Reading the Record

Enhancing Practice Knowledge and Child Welfare/Probation Outcomes
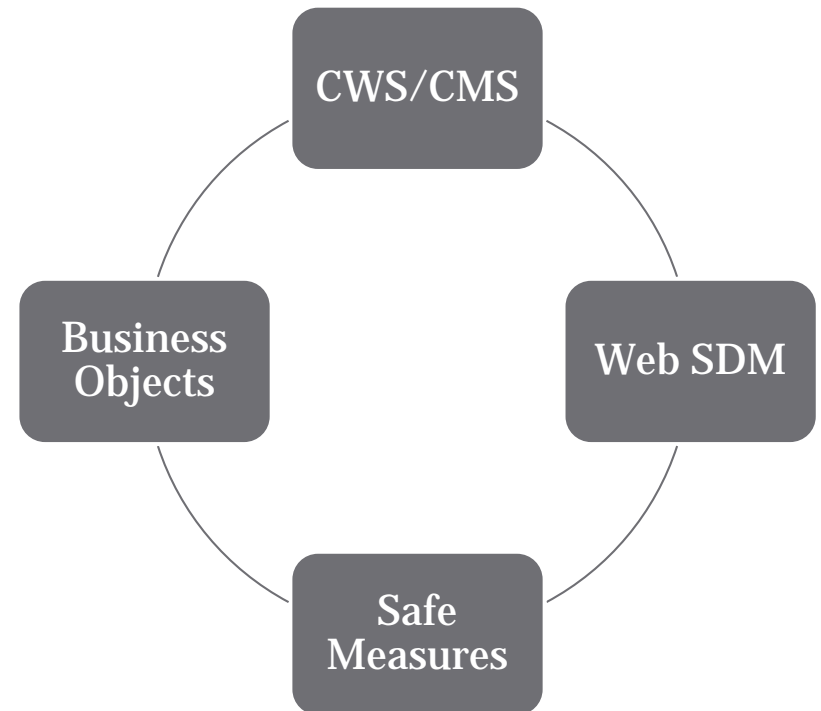Through Qualitative Data-Mining

Colleen Henry, MSW, PhD
Silberman School of Social Work, Hunter College
City University of New York

