



THE OFFENDER AND ADDICTION — COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY

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— Maya Angelou

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ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

RAND L. KANNENBERG, M.A., LAC, CCM, CCS is a Licensed Addiction Counselor, a Certified Case Manager, and a Certified Clinical Sociologist as well as an approved education provider by both NBCC and NAADAC. Kannenberg, creator of Resocial Group TM: "A Group Treatment Curriculum for Adults with Antisocial Behavior and Substance Abuse," has been executive director of Criminal Justice Addiction Services in Lakewood, Colorado since 1995, and has provided substance abuse and corrections advanced level training and continuing education workshops in 40 states, Italy, Puerto Rico and South Africa. He also has a private clinical practice specializing in forensic drug and alcohol adult assessments. Kannenberg graduated from the state department of corrections basic training academy and completed the extended prison based training program. He has worked in two correctional facilities, a halfway house, a day reporting center and at a treatment center. He is a credentialed consultant with physicians in emergency departments and on the medical units at several local hospitals. He completed his graduate program in 1984 and has been treating amphetamine and amphetamine-like substance use disorders regularly since 1999. He has been a featured speaker or trainer at nearly 300 state, regional, national, and international workshops or conferences. Kannenberg, distinguished career award nominee and Public Health Champion of the Year recipient, is author of Sociotherapy for Sociopaths™ (2003) and Case Management Handbook for Clinicians (2004).

CBT for Offenders with Addiction: Effectiveness, Moderators, and Digital Delivery

The cognitive-behavioral framework this course provides for treating offenders with substance use disorders and antisocial behavior — covering the application of clinical sociology, the identification and restructuring of criminal thinking patterns, and the resocialization process — has been tested through randomized controlled trials, meta-analyses, digital-delivery implementations, and nurse-led and group-based interventions. The body of research published since this course was written now spans effectiveness evidence across correctional CBT delivery, moderator analyses identifying which offender subgroups benefit most, scalability through digital platforms, integration with pharmacotherapy, gender-specific outcomes in female correctional populations, systematic review evidence on legally mandated treatment, aftercare maintenance requirements, and client-level predictors of dropout.

The broader question of whether court-mandated substance use treatment for justice-involved populations produces measurable health and well-being gains — the legal-compulsion context in which much of the CBT this course describes is actually delivered — was examined in a 2026 systematic review and meta-analysis of 11 studies (seven randomized controlled trials) with 4,643 justice-involved adults. The review found the evidence insufficient to conclude that legally mandated non-custodial treatment orders outperform controls on drug screenings, depression, or serious adverse events (Campbell et al., 2026). For the CBT framework this course applies to mandated offender populations, the Campbell et al. synthesis is a clinical caution: the legal pressure that brings the client into the room does not by itself produce the outcomes the course targets. The therapeutic work — the cognitive restructuring, the resocialization process, the sustained engagement — has to carry the outcome, and the mandate alone cannot substitute for it.

The question of whether cognitive-behavioral interventions reduce recidivism in justice-involved populations with substance use and mental health disorders was directly tested in a 2022 randomized controlled trial of moral reconnection therapy — a structured CBT program designed to address criminal thinking through a series of cognitive restructuring exercises. The trial enrolled 341 justice-involved patients in mental health residential treatment programs, randomizing them to either usual care alone or usual care plus twice-weekly MRT sessions over 12 weeks. The results were sobering: MRT was "not more effective than UC at reducing recidivism risk" in the overall sample, with similar rearrest rates between groups (20.2% for usual care versus 24.9% for MRT). However, only 37% of MRT participants completed the minimum therapeutic dosage, and subgroup analyses suggested benefits among those who fully engaged with the program (Blonigen et al., 2022). For the CBT framework this course teaches, the Blonigen et al. trial illustrates the critical distinction between program availability and program dosage. A CBT program that most participants do not complete cannot be evaluated as a CBT program; it can only be evaluated as a referral to a CBT program that the majority declined to finish.

The dosage-and-engagement problem the Blonigen et al. trial documented at the program level — where only 37% of participants completed the minimum therapeutic dose — was examined at the client level in a 2022 study of 210 female offenders receiving motivational enhancement therapy combined with cognitive-behavioral therapy through a prescription drug court program. Abarno et al. analyzed predictors of graduation and found that posttraumatic stress symptoms ($r = -.19$), nonmedical prescription painkiller use in the past 90 days ($r = -.19$), and past-month substance use problems ($r = -.25$) each negatively predicted completion of the MET-CBT protocol, with effect sizes ranging from $d =$

0.40 to 0.51 (Abarno et al., 2022). For the CBT framework this course teaches, the Abarno et al. finding identifies the specific clinical factors that pull female offenders out of cognitive-behavioral programming before the cognitive restructuring work can take hold. Active substance use and untreated trauma are not only the problems CBT is meant to address — they are simultaneously the conditions that prevent CBT from being received, which means assessment for both must precede program assignment rather than waiting for the program to reveal them.

The moderator analysis from a subsequent 2024 study using MRT trial data identified which offender subgroups actually benefit from MRT when they do engage. Among veterans incarcerated in the year prior to enrollment, MRT was associated with greater reductions in criminal associations at six months and fewer days drinking or using drugs at 12 months. Veterans convicted in the prior year experienced greater employment problem reductions and substance use improvements. Most notably, those scoring high on psychopathic traits — the population this course specifically targets through its discussion of antisocial personality disorder — demonstrated greater reductions in substance use days across both follow-up periods (Blonigen et al., 2024). For the CBT model this course applies to offenders with antisocial personality, the Blonigen et al. moderator finding is counterintuitive and clinically important: the clients most clinicians expect to be least responsive to cognitive-behavioral intervention — those with elevated psychopathic traits — may actually be the most responsive when the intervention is designed to address criminal thinking specifically.

The question of whether the cognitive restructuring this course teaches operates differently for women in correctional settings — a population the original course framework treats alongside male offenders — was examined in a 2026 qualitative study of female detainees participating in a CBT-based chemical dependency program. Analyzing pre-treatment and post-release essays, the researchers documented cognitive changes consistent with the Identity Theory of Desistance: women revised their sense of self and social connectedness through the cognitive work of the program, even as they simultaneously endured what the authors described as the "pains of imprisonment" (Munoz-Serna et al., 2026). For the CBT model this course describes, the Munoz-Serna et al. finding addresses whether cognitive restructuring can produce identity-level change inside the correctional environment itself, or whether incarceration's coercive structure blocks the meaning-making work that CBT depends on. The study's answer is that the cognitive change process does operate inside the facility, that it produces shifts in self-concept rather than only behavioral compliance, and that female detainees in particular demonstrate the capacity for the identity revision this course's resocialization framework describes.

The scalability of CBT for incarcerated populations — which this course addresses through small-group therapy models — was demonstrated in a 2022 study of 2,187 Ohio prison residents who engaged with "Breaking Free from Substance Abuse," a digital CBT program introduced during COVID-19 lockdowns. Participants exhibited moderate to severe substance dependence along with depression, anxiety, interpersonal conflict, and aggressive behavior. The digital program produced significant reductions in substance dependence, depression and anxiety, and biopsychosocial impairment, with improvements in quality of life. Outcomes demonstrated a dose-response relationship: completing specific program components correlated with better results (Elison-Davies et al., 2022). For the CBT delivery model this course describes, the digital delivery finding represents a paradigm expansion. A single digital platform reached more than 2,000 incarcerated individuals during a period when in-person group therapy was suspended, producing measurable outcomes that scale far beyond what individual clinicians can deliver.

The specific clinical mechanisms this course teaches — cognitive restructuring to identify and disrupt criminal thinking patterns, craving management, stress coping skills, and relapse prevention — were tested directly in a 2025 randomized controlled trial of 72 incarcerated young men with methamphetamine use disorder. An 8-week nurse-delivered CBT protocol produced a 38.5% reduction in craving intensity and a 26.7% improvement in overall stress coping, with effect sizes rated large for coping and medium for craving (Aslan et al., 2025). For the treatment model this course describes, the Aslan et al. finding confirms that the four-component CBT package — cognitive restructuring, craving management, stress coping, and relapse prevention — produces measurable change on the exact outcomes the course framework predicts, and does so when delivered by a non-psychiatrist clinician, which expands the pool of providers who can deliver this work inside correctional settings.

The small-group CBT delivery model this course teaches was tested in a 2026 feasibility trial of 33 incarcerated women with methamphetamine use disorder who received 12 group-CBT sessions over six weeks. Craving declined during active treatment and Addiction Severity Index employment scores improved both post-intervention and at three-month follow-up, but craving rebounded after treatment ended, psychiatric symptoms rose, and quality of life declined — leading the authors to recommend structured maintenance sessions (Siste et al., 2026). For the CBT delivery model this course describes, the Siste et al. finding sharpens the course's emphasis on resocialization and aftercare: a six-week in-custody group produces acute-phase gains, but without a continuation structure after the group ends the gains do not hold, and the same incarcerated populations who engage well inside the facility lose ground once the sessions stop.

The integration of CBT with pharmacotherapy for forensic populations — which this course does not address because it focuses on behavioral intervention alone — was examined in a 2026 retrospective study of a semi-structured manualized treatment program combining motivational enhancement and cognitive-behavioral approaches with concurrent pharmacotherapy for 96 forensic psychiatric patients with substance misuse. The analysis found significant increases in recognition of substance use problems and in active steps toward change for users of cannabis, cocaine, and tobacco, while alcohol users showed significant increases in ambivalence — the stage-of-change indicator that precedes behavioral action (Olagunju et al., 2026). For the CBT model this course describes, the Olagunju et al. finding demonstrates that the cognitive restructuring process operates differently depending on the substance of use and that medication support during CBT may enhance engagement with the cognitive change process, particularly among forensic patients whose antisocial traits and involuntary treatment status might otherwise limit therapeutic alliance.

The Offender and Addiction - Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Community Mental Health: Applying Sociology to the Clinical Setting - Sociotherapy for Sociopaths

(Rand L. Kannenberg, Southwestern Sociological Association Annual Meeting in conjunction with the Southwestern Social Science Annual Meeting, Dallas, Texas, March, 1987; Colorado Mental Health Association Conference, Breckenridge, Colorado, September, 1987)

For a variety of reasons, more M.A. and Ph.D. level sociologists, like many other social scientists with advanced degrees, are employed outside of academia. For some it is a simple matter of economics: business pays better than what can be made in most classrooms or laboratories. Others prefer occupations off campus. And for those who do lean toward teaching and research, there are too few jobs for everyone. Luckily, sociology is a behavioral science, which can be successfully practiced, in other applied or clinical settings. One important example is mental health. Historically, the field of adult mental health, even in low paying community centers, has been occupied predominantly by registered or licensed professionals from psychiatry, psychology and social work. Nonetheless, clinical sociologists along with applied sociologists have organized. The result is a professional association¹, which provides the opportunity for certification as a clinical sociologist in one or more specialty areas, political power has been increased, and members are more attractive to the potential employer, in the mental health field and others. Accordingly, there is an improved recognition of sociological counseling or sociotherapy, and clinical sociologists are often seen by colleagues from the different disciplines named above (disciplines which it must be noted are conceptually interrelated with sociology) as the experts of certain techniques or modalities for treatment. Sociodrama or role-playing, sociometry or the diagramming of relationships within groups, and group therapy are just a few examples.

Clinical sociologists are also effective criminologists. Using paradigms that vary from Functionalism to Conflict Theory and somewhere in between the two extremes, sociologists have done impressive work inside of prisons and in community based clinics with probationers and adults paroled from penal institutions. Because crime is a major social problem in contemporary American society, sociologists are no longer being asked to only explain the causes of

¹ Sociological Practice Association: A Professional Organization of Clinical and Applied Sociologists (formerly known as the Clinical Sociology Association, which was established in 1978).

social deviance by different theories, but also to work directly with the deviants themselves. Utilizing the concepts of social groups, norms, deinstitutionalization, and resocialization, a clinical sociologist is capable of playing an active role in the process of reintegrating convicted criminals back into society.

This course will address the value of applying clinical sociology as an intervention for positive change in community mental health. More specifically, the significance of sociological counseling for felons with mental disorders will be discussed by studying an actual therapy group in progress which was designed for clients with the diagnosis of Antisocial Personality Disorder. An arbitrarily chosen member of the group will be anonymously presented in an attempt to identify a few of the social characteristics of such clients.

Community Mental Health

This author is currently employed as a clinician in an adult outpatient clinic at one of four community mental health centers in the city and county of Denver², all of which contract for services with the state of Colorado. Duties include the provision of ongoing individual, couple and group therapy as well as telephone and walk-in screenings, face-to-face intake evaluations; and the shared responsibility of emergency coverage. In addition to the author who has a Master of Arts degree in Sociology, the adult outpatient team consists of two licensed social workers, two unlicensed masters' level social workers, a registered nurse with a bachelors degree and certification in psychiatric nursing, an M.A. level psychologist and a part-time psychiatrist. Specialties are varied but none of the clinical staff members have extensive education, training or prior work experience in criminology.

All therapists have the right as a supervised yet mostly autonomous professional to refuse treatment to any client if the reason is clinically justifiable. A potential client's high level of risk for danger to others exemplifies such decision-making. The policies and procedures clearly reflect the administration and management's concern for the safety of both staff and other clients alike. In accordance with this arrangement, a history of violence is listed as suitable grounds for the denial of services.

Violent clients may be referred to other outside agencies such as private nonprofit clinics, which specialize in working with people involved in the criminal justice system. However, the reason that most parolees, probationers, individuals involved with Social Services³ by court order, and inmates at the county jail on work and therapy release are initially referred to the community mental health center in their area, is financially motivated. A sliding fee scale

² Shortly after this paper was first published, the four mental health centers merged and became a single agency serving the city and county of Denver.

³ Now called "Human Services" in Colorado.

based on family size and income is used. Many clients pay as little as \$1.50 an hour (the full rate is \$60 for individual treatment and half that for groups) and the other agencies charge much more than the average involuntary client is able to afford. Therefore, someone has to provide mental health treatment to this population at a realistic cost. (In Colorado, parolees are given \$100 cash upon release from prison and expected to pay for their own transportation, room, board and other expenses including therapy if such is a condition of their parole agreement.)

This therapist inherited involuntary clients as described earlier from his predecessor. The existing caseload included a convicted murderer, several rapists and other violent offenders. In reviewing cases and planning a schedule it was decided that the parolees and probationers (those already admitted to the program as well as future referrals) could best be served by remaining at the outpatient clinic but in a group that would meet regularly. Before this time these difficult to work with clients were seen individually, however, appointments were sporadic, mainly because of other priorities. Clients who required crisis intervention or even the more stable individuals who were in treatment voluntarily received precedence. The client who sees himself as being “forced” to attend and participate is clearly not motivated to be there. The brief sessions once monthly, for example, is something that the client may have preferred, but it was not necessarily therapeutic. For this reason, a group which meets for fifty minutes (or one clinical hour) on the same day and time every week was developed. What follows is a description of the group.

