

**Relationships-  
it's the small  
things that  
matter.**

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# Welcome!



Please be aware that some of the sessions are being recorded for sharing later.

We want people to participate but please use the 'raise hand' facility to ask questions and contribute when others are talking.

Please be considerate to others - together we want to create a safe, open and reflective space to learn.

You can turn on live captions on by clicking on the 3 dots at the top of your screen if you need this.

Please do take the time to provide us with some feedback towards the end of the session.

# Thank you!



# Today



- **Chance to just think**
- **Relationships - qualities**
- **Relationships - other perspectives**
- **Relationships - doing**



**Relationships - what do you value?**

# Research says

- Young people do better with positive relationships with professionals:
  - Achieve more academically (Pianta et al, 2002; Roorda et al, 2011)
  - Improved social and life skills (Jeffer & Smith 2010; Ord, 2012)
  - Improved health and well-being (Moore et al, 2018)
  - Keep them safe(r)- disclosures (Cossar et al, 2019) manages risks and minimizes harm (Firmin & Owens, 2021)
  - Work better with justice agencies e.g. police seen as fairer and more legitimate (Bradford, 2014)
  - Fostering and adoption - secure base (Neil, 2020) transitions (Blake-Holmes et al, 2022)



# What do young people say?

- Trust is important (hooks, 1994; Holland, 2015; Peters, 2017; Cossar et al, 2019; Firmin & Owens, 2021)
- Trust allows the yp to be heard (Bell, 2002; Baroutsis et al, 2016; Cossar et al, 2019)
- Trust comes from meeting mutual expectations (Holland, 2015)
- Want to feel safe but have agency recognised (Holfve-Sabel, 2014)
- Need a democratic approach; listening, understanding, ownership and creativity (Smyth, 2012)



- Relationships can be quite difficult
  - YPs we may struggle to build relationships with, need it the most (Sabol & Pianta, 2012)
  - Students with ADHD are not as close to their teachers as other children (Ewe, 2019)
  - We tend to respond to behaviour or labels (Day 2017; Fitzpatrick, 2017; Thomas, 2019)
  - Labels given at a young age follow a child (Pianta et al, 2002)
  - Environments we are in (hooks, 1994; Emdin, 2016; Bailey, 2020; Dernikos, 2020)
  - Structural and cultural issues - Childism (Young-Bruehl, 2012)
  - Issue of class-based assumptions and discourses (Priyadharshini, 2011; MacLure et al, 2012)

# What do we mean by relationships?

- Relationships “acknowledges the visible and invisible, conscious and unconscious components...and recognises the important connections between the intrapsychic, interpersonal and broader social contexts in which they are embedded. ” (Ruch, 2023, p.219)
- “...simply to refer to relationship-based-practice is not sufficient. It is the *kind* of relationship that matters...” (Ferguson et al, 2022, p.220)

**It matters what we do...**



**The way to  
get  
started is to  
quit talking  
and begin  
doing.**

**Walt Disney**



# How do we 'do' this?

- What are the everyday things we do to make and maintain relationships?
- What do you appreciate from others?
- What do others appreciate from you?
- What gets in the way or assists you with this?



**Being in  
the doing –  
my  
research**

**(Rennolds, 2022 &  
2023)**

Relationships happen in the world –  
so it isn't just about humans.

Relationships are about encounters as  
well as connections.

Ethical immanence

# Being in the entanglement - my research

Connections are not just social and psychological - they are material, temporal and spatial.

Things can both help and hinder.

It's a collective endeavour in which we are always learning.

**"Don't give a shit, I'm not apologising to her, that fucking chair. No different to school no-one listens, even at school when I was working hard in Year 11 cos I wanted to get my GCSEs the teachers said I was only doing it to go to the prom. Shows how little they know or care, never once asked me how I was getting on, now feels like it's the same"**

Saffron, aged 16 years

[soundcloud](#)

“ The answer is in the doing, in the praxis of composing ‘we, a people’, through alliances, transversal connections and in engaging in difficult conversations on what troubles us” (Braidotti, 2019, p.19)

*“Well I guess I kinda worked it out. If there’s no great glorious end to all this, if nothing we do matters....., then all that matters is what we do” (Angel TV Series, Epiphany Episode, 2001*

**Danny (Lads Like Us: Tw @Lads\_Like\_Us)**

**“Be kind, be a human” “draw a flower round the tick box”**

**Affirmative  
approaches**

# Alternative Knowledges

- Relationship - everything is a kinship relationship, everything/one "is valued and has a valued contribution to make"
- Responsibility - we all have a responsibility to each other as part of our relationships; an ethos of care
- Reciprocity - relationships are built on encounters and reciprocity is built over the long term, so exchanges may be uneven at any point
- Redistribution - generosity is the most highly valued quality, not just materially but socially too.

**Four 'R's of Indigeneity** (Harris & Wasilewski, 2004)

## Seen on Twitter

You may never know much of an impact you have on others, how that one smile, that time to listen, that phone call or text, that hug or a few simple words of encouragement. Don't ever wait to be kind because you never know how much someone might need it.

Giles Paley-Phillips@eliistender10



# Norfolk Multi-agency Practice Week



Feedback can be provided through the QR code on the left or through this link which will be shared in the chat:

<https://forms.office.com/e/EM5kEwrFLJ>





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