

6th Oct 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP GUYS MARSH

Without guidance, today's kids are tomorrow's offenders

Tuesdays 9–10:30am Chapel

Resettlement Pathway: Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 9 Offenders, 2 Prison Staff, 1 Police, 1 B'mouth council & 1 BCHA

LEARNINGS

"There is plenty of help in prison for people who really want it. It's down to the individual really."
(Offender)

"Nothing gets done in prison. You're supposed to see your personal officer but that never happens. The officer seems to change all the time."
(Offender)

"There's not enough out there for kids to do. It's not all about bad families. I came from a good family but still made the decision to go out there and do bad things. I wanted to be with the bad crowd and do what they were doing."
(Offender)

"Prison is not hard enough anymore. There's no real line between prisoners and officers. Prisoners and officers play pool together sometimes and it's too pally. Nobody knows where the line is anymore."
(Offender)

As children we need love and guidance to keep us out of trouble.

Help is on offer both in and out of prison if you want it bad enough.

"To be honest I could say all the right things and convince you I'm trying to change but the proof will be when I get out there."
(Offender)

"The difference with you this time is that you have changed. People can see the changes and are rooting for you to succeed when you're out."
(B'mouth Council)

"You guys can make a huge difference when you're out. You don't have to wait for CRB checks to go into schools to talk to kids, you can talk to those around you – your neighbours, your family. They will listen to you more than to us. We're figures of authority."
(Police)

"I think they need to allow parents, teachers and police to be able to discipline again. As parents we're told we can't smack our children anymore but it never did me any harm."
(Prison Staff)

"I disagree. I've got 3 boys and they've never been smacked. I punish discipline but not by hitting."
(Bmouth Council)

"Kids need guidance and loving."
(Prison Officer)

"The government needs to treat every child as an individual. Every child has a talent at something but parents are so busy they don't have time to discover what their kid is good at. It's about time money was put into one to one work."
(Offender)



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.