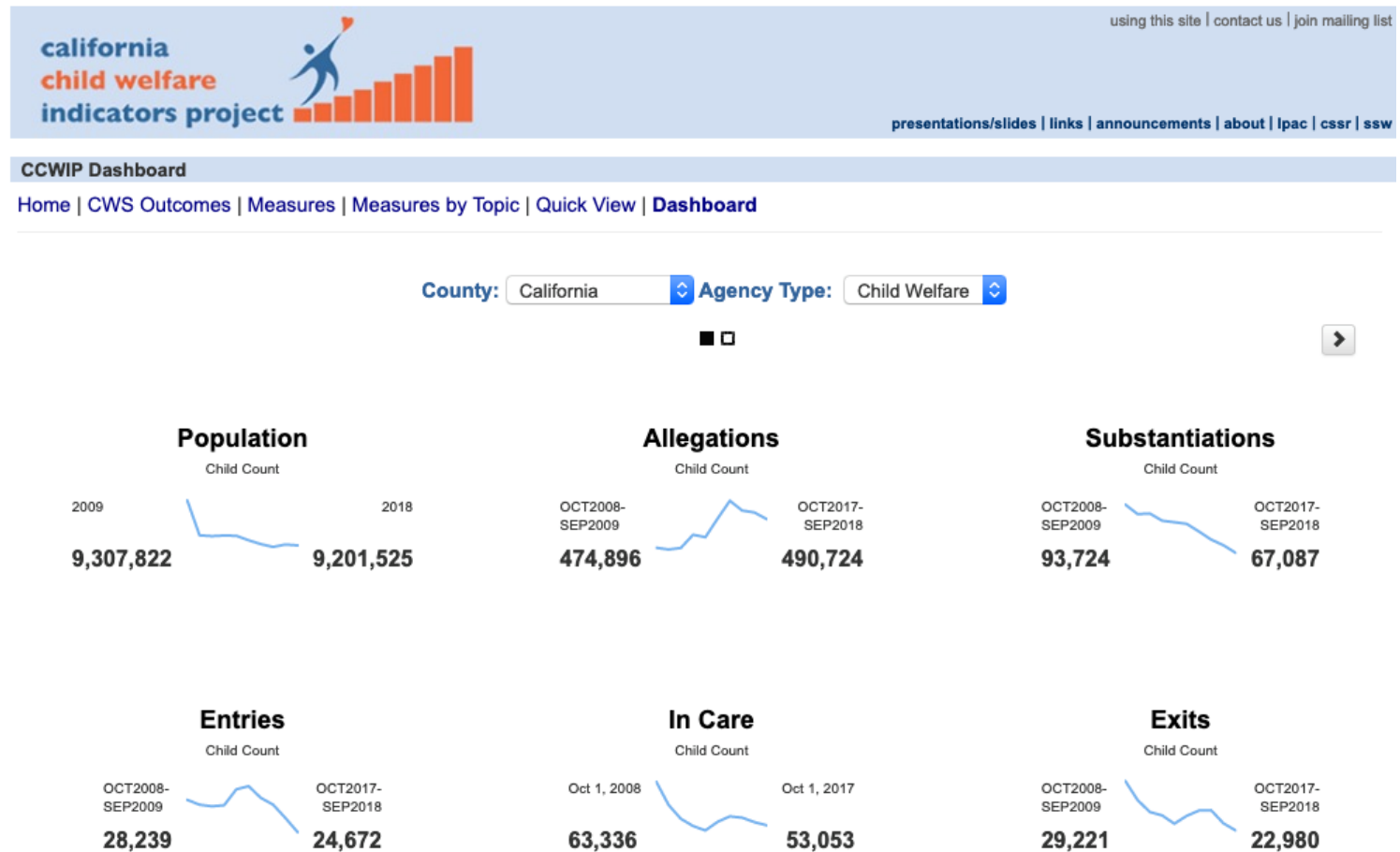CQI Statewide Conference for Child Welfare and Probation

March 27, 2018

Administrative Data

CWS/CMS

Web SDM

Safe Measures

Business Objects

Quantitative Data-Mining

California Child Welfare Indicators Project. (2019). Dashboard. Center for Social Services Research. University of California, Berkeley.
http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/

Qualitative Data-Mining

Photo Credit: Denver Post

Children & Family Services Reviews

CFSR: Onsite Review Instrument

M. Why was/were the case(s) opened for services?

☐ Physical abuse

☐ Sexual abuse

☐ Emotional maltreatment

☐ Neglect (not including medical neglect)

☐ Medical neglect

☐ Abandonment

☐ Mental/physical health of parent

☐ Mental/physical health of child

☐ Substance abuse by parent(s)

☐ Child's behavior

☐ Substance abuse by child

☐ Domestic violence in child's home

☐ Child in juvenile justice system

☐ Other (specify)

Question M Instructions:

Indicate the reason(s) for case opening(s) by selecting all that apply. Consider all cases open during the period under review. The reason for case opening should be based on whatever information is available in the case record and from interviews that identifies why the agency opened the case. This would include the maltreatment type that was substantiated or resulted in case opening and it could also include other information that informed the agency's decision to open the case. If "other" was checked as a reason the case was opened for services, the circumstances and reason must be very clearly documented in the narrative.

US Dept of Health and Human Services. (2016). *Child and Family Services Reviews: Review Instrument and Instructions.* Retrieved from: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cfsr_r3_osri.pdf

