TITLE: A domestic violence program’s turn towards philosophical, theoretical and discursive integration: A response to how domestic violence is gendered through language.

Schedule for semi-structured in-depth interview

Introduction- The aim of this study is to highlight how Relationships Australia’s domestic violence program has changed its use of language in discussing and reporting on issues of violence in response to current discursive research of Allan Wade. This research identifies how particular ways of discussing and reporting on men’s violence towards women is gendered, with language use having the power to both allow and disallow certain ways of representing victims, perpetrators, responsibility for violence and describing acts of violence.

The information letter and consent form will be discussed and on agreement to participation in the study the consent form will be signed by the participant.

QUESTIONS GUIDING DISCUSSIONS WITH PARTICIPANTS

Program philosophy and theoretical foundation (historical & current)

1. “Can you tell me about any changes you have seen or been a part of in how Relationships Australia addresses domestic violence issues from a theoretical foundation?”

Evolving questions included:

- Has the theoretical position of the program changed over time
- How do you see Relationships Australia’s domestic violence program current ideological positioning in the DV sector? Is it the same or different?
- How does this positioning sit in relation to the programs’ theoretical and ideological foundation; historically and currently and what changes have occurred in thinking and practice?
- Historically what theoretical model was the domestic violence program based on?
- Has this changed? Why?
- Specifically how do you think this change occurred and over what time frame?
**Awareness of gendered language use**

2. “Has changes in theoretical and ideological perspective influenced the ways in which domestic violence is discussed in terms of the language used? In what ways?”

Evolving questions included:

- How has the way domestic violence as a social problem been discussed historically within the organisation?
- How were perpetrators of domestic violence discussed or reported on in the past? What has changed? How has this changed in relation to Allan Wade’s training?
- How were issues of responsibility for violence discussed and reported on in the past?
- Were these ways of talking about and reporting on domestic violence problematic? In what way? And for whom?
- What do you see as the consequences for victims and perpetrators?
- Is Relationships Australia consciously moving away from particular ways of talking about domestic violence, victims and perpetrators and issues of responsibility for violence?
- Why is this being done and how is this monitored?

**Report writing and editing - Expert stance and language**

3. “What is the aim of editing program reports that are written for Corrective Services and what are the main areas of concern and change noted in editing reports in terms of language used in the reports?”

Evolving questions included:

- Was there any influence of Allan Wade’s training on reports writing?
- What were the concerns regarding the language used in reports acts of violence and behaviour change generally described through in reports to Corrective Services?
- How is men’s change process reported on in reports to Corrective Services?
- How was responsibility for violence represented in reports?
- What are the consequences of documenting acts of violence, perpetrators and victims in a particular way in reports?
Outcomes of discursive review

4. “How important is it for this change in talking about domestic violence to be encouraged in this program and has it had an effect on the rest of the program as a whole, in the way staff conceptualise domestic violence and how the work is done?”

Evolving questions included:

- How this change has in the way domestic violence is discussed and reported on occurred? Is it in response to Allan Wade’s research and training?
- How have program changes been received by facilitators in the program? If resisted what were the facilitators concerns?
- How are the implemented changes going? What are the difficulties associated with language and theoretical change?
- How is it changing things for the program? (At group level, organisational level, sector level)

Future Directions

5. “How do you think this way of viewing language is influencing your work?

Evolving question:

- How is the program as a whole sustaining and supporting changes in language use?

On completion of the interview the participants will be thanked for their time dedicated to the study and informed that they will receive feedback regarding the results of the study either by a feedback sheet or through receiving a copy of the thesis.