

Mending the Broken Circle: Meeting Human Needs

BELONGING			GENEROSITY		
Normal	Distorted	Absent	Normal	Distorted	Absent
 Attached Loving Friendly Intimate Gregarious Cooperative Trusting	 Gang loyalty Craves affection / acceptance Promiscuous Clinging Cult-vulnerable Dependent	 Unattached Guarded Rejected Lonely Aloof Isolated Distrustful	 Altruistic Caring Sharing Loyal Empathic Pro-social Supportive	 Noblesse Oblige Over-involved Plays martyr Co-dependency Over-involvement Servitude Bondage	 Selfish Affectionless Narcissistic Disloyal Hardened Anti Social Exploitative
<p>Some youth who feel rejected are struggling to find artificial, distorted belongings through behaviour such as attention seeking or running with gangs. Others have abandoned the pursuit and are reluctant to form human attachments. In either case, their unmet needs can be addressed by corrective relationships of trust and intimacy.</p>			<p>Without opportunities to give to others, young people do not develop as caring persons. Some may be involved in pseudo altruistic helping or they may be locked in servitude to someone who uses them. Others plunge into life styles of hedonism and narcissism. The antidote for this malaise is to experience the joys that accrue from helping others.</p>		
INDEPENDENCE			MASTERY		
Normal	Distorted	Absent	Normal	Distorted	Absent
 Autonomous Confident Assertive Responsible Inner control Self discipline Leadership	 Dictatorial Reckless/Macho Bullies others Sexual prowess Manipulative Rebellious Defies authority	 Submissive Lacks confidence Inferiority Irresponsible Helplessness Undisciplined Easily led	 Achiever Successful Creative Problem solver Motivated Persistent Competent	 Overachiever Arrogant Risk seeker Cheater Workaholic Perseverative Delinquent skill	 Non-achiever Failure orientated Avoids risks Fears challenges Un-motivated Gives up easily Inadequate
<p>Fighting against feelings of powerlessness, some youth assert themselves in rebellious and aggressive ways. Those who believe they are too weak or impotent to manage their own lives become pawns of others. These young people need opportunities to develop the skills and the confidence to assert positive leadership and self discipline.</p>			<p>Frustrated in their attempts to achieve, children may seek to prove their competence in distorted ways, such as skill in delinquent activity. Others have learned to retreat from difficult challenges by giving up in futility. The remedy for these problems is involvement in an environment with abundant opportunities for meaningful achievement.</p>		

Source: Brendtro et al, (1990) *Reclaiming Youth At Risk*