

19th May 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Of Cabbages and Kings

Tuesdays 7pm – 8.30pm BCHA, Dorset Lodge

Resettlement Pathway: Children & Families / Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 1 Service User, 1 Police, 1 Bournemouth Council & 1 BCHA

LEARNINGS

"Sometimes you can get hooked into the ups and downs of relationships." (Agency)

"When you're in that sort of relationship it can be really intense." (Service User)

"People can get used to that and then you find yourself missing it." (Agency)

"When I was brought up I was physically disciplined. It wasn't abuse, but while it was going on I really resented it and I rebelled. Now I can understand why, but I wouldn't do it to my children." (Agency)

"I was brought up in a family where there was domestic violence. Now I live as a single parent because I wouldn't introduce someone into my children's lives who might do that." (Agency)

Everybody needs boundaries and structure to their lives and without them our lives can fall apart.

We seem to be a consumer society, chasing things rather than ideals and there's a lot of pressure to conform to this.

"Isn't it funny how we're an alcohol based culture and how alcohol changes you... It can bring out things you're suppressing." (Agency)

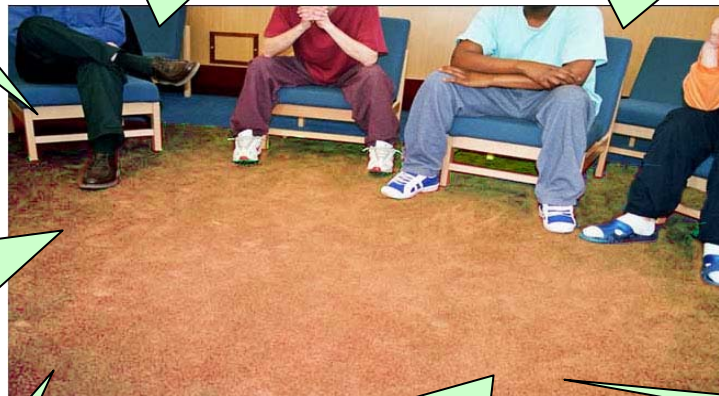
"I had a drink the other day and I don't drink, but I know if I do I'm more likely to use." (Service User)

Religion can influence people's behaviour in both positive and negative ways.

"People don't seem to have moral standards anymore. Although I'm not religious it taught you what was right and wrong and you had to answer to God. Now people don't have to." (Agency)

"Church used to be the heart of the community and religion was important. It doesn't seem to be what people focus on anymore." (Agency)

"I feel sorry for teenagers growing up today because it's all about consumerism and television. They make you feel you have to have that thing in your life 'because you're worth it'." (Service User)



Bournemouth Threshold Dialogue brings Bournemouth offenders together in open conversation with the agencies responsible for their supervision and support. Dialogues are themed on the issues affecting re-offending. The process starts in custody and continues post-release in the community, emphasising support, challenge, responsibility and early intervention. Threshold Dialogue is supported by Bournemouth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership.