

28th CIF Conference 3rd-8th August 2009
Kiljava, Finland

ABSTRACTS FOR WORKSHOPS

B. Working with children and adolescents – different perspectives

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BDM Baby Dance Method® - Dialogical Understanding in Very Early Infancy

BDM Baby Dance Method® is a practical method for parents and other caregivers, developed by the author, to facilitate early interaction and to promote optimal development from the age of eight weeks on. In primary health care as well as in foster care the method has proved a highly effective method of early intervention. In a pilot project in primary health care parent reported problems with the infants were radically reduced (from 43% to 3.7%). The method is based on simple movement sequences, carried out in a way designed to provide the baby experiences of understanding and of being understood. Unique to the method is that the baby, as early as at eight weeks, is given the role of an equal partner in a true dialogue, not with words but with moves. The task of the adult is to learn to stay attuned to the initiatives of the baby to take the lead in the interaction.

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Invitation to an open dialogue on Child Psychiatry: Our Roles as Social Workers in collaborative practices - Conversations that make a difference

In this CIF Conference with the theme of “Dialogue” I want to share my understanding of meetings in general from a narrative point of view. It will be a particular kind of dialogue, in which we engage in a mutual or shared inquiry about the issues at hand: joining child psychiatry social work and dealing through examining, questioning, wondering and reflecting.

As a student of the Plenum speaker, Prof. Tom Erik Arnkil, in becoming a net worker, and to Prof. Jaakko Seikkula, who is the Finnish “father” of the dialogical approach in psychiatry called Open Dialogue, the narrative approach has been very important for my

work. Seikkula has been writing about these ideas with the Norwegian Med Dr Tom Andersen and with Tom E Arnkil. Authors from other countries that have influenced my work are Michael White and Maggie Carey from Australia, Harry Goolishian and Harlene Anderson from USA, John Shotter from the UK and Tom Andersen from Norway.

In this presentation I will use a narrative method to relate my experiences of using network dialogues according to the Seikkula & Arnkil model in child psychiatry. I will also discuss methods of early intervention such as MIM, Theraplay (Jernberg, A.M. & Booth, P.B.: Theraplay: Helping Parents and Children Build Better Relationships Through Attachment-Based Play), and Beardslee intervention, which is used in child psychiatry, when a parent suffers for instance from a mental disease (W.R. Beardslee).

Parsons, Bob (UK)

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Our Journey Into, Through and Beyond our Social Work Careers

I will examine values based on my own development which led me to enter the social work profession and invite members to share their own *raison d'être*.

Moving on in „the Journey“, we will identify together some of the problems the profession faces today, not least in the U.K., where we now have problems recruiting candidates for social work.

I will make a case for Social Workers particularly those who have retired, continuing to deploy their expertise and skills in developing countries which have a desperate need for such experience, not least with Handicapped, Orphaned, Poor and Exploited Children. This will also act as a vehicle to increase Mutual Understanding and Peace.