

## Child inclusion: A working with children intensive

A 2 day workshop facilitated by Jill Goldson

An intensive workshop for those working with children on issues of parental separation

Learn skills which promote the resilience of children and their parents during change

Join NZLS CLE, Resolution Institute and AMINZ for a workshop featuring the expertise and innovative approach to family facilitation of Jill Goldson, award winning researcher and practitioner. This workshop focuses on strategies and tools to support parents to resolve disputes by more effectively hearing their children.

### Why is Child Inclusion so Important?

Family life has changed, but child psychological needs have not. Inter-parental conflict is a significant variable in mood disorders in children and adolescents. Our NZ track record for mental health amongst young people is particularly poor. Child inclusion in FDR practised professionally offers a valuable opportunity to promote resilience for children which has both short and longer term benefits.

A key priority in FDR is ensuring the needs of children are met. There are a range of ways that practitioners can make the needs of children central to the process. Child inclusive practice is about ensuring that the voice of children is heard.

Jill's research with a group of families in 2006 indicated a high level of satisfaction from both children and parents, with involvement of children in a mediation process. Parents had a heightened awareness of the effects of conflict on their children, greater recognition of their child's need for parental co-operation and an enhanced ability to make agreements about co-parenting. Children in the study felt that their need for a voice and for information was satisfied by this involvement. They reported a decrease in anxiety about the emotional and practical issues facing them as their family life rearranged. Parents also commented on how much less anxious their children were.

It is important to go further than stating that 'children need a voice'. Those working with children need an understanding of the rearranging family and children's developmental needs, and how these impact on including children. They also need the skills to put this knowledge into ethical practice.

*No court order can come close to the impact of each parent understanding the relationship of their child to the other parent.*

### Facilitator



**Jill Goldson** is an award winning researcher and practitioner. She has worked extensively in family mediation since 1987 - both in the NZ Family Court and in other diverse contexts. Commended by Peter Boshier, Principal Family Court Judge, 2012 for her "persuasive work in research and advocacy to the advantage of New Zealand children." Jill authored the New Zealand pilot study "Hello I'm a Voice Let Me Speak. Child Inclusive Mediation and Family Separation" and is a highly evaluated trainer and speaker. See more about Jill at [www.thefamilymatterscentre.co.nz](http://www.thefamilymatterscentre.co.nz)

### Date

Thursday 22 & Friday 23 March 2018

### Venue

Parnell Trust Jubilee Building, 545 Parnell Road, AUCKLAND

### Cost

Includes 2 day workshop, catering, workshop materials and a follow up 90 minute online discussion forum with Jill.

**Super Early bird discounted rate** for those registered by 20 December, 2017: \$980 (GST incl)

**Early bird discounted rate** for those registered by 15 February, 2018: \$1080 (GST incl)

**Standard rate:** \$1180 (GST incl)

Contact us if you would like to pay in instalments

Register online at [www.resolution.institute](http://www.resolution.institute) or call 0800 453 237

# More about the 2 Day Workshop

## Who should attend?

This workshop is suitable for anyone working with children on issues of parental separation:

- FDR Providers who meet with children as part of their practice
- FDR Providers who work with child consultants and utilise information from children with parents
- Child consultants who meet with children as part of FDR

## Learning outcomes

In this intensive 2 day workshop you will:

- Gain working knowledge of the evidence based research around child inclusive practice
- Understand child inclusive practice from an understanding of attachment theory, child development psychology, family systems theory and family law
- Learn skills to:
  - Determine an appropriate approach for involving children, including assessing risk
  - Introduce the principles and practice of child inclusion to parents
  - Listen and communicate effectively with children about family restructure
  - Understand the role of the child interview feedback in mediation
- Leave with fresh ideas for promoting your practice

## Workshop programme

This workshop will give you skills, tools and strategies to incorporate into your practice a variety of ways of including the voice of children.

**2 day workshop plus  
90 min online discussion forum  
15 hours CPD**

### Workshop approach

In this highly interactive workshop there will be a lively examination of cutting edge theory and practice in FDR. Skills, tools and strategies will be given to enable a wider understanding of working with families in transition.

Case studies, demonstrations and debate, will highlight the use of innovative tools and engagement techniques, collaboration and the creative use of metaphor.

*The opportunity to debate and discuss and practice in a learning environment*

### Workshop content

#### Day 1

- ✓ The psychology of the rearranging family – family systems and transitions
- ✓ Child development and attachment stages and needs
- ✓ Principles for practice of child inclusion: assessing risk; engaging parents; issues of consent, confidentiality
- ✓ Determining a CIP approach that fits the family
- ✓ CIP overseas results and research
- ✓ CIP in context of NZ family justice system

#### Day 2

- ✓ The child interview – the core areas for understanding; methods and tools
- ✓ The feedback interview with parents
- ✓ Practice issues and difficult dilemmas: alienation – how to recognise it and what to do; managing child confidentiality; siblings; grandparents; boundaries and collaboration
- ✓ Durability of agreements and follow up

### Added Value!

- ✓ Family dialogue templates you can customise and use in your practice
- ✓ A follow up 90 minute online discussion forum the week after the workshop

**For more information and to register visit: [www.resolution.institute](http://www.resolution.institute)  
or email [infonz@resolution.institute](mailto:infonz@resolution.institute) or call 0800 453 237**

**Places are limited so register now**



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