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Why was the case opened for service?
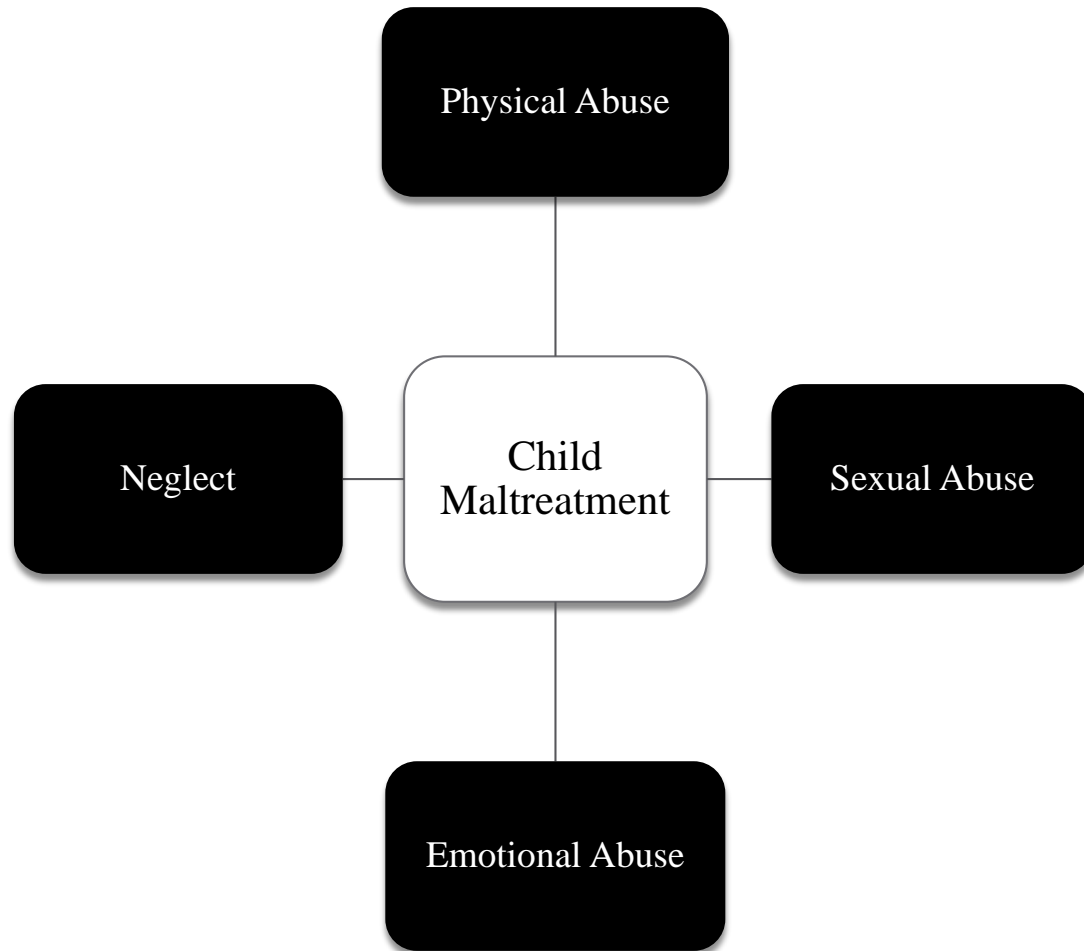