

(Continued)

(recidivists identified as moderate or low risk), is known as a **false negative**. False positives could result in mistreatment of perpetrators (e.g., unwarranted harsher punishments), while false negatives could leave serious batterers unaccountable for their abusive behavior and potentially put their intimate partners at severe risk of re-victimization or even death. As Kropp (2004, p. 677) warns, "there is no such thing as no risk in the context of spousal violence. Risk assessments should not be used to marginalize the concerns of those victims believed to be at lower risk: All spousal assaulters are dangerous to some degree, and risk assessment does not allow us to rule out danger."