

'Principles and Values of Co-Counselling'

What purposes could it serve? -v1-

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Abstract: Trying to define what practical purposes a document about principles and values of Co-Counselling could serve.

Introduction

In Scotland there is an ongoing process of revising the old 'Co-Counselling in Scotland' (CCiS) constitution as through the years this has been developed into a huge, quite unreadable and elaborated package. It has been decided to split it into three parts and to rewrite it where needed.

1. The **new CCiS constitution** is meant to be a more or less legal interface of the Scottish Co-Counselling network with the outside world. After many discussions and consultations this new constitution has been accepted at the SGM 2002 and AGM 2002. See Literature Page of the CornuCopia web site www.co-cornucopia.org.uk
2. A '**Guidelines statement**', containing the guidelines for the Good&Newsletter, Membership Administration, Trust persons, CCiS workshop organisers, etc. Its aim is to clarify what the different network jobs are about, what the CCiS members can expect from the job holders and vice versa. This document is in continuous development.
3. The '**Statement of Principles and Values of Co-Counselling**' is meant to be more static. Originally thought of as a part of the new Constitution, as it expresses an identity of the network. It is hoped that eventually this statement is seen as the fundamentals upon which Co-Counseling practise and the more practical and fluctuating organisational guidelines can be based.

Once the purpose of the "Statement of Principles and Values" had been agreed on, it becomes easier to develop them.

1. Purpose of a 'Statement of Principles and Values' document

The Principles and Values of Co-Counselling need to be very down-to-earth and are meant **to enable co-counsellors:**

- 1.1 to be in charge of their own lives and leave other people in charge of their own lives
- 1.2 to have safe and effective co-counselling sessions with each other
- 1.3 to attend, organise and facilitate workshops where safety and potential risks for participants, facilitators and organisers are made as transparent as possible
- 1.4 to socialise with each other in a safe, empowering and transparent way, especially where there are conflicts, disagreements, attractions or intimacy.
- 1.5 to enjoy the diversity of different approaches and ethical stances within a Co-Counselling network.

2. How can you contribute?

Take part in the discussion: share your agreements, disagreements, celebrations and suggestions through the CoCo Journal discussion platform. www.journal.co-cornucopia.org

3. What next?

1. After a while I will get a gathering organised of the opinions and suggestions aired in the discussion about this document.
2. I or other people will rewrite the proposal

I am looking forward to reading your responses. JP