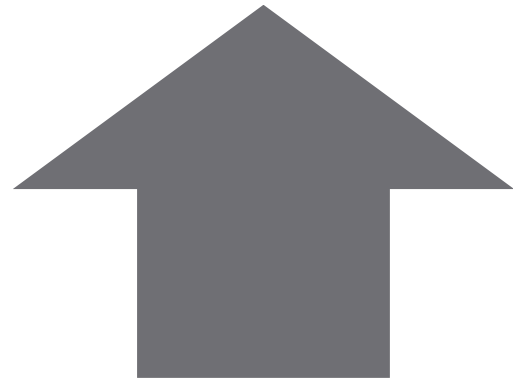
Why was the case opened for service?
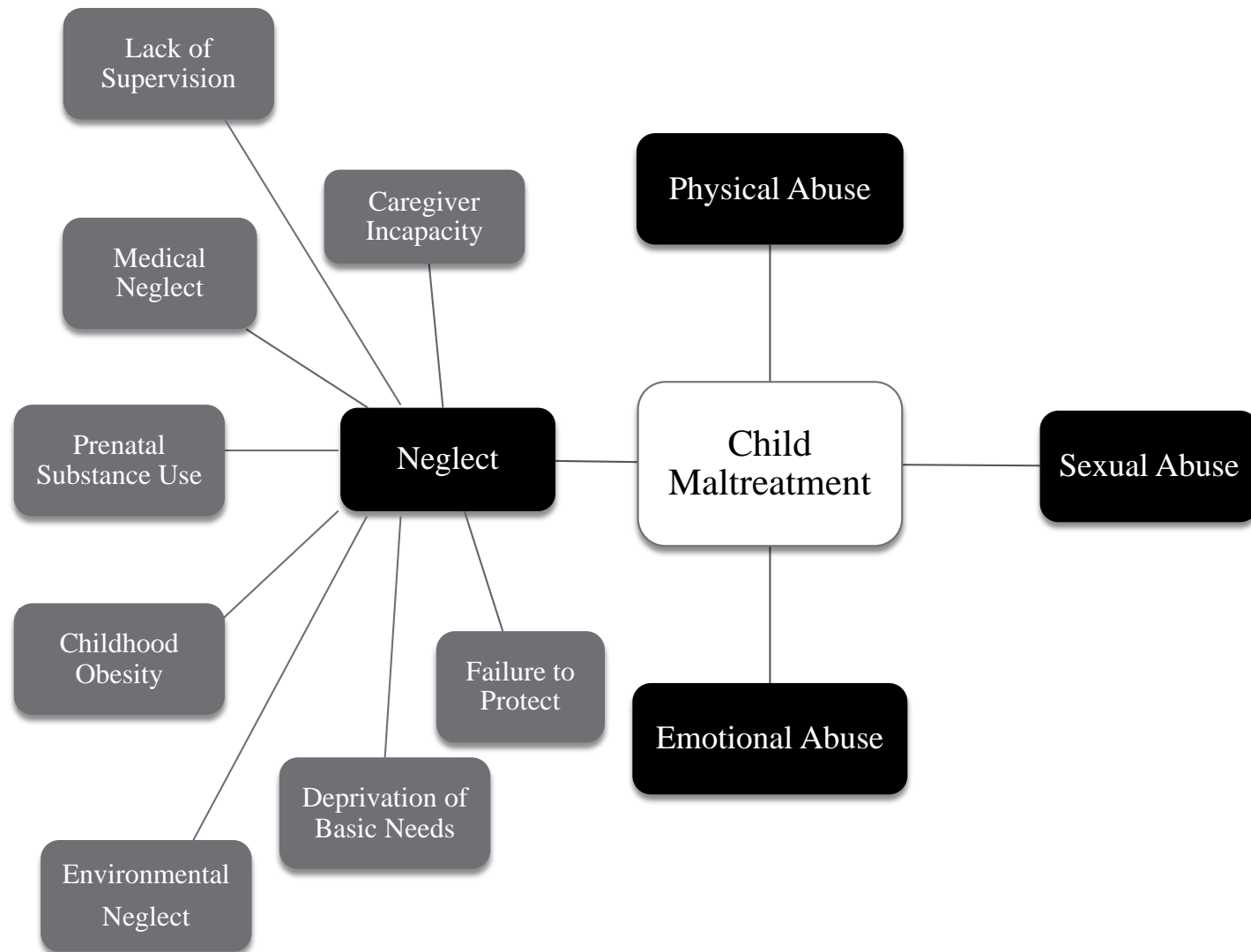
Deductive & Inductive

