

Islands of
Safety

Structure
or steps



4 stages

Image: Tasmania Island, Australia

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1.
Agency referral

2.
Preparation & pre-
planning meeting

3.
The Islands of
Safety meeting
(the Safety Conference)

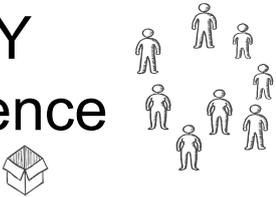
4. Follow up
meeting

“Just because people have problems doesn't mean there is something wrong with them/us.” (A Wade)



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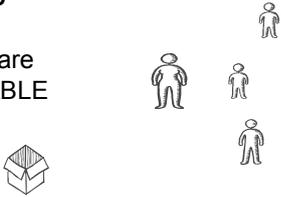
the
SAFETY
Conference



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Preparations

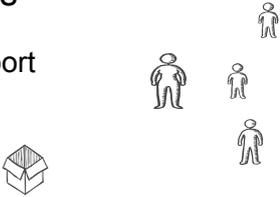
led by those who are
MOST VULNERABLE



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Family invites

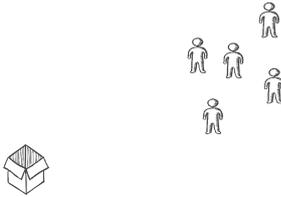
family and support
people



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Children are invited

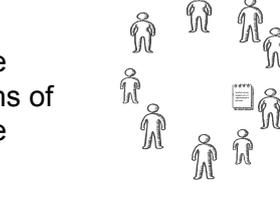
to participate in
various ways



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Worker role:

to document the
presence & signs of
DIGNITY for the
family



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Those who have committed violence

attend if they meet the **safety criteria**




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We begin with a **shared analysis** of:



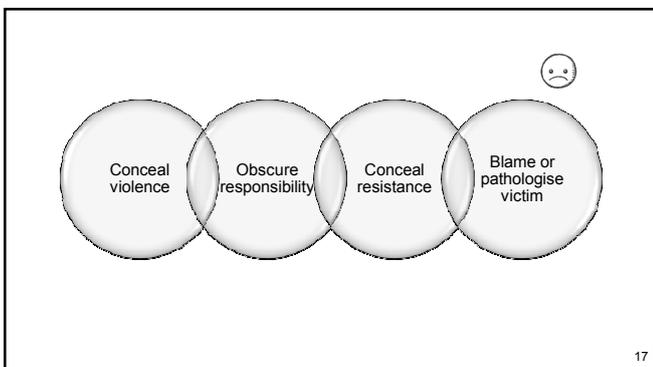
- violence
- resistance
- responses
- accurate language and **social context**.

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Operations of language

4 operations of language work together to benefit perpetrators & the status quo

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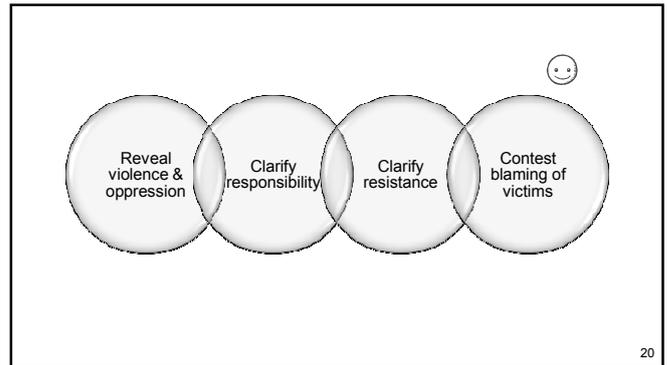
Language & violence

Described stalking behaviours as the abuser 'making a nuisance of himself or similar.

Use of such language minimises the fear induced by such behaviours and fails to recognise the coercive and controlling dynamics of the abuser's violence against the domestic violence victim

Negative social response

Used **mutualising language** such as 'volatile relationship' or 'stormy relationship' to describe cases where a domestic violence abuser had a long history of using violence against the victim (court judge)



Positive social response

A 6-year fight for justice by the family of Lynnette Daley has finally finished. The two prime suspects over her brutal death were charged after public pressure to review the case – and have been found guilty. Lynnette's father writes:

"I am truly lost for words. This time last year we had given up hope. We'd spent five horrendous years pleading for justice, rejected by those in power. Then, with 60,000 Aussies by our side, things started to change."
(www.change.org)

Australia – next steps

References

Domestic Violence Death Review Team, 2015, 'NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team Annual Report 2013 – 2015', Sydney, Australia.

Emms, J, n.d, *Tasman Island, Australia*, photograph, viewed 10 September, 2017. <<http://i.imgur.com/W5ksVyB.jpg?1>>.

Richardson/ Kinewesquao , Catherine. "A Closer Look At Violence, Resistance and Language: An Introduction to Response-Based Practice." Presentation at University of Montreal, December 2, 2015. <https://www.mcgill.ca/crcf/events/seminar/2015-16-seminars>

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further reading & resources

Will be available for download in the **treasure box**

www.ecohealthoz.com.au/treasure_box/index_treasure_box.html



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