# USING MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING SKILLS WITH PARENTS AND FAMILIES







#### Overview

MI Center for Change

- -Parenting Dilemma exploration
- -Motivational Interviewing spirit elements
- -Communication tips from Motivational Interviewing

**Introductions** 





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#### Challenges



What are the most common challenges that you hear from the parents you work with?





# What makes it important to address these challenges?



#### What is Motivational Interviewing (MI)?



MI is a positive communication style and way of interacting with others based on the following principles:

- A strong sense of team with the other person
- Demonstrating non-judgement and respect for another's thoughts, feelings and perspectives.
- Seeing and believing in another's strengths and positive resources
- A genuine and strong desire to help others
- Respecting and understanding another's basic need to make their own choices.



Talk less, listen more

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Parents do not have all the answers, nor do they have to

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Parents do not have all the answers, nor do they have to

Encourage parents to take care of themselves

Ml's spirit and respectful strategies are powerful tools to help you support parents and care-givers in conversations. Here are some of our favourites that can be helpful.







### Express Empathy

Really try to understand the other's perspective







# How do you encourage parents to express empathy in their parenting or care-giving conversations?

• Show genuine interest in the other's perspective So, please walk me through your thought process, step by step.

Exploring the other's perspective by asking open questions
 What happened?
 What benefits and risks do you see?

Show appreciation for the other's situation or perspective
 Thank you for coming to me right away.
 That must have been really scary for you.





## How do we express empathy in our parenting or care-giving conversations?

- Highlight and affirm strengths, efforts, positive intentions
   You took responsibility for that fire right away.
   You really want what is best for you!
- Reflect Don't react!

Reflections (or mini-summaries) are extremely useful when trying to understand another person's words or actions and when helping the other person understand themselves.



# EXPLORE OFFER EXPLORE





EOE is a 3-step framework used to listen to a anoter person's perspective, respectfully deliver your message so the other person internalizes it and check how you message was perceived by them.



#### EXPLORE - OFFER - EXPLORE (EOE)



#### **EXPLORE**

First explore what the person already knows about "what you want to say" (This is your message). In this step, you show respect for, and interest in, the person's thoughts, opinions, and perspectives BEFORE you start sharing your perspective.



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Deliver, or offer,
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followed by
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#### **EXPLORE**

Lastly, explore how 
"what you said" (your message) was 
perceived by the 
person. In this step, 
you are interested in 
getting feedback 
about "what you said" 
(your message),



#### REFERENCES

Miller, W.R. (2018). Listening Well. The art of empathic listening. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers.

Miller, WR. and Rollnick, S. (2013). *Motivational Interviewing*, 3rd Edition. Guilford Press.

Rosengren, D.B. (2018). Building Motivational Interviewing Skills, 2nd Edition, Guilford Press.









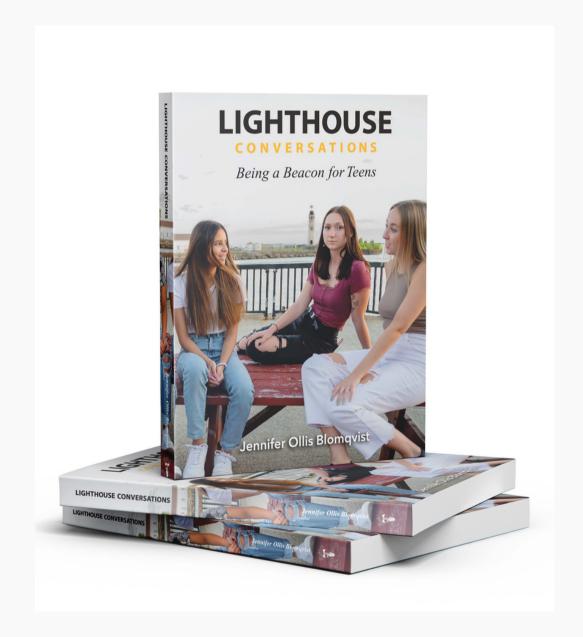


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#### **Lighthouse Conversations** with Teens

This online course will support your daily journey towards a richer and stronger relationship with the teen in your life. Focus on your strengths and positive aspects of your communication while learning evidence-based conversation strategies to:

- · Engage teens in natural and meaningful conversations.
- · Get your message across and set boundaries in a respectful
- Enable change, achieve lasting results and improve your communication with teens.







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Join our private Facebook, group where we post regular videos, tips and resources on MI. Group is called Motivational Interviewing Rockstars!

Connect with me on LinkedIn: Hillary Bolter

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YouTube Channel: MI Center for Change





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