Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

If the child has died or is alive but not living with the mother, then it sounds like you want to link with the household information about the mother. I suggest that you use b16 as the line number if the child is alive and living with the mother, and otherwise use v003 (the mother's line number) as the child's line number. I recommend constructing a "child_status" variable along the way. I believe the following lines will work.

```
use BRfile

* You will not use "child_status" in the merge but it will help in the analysis
gen child_status=.
replace child_status=1 if b5==1
replace child_status=2 if b5==1 & (hv112==0 | hv112>=98)
replace child_status=3 if b5==0
tab child_status,m

label define child_status 1 "Alive and with mother" 2 "Alive and not with mother" 3 "Dead"
label values child_status child_status

rename v001 hv001
rename v002 hv002
gen hvidx=b16
replace hvidx=v003 if child_status>1
sort hv001 hv002 hvidx
save BRtemp


use PRfile

sort hv001 hv002 hvidx
merge hv001 hv002 hvidx using BRtemp
```