Sociotherapy for Sociopaths™⁴

In September 1986 when the group was started by the author, five clients were enrolled. The current number is eight (this is the maximum because of room size and basic concerns of manageability). At present time there is also a waiting list of additional referrals.

Referral criteria are that the client be a male⁵ probationer or parolee between the ages of 18 to 59 years who resides in the catchment area of this community mental health center. (Geographically, the area covers most of east Denver which includes the airport⁶, an airforce base, a section immediately adjacent to the downtown district, low income housing, as well as historic neighborhoods.)

⁴ The first name of the treatment program was “Parolee/Probationer Group.” It was changed to “Resocial Group”™ about five years ago. The training is known as “Sociotherapy for Sociopaths.”™

⁵ Resocial Group™ has been coed for years. Training discusses the minimum number of female members to minimize retraumatizing clients as well as some issues more likely to be female specific.

⁶ Stapleton International Airport (now closed).

Antisocial Personality Disorder must be the primary mental health diagnosis. As defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (Fourth Edition, Text Revision) (this widely used guidebook is more commonly known as the “DSM IV-TR”), the onset had to occur before age 15 years and there must be a pattern of continuous antisocial behavior in which the rights of others are violated. Citing directly from the DSM IV-TR this diagnosis also requires at least three or more of the following manifestations of the disorder since age 18 years:

- (1) failure to conform to social norms with respect to lawful behaviors as indicated by repeatedly performing acts that are grounds for arrest
- (2) deceitfulness, as indicated by repeated lying, use of aliases, or conning others for personal profit or pleasure
- (3) impulsivity or failure to plan ahead
- (4) irritability and aggressiveness, as indicated by repeated physical fights or assaults
- (5) reckless disregard for safety of self or others
- (6) consistent irresponsibility, as indicated by repeated failure to sustain consistent work behavior or honor financial obligations
- (7) lack of remorse, as indicated by being indifferent to or rationalizing having hurt, mistreated, or stolen from another

Potential clients who have a primary problem of substance abuse or dependence⁷, a diagnosis of Schizophrenia or Severe Mental Retardation, or are deemed at high risk for violence in the clinical setting specifically, will not be admitted. Potential clients who have a history of adult antisocial behavior which is not due to this specific personality disorder will also be refused enrollment in the group but might be appropriate for individual treatment (this author has offered therapy outside of the group to a former drug dealer, several child molesters, and an individual on federal probation for racketeering).

A completed referral form along with a release of information form signed and dated by the potential client, allowing disclosure of this confidential record information as well as future exchanges of information between the two agencies, must be sent by the referral source (i.e., parole officer, probation officer, or Department of Corrections mental health staff, etc.) prior to a scheduled intake evaluation appointment. Besides basic identifying information, the referral form requests criminal history and details regarding any violent behavior even if not convicted of these crimes; current level of risk for danger to self and others; information regarding all incarcerations; and dates and locations of prior mental health and drug/alcohol treatment including hospitalizations (if any). A mental health diagnosis, if available and names and dosages of prescribed medications, if applicable are also requested as is a summary of

⁷ Currently, Resocial Group™ members must have co-occurring diagnoses of Antisocial Personality Disorder (APD) and a Substance Use Disorder (SUD).

social history (e.g., family background, employment, and education) and treatment recommendations. Word-of-mouth has been the primary source of publicity for the group although two inservice seminars have been provided to date – one at the Denver Field Office of Parole, the other at the state penitentiary with mental health staff.

The duration of treatment is at least six months. In addition to therapy, case management, namely coordination of services with the parole/probation officer⁸, is provided as needed. Again, the problem is stated as a history of continuous and chronic antisocial behavior in which the rights of others are violated, resulting in incarceration for those clients on parole (the average length of stay in prison for parolees in the group was seven years).

The goal of the group is that its members become deinstitutionalized (if on parole) and/or that they learn how to function responsibly in society. Objectives include regular attendance and participation in the group therapy sessions once weekly for at least six months as mentioned earlier. Payment for services rendered must be paid at the time of every appointment. Only after attending three consecutive sessions, and preferably with one week's advance notice, may one session per month be missed.⁹ If a client "no shows" (i.e., does not call to cancel and reschedule) a form letter is sent to him with a copy going to the parole or probation officer documenting which scheduled appointment was not kept and giving the date, day and time of the next group meeting. The same letter also states how many unexcused absences the client has to date and will be allowed in the future.¹⁰ Noncompliance with treatment is defined as three no shows.¹¹ Clients terminated from the group for the reason of nonattendance are not re-enrolled. A referral to another agency is provided if such is desired.

Other objectives are that the client will report improved interpersonal relationships and on-the-job performance (if employed); an increase in awareness of social norms; and a decrease in problems of impulsiveness and irritability. In addition, it is desired that in six months the client will have

⁸ The author is now a Certified Case Manager and has a better understanding of clinical case management. He borrows the definition from the BSS Model (Balanced Service Systems) by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and the Community Mental Health Center Act. Instead of simply seeing case management as the function of coordination of services, the BSS Model defines case management as including "assessment, planning, linking, monitoring and advocacy."

⁹ The current attendance policy simply allows for three absences as long as the client attends at least 24 sessions.

¹⁰ There is no longer a difference between "excused" and "unexcused."

¹¹ At this time, no more than three missed visits of any kind are tolerated. The client is automatically terminated on the fourth absence.

demonstrated an improved ability and willingness to function as a responsible spouse, romantic partner, and/or parent as well as an increase in motivation to honor financial obligations and to be truthful.¹²

Even though some informal education/socialization regarding society's expectations around lawful behavior is provided, for the most part, the group is talk therapy. Clients are encouraged to speak freely about situations at home and work (or during job search efforts).¹³ Clients are supported interpersonally and also helped to improve their own insight into problem areas by utilizing the cognitive approach to treatment. They are assisted in problem solving and planning for the future. Role-playing is used to explore appropriate ways that anger and other strong emotions might be dealt with both effectively and efficiently. Relationships in families and social groups are studied and explained if possible. Clients are confronted about the seriousness of providing for children (if applicable) and maintaining legal or moral commitments to spouse/romantic partners and others (this includes financial obligations). A premise of the therapist is that even if these clients have seemingly learned little if anything from punishment and seen nothing wrong with their behavior in the past, all of them know right from wrong and some have feelings of guilt and can conform. A stable social support system such as this treatment group may provide the motivation they need to comply with the rules of society.

Services are denied to a client if he appears intoxicated/under the influence of alcohol or other nonprescribed drugs. Any act of violence would result in immediate notification to the appropriate law enforcement agency and automatic termination from the group.

A Case Study

John Doe is an original member of the group. He was also terminated for nonattendance and readmitted before the group rule allowing this practice was changed (actually, it was implemented because of him and his behavior). John is 39 years-old, has never been legally married, is unemployed, was referred by Colorado Department of Corrections and is on parole for sexual assault which expires later this month. Outpatient mental health treatment is a condition of his parole agreement as fixed by the state Board of Parole.

As an adult, John has had more than thirty arrests which include the charges of Aggravated Assaults, Carrying a Concealed Weapon, Rape, Aggravated Robbery and other violent crimes. He has also been convicted of Assault with a

¹² Abstinence and sobriety are also goals of Resocial Group™.

¹³ This is a major change. Resocial Group™ now is a very structured cognitive behavioral treatment program that has three activities that are repeated for each of the eight topics.

Deadly Weapon. As a juvenile he was arrested for Larceny from a Motor Vehicle and Accessory After the Fact. He was placed on probation with juvenile court until the petition was later dismissed.

After the age of 18 John has been placed on probation twice, fined approximately four times, sentenced to county jail two times and in the state penitentiary twice. His most recent incarceration was in a medium security prison. He only served three of his seven-year sentence. On a scale of “1 to 10” (with 10 being the most serious), the Diagnostic Center at the state penitentiary assigned John with a rating of “9” for “Violence Potential,” a “9” for “Recidivism Based on Unfavorable Habits,” and a “9” for “Recidivism Based on Compulsive Self Hatred.”

John has a very limited and unstable work history. He has been unemployed for about one year after release from prison. Because he is currently unable or unwilling to secure and maintain employment, this author has referred him to the state Division of Rehabilitation for vocational testing, assessment, counseling and placement.

John has seven children ages eight to seventeen years old by three different women, is currently involved with another woman and admits to sexual promiscuity. He fails to provide any financial support to his children or their mothers.

John is very dishonest. For example, he would only admit to a single felony offense until confronted about the other multiple arrests and convictions once confirmed by official records. He is also resistive to treatment and has been belligerent at times. He claims to have no real plans for the future either.

John is neither the most nor the least successful group member, but he now attends and participates actively in the discussions benefiting from and contributing to the group process. Several others have been terminated and referred elsewhere for noncompliance with treatment. As a result, they face the possibility of a parole revocation hearing and return to prison.

One member is currently in county jail for possession of stolen goods; another is to be sentenced in two months for a DUI arrest and conviction (he pled guilty) while on parole.¹⁴

However, after spending eleven years in prison (where he went when only 17 years-old), one client was recently named “Employee of the Month” at a local franchise of a nationally known fast food restaurant for outstanding job

¹⁴ The next section in this text on parole clarifies the author’s point of view regarding when parole should be revoked.

performance. He has also decided to “do the right thing” and marry his pregnant girlfriend who he says he “loves.” Another client can finally use the telephone to call and cancel appointments instead of simply not showing. This is a small yet important example of learned responsible behavior.

A different client can now better recognize the needs of his young children and his duty to meet them. This is an accomplishment for the parent of another child who died of malnutrition not too long ago. This same individual has also received a better paying job with added responsibilities that make him “proud,” a feeling he is able to identify in the group setting.

A new member of the group will probably be admitted to a corporate sponsored job-training program next week. To avoid a potential parole violation, he has already decided to make the necessary arrangements to adjust his work schedule so he does not have to miss therapy sessions. Finally, a former group member with a history of violent crimes and great difficulty controlling his anger wrote a five stanza poem entitled, “Inspiration” and dedicated it to this therapist. Four lines of the composition read as follows:

“When you see someone who is down-and-out,
STOP! And see what’s the hurt all about.
Letting your heart be your guide,
While showing some decency, pulling his coat on the side!”

Conclusion

Along with the provision of work orientation training and personal/social adjustment training (especially independent living skills instruction), mental health treatment is an essential need for some but not all parolees and probationers, that should be provided as soon as possible upon disposition in court or release from prison. Clinical sociologists and other practitioners using group therapy as discussed in this paper, whether at community mental health centers or in other settings, may make a real difference in keeping criminals from repeating their crimes and staying out of prison.

Test of Parole is Protection of Lawful Citizens

(Rand L. Kannenberg, Guest Column, Rocky Mountain News, Sunday, February 22, 1987. After this article was first published, the author was nominated to the Colorado Parole Board. He was the youngest person ever nominated. He was not appointed.)

At first glance, the idea of releasing a convicted criminal from prison before the full sentence is served may not appear reasonable to everyone. However, as long as strict conditions are set and close supervision in the community is provided, parole is logical. In theory, parole is less expensive than institutionalization, bed space is made available to violent offenders who are likely to repeat their crimes and therefore must remain incarcerated, and it allows for a transitional and trial period outside of prison – a gradual reintegration back into society and an easier process of return to prison if unsuccessful.

Unfortunately though, in recent practices, parolees have been charged with murder, rape and other violent crimes. In fear of their safety, people are questioning the system and, in some cases, rightly so. Confidence in the parole board and individual parole officers has diminished. Granted, there are some serious problems in Colorado's adult parole system, but it can work. Whereas many changes may be needed to correct these problems, none of the changes are drastic.

It is wrong to pressure the parole board to release inmates simply because of a decrease in prison space and then turn around and blame them for granting parole inappropriately or hesitating to revoke parole for the same reason. A new prison is definitely needed. So are additional alternatives, such as halfway houses and other medium to low-security correctional facilities for non-violent offenders. Very simply, parole, if to be used correctly, cannot replace the need for building new prisons.

Because of the difficult decisions involved in granting and revoking parole, fixing conditions of parole agreements, and hearing requests for transfers between facilities – as well as considering the impact on the community, parole board members should be required to demonstrate certain qualifications.

Ideally, members would be professionals from the various fields of criminal justice/law enforcement (including parole officers), mental health, social work and vocational rehabilitation. An informed and open-minded citizen representative, possibly a crime victim or a victim's relative, could also be an asset because of personal exposure to crime and its effects. In accordance with these recommendations, the model four-member board soon to be appointed by the governor would be well balanced professionally and include no more than one non-professional member.

Indeed, parolees have the rights to due process of law and these should be protected. Nonetheless, because of their criminal conviction and supervision by the court they also forfeit some privileges. Automatically allowing a parolee to appeal the parole board's revocation of parole is both costly and time consuming. This is not a procedure that has to be eliminated but can be restricted in use.

If a parole officer requests a revocation hearing because of a carefully documented parole violation and the parole board chooses to revoke parole that decision should stand. Parole is a conditional release from prison. When conditions meant to rehabilitate - not punish - the parolee and also to protect society cannot be met, the parole violator will have to demonstrate good behavior back in prison and await his or her next parole hearing when again eligible. The laws should be changed to allow an appeal of parole revocation only when a parolee or an advocate can prove without a doubt that a mistake was made by the parole officer and/or parole board and parole was revoked without just cause.

On the other hand, parole revocation hearings should be automatic when a subsequent crime is committed and a parolee is arrested while on parole. Detaining a parolee during an investigation is a good idea. So is another related plan, a statewide computer system to track parolees and provide local law enforcement officials with names, finger prints, photographs and other identifying information. Without a system, it is all too likely that there will be another incident of a parolee being arrested and released 17 times before finally murdering someone, as happened in Arapahoe County last year.

Statutes dealing with parole should benefit the law-abiding citizen. If they do not, parole will not be supported by the people of this state.

Other RESOCIAL GROUP™ Case Studies

Bob¹⁵

Bob is a thirty-eight year old White male. He is employed as a truck and diesel mechanic for a company owned by his brother. He dropped out of school in the ninth grade. As a teenager he had multiple arrests for theft of auto parts and was placed on probation. He was also assaultive against peers. He is one of seven children. Both parents had problems with alcohol and domestic abuse. His father would regularly drink and drive. Bob has been married four times. He has not been a responsible parent with regards to consistent financial support or visitation with the two children from two of the relationships.

