

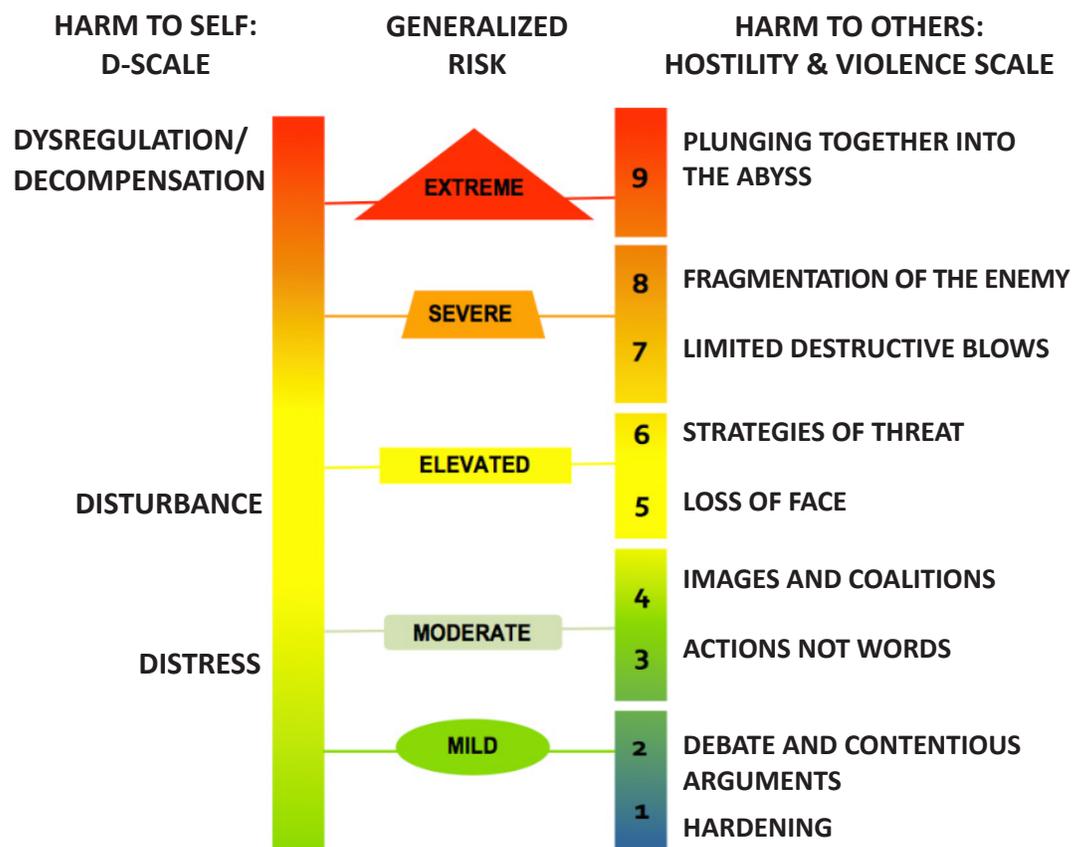
21 QUESTIONS: A SUPPLEMENTAL FLOWCHART FOR THE NaBITA THREAT ASSESSMENT TOOL

The document is intended to help users new to the NaBITA Threat Assessment Tool find scores on two main scales: the Harm-to-Self or D-Scale (left) and the Harm-to-Others/Hostility/Violence Scale (right). This guide is intended as a supplement, not a replacement, for existing training materials, flowcharts, whitepapers, and more in-depth discussions of issues such as baseline and trajectory behaviors.

A note about the middle scale: The tool is likely to work best when you start from the left or the right and work to a middle level. Remember also that the Generalized Risk Scale (middle) has descriptors related to direct threats that have been made. The last few questions in this tool are related to clarifying the middle scale when a direct threat was made.

Once the level of risk is determined, the interventions are assigned based on the highest score out of the three scales. Using all three scales on each case and then intervening on the highest risk rated is encouraged. For example, a person may only score “mild” on the D-Scale, but then score “elevated” on the Generalized Risk Scale (middle) and Harm-to-Others/Hostility and Violence Scale (right). We then respond at the “elevated” level.

This supplement is meant to assist in the use of the NaBITA Threat Assessment Tool, pictured to the right, which is available free of charge, along with accompanying detailed risk level descriptions and recommended interventions, at <https://nabita.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/2014-NaBITA-Threat-Assessment-Tool.pdf>.



HARM TO SELF: D-SCALE

1. Is the person actively suicidal with thoughts, feelings, or actions?

No? Continue.



Yes? **Extreme overall and dysregulation/decompensation on the D-Scale.** [Stop Harm to Self questions. Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]



2. Has the individual engaged in extreme self-injurious behaviors such as cutting or burning (several times a week or more, deep injuries that require medical treatment), or aberrant eating (e.g., bingeing/purging) that poses a life-threatening risk?

No? Continue.



Yes? **Extreme overall and dysregulation/decompensation on the D-Scale.** [Stop Harm to Self questions. Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]



3. Does the person behave in an aggressive, hostile, or threatening manner? Has the ability to self-control or self-regulate been lost?

No? Continue.



Yes? **Severe overall and dysregulation/decompensation on the D-Scale.** [Stop Harm to Self questions. Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]



4. Has the individual lost touch with reality and begun hallucinating (hearing or seeing things that are not there), or actively believing and reacting to dangerous delusions (e.g., persecution by the FBI, CIA, or aliens)? Is there a psychotic break?

