

Danger Threat: Parent Refuses Access

This threat refers to situations:

- Where the location of the family cannot be determined, despite diligence by the agency to locate the family.
- Where a parent/legal guardian or caregiver refuses to see or speak with agency staff and/or allow agency staff to see the child, is openly hostile or physically aggressive toward the investigator or case manager, is totally avoiding staff, refusing access to the home, hides child, or refuses access to the child **and** the reported concern is significant and indicates serious harm.
 - The hiding of children to avoid agency intervention should be thought of in both **overt and covert** terms. Information which describes a child being physically confined within the home or parents who avoid allowing others to have personal contact with the child, can be considered 'reported concern is significant and indicates serious harm' for example. The act of physically restraining a child within the home might be a maltreatment of bizarre punishment or physical injury, and would indicate use of this danger threat.
- The threat is qualified by the allegation of maltreatment, information from prior case history and current reports regarding the child. There should be concern for present or impending danger based upon information provided to the agency that would result in serious harm to the child. Generally, this will be a danger threat used only at present danger.