¹⁵ Not the client's real name.

He has been arrested for DWAI (twice), Second Degree Assault, Shoplifting, Disturbing the Peace, First Degree Criminal Trespass, Larceny, Driving after Revocation Prohibited (four times), DUI (three times), Eluding a Police Officer, First Degree Sexual Assault, Disturbing the Peace (two times), Threat to Injure Person/Property, Assault, Wrongs to Minors, Intimidating a Witness, Third Degree Assault (twice), Sexual Assault on a Child, Third Degree Sexual Assault, Driving while Habitual Drug User, Driving under Restraint, Domestic Violence (three times), Menacing, Criminal Mischief, Failure to Display Insurance, Reckless Driving and Speeding. As an adult he has used several aliases. He has been repeatedly indifferent to hurting others. He does not have Schizophrenia, or Bipolar Disorder; however, he has been treated for depression and anxiety in the past. He did not attend mental health counseling and stopped taking the medications when he went to jail but “did not notice a difference.”

Bob is a chronic alcoholic. He has increased tolerance, quantity and duration; he has been unable to discontinue drinking; he has had legal and social impairments related to the alcohol; and he continued to drink despite the depressive episodes. He has been non-compliant with substance abuse treatment and did not take Antabuse as directed on a regular basis while on probation. Most recently he has been given a direct sentence to community corrections after his fourth conviction for Driving after Revocation Prohibited and has been referred to Resocial Group™ for cognitive behavioral treatment that deals with co-occurrence of Antisocial Personality Disorder and Alcohol Dependence. He is also attending “offense specific” (sex offender) treatment and AA meetings.

- Session 1.* Quiet at first but with help was able to complete activity. Told group that he wants to be a better father to his son “starting now.”
- Session 2.* Involved in role training about being responsible on the job. Nervous at first but able to participate and show the group how someone is more likely to be a good worker without alcohol and/or other drugs.
- Session 3.* Wrote a goal on short-term, criminal behavior. “I will find a ride, take the bus or even walk while I am in the program so I won’t go to prison starting now.”
- Session 4.* Admitted to having a difficult time understanding the exercises tonight even though he used the same technique a few weeks ago. Was willing to re-do them. Presented at the end of group and talked about a goal of feeling and showing remorse when appropriate.

- Absence 1.* No-show to group. Case manager notified. Per other clients, was at work.
- Session 5.* Apologized for missing last week. Said his case manager would explain why he missed. His goal was long-term, substance abuse and talked about attending church with a friend on a weekly basis after leaving the program.
- Session 6.* Written activity was somewhat difficult for him. At first he struggled with how to do the assignment. He then talked about how his alcohol use and anger with his son caused feelings of anger and rejection.
- Session 7.* Animated this evening. Did not hesitate to get involved in role training exercises. Defined impulsivity as “not being ready or prepared.”
- Session 8.* Wrote a short-term substance abuse goal about continuing to take Antabuse three times a week “to help me maintain my sobriety.” Active in session. Willing to take a risk by giving feedback to another peer. Did well.
- Session 9.* Made a mistake on assignment. Became a little defensive. Then came to the rescue of two other clients when they were given direct feedback. Asked him to talk about this. No insight into why he feels uncomfortable with the conflict or criticism (with self or others).
- Session 10.* Very involved. Helped facilitate an activity. Positive.
- Session 11.* Approximately halfway through treatment. Reviewed three goals he has written so far. Group agreed he is doing very well with Antabuse, finding rides/taking bus/walking and planning on going to church once allowed by case manager/program.
- Session 12.* Did not want to be on camera during videotaping of group session or ask questions off camera (even though he previously signed informed consent form volunteering to participate), but agreed to assist setting up equipment and room. Helpful.
- Session 13.* Very positive about how video turned out. Laughed and smiled.
- Session 14.* Compared his relationship to his son with what it was like growing up with his own father. Blames alcohol on the problems he has had with rule breaking. Says he knows he will not use in the future and that he can make this promise to and for his son.
- Session 15.* Talked openly about how he cannot drink at all because if he starts he cannot stop and he doesn’t want to go to prison.

- Session 16.* His goal was long-term/criminal behavior. Says that only after gone from program and allowed to drive he will go to Department of Motor Vehicles to make certain he has a valid driver's license so that he doesn't get in trouble driving.
- Session 17.* Said his son has been afraid of his driving under the influence like he was with his own father. Optimistic that if he continues to work his program, he can stay sober and reduce his chances of getting involved in dangerous situations and settings.
- Session 18.* Participated on his own before being asked. Did well.
- Session 19.* Used over-the-counter eye drops in group. Has a very red right eye he said was injured at work. Told him to please turn in or discuss eye drops with security and housing staff. Staff notified. Client wrote a goal regarding safety and preventing future injuries on-the-job.
- Session 20.* Discussed growing up being forced to fight his best friend by his brother and more recently (before coming to this agency) how he made his own son cry. Thinks he can be assertive versus aggressive if he remains sober.
- Session 21.* Involved in defining topic and in doing activities.
- Session 22.* Graduates after two more sessions. Case manager notified. Wrote sixth and final goal this meeting regarding thinking about what he says before he says it at work to avoid being aggressive.
- Session 23.* Had some difficulty with activity but able to make the corrections. Graduates next session. Will invite case manager, have refreshments and prepare certificate of completion.
- Session 24.* Final meeting. Had refreshments. Presented certificate. Congratulated by peers. Case manager unable to attend. Three short-term goals accomplished or still being addressed. Three long-term goals still apply.

Gene¹⁶

Gene is a twenty-one year old White male. He dropped out of school in the eighth grade. He does not have a G.E.D. His parents divorced when he was thirteen. He has lived with his father, stepmother and sister where he continued to reside rent-free until his most recent arrest. He has also worked sporadically as a roofer for his father's business. Gene has never been married and has no children. He denies gang involvement but says all of his friends drink alcohol excessively and use illegal drugs.

¹⁶ Not the client's real name.

Gene was adjudicated as a juvenile delinquent for Misdemeanor Theft, Underage Possession of Alcohol, Minor in Possession of Alcohol (twice), and Third Degree Assault. He admits to starting drinking and using drugs when he was fifteen and that before being sentenced for the current charge of Criminal Trespass he used both alcohol and marijuana daily. He states that he was intoxicated at the time of his recent arrest and all he knows is that when he woke up he was in jail. He is diagnosed with Alcohol Dependence and Cannabis Abuse.

Adult criminal history includes the following: Harassment, Burglary Two-of a Dwelling, Theft, Second-Degree Burglary, Child Abuse/No Injury/Neglect, and Possession of Paraphernalia. He has been on probation several times and violated the terms and conditions of probation at least twice. He has also served time in county jail. He is now sentenced to a private halfway house and has been placed in Resocial Group™ for the treatment of his substance use disorders and Antisocial Personality Disorder (repeated arrests, fighting, impulsivity, carelessness, and lack of remorse).

- Session 1.* First one to present. Talked openly regarding dishonesty and drugs.
- Session 2.* Very involved. Took exercise seriously. Well received.
- Session 3.* Took this activity seriously too. Able to help others as well.
- Session 4.* Learned violence in Kindergarten. Feelings: fear/rejection.
- Session 5.* Less energetic than usual. Looked/sounded tired tonight.
- Session 6.* Wrote long-term goal regarding Big Book. More involved than last week.
- Session 7.* Admitted to being careless and using in the past and talked about how carelessness related to using drugs. Great effort in group.
- Session 8.* Excellent effort. Talked about drugs and being careless again.
- Session 9.* Confused. Unable to concentrate to write a goal. Apologized.
- Session 10.* Able to participate. Said he learned aggressiveness from dad.
- Absence 1.* No-showed to group.
- Session 11.* Wrote short-term goal on criminal behavior saying he will save money and decrease spending to help avoid stealing from others in the future.
- Session 12.* Mostly quiet but did complete written and verbal exercises. Talked about pattern of substance abuse/irritability he learned from his dad.

- Session 13.* More involved tonight. Even helped direct an activity. Did well. Helped group understand that opposite of irritable for him is “relaxed.”
- Session 14.* Quiet. “Tired.” Midpoint through his treatment program so reviewed all three goals written. Group agreed they still apply/doing well.
- Session 15.* Related to learning irresponsibility, told group that he remembers his parents being late to a conference with teacher at school and how he reacted with anger.
- Session 16.* Talkative. Active. Helped new clients understand terms and techniques. Good examples of relationship between irresponsibility and substance abuse.
- Absence 2.* No show. Case manager notified.
- Session 17.* Apologized for missing group last week. Took activities seriously tonight. Talked regarding learning about not feeling guilty from a drunk uncle and that he wants to assume responsibility for his own actions.
- Session 18.* Had to be redirected once about distracting the group with repeated laughing. Able to talk with good understanding about the topics.
- Absence 3.* No showed. Was in facility at the time. Will automatically be terminated if he misses again. Case manager notified.
- Session 19.* Told group he is less tired now off Antabuse. Talked about learning how to be reactionary from his older brother and how he has repeated pattern. Wants to work on thinking before acting.
- Session 20.* Involved with giving definitions, explaining techniques and then actually doing enactments. Positive. Alert and active entire group.
- Session 21.* Wrote a goal about buying a daily planner next week and using on a regular basis to “be more prepared and ready for future plans.” Successfully completes group if he attends three more times with no more absences.
- Session 22.* Fell asleep during session. Told that to graduate in a few sessions he needs to actively participate. If he is asked to leave a meeting he will be terminated from the group because he has already had the maximum of three absences.
- Session 23.* Wide-awake. Graduates after one more group. Did very well defining topic and explaining exercises. Also involved in activities.

Session 24. Graduated. Former case manager in attendance to celebrate and support. Gave client certificate. He received positive feedback from staff and fellow clients. Reviewed all three short-term goals. Successful with them. Also went over all three long-term goals. They still apply.

Susan¹⁷

Susan is a thirty-two year old Hispanic female. She is currently separated. In the past she has worked as a waitress. She completed the eleventh grade. She got in trouble in school, was aggressive to people her own age and deceitful with family and friends. Susan has two sisters and one brother. Her brother has a history of domestic violence. One of her sisters has also been involved in the criminal justice system. Her parents divorced when Susan was nineteen years old. She blames the divorce on her father's problems with violence and alcohol abuse. She had her first child when she was twenty and another child by a different boyfriend four years later.

Her current crimes involve stealing money from a cash register and new clothing items from her place of employment; as well as stealing and cashing checks from a housecleaning customer, and stealing the wallet from one of her children's teachers. Susan pretended to have a seizure when arrested for the last incident described above. She blames the drinking and domestic violence of her ex husband and past boyfriend for her behavior.

She has been convicted of Forgery (three counts), Criminal Impersonation, Shoplifting (twice), and Conspiracy to Commit Theft. She has repeatedly lied and used aliases and been unable or unwilling to sustain consistent employment and honor her financial obligations. Susan has Antisocial Personality Disorder, and Alcohol Abuse, Cocaine Abuse and Cannabis Abuse diagnoses. After being sentenced to community corrections her case manager referred her to Resocial Group™.

Absence 1. New client who called saying she couldn't make it. Will get a write-up for not following individual program plan. 1:1 tomorrow.

Session 1. Introduced self to group. Explained that she had done similar activities in another cog group elsewhere. Enjoyed session.

¹⁷ Not the client's real name.

- Session 2.* Her goals on being more patient and attending in-house groups assigned by case manager were approved by clients/facilitator.
- Session 3.* Said her dad had an alcohol problem and she could not count on him when she was a child. Experienced anger and rejection. Told group she has had problems with drugs causing same kinds of difficulties at home.
- Session 4.* Excellent participation. Told group previously that she did “role playing” with a probation department cognitive behavioral treatment program before. Focus was on family relationships and spouses tolerating behavior that affects children.
- Session 5.* Wrote goal regarding attending two AA meetings a week “to help with my sobriety” . . . “and reporting to my case manager about my progress.”
- Session 6.* Told group that she learned lack of remorse related to drinking and not being a responsible parent from her dad and that she repeated the pattern as an adult.
- Session 7.* Not as talkative as usual. Did get involved in assigned activities but said she wasn’t feeling well. Complained of upset stomach.
- Session 8.* More quiet than usual. Wrote a goal (long-term, substance abuse) regarding AA and sponsor. Denied any problems when asked why not as talkative tonight.
- Session 9.* Very positive. Talked about doing well at facility because she is organized and planning more. Admits that she has repeated behaviors similar to her own parents. Wants to learn about being less impulsive, not using drugs and being happy.
- Session 10.* Helped new group member. Mostly quiet otherwise. Not feeling well physically. Complained of having a cold.
- Session 11.* Also at midpoint (with one absence). Reviewed her two short-term goals and one long-term goal. Working on them. No changes made.
- Session 12.* Involved but not feeling well. Told group she went to hospital yesterday for infection but is on medications. Also announced that case manager may pull her out of group. She said this is a group she would like to stay in. Reports that she is attending “six groups a week.”
- Session 13.* Said she was feeling well. Told to talk to her case manager because it is the understanding of this facilitator that she is not being pulled out of group as she thought. Did well in defining and talking about topics.

- Session 14.* Helped others with exercise. Wrote a long-term antisocial goal regarding opening a bank account once no longer in halfway house to “make it easier to pay bills.”
- Session 15.* Asked questions off camera but did not want to be videotaped. Coffee spilled on her pant leg by accident. She denied injury.
- Session 16.* Viewed videotape made previous week.
- Session 17.* Talked for the first time in group about how future might not include her husband and that changing relationships like this might be necessary to avoid substance abuse and breaking rules and laws. Drew a picture of her and her daughters only.
- Session 18.* Participated in a couple of activities with no problems.
- Session 19.* Somewhat silly. Said she was “happy” because had a great day at work. Wrote a short-term criminal behavior goal regarding keeping job, saving money, being on time, not calling in sick, “to keep me from going back to jail for theft.”
- Session 20.* Discussed witnessing/experiencing carelessness and substance abuse and how she has had the same problems and exposed her children to unsafe situations (by her drinking and driving). Noticing a slight decrease in client's overall involvement recently.
- Session 21.* Told group that carelessness related to substance abuse can also be described as being negligent or unhealthy.
- Session 22.* Her goal is to go to a medical/technical college within six months. Will successfully complete group after two more sessions if she continues to participate.
- Session 23.* Will graduate next session. Actively involved with reviewing directions and cleaning up after meeting tonight. Talked openly about violence growing up as well as how she and husband have been aggressive with each other and their children. Thinks husband is “getting better” from counseling and now sees the possibility of them getting back together soon after all.
- Session 24.* Final session. Her case manager in attendance as invited. Had refreshments. Gave her certificate of completion. Reviewed three short-term goals. All achieved. Reviewed three long-term goals. All still apply. She received positive feedback from peers. Allowed to leave early.

