

# POSITIVE iNTERACTiON

## **Conflict Transformation through Group Conferencing**

### **Three day Professional Development Training**

**Presenters: Dr David Moore and Dr Alikki Vernon**

Academic Centre: University College

Melbourne University

**Dates: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

Time: 9:30am – 4:30pm each day

This workshop provides 3 days of training for professionals who are practising, or interested to practice, in the field of conflict transformation. The workshop focuses on the process of **Group Conferencing**, which is used to address significant conflict affecting a group of people. Workshop participants will:

- examine methods for dealing with challenging situations in the justice, health and education systems, workplaces &/or other communities;
- analyse situations that can be addressed with effective dispute handling or conflict management techniques;
- acquire facilitation skills that can be applied in many areas of professional practice, &
- practise facilitation techniques through small group exercises.

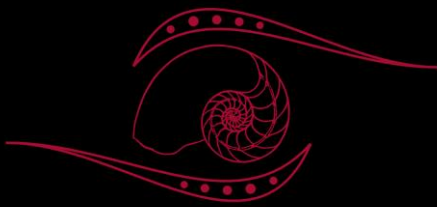
This training meets the Best Practice Standards developed by the Victorian Association of Restorative Justice (VARJ) for training in Group Conference facilitation.

Workshop fee: \$1 500 for three days.

All days are fully catered.

Reduced rates are available for group bookings.

For further information, and registration and payment details, please contact Alikki Vernon: [alikki@alikkiv.com.au](mailto:alikki@alikkiv.com.au)



# POSITIVE INTERACTION

## FEEDBACK FROM RECENT PARTICIPANTS

*"If you have an interest in Group Conferencing or in transforming conflict or supporting people to move forward from a family, group or community breakdown, this training would be extremely useful, in terms of having a model that can be learned and applied and is shown to be effective. Great presenters; very focused training; no down time. Concrete, practical, directly relevant."*

**Charmaine Farrell, Manager**  
Northern Centre Against Sexual Assault

*"The three-day course took me on a journey through emotion, understanding and insight. The approach of 'practice by doing' is certainly a great one. You sit observing others and listening to the great coaches, David and Alikki but, it is actually when you have a go yourself, which is what this course enables you to do (as I did in the role of convener in a scenario of a conference with multiple parties...) that you truly learn and correct your approach. Conferencing is different to mediation and mediation is different to negotiation. All have a logic and use for different situations... Practicing the appropriate skills in a different setting was immensely useful as were the opportunities for reflective practice offered by this course. I would highly recommend it to others."*

**Dr Liz Curran, Senior Lecturer, Legal Workshop and solicitor**  
Australian National University

*"Well balanced training. Paradigm shifting. I really enjoyed and valued the practical focus of the workshop. I plan to set up a program using this. I feel I have a deeper understanding. Such an interesting perspective to take back into one's engagement with the world."*

**Alistair Nairn**  
Community Advisor  
Environment Protection Authority Victoria

*"I believe the values, theories and skills required for group conferencing are essential for social work practice."*

**Dr Susie Costello**  
Program Director Master of Social Work,  
RMIT University, Melbourne

*"Conferencing offers exciting opportunities for the transformation of workplace conflict by bringing together the people involved in, and impacted by, conflict to address and resolve the issues. I found the workshop challenging, thought-provoking and inspiring. The trainers are skilled and engaging, and the training content is an effective balance of theory and practice."*

**Meriel O'Sullivan, REDD HR/IR Consultancy**

*"I found the training extremely useful and fun. Until I facilitated a session during the training I had been unaware of the power of the group process to bring about change in such a decisive manner. I would recommend this training to anyone thinking about running group sessions, regardless of the way they are described."*

**Carolyn Worth, Manager, South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault**

*"The training breaks your brain and you will love it!"*  
**Genevieve Higgins, Senior Group Conferencing Convenor**  
Jesuit Social Services