No? Continue.



Yes? **Severe overall and dysregulation/decompensation on the D-Scale.** [Stop Harm to Self questions. Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]



5. Is the person's behavior unusual, increasingly disruptive, or bizarre in a way that interrupts or disrupts others? The behavior may be harmful or threatening to others.

No? Continue.



Yes? **Elevated overall and Disturbance on the D-Scale.** [Stop Harm to Self questions. Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]



6. Is the individual erratic in regards to medication use (perhaps causing the disturbance), or is the person engaging in substance misuse or abuse?

No? Continue.



Yes? **Elevated overall and Disturbance on the D-Scale.** [Stop Harm to Self questions. Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]



7. Is there evidence of emotional trouble such as being depressed, anxious, or having an overabundance of energy that, while not overly disturbing to others, is noticeable and cause for concern?

No? Continue.



Yes? **Moderate overall and Distress on the D-Scale.** [Stop Harm to Self questions. Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]



8. Is there an event, such as failing an assignment, a home- or family-related stressor, or loss of a relationship, that is challenging the person's ability to cope? Typically, the negative behavior or emotional trouble would disappear with the event's passing.

No? No rating on D-Scale. [Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]

Yes? **Mild overall and Distress on the D-Scale.** [Begin Harm to Others questions on next page.]

HARM TO OTHERS: HOSTILITY & VIOLENCE SCALE

9. Does the individual have a fixed way of seeing the world or an issue that could be described as hardened or crystalized? Does the person filter out material that doesn't line up with those personal beliefs?

No? No rating on Hostility and Violence Scale. **Yes?** Continue to next question.

[Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]



10. Does the person express a hardened point of view to others, filtering out opposing ideas or detracting viewpoints and leading to a polarizing tendency?

No? Rate at Hardening, Level 1; Mild overall. **Yes?** Continue to next question.

[Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]



11. Does the individual begin to distrust others and assume negative intentions on their part? Does the person move from a deadlocked debate to non-verbal gestures to communicate growing frustration?

No? Rate at Debate and Contentious Arguments, Level 2; Mild overall. **Yes?** Continue to next question.

[Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]



12. Is the person narrowing down the source of personal frustrations to a target and attempting to enlist others to support this point of view? Does the individual see new information as confirming the target's negative impact, or is there an increase in physical confrontation and conflict?

No? Rate at Action Not Words, Level 3; Moderate overall. **Yes?** Continue to next question.

[Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]



13. Does the individual now create an outcast of the target in an effort to unmask or embarrass that person in the community? Are the target's feelings and perspective being disrespected, and any new contrary information viewed with a negative perspective?

No? Rate at Images and Coalitions, Level 4; Moderate overall. **Yes?** Continue to next question.

[Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]



14. Does the person issue an ultimatum to the target? Is there a "do this or else..." proposition with threats of punishment if the target does not comply?

No? Rate at Loss of Face, Level 5; Elevated overall. **Yes?** Rate at Strategies of Threat, Level 6; Elevated overall. Continue to question 15 to assess for level 7.

[Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]



15. Does/did the person carry out the threats made? Damage that occurs is limited and does/did not kill or maim (e.g., a "pulled punch").¹

No? We confirm Strategies of Threat, Level 6; Elevated overall. **Yes?** Rate Limited destructive blows, Level 7; Severe overall. [Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]

[Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]

[Stop Harm to Others questions. Begin Generalized Risk questions on next page.]

¹Levels 8 and 9 are not scored here, as they involve a physical attack on the school, office, or target, and are more easily understood. Level 8 has the attacker living to discuss a manifesto or reasons for the attack, whereas Level 9 involves the attacker intending/willing to die in the commission of the assault.

GENERALIZED RISK SCALE

16. While there is no threat made, does the individual engage in some disruptive or concerning behavior?

No? No rating.

[Stop Generalized Risk Scale. Finished.]

Yes? Continue to next question.



17. Does the person engage in repeated disruptive behavior and/or has the individual made a comment that others perceived as a threat? The comment/threat is likely vague and inconsistent at best, and lacks any realism.

No? Mild overall rating.

[Stop Generalized Risk Scale. Finished.]

Yes? Continue to next question.



18. Does the person engage in more serious, disruptive instances, likely disturbing the class or environment? A threat may have been made, repeated, and shared with others, but still lacks realism or is repeated with inconsistencies.

No? Moderate overall rating.

[Stop Generalized Risk Scale. Finished.]

Yes? Continue to next question.



19. Does the person act in an increasingly disturbed way, escalation of the behavior seemingly getting worse? A threat that was made may remain vague, but is being repeated with consistency and includes details of a time and plan.

No? Elevated overall rating.

[Stop Generalized Risk Scale. Finished.]

Yes? Continue to next question.



20. Is the threat made concrete and shared consistently with multiple reporters? The threat at this point has realism, and includes details such as the time and place of the attack and the items needed to carry it out. There is a likelihood that it will be carried out.

No? Severe overall rating.

[Stop Generalized Risk Scale. Finished.]

Yes? Extreme overall rating.

[Proceed to question 21.]



21. The threat is concrete, has realism, and includes details such as the time and place of the attack and the items needed to carry it out. The threat is shared consistently with multiple reporters and the content of the threat suggests that the threatener will carry it out or may have already taken steps to carry it out.

No? Severe overall rating.

[Stop Generalized Risk Scale. Finished.]

Yes? Extreme overall rating.

[Stop Generalized Risk Scale. Finished.]