Clinton¹⁸

Clinton is a twenty-two year old Hispanic male. He is single. His only employment history is doing a variety of jobs that his grandfather paid him for. He stopped going to school in the tenth grade. He is working on his GED currently. He was adjudicated as a juvenile (starting at the age of 14) for Criminal Mischief (twice), Second Degree Burglary, Criminal Conspiracy, Third Degree Assault, and Possession of Marijuana under Eight Ounces.

His father moved out of the family home when Clinton was thirteen and even though his mother had custody, he lived with his maternal grandmother. Three years later (when Clinton was sixteen), his father was stabbed and killed by the woman he was living with at the time. Clinton also started using marijuana when he was sixteen (about three times a week per self-report). Marijuana continues to be his current drug of choice.

As an adult he has been arrested for Making a False Report, Conspiracy, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Criminal Mischief and Auto Theft. He has been sentenced to community corrections for his Auto Theft conviction. He has been referred to Resocial Group™ for the Cannabis Abuse and Antisocial Personality Disorder (primary problem areas have been identified as chronic and continuous lying, carelessness, irresponsibility and lack of remorse).

- Session 1.* Learned about violence and THC in school. Says he can change.
- Session 2.* Helped group with definitions and examples. Creative, bright.
- Session 3.* Actively involved. Positive. Wrote short-term goal about sobriety/rules.
- Session 4.* Disruptive at end of group. Apologized. Overall, did well.
- Session 5.* Helpful member of a couple of activities, took them seriously.
- Session 6.* Initially silly but then actively involved and positive.
- Session 7.* Talked regarding learning aggressiveness in family and repeating pattern.
- Absence 1.* Ten minutes late. Told he could not stay/zero tolerance.
- Session 8.* Wrote long-term criminal behavior goal addressing staying employed to save money “to buy my own car,” versus stealing a car (his crime) once allowed to drive.

¹⁸ Not the client's real name.

- Session 9.* Silly and inappropriate. Given last warning. Almost asked to leave group due to distracting behavior with Victoria¹⁹. Made him move.
- Session 10.* Sat away from Victoria without having to be asked but several times was disruptive by being loud, laughing and talking out of turn.
- Session 11.* More appropriate. Also halfway through program. Reviewed three goals written so far. Positive feedback from peers and facilitator.
- Session 12.* His focus was on a future without alcohol and other drugs. Wants to “raise a son and teach him how to be responsible in this world.”
- Session 13.* Said he’s glad that “I get to stay in this group.” Somewhat silly at beginning but did well when redirected. Talked about how drinking and drug use can be related to not being trustworthy or dependable.
- Session 14.* Goal he presented to group was to “keep myself occupied in the future with work and family activities so I will no longer steal anything.”
- Session 15.* Had to be confronted about silly behavior twice. Otherwise did well with assignments. Shared information about cousin stealing and the cousin not feeling guilty about this. Said indifference has become a problem for him too.
- Session 16.* A small flashlight attached to key ring taken from client and then returned to him at the end of group. He used it to shine in Victoria’s face. Given a verbal warning. Did well in session in other ways. Apologized. Seemingly sincere and related to tonight’s discussion.
- Session 17.* Wrote a short-term antisocial behavior goal on feeling guilty and
“ . . . reminding myself once a week to apologize . . . ” No behavior problems in group this evening.
- Session 18.* Disruptive at beginning of group but stopped immediately when gave him final warning. Ended up giving excellent presentation regarding first experiences seeing physical fighting and how his own violence against others was demonstrated.
- Session 19.* Appropriate. Helpful with group members who had not used this technique yet.
- Session 20.* His long-term goal regarding impulsivity is to “use a condom. . . so I don’t harm myself or others.” Well presented. Serious and appropriate. Related to topics. Approved by group.

¹⁹ Not the client’s real name.

- Session 21.* “Tired” tonight. Complained of working hard and not sleeping well. Did make presentation to the group about learning dishonesty from his father and how he repeated the pattern with his grandmother (lying to her about his drug use).
- Session 22.* Appropriate. Did a role training and took it seriously. Helped demonstrate dishonesty (especially denial) related to substance abuse. Graduates after two more sessions.
- Session 23.* Completes group after one more session. Reviewed all of his goals as well. No changes. Still appropriate. He facilitated the activity tonight.
- Session 24.* Not allowed to graduate tonight because received incident report for being out of location last weekend while on pleasure pass. Agrees that postponing graduation by one week is an appropriate consequence. Participated in both videotaped segments this evening. Did very well.
- Session 25.* Graduated. Reviewed three long-term goals. Sheet given to case manager. Presented with certificate. Wished well by peers and facilitator.

Steve²⁰

Steve is a thirty-six year old White common law married male with two children who is employed as a union ironworker. He has a third child from a previous relationship as well. He has no contact with that former girlfriend or their young son. He completed the ninth grade and is enrolled in a GED preparation class at this time. He said he “lost interest” in the tenth grade and simply stopped going to school.

He has five siblings. His parents were divorced when he was sixteen. His father was an alcoholic and drug addict with a legal history of domestic violence against Steve’s mother, himself and his brothers and sisters. His father died in an alcohol related motor vehicle accident when Steve was twenty-one.

As a juvenile, Steve was adjudicated for Second Degree Burglary. Adult arrests are for Second Degree Forgery (two times), Menacing, Theft, Making False Report, Possession of Under One Ounce of Marijuana (five times), Larceny, Disturbing the Peace (four times), Assault (four times), Evasion of Admission Fee, Damage/Deface/Destroy Property (three times), Second Degree Assault, Criminal Mischief, Carrying a Dangerous Weapon, Threat to Injure Person/Property (twice), DUI, Driving under

²⁰ Not the client’s real name.

Suspension, Driving under Restraint (two times), No Operators License, Failure to Present Proof of Insurance, Violation of Restraining Order (twice), Disturbance by Use of Phone. He was convicted of Possession with Intent to Distribute Marijuana most recently; sentenced to a community-based halfway house and placed in Resocial Group™. In addition to having Alcohol Abuse and Cannabis Dependence diagnoses, and his chronic legal problems, Steve has repeatedly used aliases and different birth dates, repeatedly been involved in assaults, and repeatedly been indifferent to disregarding and violating the rights of others. His only mental health diagnosis is Antisocial Personality Disorder.

- Session 1.* First session. Allowed to start in middle of series. Did well.
- Session 2.* With feedback was able to write a positive goal regarding family.
- Session 3.* Told group he had a positive UA for THC before starting in program but denied using recently (said it always takes a long time to get out of his system because of his weight and heavy use).
- Session 4.* Did two enactments. Demonstrated examples of hostility/substance abuse for the group.
- Absence 1.* Away from the facility at another program (short-term residential treatment) at this time.
- Absence 2.* Still away from the facility.
- Session 5.* Welcomed back into the group after being gone at another program for two weeks. Actively involved in all exercises tonight.
- Session 6.* Wrote short-term substance abuse goal about using “decision making, choices and true honesty” (three skills learned at the residential treatment center).
- Session 7.* Said that like his own father, alcohol and other drugs have caused him to not be a responsible parent or husband. Sees a future without substance abuse and legal problems.
- Session 8.* Outstanding effort. Had several definitions and examples of topics. Involved in two different exercises. Said that he cannot be a responsible parent or employee when using drugs.
- Session 9.* Told group that he is facing a write-up from staff for not calling when changing locations. Admitted that this was an example of not being responsible. Wrote a goal about “keeping all appointments, meetings, and groups posted for constant reminding.”

- Session 10.* Said he witnessed father's problems with alcohol and not taking ownership for his actions. Admits he has a similar relationship with his wife and children but sees a future without drugs. Wants to feel guilty when he has done something that hurts others.
- Session 11.* Did excellent job explaining that people get hurt by our actions and that we have a responsibility to say that we are sorry. Also talked about how we can have goals of feeling remorse and not using drugs.
- Session 12.* Halfway through treatment program here. Reviewed the three goals he has written so far. Somewhat hard to measure. Will be more specific for remaining three goals. Doing well overall. Very active in this session. Positive.
- Session 13.* Looked at how his parents were impulsive and how related to alcohol, and his own behavior with his wife and children. Asked permission to leave at 8:30 when group was running late because mother is in the hospital. Allowed to do so.
- Session 14.* Told peers and facilitator he defines impulsivity as "acting before thinking" and helped others see connection between this and substance abuse or dependence.
- Session 15.* Wrote long-term substance abuse goal. Positive. Told group he is now allowed to be a steel worker again. Very pleased.
- Session 16.* Did well helping to define topic. Explained how he first witnessed dishonesty and substance abuse growing up as well as how he has had problems in both areas as an adult. Sees a future without either. Hyper-religious but backed off discussion regarding "God's peace and love" when obvious that some people in group not interested.
- Session 17.* Did not hesitate to give a peer feedback about how his relapse was "disappointing." Critical, but supportive and caring.
- Session 18.* Wrote a short-term goal regarding not breaking rules or laws. Says he will keep same job as long as at facility and "not getting involved in any criminal activities or behaviors."
- Session 19.* Told group that he recently had a positive B.A. Wants to stay in group. Allowed to do so as long as no more alcohol/other drugs. Also participated in both segments that were videotaped and did well.
- Session 20.* Viewed videotape.
- Session 21.* Has previously identified this as his least favorite part of group (diagramming of relationships) but tonight he explained the assignment and helped new group members.

- Session 22.* Did a future projection exercise and was able and willing to refuse the beer during the enactment this time “because I am thinking about my kids now.”
- Session 23.* More quiet than usual. Graduates next week. Discussed this briefly. His case manager will be invited to attend. Certificate and refreshments planned. Had a difficult time writing his goal. Defensive when group offered suggestions. Goal was too vague. It is due when group starts next week. Will help upon request.
- Session 24.* Final session. Presented/turned in homework as requested. Group accepted his goal because it was more specific. He also went over other five goals. Positive about how program has helped him. Pleased that his case manager attended graduation. Given certificate and allowed to leave early.

Feedback from Clients about RESOCIAL GROUP™

During a regular weekly meeting of Resocial Group™ on May 10, 2000, the following thirty (30) questions were asked on videotape (the primary purpose of taping the session was to prepare a demonstration of a role training activity for facilitator workshops). The session was full with perfect attendance. Three new clients chose not to participate. One client set up the camera and lights. Eight clients who had been in group for awhile agreed to participate in the feedback session. Four clients wanted to take turns reading the questions out loud (they were allowed to see the list of prepared questions a few minutes before the taping began). Four clients wanted to answer the questions. They were not allowed to see the questions. The only directives given were to please be honest and answer any question that they wanted to. What follows is the verbatim text of their responses. Supervisory approval was obtained. Informed consent forms were signed by everyone in attendance several weeks in advance. Participation was voluntary. Anonymity was guaranteed (with this and any other writing and research about the group, though some of the clients voluntarily used their first names during the actual taping).

Question 1. *What does “Resocial Group™” stand for or mean?*

Client 1²¹ “It’s a cognitive behavioral curriculum for adults.”

²¹ In his nineteenth session of Resocial Group™ at this time. Graduated five sessions later.

Question 2. What is “socialization?”

- Client 2²² “Talking with other people about stuff.”
Client 3²³ “Sharing, sharing what you think and what you, what makes you do the, what makes you make the decisions you do.”

Question 3. What is “resocialization?”

- Client 4²⁴ “I got that one. I think resocialization, um, the meaning of this class, is to basically evaluate our decisions and behaviors, the way that we used to do things and learning new tools and thinking behaviors to, uh, be sociable in society.”

Question 4. Who is appropriate for this group?

- Client 2 “Drug addicts, convicted felons.”
Client 3 “Anybody really, who has a problem, any type.”
Client 1 “Any substances or a substance abuse problem.”

Question 5. What are the behaviors and experiences discussed?

- Client 2 “Dishonesty, carelessness.”
Client 1 “Indifference.”
Client 3 “Breaking rules and laws.”
Client 2 “Relapse.”
Client 1 “Did you say ‘impulsivity?’ Impulsivity.”

Question 6. How does this group also address substance abuse or dependence problems?

- Client 4 “It kind of looks at it by, um, looking at your past when you were first subjected to it to see where, um, you know, you learned certain things as they were introduced into your lives.”

²² In his last session of Resocial Group™ before successful termination due to sentence completed/expired.

²³ In his second to last session of Resocial Group™ . Graduated next session.

²⁴ In his fourth session of Resocial Group™. Terminated unsuccessfully after escape from agency seven sessions later.

Question 7. *In what ways does Resocial Group™ help?*

- Client 1 “It helps you to take a paused moment to stop and think about your actions before you act on your decisions or your choices that you’ve made.”
- Client 3 “Pretty much just act, to think before you make decisions instead of just doing something, that you might pay for later on.”

Question 8. *What does “COG” or “cognitive behavioral treatment” really mean?*

- Client 2 “It means focusing on the problems you have, in your life, that get you in trouble and how to stay out of trouble, basically.”

Question 9. *What are the advantages to having men and women in the same group?*

- Client 2 “Because everybody’s got a different story, and some, some stories are different than others. And we can see where other people are coming from, cause not only you are as messed up as you think you are because other people out there are just as messed up if not worse.”
- Client 3 “And men and women have to deal with things in different ways, differently, yea, because they don’t function the same, like exactly the same, everyone has different, differences, especially men and women.”
- Client 4 “Different points of view, yea.”

Question 10. What are the disadvantages to having men and women in the same group?

- Client 2 "I don't think there are no disadvantages at all."
Client 1 "I would agree."
Client 4 "Me too."

Question 11. Why can't group members automatically graduate when they have completed the required number of groups?

- Client 3 "Because they don't always follow the rules and sometimes you break a rule but you just got to keep going, try, try harder to stay, stay strong, to stay straight, to follow the rules and laws."

Question 12. Why are clients given certificates when they do graduate?

- Client 2 "To show, so that they let themselves know that they completed something, that they actually got something out of this class."
Client 1 "A formal document that will probably help them feel good."
Client 2 "They earned this, you know, they earned this, you know, do you know what I am saying? It's like, be proud of it."
Client 1 "Feeling the satisfaction."
Client 2 "I made it through this class. If I can do this I can do a lot of other things. You know? Because I know a lot of people when they first come, they don't want to be here. When I first started, I didn't want to be here. Look, I didn't have to be here tonight but I'm here. Because I wanted to come."
Client 1 "It gives you satisfaction of completion."
Client 2 "Yea."

Question 13. What are the refreshments during groups when someone graduates?

(The question was actually, “Why are there refreshments during groups when someone graduates?” but the client asking the question misread it.)

