

26th May 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP GUYS MARSH

The Bottom Line

Tuesdays 9–10:30am Chapel

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

Participants: 4 Offenders, 2 Prison Staff, 1 B'mouth Council

LEARNINGS

"I think about the backgrounds of people in here. Not all of us come from 'fractured' families. Some come from two parent decent families, so there has to be something about your personality if you're an offender."

(Offender)

"I think about the people that drug dealers deal to. You can see people who start off quite decent and they really go downhill. The dealers must see that happening...if somebody dealt drugs to my kids I'd kill them."

(Offender)

"I'm worried about the times I've been here before and said I'm never coming back again. This time I know, with my offence, what I'm capable of when I'm using drugs, and I never want to go there again."

(Offender)

"I deal drugs. I've never burgled anyone's home."

(Offender)

"Where do you think the addicts get the money from to buy drugs off you?"

(Agency)

"I'm not responsible for where they get their money from. If it wasn't me dealing to them it'd be someone else."

(Offender)

"I used to commit burglaries but then I started to think about the victims. After that I only did commercial burglaries, kidding myself that was ok. It's funny how you try to justify things to yourself."

(Offender)

"I've been the victim of burglary too. What was horrible was that they stole all my personal stuff. I found out who it was though and got it back."

(Offender)

"A couple of years ago I was the victim of burglary in here. My cell was locked so I don't know how they got in. When I went into my cell I didn't realise at first. Then I noticed one thing missing and when I looked around there were more things gone. I was really upset and I didn't understand why someone would have done that."

(Offender)

Almost everyone has had experience of being a victim.

Facing up to the impact that crime has on other people can be very difficult.

We're each responsible for our own actions and how they affect society.



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.