Meeting of Physical, Emotional, and Spiritual Needs of Members

• Ability to provide food and shelter
  Space management as regards living, sleeping, recreation, privacy
  Crowding if over 1.5 persons per room
  Territoriality or control of each member over lifespan
  Access to laundry, grocery, recreation facilities
  Sanitation, including disposal methods, source of water supply, control of rodents and insects
  Storage and refrigeration
  Available food supply
  Food preparation, including preserving and cooking methods, (stove, hotplate, oven)
  Use of food stamps and donated foods as well as eligibility for food stamps
  Education of each member as to food composition, balanced menus, special preparations or diets if required for a specific member

• Access to health care
  Regularity of health care
  Continuity of caregivers
  Closeness of facility and means of access such as car, bus, cab
  Access to helpful neighbors
  Access to phone

• Family health
  Longevity
  Major or chronic illnesses
  Familial or hereditary illnesses, such as rheumatic fever, gout, allergy, tuberculosis, renal disease, diabetes mellitus, cancer, emotional illness, epilepsy, migraine, other nervous disorders, hypertension, blood diseases, obesity, frequent accidents, drug intake, pica
  Emotional or stress-related illnesses
  Pollutants that members are chronically exposed to, such as air, water, soil, noise, or chemicals that are unsafe

• Neighborhood pride and loyalty
• Job access, energy output, shift changes
• Sensitivity, warmth, understanding between family members

Demonstration of emotion
  Enjoyment of sexual relations
  Male: Impotence, premature or retarded ejaculation, hypersexuality
  Female: Frigidity (inability to achieve orgasm), enjoyment of sexual relations, feelings of disgust, shame, self-devaluation; fear of injury, painful coitus
  Menstrual history, including onset, duration, flow, missed periods and life situation at the time, pain, euphoria, depression, other difficulties

• Sharing of religious beliefs, values, doubts
  Formal membership in church and organizations
  Ethical framework and honesty
  Adaptability, response to reality
  Satisfaction with life
  Self-esteem

Childrearing Practices and Discipline

• Mutual responsibility
  Joint parenting
  Mutual respect for decision making
  Means of discipline and consistency
  Respect for individuality
  Fostering of self-discipline
  Attitudes toward education, reading, scholarly pursuit
  Attitudes toward imaginative play
  Attitudes toward involvement in sports
  Promotion of gender stereotypes

Communication

• Expression of a wide range of emotion and feeling
• Expression of ideas, concepts, beliefs, values, interests
• Openness
• Verbal expression and sensitive listening
• Consensual decision making

Support, Security, Encouragement

• Balance in activity
• Humor
• Dependency and dominance patterns
• Life support groups of each member
• Social relationship of couple: go out together or separately; change since marriage mutually satisfying; effect of sociability patterns on children

Growth-Producing Relationships and Experiences Within and Without the Family

• Creative play activities
• Planned growth experiences
• Focus of life and activity of each member
• Friendships

Responsible Community Relationships

• Organizations, including involvement, membership, active participation
• Knowledge of and friendship with neighbors

Growing With and Through Children

• Hope and plans for children
• Emulation of own parents and its influence on relationship with children
• Relationship patterns: authoritarian, patriarchal, matriarchal
• Necessity to relive (make up for) own childhood through children

Unity, Loyalty, and Cooperation

Positive interacting of members toward each other

Self-Help and Acceptance of Outside Help in Family Crisis

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**FIGURE 6-2** Family assessment tool.