Deductive

Inductive

When to Use *Qualitative* Data-Mining?

- ☐ You seek information about something not captured in categorical/quantitative data
- ☐ You are exploring a topic about which little is known
- ☐ You wish to get inside the "black box" of practice, programs, and interventions
- ☐ You have reached an impasse in explaining or understanding with quantitative data alone
- ☐ You wish to study complex processes

Padgett, D.K. (2017). *Qualitative Methods in Social Work Research* (Third Edition). SAGE Publications, Inc.

Qualitative Data-Mining in Practice

The Child Welfare Qualitative Data-Mining Project

A Practice-Research Partnership

You are exploring a topic about which little is known

How do workers respond to allegations of CEDV?

Henry, C. 2018. Exposure to domestic violence as abuse and neglect: Constructions of child maltreatment in daily practice. *Child Abuse & Neglect,* 86, 79-99. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2018.08.018
Art: Minnesota Center Against Violence & Abuse.

You wish to get inside the "black box" of practice, programs, and interventions

How do workers make the case that substance use is a threat to child safety?
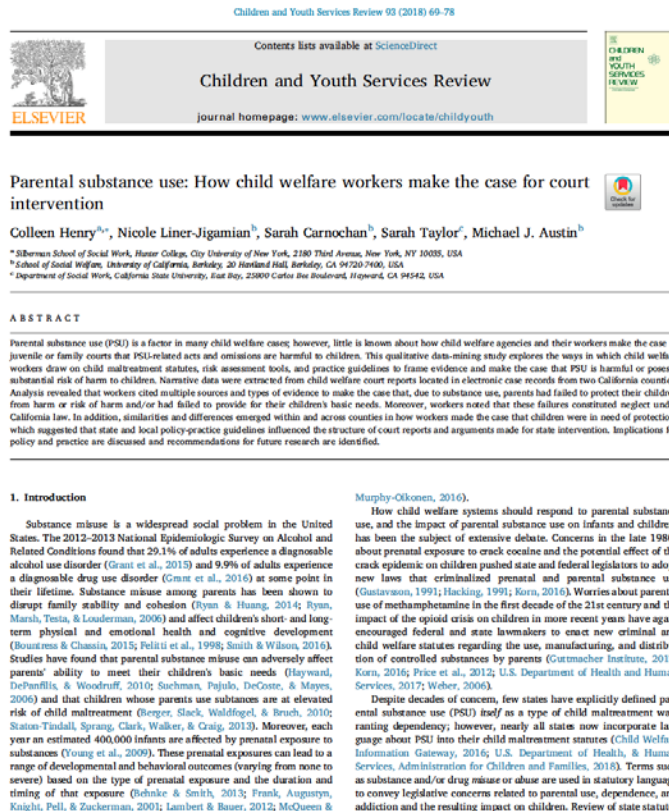
Henry, C. Liner-Jigamian, N., Carnochan, S., Taylor, S., & Austin, M. (2018). Parental substance use: How child welfare workers make the case for court intervention. *Children & Youth Services Review, 93,* 69-78. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2018.07.003

You have reached an impasse in explaining or understanding with *quantitative* data alone

Are some children born to mothers in care at higher risk for child welfare involvement than others?

Eastman, A.L. & Putnam-Hornstein, E. (2019). An examination of child protective service involvement among children born to mothers in foster care. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 88, 31—325. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2018.11.002

Why are some children born to mothers in care at higher risk for child welfare involvement than others?

Eastman, A.L. Schelbe, L. & McCroskey, J.. (2019). A content of analysis of case records: Two-generations of child protective services involvement. *Children & Youth Services Review,* 99, 308—318. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2018.12.030