- Client 2 “They’re very expensive, um, cookies that Rand buys.”
Client 4 “Snackwells®.”
Client 2 “Yea. And his gourmet coffee.”

Question 14. Why is coffee served during all groups?

- Client 2 “So you’re aware of what’s going on, some people...”
Client 3 “To keep everyone motivated, really.”
Client 2 “Yea.”
Client 4 “No, I think it might be the kind of thing that coffee is viewed as more as a...”
Client 2 “social”
Client 4 “...social, social type thing. I mean when you go out to the bar you sit there and you drink, you know, and start talking. That’s social behavior, I think, that’s, you know, coffee, it’s, it’s a social activity.”
Client 3 “Yea, but a lot of times people come here straight from work and a lot of people are kinda...”
Client 1 “tired”
Client 3 “...tired, you know, I mean.”
Client 4 “Maybe that’s a dual benefit.”
Client 3 “Yea, it helps keep people goin.”

Question 15. Why do people have to stand when they make their presentations?

- Client 4 “Accountability.”
Client 2 “Yea, focusing on one person, I mean if they’re standing, you know what I mean, it’s like, you got a row of some people and then something sticking out, you know what I mean? You are going to notice it. If you’re standing up you are able to get focused on by the following people in the group.”
Client 1 “It’s an attention getter.”

Question 16. Why are there written assignments?

- Client 1 "I believe so that you have to participate and really pay close attention to what you write and what you're thinking and what, what you plan on answering for your goal topics and things that have to really get a hold on."
- Client 2 "Yea, because if you like say something, you know what I mean, two weeks from now, chances are you ain't going to remember it but if it's down in writing then it would be like, I wrote that, you know what I mean?"
- Client 3 "It sticks."
- Client 2 "Why do people have contracts, do you know what I mean?"

Question 17. Why do people have to use crayons to draw where they learned behaviors, how they are behaving currently or recently and what relationships might look like in the future?

- Client 3 "Different colors for different emotions, the way you feel, the way other people feel toward you, the way you feel towards other people."
- Client 1 "Emotions."
- Client 4 "I think the colors also help, to ah, identify or signify the moods that go along with, excuse me, the ah, behaviors that are going on. Red is typically characteristic of anger, and so on. So that, I think, a visual representation of colors helps identify the emotions a lot better."

Question 18. Why do clients have to write their own goals?

- Client 3 "So you know what you are pushing for and what you want to achieve."
- Client 2 "Because if somebody else sets your goals, it's like, you know, how do they know what I need, I mean, you know yourself more about what you need to do. That's why you need to set your own goals."
- Client 4 "Exactly."
- Client 1 "So it's measurable as well."
- Client 2 "Yea."
- Client 4 "It's more personable that way, if we do it."
- Client 2 "Yea, cause if like, some people have a problem, you know, with authority, you know and it's like, well this is like we have a probation officer and this is what you don't want to do, but

you do it anyways. I think you feel like, more sense of control when you set your own goals. More honest with yourself than somebody else, type of thing, I am.”

Question 19. Why do goals have to be so detailed?

- Client 3 “So you can know what you are pushing and striving for.”
- Client 1 “It’s realistic to see if you can achieve it, if it’s even achievable instead of setting yourself up for something that you can’t really even accomplish.”
- Client 2 “Yea, setting yourself up for failure. It’s like a couple people have written goals in here before, and I mean, like, you know, it’s like, I know you are not going to do that every night, you are lying. Why are you going to write it down like that?”

Question 20. Why do we do the role training or role rehearsals?

- Client 2 “So we can get a visual idea of, you know, the type of situations that people are in sometimes, and so people like Rand can say, ‘I’ve been there, or I’ve seen that,’ you know.”
- Client 1 “To get the hands on training of role playing to act out the different behaviors and situations.”
- Client 3 “To see what it’s like to be in another person’s shoes.”
- Client 2 “Yea.”

Question 21. How does this group compare with other counseling or therapy?

- Client 1 “I believe it’s really good because it is full participation, that you have to participate. It’s a strict group that you have to be able to do the assignments, do the topics and be able to, ah, complete it so you get the best out of it for yourself.”

Question 22. Why are there so many rules for Resocial Group™?

- Client 2 "Cause it's a very strict class and it's focusing on one subject."
Client 1 "The guidelines have to be applied."
Client 3 "Part of the group is breaking rules and laws and substance abuse."
Client 2 "Well, if you are going to be in class, you are here to learn not to socialize. Socializing you can do another time."

Question 23. Why do people have to be exactly on time for every meeting?

- Client 4 "Responsibility, and interactions."
Client 2 "Yea, exactly."
Client 1 "There's almost no room for error."
Client 3 "Because if you make errors in a group like this, you are going to make them out in the real world too, so."
Client 1 "Bottom line, responsibility."

Question 24. Why can clients only miss three groups before being terminated?

- Client 1 "Again, it's responsibility. It's like, no tolerance."
Client 2 "If you miss three classes, obviously you don't want to be in this class, you know what I mean? If you're late, know what I mean, obviously it ain't that important for you to be on time or to learn something in each class. It's like I said, or I wouldn't be here right now."
Client 1 "It's strict rules, but it's accomplishable. You can do it."
Client 2 "Yep. I had a problem with the class when I first came because I was late. And I was mad about it because I got kicked out; you know what I mean? And, and the next few classes, you know, I learned that it was a real strict class and you got to do it."

Question 25. What is your favorite aspect of Resocial Group™ and why?

- Client 2 "Feedback, I think, from other people."
Client 3 "Seeing how different people cope with their responsibilities and the different emotions that they have."
Client 1 "My personal favorite is the goal topics that gives you a chance to really think things through."

Client 4 "I kind of like the role playing myself."

Client 2 "Yea, I like the role playing. It's cool."

Question 26. What is your least favorite aspect of Resocial Group™ and why?

Client 3 "Being out of coffee."

Client 2 "Yea."

Client 1 "Mine would be the diagramming of relationships. I always have a hard time trying to pinpoint exactly when I first identified the problem that I am dealing with for that night."

Client 2 "The problem I have is that I have started it but I can't complete it, because, you know what I mean, I'm, I am leaving."

Question 27. How could Resocial Group™ be improved?

Client 4 "Go outside once in awhile."

Client 3 "Just if more people participate, just if people tried harder."

Client 2 "Yea, we get new people in and they are not as outgoing and they really do not want to, you know, say much. It's like an egg. You got to crack their shell and finally let them out."

Client 1 "Just wholehearted group involvement with everybody."

Client 2 "Some people probably feel a little embarrassed, but you know, everybody's got problems, that's when you realize it, when everybody talks about their problems, you know what I mean. When you do it as a group, it's like, you know, everyone comes closer and you know a bit more about each other. We are all in here with each other; you know what I mean? We might as well know a little bit about each other."

Question 28. Would you ever recommend Resocial Group™ to someone else?

Client 1 "Yea, I would. I talk to my significant other about it, things I've learned and the things I do, and it helps me to reflect on pretty much every day."

Client 2 "I think any kind of cognitive class is positive. I have been to cognitive education before, and, you know, it's like just a brainwash from your family, you know? You have got to wash all of those bad things out of your head, you know, that you should not be thinking."

Client 1 "It's like unlearning behavior."

- Client 2 “Yea, like unlearning bad, bad things, but it’s good. I mean, to get it straight, it’s like conditioning your mind. We learn bad things. All we’re doing is unlearning them and what to do to keep unlearning and stuff like that.”
- Client 4 “And, I have got to agree with (name of Client 1). I shared something that I had learned with my significant other and it was ah, strange. It was definitely strange, because I implemented that I knew that there was a trust issue there. Even after I go through all of this there will be that underlying fear that I will drink. You know, but it’s um, okay today, you know, because I haven’t today and she knows I haven’t today. So, every day, I mean, I am not saying that I can snap my fingers and it’s gone, because (name of Client 4) is not God, you know, but, you know, slowly and surely, you know, I mean, I learned things in this class and other classes and it, ah, it helps.”
- Client 1 “Yes, that’s the truth, yea.”

Question 29. What do other clients here think about Resocial Group™?

- Client 1 *“I think the clients that haven’t been participating or, or involved in the group, probably don’t think so much of it. But other people who have been in the group, there are some positives that they come out with, even if they don’t want to attend, if they feel they don’t have to go to this group because they’re forced to or whatever. There’s no hiding the fact that you get some positive out of it no matter who you are.”*

Question 30. What else would you like to say about Resocial Group™?

- Client 1 “I would like to say it’s helped me with a lot of thinking and taking time to stop before I make an action, not always in every case, I am not perfect, I make mistakes. And I am fortunate to still be involved. But give yourself time to think about things, especially if you have a family and children.”
- Client 2 “It helps you, you know, communicate with other people about your drug addictions or your alcohol addictions, you know.”
- Client 1 “And criminal behavior.”

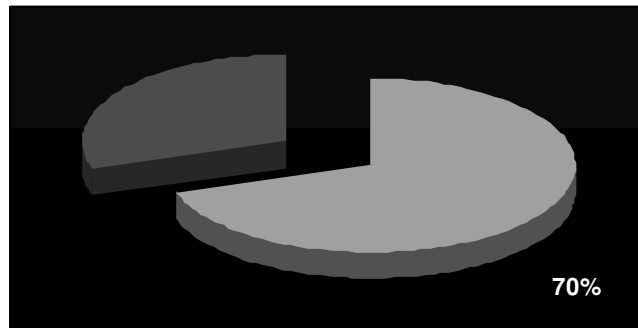
- Client 2 “Yea, criminal behavior. It’s not easy to just sit here in front of a bunch of people and say, ‘Well, I did this, I did that, I did this. Resocial Group™ you know, it’s not like someone is always picking on me, I want to know this, I want to know that, you just ease into it.”
- Client 1 “And there is this trust between each other with confidentiality which I think is important.”
- Client 4 “I think it’s good that there’s this class because, I mean, like (name of Client 1) was saying, the drugs and the alcohol. The drugs and the alcohol are the end result, you know, we got to get back to the behaviors that drove us to use drugs and alcohol, you know, that’s where this stops at.”

Research and Assessments

Recidivism can be defined in terms of readmission, rehospitalization, regression, reoffending, reconviction, resentencing and other so-called, “R” words. Most states measure rates of reincarceration for a specific period of time after release. The author prefers the variables of relapse and rearrest. And, no treatment is not the only cause of recidivism in corrections and criminal justice. Clients may also receive substandard or “inadequate” treatment, inappropriate or “wrong” treatment, incompetent or “bad” treatment, excessive placements/referrals or “too much” treatment.

Rate of Recidivism for Criminal Offenders With No Treatment

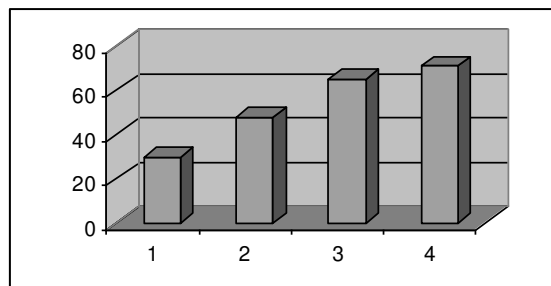
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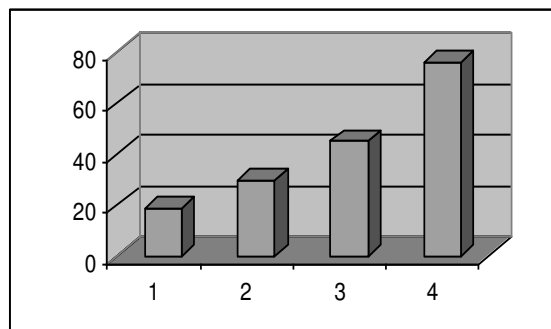
18 Months After Release From Prison

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%
Arrest
Free



%
Drug
Free



1=no treatment
2=in prison TC only

3=work release TC only
4=both in prison and work release TCs

A national research project has been conducted in which Resocial Group™ has proven to be a successful substance abuse and cognitive behavioral intervention for adult felony offenders. As of August 2000 the following agencies/locations have been assessed: a private day reporting center in Indiana; a public probation office in West Virginia; and a private medium security prison, and a private community corrections halfway house in Colorado. Of approximately 88 clients studied, 94% were male, 77% White, 11% Black and 11% Hispanic. 14 was the average group size. 90% of the clients attended a self help group, individual counseling and/or one or more other groups in addition to Resocial Group™.

83% of the clients were relapse free for the duration of group. 90% were arrest free for the duration of group. 76% were both relapse and arrest free for six months after completing the group. The outcome studies are ongoing. A goal is to track clients and measure success rates for at least 18 months after completing the group.

Research Update

"A fifth Resocial Group (TM) was studied in 2001 (the first graduating clients completed their six months on 12/26/01). The setting was a Substance Abuse Mental Illness (SAMI) Intensive Treatment Program (ITP) for adult males in Youngstown, Ohio. 80% of the clients were White and 20% were Black/African American. Based on standardized assessments used by the program, all had more than one Substance Use Disorder (SUD) (i.e., they had polysubstance abuse and dependence diagnoses) in addition to Antisocial Personality Disorder (APD). The minimum group size was 4. The maximum was 8. There was a single Resocial Group (TM) Certificated Facilitator who is employed as a counselor at a county chemical dependency program. None of the clients were terminated for non-compliance or dropped out of the group. All attended a self help group, individual counseling and/or another group while attending Resocial Group (TM) and all have been transferred to another group following the completion of Resocial Group (TM). 100% of the successful graduates were both relapse free and arrest free for the duration of group. The program uses random and periodic drug testing. The facilitator said that she enjoyed using all of the techniques but that goal setting was her favorite because "The men seemed to think the hardest on this one." Her only suggestion for modifications or changes was that there wasn't always enough room for the clients to write the topics on the 'Choosing Partners and Companions' worksheet. One of her clients made the following comment: "What this (does) is get us back to using our brains!" The facilitator has been asked to track the same clients at six months, nine months, twelve months and eighteen months after completing the group."

"A sixth Resocial Group (TM) at a mental health center in Wadesboro, North Carolina was assessed from August 2001 to January 2002, however, the statistics involving these 15 clients, favorable or not, cannot be used. The facilitator at this agency admitted numerous clients who did not meet the required coexisting diagnostic criteria of APD and SUD. (All of the clients had a past or present alcohol and/or other drug abuse and/or dependence, but many were enrolled with Adult Antisocial Behavior instead of the other required diagnosis of APD.) Enforcement of admission criteria is important so that the treatment is both appropriate and necessary and clients are not harmed clinically or financially by being placed in the wrong intervention. The copyright and trademark release form clearly discusses this issue. The Certificated Facilitator of Resocial Group

(TM) was reminded that the group was designed for a specific population of adult offenders with APD and SUD and the research and treatment involving other diagnostic categories has not been conducted. (Adult Antisocial Behavior is antisocial behavior but it is not due to a mental disorder such as APD, Conduct Disorder or an Impulse-Control Disorder.) The facilitator was still paid the \$10 stipend for completing the 30-item questionnaire."

