

13th Jan 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Think before you act

Participants: 13 Offenders, 1 Police, 1 Prison Staff, 1 B'mouth Council & 1 PD

LEARNINGS

"Ever since I've been in prison I've received all the help I need. Why couldn't I have had the help while I was outside. I needed the help before I committed the offence not afterwards. There needs to be more access to help outside."
(Offender)

"Everyone's in a gang for safety. I know loads of other kids who carry knives for their own protection."
(Offender)

"Once you produce the knife you only have so many options. You probably have a crowd of friends who you don't want to be shown up in front of. You're likely to be pressured into using it."
(Offender)

Choices lead to consequences.

"I'm not a nonse, wife beater or drug dealer. My crimes aren't that bad yet I've been told I can't work within in school."
(Offender)

"We've all done bad things. Our crimes still have victims."
(Offender)

We all have to bear a certain responsibility to society.

"We should be talking about what we're to do when we leave here. I was walking around in a daze last time I was released. I couldn't eat or drink."
(Offender)

"We all have to take responsibility for the small things. We see things happening and no-one does anything."
(Prison Staff)

"I can't blame my parents for the way I've turned out. At the end of the day I made my own choices in life."
(Offender)

There are often underlying issues deeper than just drink and drugs that cause offending behaviour.



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.