Qualitative Data-Mining for Training

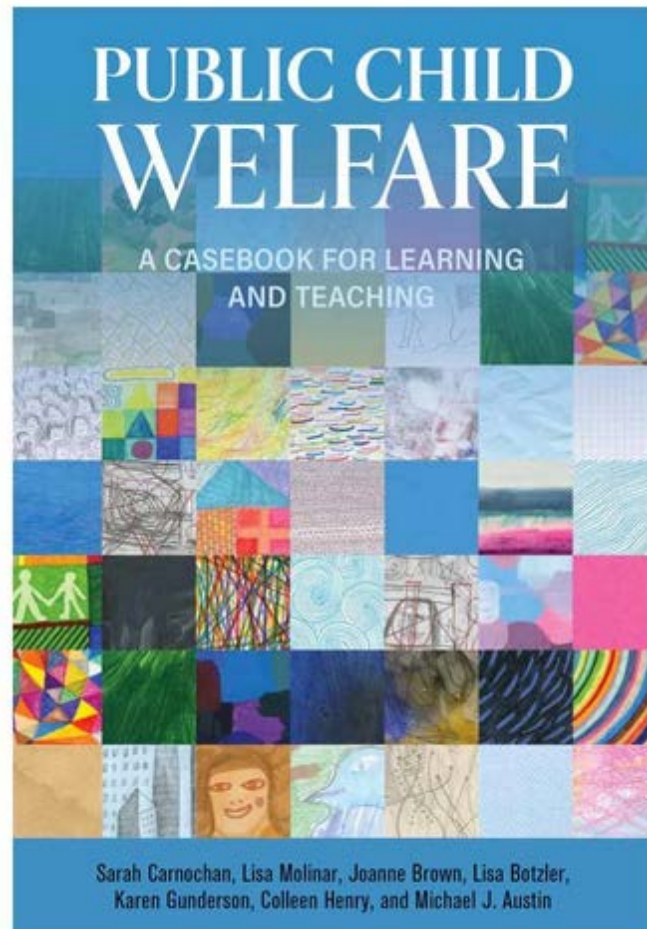# *Qualitative* Data-Mining for Training
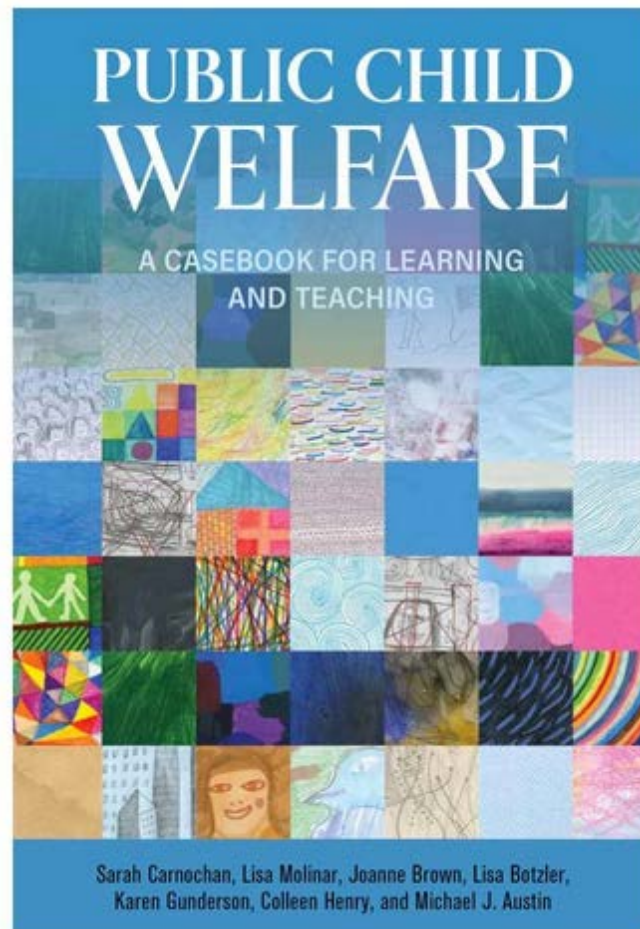
Carnochan, S. Molinar, L. Brown, J., Botzler, L., Gunderson, K., Henry, C. & Austin, M. (2018). *Public child welfare: A casebook for learning and teaching*. USA: Cognella
Henry, C., Carnochan, S., & Austin, M. (2017).

In Summary

- Utilizes existing data to better understand and enhance agency practice
- Fosters new knowledge about client populations and emerging problems
- Generates new knowledge about practice, case complexity, and the factors underlying system outcomes
- Compliments and enhances the CQI process
- Contributes to continuous learning about practice & outcomes

Qualitative Data-Mining Resources

Carnochan, S. Molinar, L. Brown, J., Botzler, L., Gunderson, K., Henry, C. & Austin, M. (2018). *Public child welfare: A casebook for learning and teaching*. USA: Cognella
Henry, C., Carnochan, S., & Austin, M. (2017). Using qualitative data-mining for practice research in child welfare. *Child Welfare, 93*(6), 7-26

Questions?

Thank You

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