"A seventh Resocial Group (TM) was studied from April 2001 to October 2001. The location is Advantage Treatment Center in Denver, Colorado. Advantage functions as a day reporting center and outpatient program, and is owned and operated by Independence House, a community corrections agency that is designated as an alcohol and drug abuse treatment facility by the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division of the Colorado Department of Human Services. The facilitator is the author working as an independent contract therapist with Social Solutions Corporation. This is the first known group with a variety of clients mixed together (diversion halfway house residents from Independence House, diversion nonresidents from Independence House, transition halfway house residents from Independence House and other Denver area residential facilities, Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities clients, Colorado Department of Corrections parolees, and Colorado Department of Corrections ISP inmates). (Municipal Court and District Attorney Diversion Program clients are now being accepted as well.) Most of the clients have had numerous treatment failures in traditional therapy programs. The group is coed. It meets weekly from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. on Mondays. Because of numerous referrals in the past with a waiting list to start attending, a second group was started at the same location by another Certificated Facilitator of Resocial Group (TM). 24 clients attended during this six-month period specified above. 21 (88%) were relapse free (i.e., only 3 clients had positive urine drug screen or breath test results) during their attendance; and 19 (79%) were arrest free (i.e., only 5 clients absconded, escaped, had probation revoked or were reincarcerated). 8 (33%) graduated from the group (i.e., completed 24 or more sessions successfully); 5 (21%) were terminated from the group for non-attendance (i.e., they missed more than three sessions) [Only three absences are allowed during the six months of Resocial Group (TM). Clients are automatically terminated on the fourth absence. There is no differentiation between excused and unexcused absences. The group also has a zero tolerance policy regarding tardiness (i.e., clients must be exactly on time). If a client is even a minute late, he or she is not allowed to stay and it counts as an absence.]; 5 (21%) were terminated from the group because they were no longer in community corrections due to probation/parole violations or resident/nonresident violations; 3 (13%) are currently in compliance and still in the group; and 3 (13%) were transferred because it was determined that they were clinically or financially inappropriate after they started attending. All graduates completed written, thirty-item satisfaction surveys. Word for word answers to three of the questions are seen below. Responses have been edited for spelling and punctuation only for the reason of readability."

"What is your favorite aspect of Resocial Group (TM) and why?"

"The favorite aspects I've had are teaching me goal setting and responsibility."

"The role play is my favorite."

"Goal setting because I like to see what I'm going to accomplish on paper."

"Sociodrama- it increases my understanding of myself and others."

"The general discussions and role playing. Role playing usually lightens things up. It is entertaining and very insightful. People express a lot of very clear and deep-seated feelings. Thoughts are projected truthfully."

"Well, I really like role training because you get to act out your situation. I like acting."

"Goal setting. Allows me to shoot for something, accomplishment."

"Role rehearsal, because it gives me the opportunity to be open and make people laugh."

"How does this group compare with other counseling or therapy?"

"Honestly, it doesn't. You have to be a major factor in this course. It is all about me (you)."

"This group compares with other counseling and therapy in that it helps deal with behavioral and substance abuse problems."

"Most groups are basically the same but this group offers role playing and role reversals and showing one's feelings in certain situations."

"It is a lot harder. You have to pay attention better and you can't just coast through it."

"Just about even."

"I think this group allows us to open up much more FREELY. I have learned to enjoy our discussions. We have all learned to express ourselves in a positive perspective."

"Well, they're pretty much the same but Rand doesn't go for the bull stuff at all."

"This group was better for me than others because I wasn't too much a participant in other groups. Other groups had too many people or just didn't care."

"What else would you like to say about Resocial Group (TM)?"

"It is a real help if you let it be. You can learn some good things to help yourself, family and friends with real life situations."

"The group has stirred some real emotions in myself. I've learned to admire how people can face up to some really hard situations and remain positive. Compared to some of the other difficult domestic problems, mine have been light. I think that people in this class have given me some very VALUABLE solutions to my problems. I appreciate their patience in listening to my unending 'soap opera' problems. I think that Rand is a very good leader and truly does care about our problems. I'm not saying this to suck up or anything, I really mean it. I think this has been a good class and he has helped me in thinking about and facing my problems."

"Resocial Group (TM) is a group that can be taken... much is to be learned in this group and it is a good group."

"This group is a real eye opener. It grabs you at first and it's kinda cool. This group really does make you think a lot before you act. Rand is a good teacher, kinda weird sense of humor, but he's a good guy."

"This survey has covered about everything."

"I feel I can get a lot out of Resocial Group (TM) if each person gives his/her opinions and sits and listens to see what's going on with others."

"It's been a long six months and I think I have successfully completed a course beyond most, and am glad it is now behind me."

"I would like to thank all those who were so patient, understanding and lenient with me when things weren't going too good for me. I would also like to thank Rand for all the knowledge and wisdom. It was, is, and always will be greatly appreciated."

Five (5) other clients successfully completed this group this year and two (2) more are scheduled to graduate this month. A recent (January 2002) graduate of Resocial Group (TM) (a DOC ISP client from the Northeast Parole Office and TASC program in Westminster, Colorado) had the following to say about the program offered through Social Solutions Corporation at Advantage Treatment Center in Denver. His favorite aspect of the group is "goal setting and charts. The charts give me insight to my behaviors and hope for positive change. Goal setting gives me incentive to make positive change." "It compares favorably (to other groups) in that it helps clients gain some type of understanding as to the 'hows' and 'whys' of their behavior and the opportunity to change for the better." His least favorite aspect is "(attendance, because) it takes too long and we are unable to associate while it is being taken." "I understand the time limitations but I would like to see a little more time reserved for open discussion." One of his peers who graduated a couple of weeks later (also a DOC ISP inmate, but from the Englewood Parole Office in Colorado) said, "It is a group for people whom have antisocial behaviors and substance abuse problems and learn how to replace these behaviors with effective alternatives (by) unlearning and relearning." "It has helped me to get insight of a lot of my past events and to understand myself better, to discover active alternatives (and) learn and practice new skills." "The other groups I have been in don't or haven't dealt in diagramming of relationships, role exploration or goal setting." He also stated, "I think our instructor should have a one on one once a month with us." "It has helped in giving me a better understanding about my behavior patterns and how to deal with them in a different perspective."

A one (1) year outcome study involved an eighth group at Social Solutions Corporation/CSC in Adams County, Colorado (from 3/31/03-3/29/04): Clients who attended at least 1 session: 40. Male: 39 (98%); Female: 1 (2%). Referred by TASC: 17 (43%); DOC: 6 (15%); private halfway house: 11 (28%); other: 6 (15%). Clients currently attending group successfully: 12 (30%); Clients who completed group successfully: 7 (18%). Clients discharged from group unsuccessfully because of relapse: 0 (0%); Clients discharged from group unsuccessfully because of rearrest: 5 (13%); Clients discharged from group unsuccessfully because of noncompliance with group attendance policy: 10 (25%)*; Clients discharged from group for other reasons: 6 (15%). *This high rate of terminations for nonattendance, is due, at least in part, to the group moving more than 10 miles to a different location for administrative contract reasons, and some clients and/or their referring agents not supporting the change because of an understandable inconvenience due to distance of travel.

The author's APD/SUD Screening™ (Antisocial Personality Disorder/Substance Use Disorder Screening™) is being used across the country. Providers in Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire and New Jersey have recently introduced this assessment in their programs. The APD/SUD Screening™ is being translated to Spanish for introduction in and outside the U.S. The APD/SUD Screening™ was translated to French for private use by forensic psychologists in Switzerland in August 2000. Sociology educators from Puerto Rico and South Africa have also been trained by the author to use this instrument (and facilitate Resocial Group™).

Cognitive Behavioral Treatment

Teaching options and alternatives

Communication

Decision-making

Problem solving

Practicing the newly learned skills

Graduating only once able to demonstrate change

Success is equal to change

Adult Antisocial Behavior

(American Psychiatric Association: *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, Fourth Edition, Text Revision. Washington, D.C., American Psychiatric Association, 2000.)

“This category can be used when the focus of clinical attention is adult antisocial behavior that is not due to a mental disorder (e.g., Conduct Disorder, Antisocial Personality Disorder, or an Impulse-Control Disorder).

Examples include the behavior of some professional thieves, racketeers, or dealers in illegal substances.”

Conduct Disorder “Checklist”

(American Psychiatric Association: *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, Fourth Edition, Text Revision. Washington, D.C., American Psychiatric Association, 2000.)

_____ Onset prior to age 10 years

_____ Onset after age 10 years

_____ Aggression to people and animals

_____ Destruction of property

_____ Deceitfulness or theft

_____ Serious violations of rules

_____ Few problems/minor harm to others

_____ Number/effect between mild and severe

_____ Many problems/considerable harm to others

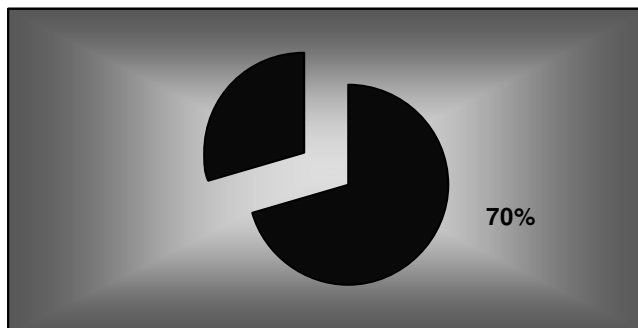
Antisocial Personality Disorder

(American Psychiatric Association: *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, Fourth Edition, Text Revision. Washington, D.C., American Psychiatric Association, 2000.)

- “A. There is a pervasive pattern of disregard for and violation of the rights of others occurring since age 15 years, as indicated by three (or more) of the following:
- (1) failure to conform to social norms with respect to lawful behaviors as indicated by repeatedly performing acts that are grounds for arrest
 - (2) deceitfulness, as indicated by repeated lying, use of aliases, or conning others for personal profit or pleasure
 - (3) impulsivity or failure to plan ahead
 - (4) irritability and aggressiveness, as indicated by repeated physical fights or assaults
 - (5) reckless disregard for safety of self or others
 - (6) consistent irresponsibility, as indicated by repeated failure to sustain consistent work behavior or honor financial obligations
 - (7) lack of remorse, as indicated by being indifferent to or rationalizing having hurt, mistreated, or stolen from another
- B. The individual is at least age 18 years.
C. There is evidence of Conduct Disorder with onset before age 15 years.
D. The occurrence of antisocial behavior is not exclusively during the course of Schizophrenia or a Manic Episode.”

Criminal Offenders with Persistent Antisocial Behaviors and Experiences

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Substance Dependence

(American Psychiatric Association: *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, Fourth Edition, Text Revision.
Washington, D.C., American Psychiatric Association, 2000.)

(Requires 3 or more of the following):

Increased Tolerance;
Withdrawal;
Increased Quantity or Duration;
Persistent Desire or Inability to Decrease or Discontinue Use;
Increased Time to Obtain or Recover;
Social/Occupational/Recreational Impairment;
Continued Use Despite Awareness of Related Physical or Psychological Problems.

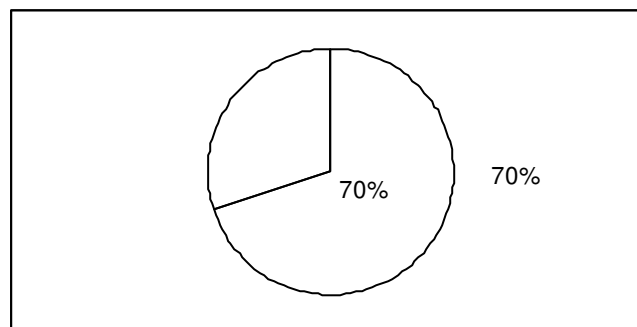
Substance Abuse

(Requires 1 or more of the following):

Recurrent Use Resulting in Social/Occupational/Educational Problems;
Recurrent Use in Physically Hazardous Situations;
Recurrent Substance-Related Legal Problems;
Continued Use Despite Awareness of Related Social or Interpersonal Problems.

Criminal Offenders with Chronic Substance Abuse Problems

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**APD/SUD Screening™ (Antisocial Personality Disorder/
Substance Use Disorder Screening™)
Referrals to APD, SUD or Resocial Group™/
Other Co-occurring Cognitive Behavioral Treatment**

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rtkannenberg@juno.com (303) 232-0767

Part 1: Antisocial Personality Disorder¹ (APD) Screening
(All 4 blanks must be checked to meet APD screening criteria)

_____ Before the age of 15 years, at least 3 of the following are indicated
(Circle the 3 or more that apply):

- ⇒ aggression to people or animals
- ⇒ destruction of property
- ⇒ deceitfulness or theft
- ⇒ serious violations of rules or laws

_____ Is at least 18 years-old currently.

_____ Since the age of 15 years, at least 3 of the following are indicated
(Circle the 3 or more that apply):

- ⇒ repeatedly performs acts that are grounds for arrest
- ⇒ repeatedly lies, uses aliases or cons others for personal profit or pleasure
- ⇒ repeatedly fails to plan ahead
- ⇒ repeatedly involved in physical fights or assaults
- ⇒ repeatedly unsafe or dangerous with self or others
- ⇒ repeatedly fails to sustain consistent work behavior or honor financial obligations (and/or to maintain an enduring attachment to a spouse or romantic partner and/or to be a responsible parent)
- ⇒ repeatedly indifferent to or rationalizing having hurt, mistreated, or stolen from another

_____ The 3 or more indicators seen above do not occur exclusively during the course of Schizophrenia or a Manic Episode.

Part 2: Substance Use Disorder¹ (SUD) Screening

(At least 1 blank must be checked to meet SUD screening criteria)

_____ Past or present, at least 3 of the following are indicated

(Circle the 3 or more that apply):

- ⇒ increased tolerance
- ⇒ withdrawal
- ⇒ increased quantity or duration
- ⇒ persistent desire or inability to decrease or discontinue use
- ⇒ increased time to obtain or recover
- ⇒ social/occupational/recreational impairment
- ⇒ continued use despite awareness of related physical or psychological problems

_____ Past or present, at least 1 of the following are indicated

(Circle the 1 or more that apply):

- ⇒ recurrent use resulting in social/occupational/educational problems
- ⇒ recurrent use in physically hazardous situations
- ⇒ recurrent substance-related legal problems
- ⇒ continued use despite awareness of related social or interpersonal problems

Part 3: Referral

(Circle 1 appropriate disposition)

A. Refer to cognitive behavioral treatment that deals with pervasive pattern of disregarding and violating the rights of others if only APD screening criteria are met.

