

**Getting closer - but not so close that it excludes an alterity of the other.**

**Mandated therapy in cases with violence and children: A model for dialogical research among conflicting voices**

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When family therapy has been mandated by the public child protection system onto a family in order to evaluate if the parents manage to change habits of violence to take future care of their children, how can a climate of mutual research and collaboration among conflicting voices be created within the constraints of a mandated obligation? How can space and time be constituted for alterity to be explored and for trust to develop across agony and hatred?

A model of doing possible a dialogical researching process for change and reconciliation under strongly conflicting interests will be presented.

The reflecting processes and dialogical exploration among involved partakers will be outlined where it is exemplified how the alterity of each shareholder is explored and how the way towards possibilities for collaboration across boundaries are elaborated and negotiated. Divergent from imposing a one-sided definition of lacks and needs from the one onto the other, it is outlined in what way divergent and contrasting viewpoints and multiple voices can be included for mutual collaborating research and change.

The working ideas of the model will be linked to contributions from dialogical scholar and ideas of reflecting teams and reflecting processes.

The presentation welcomes reflections and discussions.