

# “How Much Is There To Learn About Parenting”

## A Message For Family Services Staff.

This will be a pretty simple conversion into wisdom for family services. Let me spell this out for you.

“How much is there to learn about motivating clients to perform much better?”

This conversion to a Family Services letter is a little different from the parenting version. As counsellors of all varieties you are basically trained already and spend every day trying to teach clients to manage their thoughts, emotions and behaviours.

**That’s good**, and I don’t want to interfere with that. However, there is a **critical** part of human performance that I see the clinical establishment completely ignoring and I am sure the education provided for you was lacking it too. So I am going to **focus on** that for this lesson.

**Motivation** is the answer I am looking for, and I do not use that term loosely. Your counselling strategies are modern and **motivation** has been around for 5000 years. Motivation in my terms is the ability greatly **improve** another person’s attitude, self discipline, and awareness of their own performance in life. Many leaders in the past have become absolute masters at getting people to do better, to listen and overcome limiting beliefs.

You need to **learn** those principles. It should have been taught to you but our education system lacks in this. Mind you though, you could have thought to learn this **yourself**. Lord knows **motivational** speakers and books have been around for awhile.

So in the most gentle way I can think of, I am going to challenge you for not having learned this already or for not putting much time into it.

## Call to Action:

Follow this procedure for determining how you will respond to your client's behaviour for the rest of your relationship with them.

1. Take about 20 minutes and be by yourself.
2. Ask yourself this question- "what do I want to see in my client's motivation, self awareness, and accountability by the end of our relationship, by the end of the year, in 5 years from now?"
3. Write it down, do it with detail! (on paper)
4. Now ask yourself these questions:
  1. "What am I doing right now to cause those results?"
  2. "What am I specifically teaching my client about the big picture on some issues?"
5. Notice a sharp contrast between what you are doing now and what you need to be doing?
  1. Write down quickly what you are doing to take hours to teach your clients specific lessons about taking responsibility, respecting you and others, and learning the basic success principles of human behaviour. DO IT! I am not kidding, grab a pen.
  2. Do you like this, are you having fun yet?
  3. Are you really interested in the results you wished you had?
6. Now give yourself an education on how to create those results.

**Street Smart Counselling** provides this type of education in greater depth for family service agencies. In my seminars, I teach the information from my personal experience and from a "been there, done that" approach. I can give your staff a lesson in how to **reach** your clients, and then I can talk to your clients in a way they have never been talked to before.

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