific evidence is properly used in court. Timely and current, this book helps evaluators access the best information to fulfill their obligations to their clients and the court. The Second Edition adds chapters on family observation, parental alienation, and sexual abuse. Forensic psychologists, family lawyers, and judges will be equipped with the most