

Critical Analysis of Victim Assistance: *A Resource to Effect Change*

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“Humans are prisoners
of modern systems of
thought and practice.”

Sharon Lamb



Critical Reflection

“Dialogue involving the assessment of beliefs, feelings, and values.”

Mezirow

Identify and scrutinize the assumptions that undergrid how we work.”

Brookfield



Phase 1:

Pre-Session

- ▶ Identification of issues/problem areas
- ▶ Readings
- ▶ Online

Phase 2:

Session

- ▶ 3 day
- ▶ Concepts, ideologies and values
- ▶ Ecological or holistic perspective
- ▶ Critical Reflection and
Action for Change
- ▶ Justice and Allied Systems
- ▶ Action Plan

Bringing about Change

- ▶ What are we going to do?
 - ▶ Identification of the problem
 - ▶ Brainstorm for ideas
 - ▶ Determine resources
 - ▶ Determine what you can do
 - ▶ Determine priorities based on resources
- ▶ Who are we going to involve to get it done?
 - ▶ Identify key stakeholders
 - ▶ Identify allies and opponents

The Process of Change

- ▶ Sources of Change
- ▶ Change Agents
- ▶ Organizations as Change Agents
- ▶ Partnerships as Change Agents
- ▶ Coalitions
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Change is Incremental

Advocacy and Change

- ▶ Know the issues from multiple perspectives and have all the facts (ethical review of each)
- ▶ Your cause needs to be right and presented in the way you want others to view it
- ▶ Plan for small wins
- ▶ Find allies and know their risks and benefits (make this an important task)
- ▶ Identify your opponents (What do they lose if you win? Is it a moral outcome?)
- ▶ Develop a plan and strategy that emphasizes the values/moral process.

Finding a Moral Common Ground

- ▶ Seeking a moral common ground
- ▶ Process of change can lead to moral or philosophical conflicts
 - ▶ Recognize the issue(s)
 - ▶ Get the facts related to the conflict
 - ▶ Are some concerns more important to the stake holders
 - ▶ Evaluate the options and agree on an approach (e.g., rights, common good, etc.)
 - ▶ Determine which option best addresses the concerns of the stakeholders
 - ▶ What options can stakeholders live with/what options are “off the table”

Phase 3:

Post-Session

- ▶ Action plan development and support
- ▶ Online
- ▶ Approximately 4 months

Information

▶ Academic Credit Option

▶ California State University, Fresno, Department of Criminology

▶ Victim Services (CRIM 176)

▶ 3 units of Undergraduate or Graduate Credit

▶ Washburn University

Department of Human Services

▶ 3 units of Undergraduate or Graduate Credit