

11th Nov 2008

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

The effects of crime on the victims and their families

Participants: 6 Offenders & 7 Others (Prison Staff, BCHA, B'mouth Council, Agency, Victim of crime & PD)

LEARNINGS

"The jewellery can be replaced but the sentiment cannot. The jewellery that was stolen was all I had left that was given to me by my daughter's deceased father."

(Victim of crime)

"As a result of the burglary, the family felt unsafe in the house. We couldn't sleep with the lights off – this resulted in the family moving homes."

(Victim of crime)

"When I'm out there with a drug habit, I don't think about the victims, I just need money for drugs."

(Offender)

"I just wanted to get back to work but the restrictions imposed on me by probation made this very difficult and I struggled being on benefits and trying to treat my son. This effected my pride and I turned to my old ways."

(Offender)

"I'm sick of all the restrictions but I understand that they are there to protect the victims of my crimes..... but I don't understand how I'm meant to change when these restrictions stop me from working and getting appropriate accommodation."

(Offender)

"If they don't get employment and appropriate accommodation then it's unlikely that the cycle of offending will be broken – are they never to be trusted again?"

(Prison Staff)

"Bournemouth Borough Council have a voluntary service set up to help ex-offenders get voluntary work and hopefully lead to employment."

(B'mouth Council)

It's really important that accommodation and links to employment are set up ready for release.

How deep and far reaching the effects are on victims of crime.

That both ex-offenders and agencies fall short in taking responsibility for breaking the cycle of change.



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.