

HUH ?!?

*a newsletter about working
with children and youth in groups*

Volume 1, Number 1.

Winter - 1996

The Mission of the Long Island Institute for Group Work Practice With Children and Youth is:

To promote and enhance effective group work practice with children and youth through advocacy, education, and collegial support.

HUH?!? is the Institute's quarterly newsletter dedicated to providing information, inspiration and support for anyone working with young people in group settings.

In the Trenches:

Some Thoughts of a Group Worker During 10 Minutes of an Adolescent Group in a School - - -

No ones's talking, they're all bored. Please someone speak up!...oh great, someone is bringing up a topic...shoplifting from local stores!...what do I say now?...other members are talking about it too; they all seem to relate to this...at least they have an experience in common...now they're looking at me, I want to say something brilliant, but the words somehow elude me...another member speaks...how she hates her English teacher...again the other members relate to their feelings of hate toward various members of the faculty...will it be me next?...I can't believe 10 minutes can feel like 10 hours...only 35 more minutes left...I guess I can survive... .

From the Inside - Out

Thoughts of a Group Member, Same Group, Same 10 mins. —

What am I doing here? There's no one here I really know...this is really stupid...at least I'm getting out of math class...oh she's talking about shoplifting...I didn't know she does it too... Ms. D. must think we're a bunch of thieves! ... Maybe this won't be too boring after all ... at least we didn't get any long drawn out boring lectures like my Dad's ... We can talk about hating teachers too! ... COOL! ... I wish we could have group all day!

chaos

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** Essentially, chaos theory holds that within simple orderly systems there are pockets of wild disorder and that within disorderly, seemingly chaotic systems, there are pockets of precise order -- E. Pozatek*

So what do you suppose is more chaotic:
a noisy kid's group or
a staff meeting of polite grown-ups?

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TIPS For: Community Service

This month's "TIPS For:" column is devoted to Community Service. It is a myth that adolescents are self-centered and selfish. In fact, more adolescents volunteer for community service than adults.

TIP: The best way to get adolescents involved?

ASK THEM

EVENTS AND

RESOURCES

The L.I. Institute is researching group work-with-youth training needs on Long Island. Call: Cindy Cavallo at (516) 261-7901 for details about how to participate.

Training Workshop: *Confronting Taboo Areas in Group Work With Adolescents* - 03-01-96 - Andrew Malekoff. Workshop will be held at North Shore Child & Family Guidance Center; 480 Old Westbury Rd.; Roslyn Hgts., NY 11577. The cost is \$35.00 per person. The workshop runs from 8:30 to 11:30 AM. For questions and/or registration call: Jane E. Yazdpour (516) 626-1971.

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