## The training programme for antiviolence trainers at the Bavarian penitentiary system

### Summary

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## Our definition of anti-violence training

It was created at the meeting of antiviolence trainers in 2004:

We see the anti-violence training as a structured and temporary psychosocial offer for groups under professional instruction which comprises the following contents:



- Examination with the attitude about violence
- Reflection of the own being
- Promotion of the empathy capacity
- Examination with the acts of violence and typical conflicts
- Improvement of the social competence
- Reduction of the potential of tension
- Development of alternative behaviour in terms of personal responsibility and self-regulation

# The goal of anti-violence training

- Social learning should be set in train
- Present violent attitudes should be changed
- Social adequate behaviour at dealing with agression should be developed

### Context penitentiary system

- Legal task of treatment (Art. 3 Bavarian prison act)
- Different basic conditions
  - Depending on the prison and the clients
  - Depending on the length of imprisonment
  - Mixed trainer teams with different preconditions concerning the training

## Context penitentiary system

- Specific preconditions depending on the prison (spatial, financial, temporal, personnel)
- Risks of oppenness and confidence for the inmates
- Balance between the obligation to preserve secrecy and the duty of disclosure of the trainers
- Social climate in the penitentiary environment

# Creation of the training programme for anti-violence trainers

- 2003 first exchange of ideas from antiviolence trainers during a meeting througut all over Germany
- Between 2004 and 2007 followed annual meetings for active trainers in the Bavarian penitentiary system
- The number of the trainers grew significant and with that also the large number of concepts

# Creation of the training programme for anti-violence trainers

- 2004 was formed a working group to
  - Work out standards for the anti-violence trainings
  - Develop an anti-violence training programme for newcomers
- According to the legal basic that social therapies for violent criminals should be created, the Bavarian penitentiary school pushed ahead with the offer of the training
- In the beginning of 2008 the first training group started

#### Basic attitude of the trainer

#### Humanistic conception of man:

A central point is there the idea that every person deserves a fundamental respect regardless of his crimes qua of his human being.

#### "Behavioural therapeutic orientation":

Behaviour has been learned and so it is changeable

- The trainer is a model in terms of
  - An esteemed, normorientated dealing
  - A person who respects the limits

# Fundamental consideration of the training

- The different conditions in the prisons should be accommodated
- Development of a modular construction system which consists of 11 moduls from which 7 are fixed parts at an anti-violence training
- An anti-violence training has to comprise at least 12 units
- A prison officer can make the anti-violence training only as a Co-Trainer together with a psychologist or an social worker



## Basic conditions of the training

- Temporal limit:
  - Phase 1: Two weeks communicating of theory
  - Phase 2: Praxis phase with carrying out of an anti-violence training in company
  - Phase 3: Final week



- Formal limit
  - Participation at all training parts
  - Presentation of a concept which is tailored at the prevailing working environment
  - Carrying out of an anti-violence training with records about the individual units
- Preconditions for the participation at the training:
  - Training as a team leader for prison officers
  - Psychologists or social workers

# Contents of the training programme for anti-violence trainers

- Modul 1: Ethical basic attitude
- Modul 2: Biographie
- Modul 3: Imparting of values
- Modul 4: Aggression, violence, suspect profile
- Modul 5: working on the crime
- Modul 6: Stress and relaxation
- Modul 7: Feelings
- Modul 8: Communication
- Modul 9: Conflict management
- Modul 10: Self-confidence and change of perspectives
- Modul 11: Formal basis of a training