

IDENTIFYING CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS/TARGET BEHAVIOR

Exercise: Read each statement below and identify some possible Criminogenic Needs that the person might have. Develop a potential target behavior and some goals that the person might have that they need/want to work on and/or that you might want to focus on. Finally, write a strategic MI response to help guide the person towards positive behavior change.

1. “I really like drinking, I mean...I don’t want to be an alcoholic, but all my friends drink and when I go out with them we have a really good time. I don’t know what my life would be like without drinking. I don’t really want to quit.”

**Criminogenic
Needs:**

**Target
Behavior/Focus**

MI Response

2. “I don’t see why I have to follow the rules. All my life people just keep coming up with more rules that I’m supposed to follow, and now you’re telling me that there’s another whole set of rules for me to follow. Just because I don’t follow your rules doesn’t mean I’m not a good person.”

**Criminogenic
Needs:**

**Target
Behavior/Focus**

MI Response

3. "I wish it were different and that I could afford everything that I need, especially to take care of my family, but it's hard out here trying to find a job as a felon. It's not like I'm not trying or don't want to be working, but sometimes you do what you gotta do to get by."

**Criminogenic
Needs:**

**Target
Behavior/Focus**

MI Response

4. "I just get so angry sometimes. I wish I had another way to deal with it, but she just keeps nagging me and nagging me and she really leaves me no choice."

**Criminogenic
Needs:**

**Target
Behavior/Focus**

MI Response
