

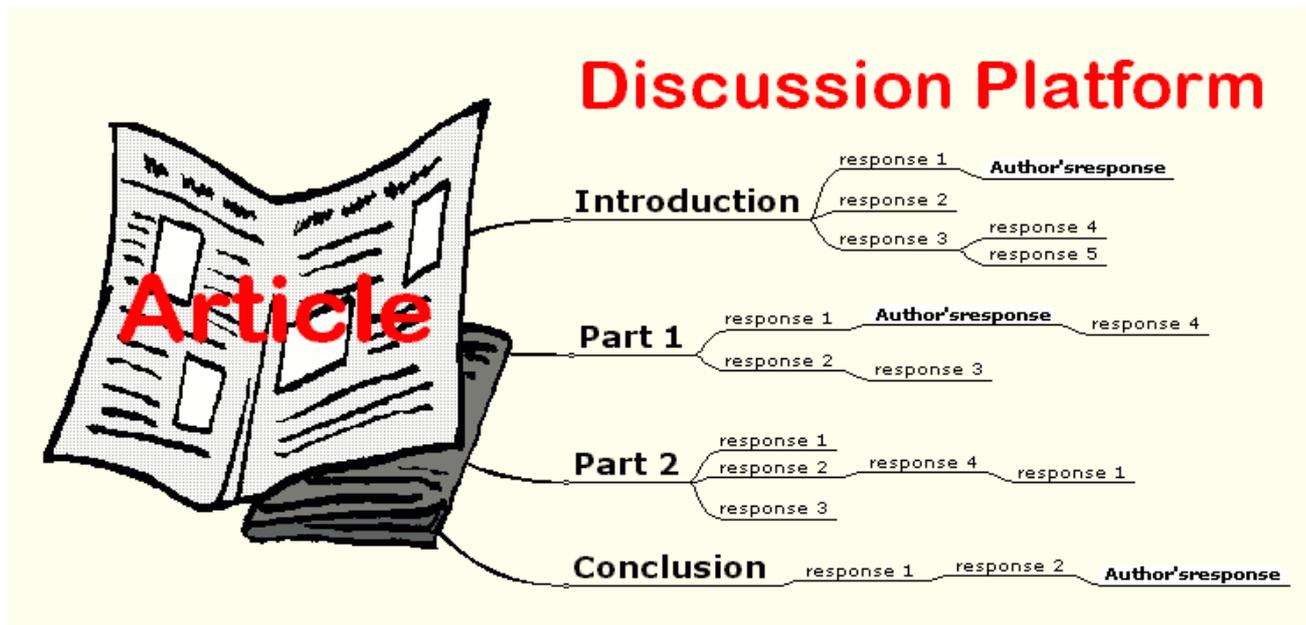
COCO *interactive* JOURNAL

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Abstract

Introducing COCO JOURNAL and the role it can play in the development of CCI Co-Counselling theory worldwide. It explains how authors can be supported and it provides an overview of the proposed aims, editorial policies of COCO JOURNAL.

Introduction



COCO JOURNAL links articles with an e-mail discussion platform. Readers and authors can respond to each other, and to articles, at times that suit them. COCO JOURNAL provides the opportunity to publish articles in a much more open, responsive and dynamic way.

Open and fast Peer Discussion

- Once an article has been published in COCO JOURNAL, people can respond immediately. *They don't need to wait up to three months for their response to be published in the next issue*
- Authors have the right of reply and can do this almost immediately *instead of six months later in a subsequent issue*
- The audience can read the article and all its responses in one go. *They don't need to collect previous issues to see what all the fizz is about.*
- The discussion platform has been set up in such a way that all contributions are attached to an original article. *No one need to hop around trying to follow a discussion.*

Private peer support for authors...

Co-Counsellors who have written a draft article can submit it to COCO JOURNAL without having it published to the general public. The author(s) will get the web-address of their article and a password to access it. In turn they can forward these to friends and supporters who can use

the **COCO JOURNAL** for reading the draft and giving feedback and suggestions to the author(s).

When the authors feel ready they can submit their article to the editorial board for publication.

