



Autonoomia austamine EMITA konverents 2017

Supporting Autonomy with People who have Abused Others
Or
Supporting Autonomy with People in Criminal Justice

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Decades of criminological research has made it clear: Harsh, confrontation approaches in treatment with people who have caused harm to others are unlikely to be effective and can make matters worse. The safest person who has harmed others is stable, occupied with employment or studies, has supportive people to whom he or she is accountable, and has plans for the future. How do we get these people invested in their futures?

This workshop explores how therapists can better support autonomy by focusing on the goals underlying harmful behavior. Even the most egregious crimes are often motivated by broader goals that all human beings have in common, such as the desire for independence. By focusing on these goals, and understanding the discrepancy between their current and desired future states, clients in treatment can better focus on specific steps they can take to develop a balanced and self-determined lifestyle; in in which causing harm is undesirable and unnecessary.

Biography

David Prescott has been a member of the MINT since 2006 and currently serves as Chair of the MINT Communications Committee. He has produced 17 book projects and numerous articles and chapters in the area of reducing the harm of abuse. He has lectured around the world and is the 2014 recipient of the *Distinguished Contribution* award from the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers.