

Problem Behaviors: Excess and Deficit Behaviors

Behavioral problems—parental complaints about a child’s behavior--can be divided into two broad categories: behavioral excesses and behavioral deficits.

Behavioral excesses are behaviors that occur too often. Behavioral deficits are behaviors that are too little or nonexistent.

In the case of Behavioral Deficits the child may have never learned this behavior or skill or has mastered it, but does not use it often enough or does not use it in the right social setting.

In the space below, list your child’s primary behavioral deficits and excesses.

BEHAVIORAL EXCESSES

BEHAVIORAL DEFICITS

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

Note: If time permits, rank order your complaints in terms of priorities. Which are the most urgent or important?