1. Aims of CoCo Journal

All the above mentioned potential offers the opportunity for **COCO JOURNAL** to serve the world wide Co-Counselling community with the following aims:

- **To foster an open-minded and inquisitive debate** on the theoretical and practical aspects of CCI Co-Counselling.
- **To clarify the practical, social and cultural issues** raised by the use of Co-Counselling in daily life.
- **To radically improve teaching and learning** of Co-Counselling.
- **To link Co-Counsellors concerned with theory, to teachers and practitioners**
- **To provide Co-Counselling authors with a world-wide support system**
- **To publish international research** related to the theory, practice and experience of Co-Counselling.

1.1 Submission criteria

It follows from the **COCO JOURNAL AIMS** that

1. Submissions are expected to have a clear focus on Co-Counselling theory and practice, and to seek to advance Co-Counselling knowledge in some way, by

- gathering previous discussions into a new article *or*
- developing new theory or summarising existing theory, *or*

questioning existing work, *or*

- providing an analysis or framework for understanding experiences with Co-Counselling.

2. A submission should ideally illuminate the special contribution it can make to

- an individual's understanding or skills in Co-Counselling *or*
- an individual's capability to be in charge of their own life *or*
- the teaching of Co-Counselling or conversely how new co-counsellors can be supported to make better or greater use of co-counselling *or*
- Co-Counselling workshops, networks and communities

1.2 Suggestions for submissions

Ideally, we are looking for integrated submissions that present the diverse theoretical bases of Co-Counselling, its implementation in sessions, daily life, workshops and organisations -- and if this weren't enough -- its evaluation and theoretical implications. However, one or more of these aspects may form the basis for a submission.

- **Personal Experience:** describe the application of Co-Counselling principles, methods, theory, or (teaching) tools to Co-Counselling practice and daily life. Review criteria include the value of the reflections abstracted from these experiences and their relevance to other Co-Counsellors, teachers and people who support the functioning of the Co-Counselling network.

- **Teaching Articles:** describe (parts of) co-counselling fundamentals and workshops teaching programs. Authors should be clear as to what extent and how their teaching approach has been implemented and evaluated. It would be helpful if they would make explicit any educational theory underlying their program if this is not the focus of the submission.
- **Literature Reviews and Theoretical Analysis:** describe the literature relating to a particular issue; identify key theoretical issues that need to be resolved; propose ways forward. Review criteria include the conceptual framework (if any) used to write and structure the literature review, justification of the importance of a theoretical issue, and potential of the theoretical approach proposed.

2. Editorial board

The role of the editorial board is bridge building. On the one hand to support an author to write an article and on the other hand to ensure the article meets the COCO JOURNAL AIMS. The editorial board decides which article will be made public eventually.

Its members ideally represent or are rooted in the national networks of Co-Counselling International,

- England
- Germany
- The Netherlands
- New-Zealand
- Scotland
- USA

This board should make their decisions independently of CornuCopia Co-Counselling, the latter only providing the platform and the technology.

3. Submitting articles

Articles submitted to **COCO JOURNAL** are first published in a private folder, only accessible to the editorial board and supporters of the author.

The six members of the editorial board review the submitted article and post their reviews and suggestions to the discussion section belonging to the article. Their contributions are attributed.

Authors are encouraged to respond to these comments, and reviewers (who may not necessarily agree with each other) likewise. This discussion forms the basis for coming to an agreement for publication.

If the editors judge the article to be of sufficient quality -- that is, broadly readable, acceptable and fitting the aims of **COCO JOURNAL** -- the (revised) article will be made available to the general public. This final publication will be freely accessible on the **COCO JOURNAL** site.

4. Frequency of Publication

COCO JOURNAL does not have a chronological concept of publishing an issue, like paper-based journals. As soon as there is an agreement between editors and author, **COCO JOURNAL** will publish the article.

5. Finally

- People participating in the discussion are named and accountable for their comments.
- Authors have the right of reply
- Authors and readers can post links to point to subsequent work elsewhere and can post comments and links pointing to work which has not been referenced, or did not exist when the article was written.
- Authors, reviewers and anyone else who has subscribed to an article will receive email alerts to new postings to the discussion.