OR

B. Refer to cognitive behavioral treatment that deals with substance abuse or substance dependence if only SUD screening criteria are met.

OR

C. Refer to RESOCIAL GROUP™ or other cognitive behavioral treatment that deals with co-occurrence of pervasive pattern of disregarding and violating the rights of others and substance abuse or substance dependence if both APD and SUD screening criteria are met.

¹ (American Psychiatric Association: *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, Fourth Edition, Text Revision. Washington, D.C., American Psychiatric Association, 2000.)

Three Recommendations for Treating Cross Cultural Offenders

1. Ask the client to explain ethnic differences that *he* thinks are relevant
2. Avoid using jargon when talking about *your* theories or techniques
3. Never make blanket statements about *any* culture

Three Recommendations for Treating Religious Offenders in a Secular Setting

1. Discuss the reality that in our society people are supposed to be responsible for their own actions
2. Introduce the idea that most belief systems define personal growth and development as positive concepts for an individual and his community
3. Talk about how the goal of respecting the rights of others is accepted as basic by most religions in the world

Three Recommendations for Treating Gay and Lesbian Offenders In or Out of Prison

1. Encourage clients to talk about the perceived or real differences between physical pleasure and emotional attraction when talking about homosexual behavior
2. Discuss the facts that any consensual sexual behavior may be against the rules and that even same sex rape is definitely against the law, violent and about power and control
3. Talk about the normal and positive aspects of same gender relationships in terms of social support and self esteem

Three Recommendations for Treating the Offender with English as a Second Language (ESL)

1. Ask the client to repeat your directions to demonstrate clear understanding
2. Use an interpreter (peer or professional) when available (professional preferred)
3. Assess the client for boredom and frustration regularly

Three Recommendations for Treating the Learning Disabled (LD) Offender

1. Carefully explain instructions for participation
2. Demonstrate how to do all activities and assignments
3. Observe behavior and give immediate feedback

Repeat steps as necessary

Three Recommendations for Treating Chronically Mentally Ill (CMI) Offenders

1. Assess for any changes in affect, appearance or overall involvement
2. Openly discuss any concerns that you have about safety
3. Document, report and refer as needed

Three Recommendations for Treating Female Offenders in Coeducational Programs

1. Never place just one woman in a coed group (3 or more would be best)
2. In a perfect world, groups would have a fairly even mix of men and women
and male and female co-facilitators (who liked to work with each other!)
3. Pay attention to important issues (including, but not limited to, parenting, physical and sexual abuse, self image, self destructiveness, anger management, codependency, adult child dynamics, depression, divorce recovery, the different reasons women use drugs, etc.)

Three Recommendations for Treating the Gang Affiliated Offender

1. Clarify the program and group rules
2. Set mutually agreed upon treatment goals
3. Provide consistent leadership

Models of Socialization

Persistence-Beyond-Childhood Model of Socialization

(Political Socialization and Resocialization of American Youth and Young Adults: The Process of Learning, Unlearning, and Relearning Political Norms, Values, Attitudes, and Behaviors, Rand L. Kannenberg, Denver, Colorado, 1984)

- stresses the importance of early learning and the implication is that the patterns of behavior and attitudes are lifelong
- goal is to transmit culture and written and unwritten rules of conduct (laws and customs) to the younger members of our society and that the culture and conduct are maintained beyond childhood
- objectives include respecting and obeying authority, conforming to rules, being a dedicated worker and responsible citizen
- family and peer groups are informal/primary socializing agents (and person is unaware of process)
- schools and churches are formal/secondary socializing agents (and process is obvious to person)

Constant Change Model of Socialization

(Political Socialization and Resocialization of American Youth and Young Adults: The Process of Learning, Unlearning, and Relearning Political Norms, Values, Attitudes, and Behaviors, Rand L. Kannenberg, Denver, Colorado, 1984)

- suggests that adulthood provides different experiences and events later on in life that make socialization an ongoing process
- changes (conflict or improvements) in living situation, work, health, responsibilities, etc. can reinforce, reverse or revise patterns learned from childhood
- new peer groups can also alter earlier learning

Interaction Model of Socialization

(Political Socialization and Resocialization of American Youth and Young Adults: The Process of Learning, Unlearning, and Relearning Political Norms, Values, Attitudes, and Behaviors, Rand L. Kannenberg, Denver, Colorado, 1984)

- recognizes that people are not automatically influenced by experiences
- focus is on the interaction between internal composition (character/personality structure) and external circumstances (environmental/social opportunities)
- a close minded individual will have fewer changes as compared to the person who is willing and/or able to experiment with new ideas and activities and increase independence and responsibilities
- someone who is too rigid about previously learned norms and values may be unable to reach full potential of development as an individual

RESOCIALIZATION

- the unlearning and relearning of norms, values, attitudes and behaviors
- a process of being liberated from what was previously taught and learned in the family, peer groups, school and church
- changing roles, relationships and living situations and replacing them with effective alternatives that benefit self and others

Voluntary Resocialization in Involuntary Settings

Teaching self motivated *reconstruction or transformation* of experiences and behaviors in formal organizations or total institutions such as correctional or substance abuse programs

Resocialization Steps

- Gain some insight into impact of past events and experiences and resulting emotional reactions
- Briefly explore present feelings, pressures and conflicts
- Assess current living and work situations, peer and partner influences and other aspects of social environment
- Discover active alternatives to ineffective roles and relationships and ways to make better choices that benefit self and others
- *Learn and practice new skills including how to make daily decisions, problem solve and set goals/plan for the future*

RESOCIAL GROUP™

Co-occurring Cognitive-Behavioral Treatment for
Antisocial Personality Disorder
and Substance Use Disorder(s)

90 minutes/once weekly
24 sessions (minimum), flexible, open-ended
14 clients maximum group size

Topics:

Substance Abuse and/or Dependence
Dishonesty
Breaking Rules and Laws
Carelessness
Aggressiveness
Irritability
Irresponsibility
Indifference
Impulsivity

Curriculum:

Choosing Partners and Companions

- Written & Verbal Exercises about Relationships
- Role Rehearsal and Training
- Decision Making, Communication and Problem Solving Skills

Planning for the Future

- Goal Oriented Homework

Referral Criteria:

Chronic Substance Abuse and/or Dependence
Persistent Antisocial Behaviors and Experiences
(a pattern of negative thinking and acting that disregards and violates the
rights of others)

Resocial Group™ Topics

- **Substance Abuse**
(using alcohol or other drugs resulting in legal problems; use causing problems at home, work or school; using in dangerous situations; use contributing to physical or psychological problems)
- **Dishonesty**
(to deceive, defraud, cheat, lie, use aliases or con)
- **Breaking Rules and Laws**
(violating rules or laws at school, work, in the community)
- **Carelessness**
(being reckless, negligent, unhealthy, dangerous or unsafe)
- **Aggressiveness**
(being hostile, violent, assaultive, fighting or attacking)
- **Irritability**
(easily or chronically annoyed, angry, testy, grouchy or sensitive)
- **Irresponsibility**
(not accountable, undependable, unreliable, not trustworthy)
- **Indifference**
(unconcerned, apathetic, detached, disinterested, lack of remorse, rationalizing)
- **Impulsivity**
(reactionary, inability or unwillingness to plan, prepare or think things out)

Daily Schedule for Resocial Group™

				1 Dishonesty & Substance Abuse <i>Diagramming of Relationships</i>	2 Dishonesty & Substance Abuse <i>Role Exploration</i>	3 Dishonesty & Substance Abuse <i>Goal Setting</i>
4 Breaking Rules & Laws & Substance Abuse <i>Diagramming of Relationships</i>	5 Breaking Rules & Laws & Substance Abuse <i>Role Exploration</i>	6 Breaking Rules & Laws & Substance Abuse <i>Goal Setting</i>	7 Carelessness & Substance Abuse <i>Diagramming of Relationships</i>	8 Carelessness & Substance Abuse <i>Role Exploration</i>	9 Carelessness & Substance Abuse <i>Goal Setting</i>	Aggressiveness & Substance Abuse <i>Diagramming of Relationships</i>
11 Aggressiveness & Substance Abuse <i>Role Exploration</i>	12 Aggressiveness & Substance Abuse <i>Goal Setting</i>	13 Irritability & Substance Abuse <i>Diagramming of Relationships</i>	14 Irritability & Substance Abuse <i>Role Exploration</i>	15 Irritability & Substance Abuse <i>Goal Setting</i>	16 Irresponsibility & Substance Abuse <i>Diagramming of Relationships</i>	Irresponsibility & Substance Abuse <i>Role Exploration</i>
18 Irresponsibility & Substance Abuse <i>Goal Setting</i>	19 Indifference & Substance Abuse <i>Diagramming of Relationships</i>	20 Indifference & Substance Abuse <i>Role Exploration</i>	21 Indifference & Substance Abuse <i>Goal Setting</i>	22 Impulsivity & Substance Abuse <i>Diagramming of Relationships</i>	23 Impulsivity & Substance Abuse <i>Role Exploration</i>	Impulsivity & Substance Abuse <i>Goal Setting</i>

SOCIOMETRY

Diagramming of Relationships

(*Who Shall Survive? A New Approach to the Problem of Human Interrelations*, J.L. Moreno, M.D., Washington, D.C., 1934. Supported by the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor.)

Definitions

<u>Socionomy</u>	the psychological activities of groups
<u>Sociometry</u>	measuring relationships within groups
<u>Sociometric Test</u>	requiring an individual to choose his associates
<u>Sociometric Goal</u>	to become an active agent in matters concerning your own life situations

CHOOSING PARTNERS AND COMPANIONS AT HOME, WORK AND SCHOOL

Measuring relationships and activities in groups.

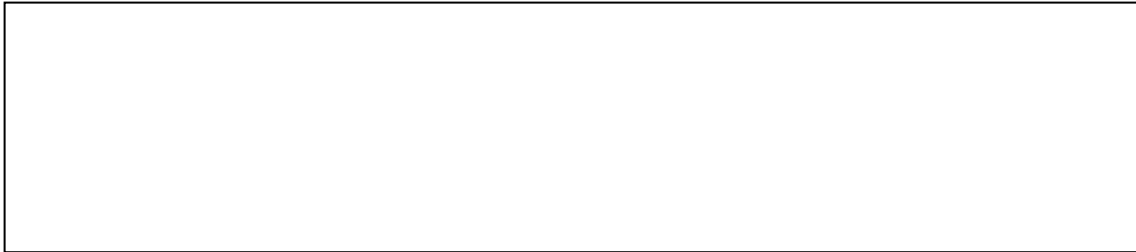
Behavior/Experience _____

Draw three charts diagramming groups at home (the family), work or school using the spaces and the key seen on the next page. Illustrate the current topic (dishonesty, breaking rules and laws, carelessness, aggressiveness, irritability, irresponsibility, indifference or impulsivity and substance abuse) _____ in past and present relationships and then draw a chart showing future relationships and how they would be different without _____.

Assumptions: Our social environments have a significant impact on our experiences and attitudes, including how some of us learned about _____ as a consistent pattern of behavior. Accordingly, changing groups or changing the relationships within groups may allow us to make positive social changes including eliminating _____ as one of our behaviors.

Goals: Clarify our perception of events that have occurred in the past. Increase our understanding of how our negative thinking and acting was learned (but do not blame others for our own actions). Increase our insight and awareness of pressures and conflict caused by or related to _____ that we witnessed, were directly affected by or were responsible for creating ourselves. Make positive choices about positive partners and companions which can only improve the way we see the world, make daily decisions and feel about each other and ourselves. The experiences of pressure and conflict will be decreased. The emotions of sympathy, rejection, fear and anger will also be decreased when _____ is eliminated.

_____ in Past Relationships



_____ in Present Relationships



Future Relationships without _____



KEY

▽ = boy ▽ = man **D/A** = person in group with substance abuse problems
0 = girl 0 = woman **C/J** = person in group involved in criminal justice system

Lines drawn from one individual to another represent the emotional reaction or behavior of the one individual to the other.
An **arrowed line** indicates **one-sided** behaviors or reactions.

A **crossed line** represents **two-sided** behaviors or reactions.

A **blue line** represents ***sympathy***

A **yellow line** represents ***rejection***

A **green line** represents ***fear***

A **red line** represents ***anger***

A **black line** represents _____

Adapted from:

Who Shall Survive? A New Approach to the Problem of Human Interrelations by J.L. Moreno, M.D.

Nervous and Mental Disease Publishing Co., Washington, D.C., 1934.

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What are we looking for in the three boxes?

_____ in Past Relationships

how we learned (experienced witnessed)
negative thinking and acting
and the emotional reactions

_____ in Present Relationships

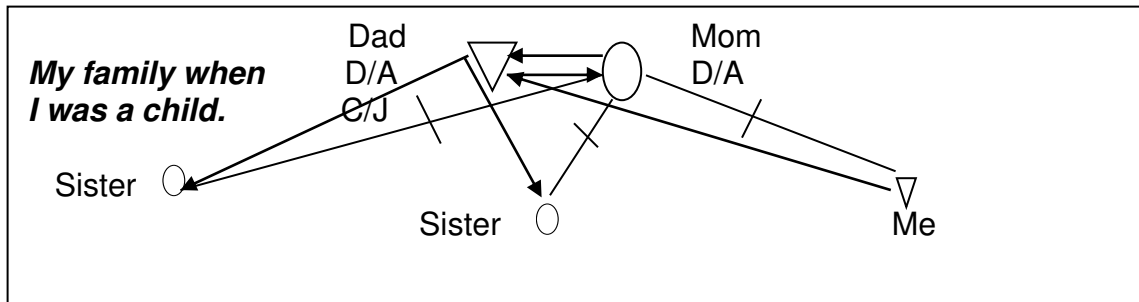
current relationships and patterns
in our behaviors, attitudes, pressure, conflict
and the partners and companions we have chosen

Future Relationships without _____

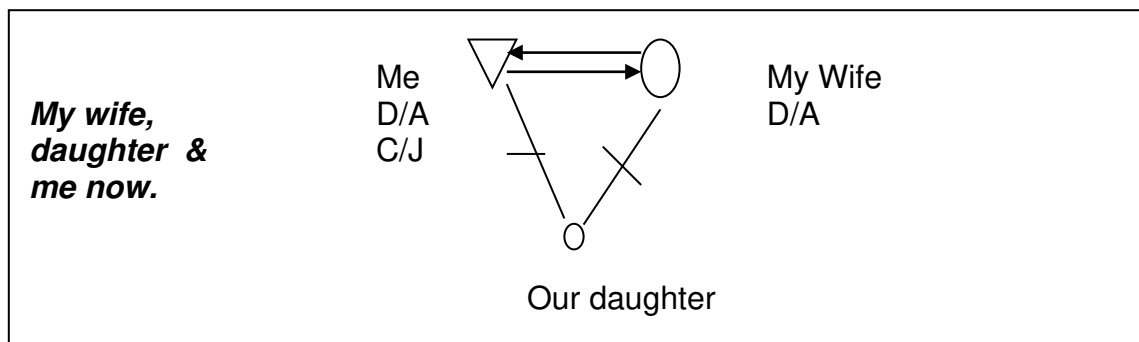
the "test" (choosing our "associates")
and making positive changes
(changing behaviors and relationships)

Examples

DISHONESTY AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE in Past Relationships



DISHONESTY AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE in Present Relationships



Future Relationships without DISHONESTY AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE



SOCIODRAMA

(*Sociodrama: Who's In Your Shoes*, Patricia Sternberg and Antonia Garcia, NY, 1990.)

