

Transforming Social Work Practice

RIGGALL

Using Counselling Skills in Social Work

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SALLY RIGGALL

Since launching in 2003, *Transforming Social Work Practice* has become the market-leading series for social work students. Now, in order to reflect the ongoing changes to social work practice and education, and in light of the Social Work Task Force report, the series is being improved even further. These books are now more critically-engaging, with greater emphasis on current thinking and policy and further opportunities for students to reflect on their own practice and their own learning.

This practical skills-focused book will enable social work students and practitioners to develop key counselling skills that can help to enhance their practice and help to place the service-user at the centre of decision-making process. Central to this book is the concept of relationship building and the relevant counselling skills for achieving this in social work settings are illustrated in detail. Examples of dialogue and an analysis of interventions are also explored and detailed by the author.

This book will appeal to students who want a practical guide that will help them actually engage with service users. Sections exploring working with different groups, such as young people, families, and people facing loss and bereavement will be reinforced with practical exercises to aid and deepen learning. The use of counselling skills in encouraging service-user self-determination will also be a key theme in each chapter.

About the Author

Sally Riggall is a Senior Lecturer in Social Work at the University of Lincoln where she teaches communication skills to students. She is a qualified counsellor and has many years experience working as a counselling trainer. Sally's research interest is in finding ways of helping students to develop their practical communication skills with service-users in social work practice. Her most recent research project involves collaborating with social workers in training to evaluate how the Egan Skilled Helper Model equips students to develop effective, empathic communication skills which place service-users at the centre of decision making.

The Series Editors

Professor Jonathan Parker is Head of Social Work and Learning Disability at Bournemouth University and, with colleagues, has developed the Centre for Social Work and Social Care Research. He is currently vice-chair of the Joint University Council Social Work Education Committee.

Greta Bradley is a senior lecturer in social work at the University of York. Her academic interests are in community care and workforce studies in social work. Her most recent research is on aspects of sustainable practice in social work. She is a former editor of *Practice*.

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