What it is...

- focused on “*here and now*” (present day) only
- learning about *human relations* (to increase understanding of *self, others and the world*) from small group interaction
- an opportunity to practice *problem solving, decision making and other new skills or behaviors*
- about transmitting *information, communication and inspiration*
- *a way for clients to actively participate in the process of growth and development*
- *role training (role exploration, rehearsal and expansion)* to find a better way to play an old role or try new roles by spontaneously acting out agreed upon *hypothetical social situations*
- *a safe environment with support and feedback* about how effective and satisfying the skills, behaviors or roles are
- *a forum for clarifying values, feelings and new and different ways to experience relationships*

What it is not...

- Never a specific client's problem or real life situation
- No private or personal issues
- Not about the past

No attacks or verbal abuse allowed

Sociodrama Stages

WARM-UP:

Ready the “Enactors” by identifying the shared central issue (always substance abuse combined with one of the 8 behavior patterns for Resocial Group-see Lesson Plan), ask participants to generate examples of the identified behavior (they may be similar to personal experiences or events but not real life examples).

ENACTMENT:

The participants take turns playing the different roles, practicing how to behave, learning from mistakes and successes, reassessing their thinking and values, and directly expressing feelings about the experience.

SHARING/COOLDOWN:

The conclusion, a time to reflect and talk about insights (how they connected with what they just saw or experienced and how it does relate to their own lives).

Sociodrama Terms/Techniques

(*Sociodrama: Who's In Your Shoes*, Patricia Sternberg and Antonia Garcia, NY, 1990.)

Role Reversal

changing positions to increase understanding of the other side or perspective, to get unstuck

The Double (Mind/Feeling Reader)

stands/sits behind the person he's doubling for, the facilitator and participant observers say what they think the person in the role is feeling (verbalizing body language), the double agrees or disagrees with you (enactors cannot respond directly to the double)

Time Out/Freeze

stopping and holding positions while the facilitator points out observations or gives feedback

Mirror

an observer steps in to play the role the same way to see what it feels like

Future Projection

trying out actions and planning for future roles and relationships

“Aha!”

the statement made when the “light bulb” experience takes place

Goal Setting/Planning for the Future

Must be 2 objectives about substance abuse
(including continued treatment and aftercare)

Must be 2 objectives about criminal behavior
(current legal problems)

Must be 2 objectives about antisocial behavior (i.e.,
dishonesty, breaking rules and laws, carelessness,
aggressiveness, irritability, irresponsibility, indifference,
and/or impulsivity)

At midpoint of treatment (halfway through program), client
does review and update of 3 goals

When completing program, client does discharge planning to
see if 3 short term goals accomplished and 3 long term goals
still apply

Resocial Group™

Planning for the Future /Goal Sheet

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Reminders:

- Goals must be *achievable* and *measurable*.
- There must also be a “who,” “what,” “where,” “why,” “when/when/when” (start date, frequency, and duration), and “how” for each goal.
- Talk about what you WILL DO, not what you won’t do.
- Short-term goals are those that can be accomplished while you are still a member of Resocial Group™.
- Long term goals are those that can only be accomplished after successfully graduating from Resocial Group™ (because the skill hasn’t been learned yet or the opportunity to get involved in the behavior or activity won’t be available until after graduation).
- One of substance abuse goals must include continued treatment and/or aftercare plans (in addition to regular attendance and participation in this group, which is assumed).
- Your criminal behavior goals must include legal alternatives to the unlawful behavior that brought you into the system this time.
- The antisocial behavior goals must include legal alternatives to two (2) primary problem areas/patterns of negative thinking and acting (and you cannot work ahead).
- Sign/date goal sheet the first time used and initial/date each additional goal. Never write more than one (1) goal per group. Review (update/delete/add) after three (3) goals, and do discharge planning after six (6) goals (instead of writing new goals).

Example:

Substance Abuse Short Term Goal:

*“I (WHO) **will** go to AA meetings (WHAT) here in jail (WHERE) to get support from other alcoholics and addicts (WHY) every Friday night (WHEN) for six months (WHEN) starting this week (WHEN) by making arrangements with my counselor and case manager to get passes off the living unit (HOW).”*

(Because AA meetings are offered on Friday nights and the client is eligible to go, this goal is achievable. Making arrangements to get the passes, attendance and participation can all be measured.)

Client Name _____

Substance Abuse Goals:

Short Term

Long Term

Criminal Behavior Goals:

Short Term

Long Term

Antisocial Behavior Goals:

Short Term

Long Term

Client signature

Date

Counselor signature

Date

Case Manager signature

Date

Probation/Parole Officer
Signature

Date

Resocial Group™

Planning for the Future/Goal Sheet

SAMPLES

Substance Abuse Goals:

Short Term

Effective immediately I will have clean urine samples every week in prison for 3 months by using no drugs/alcohol and by taking Antabuse regularly as directed so I can stay in the therapeutic community.

Long Term

I will refer myself to the 90-day halfway house recovery program in L.A. for aftercare in the community within 2 weeks after graduation from Resocial Group™ in 6 months.

Criminal Behavior Goals:

Short Term

Starting now I will be write-up free in housing and education every day for 3 months so I can get a single room by applying to the living unit Inmate Council by July 1.

Long Term

I will make restitution payments of \$100 per month by mailing money orders to DOC after I'm released in 6 months starting that month and until paid off in 3 years to comply with the order.

Antisocial Behavior Goals:

Short Term

I will take at least a 15-minute time out and do thought stopping and journaling as necessary when feeling angry, having violent thoughts, or as suggested by staff here in the program beginning today and for the next ninety days.

Long Term

I will make and record at least 3 job contacts a day in the downtown area starting immediately and until I get a job due in 2 weeks, and keep it for at least 9 months so I can stay in the house.

Resocial Group™ - Appropriate Settings

- Prison
- Jail
- Boot Camp
- Halfway House
- Inpatient/Residential Program
- Work Release
- Partial Hospitalization
- Intensive Outpatient
- Day Reporting
- Outpatient

Resocial Group™ - Treatment Categories

(U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)

- Group Therapy
- Group Education
- Specialized
 - *Skills*
 - *Diagnosis*

Resocial Group™ - Guidelines/Rules

- abstinence/sobriety
- honesty
- compliance
- safety
- order
- moderation
- dependability
- participation
- readiness
- confidentiality

Resocial Group™ - Facilitator Skills

1. Use board to write down assignment.
2. Verbally introduce behavior pattern problem area (topic).
3. Highlight relationship with alcohol/other drugs.
4. Explain technique or skill relevance to subject.
5. *Review rule or guideline of concern in this section (any 1 of 10).*

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Answer the following questions by selecting the most appropriate response.

1. Antisocial Personality Disorder is exclusively an adult diagnosis.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. Indicators of Antisocial Personality Disorder include:
 - a. breaking rules and laws
 - b. impulsivity
 - c. aggressiveness
 - d. irresponsibility
 - e. all of the above
3. Antisocial Personality Disorder may only be diagnosed if there is evidence of aggression, destruction and/or deceitfulness before the age of 15.
 - a. True
 - b. False
4. A diagnosis of Antisocial Personality Disorder requires that:
 - a. there not be a thought disorder as well
 - b. there not be a depressive disorder as well
 - c. the problems begin no later than 18 years of age
 - d. all of the above
 - e. none of the above
5. Conduct Disorder is a child/adolescent only diagnosis.
 - a. True
 - b. False
6. Which of the following statements are correct:
 - a. Adult Antisocial Behavior is due to a mental disorder.
 - b. Impulse-Control Disorder, Antisocial Personality Disorder and Conduct Disorder are mental disorders.
 - c. Adult Antisocial Behavior is a diagnostic category for all age groups.
 - d. Adult Antisocial Behavior is always chronic.
 - e. Adult Antisocial Behavior is always acute.

7. Conduct Disorder may be rated as mild, moderate or severe.
 - a. True
 - b. False
8. Substance Dependence requires increased tolerance and withdrawal.
 - a. True
 - b. False
9. Substance Abuse may only be diagnosed in the following case:
 - a. substance related problem at home
 - b. substance related legal problem
 - c. substance related problem at work
 - d. substance related problems at school
 - e. use in physically hazardous situation
10. Counselors should not use clinical terminology with clients.
 - a. True
 - b. False
11. Counseling with gay and lesbian offenders should include discussions about the possibility of differences between pleasure and attraction.
 - a. True
 - b. False
12. When treating a learning disabled offender:
 - a. give feedback
 - b. explain
 - c. observe
 - d. demonstrate the task(s)
 - e. all of the above
13. Coeducational therapy groups are encouraged as long as:
 - a. it is recognized that women may use drugs for different reasons
 - b. there are coed facilitators whom are attracted to each other
 - c. there are coed facilitators whom tolerate working together
 - d. there is a female facilitator to support the one female client
 - e. none of the above

14. Most people are not aware that they are being socialized by family members and peers.
- a. True
 - b. False
15. Theories of socialization include explanations that:
- a. early learning persists beyond childhood
 - b. changes in adulthood can alter earlier learning
 - c. most people are not aware that they are being socialized by teachers and preachers
 - d. both a. and b.
 - e. both b. and c.
16. If someone is rigid, close minded or dogmatic in their thinking and feeling, they may be unable to reach full development as an individual.
- a. True
 - b. False
17. Resocialization is defined as the unlearning and relearning of:
- a. norms
 - b. values
 - c. attitudes
 - d. behaviors
 - e. all of the above
18. Socialization agents in American society include the family, peers, schools and churches.
- a. True
 - b. False
19. Helping clients change the way that they think, feel, have relationships and control impulsive behaviors benefits:
- a. self
 - b. others
 - c. no one
 - d. self and others
 - e. none of the above

20. An involuntary client cannot be voluntarily resocialized.
- a. True
 - b. False
21. Resocialization does not include gaining insight into past events and exploring present feelings.
- a. True
 - b. False
22. Cognitive behavioral therapy includes which of the following:
- a. teaching alternatives to problem behaviors and experiences
 - b. being discharged or released only when successful
 - c. doing homework which includes practicing the new skills
 - d. all of the above
 - e. none of the above
23. Resocial Group™ addresses the co-occurring problems of persistent patterns of disregarding and violating the rights of others and substance abuse or dependence.
- a. True
 - b. False
24. Which of the following statements is not correct about Resocial Group™:
- a. sessions are generally held for 90 minutes
 - b. frequency of visits is usually once weekly
 - c. there is no maximum group size
 - d. this clinical treatment program is for adults only
 - e. all of the above
25. The curriculum for Resocial Group™ includes substance abuse and eight other topics (specific experiences and behaviors related to criminal thinking and acting).
- a. True
 - b. False

26. Sociometry:
- a. is also known as diagramming of relationships
 - b. requires clients to make decisions about the people they spend time with
 - c. is the same as doing a simple family tree
 - d. both a. and b.
 - e. none of the above
27. The clinical relevance or importance of asking clients to do sociometry in group therapy is so that they can determine:
- a. where they first learned the negative thinking and acting related to substance abuse and how it affected them and others around them
 - b. how they have repeated the pattern of negative thinking and acting related to substance abuse and how they have hurt others in the process
 - c. what their future relationships might look like without the negative thinking and acting and without the substance abuse
 - d. All of the above
 - e. None of the above
28. Clients must write the topic (one of the eight examples of criminal behaviors or experiences) and substance abuse in 11 places (including the final blank in the answer key) on the two pages of the sociometry exercise.
- a. True
 - b. False
29. In the diagramming, if a behavior or emotional reaction is two-sided, the line is arrowed in both directions.
- a. True
 - b. False
30. Sociodrama is not:
- a. about a specific client's real life situation or problem
 - b. an opportunity to receive support and feedback
 - c. focused on present day issues
 - d. all of the above
 - e. none of the above

31. Sociodrama can also be understood as exploring, rehearsing, expanding or training in the areas of playing old roles or trying new roles.
- a. True
 - b. False
32. Sociodrama stages should be in this order:
- a. enactment, cooldown, warm-up
 - b. warm-up, cooldown, enactment
 - c. warm-up, enactment, cooldown
 - d. all of the above
 - e. none of the above
33. In a sociodrama enactment, the double shows the group what he or she observed and thinks the enactor was feeling, and the mirror tells the group what he or she observed and thinks the enactor was feeling.
- a. True
 - b. False
34. What is the one exception to always doing “here and now” enactments?
- a. role reversal
 - b. double
 - c. mirror
 - d. future projection
 - e. none of the above
35. Sociodrama allows clients the opportunity to practice problem solving, decision making and communication.
- a. True
 - b. False
36. In social goal setting, the client does a review and update halfway through treatment, and makes certain that the short term goals are accomplished and long term goals still relevant when completing the program.
- a. True
 - b. False

37. The Planning for the Future exercise requires the following:
- a. clients may talk about what they're not going to do
 - b. clients must write where, why and how they're going to do their goal
 - c. clients must state when they're going to start, how often and for how long they're going to do it
 - d. Both a and b are correct responses
 - e. Both b and c are correct responses
38. Goal setting addresses:
- a. substance abuse goals
 - b. criminal behavior goals
 - c. antisocial goals
 - d. all of the above
 - e. none of the above
39. Criminal behavior goals may include legal alternatives to any crime that the client was convicted of (whether or not he or she assumes responsibility for it).
- a. True
 - b. False
40. Which of the following is correct regarding the Goal Sheet for Resocial Group™:
- a. short term goals must always be written before long term goals
 - b. a client may only write a goal about a particular antisocial topic if it has already been addressed in group
 - c. substance abuse goals are required before criminal behavior goals
 - d. all of above
 - e. none of the above