

FIRST
EDITION

FOUNDATIONS GUIDE

CORE
TENETS

Core Tenets Response-Based Practice

Take a tour through the core tenets of
Response-Based Practice within this Foundations Guide.

Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000)
(Updated 2019)

DEEP
DIVE

Inside Insight Exchange

Take a deeper dive into these ideas applied?

Insight Exchange centres on the expertise of people with lived experiences of violence and gives voice to these experiences. It is designed to inform and strengthen social, service and systemic responses to Domestic and Family Violence.

Insight Exchange has been designed by Sightlines Professional Services Division of Domestic Violence Service Management (DVSM), in collaboration with Dr Linda Coates and Dr Allan Wade from the Centre for Response-Based Practice Canada.

Domestic Violence Service Management would like to thank:

- Dr Linda Coates and Dr Allan Wade and their colleagues at the Centre for Response-Based Practice, Canada for their visionary and pioneering work on social responses, resistance, language, and the upholding of dignity.
- All the participating individuals and organisations who have shared your insights and learning for the benefit of many.

CORE TENETS OF RESPONSE-BASED PRACTICE

Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

CORE
TENETS

INTERACTION

1	Humans are best understood as social actors: Individuals respond to one other continuously and orient to one another as social actors with the capacity to choose and respond.
2	Dignity is central to individual and collective well-being: Social interaction is organized largely around dignity. Even small affronts can be met with intense responses. Violence is an affront to dignity, but not all affronts to dignity entail violence.
3	Violence is social and unilateral: Violence is <i>social</i> in that it is committed in specific interactions that involve at least two people. Violence is <i>unilateral</i> in that it entails actions by one person or group against the will and well-being of another person or group
4	Violence is, with rare exceptions, deliberate: Perpetrators anticipate and work to suppress victims' resistance. Even so-called "explosive" or "out of control" acts of violence involve deliberate action.
5	Resistance is ever-present: Individuals respond to and resist violence and other forms of injustice. Resistance can be open and direct or subtle and disguised depending on the situation.
6	Social responses are crucial: Victims and offenders are constantly mindful of actual and possible social network and institutional responses. The quality of social responses in cases of violence is closely tied to victim responses, offender strategies, and outcomes in the short and long term.
7	Details of social interaction in context: "A sense of the unique, specific and concrete circumstances of any situation is the first indispensable step to solving the problems posed by that situation" (David Trimble, 1998). Close analysis of social interaction in social-material context is the essential starting point for effective intervention.

LANGUAGE

8	Fitting Words to Deeds: There are no neutral descriptions. Where there is violence, the question of "which words are fitted to which deeds" is crucial (Danet, 1980, p. 189).
9	Misrepresentation: Verbal deception is central to most forms of violence. This can be <i>strategic</i> (e.g., perpetrators obscure their actions), <i>tactical</i> (e.g., victims conceal their resistance), <i>inadvertent</i> (e.g., professionals use misleading terms), or <i>systemic</i> (e.g., authorities promote ongoing distortions).
10	Four Operations of Language: Language can be used to (a) conceal or reveal violence, (b) obscure or clarify perpetrator responsibility, (c) conceal or elucidate victim responses and resistance, (d) blame and pathologize, or contest the blaming and pathologizing of victims.

Core tenet of Response-Based Practice

Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Humans are best understood as social actors: Individuals respond to one other continuously and orient to one another as social actors with the capacity to choose and respond.

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INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Video 10: [Making Meaning Through Interaction](#) (2 mins)

Explore the ideas of response-based practice applied through www.insightexchange.net
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Core tenet of Response-Based Practice


Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Dignity is central to individual and collective well-being: Social interaction is organized largely around dignity. Even small affronts can be met with intense responses. Violence is an affront to dignity, but not all affronts to dignity entail violence.

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Student of dignity

Watch the 7:39min Video of "Student of Dignity" on <https://www.insightexchange.net/response-conversations/resistance-safety-language/>



"Socially we are protecting one another's dignity and we are really good at it. All forms of violence are a humiliation of dignity and the perpetrator of abuse is often not the person who will ensure dignity to the victim. They are not going to get an adequate apology. They are not going to get an adequate acknowledgment.

And that is where we all come in. Our job is to uphold the dignity of the person. One of the things we don't do is get to advice giving. When we get to advice giving we are saying the person is not already competent enough to have thought of that themselves, and so advice giving is a humiliation of dignity.

So we have to be careful about our practice. So a dignifying practice instead of advice giving is to ask - "Here, that's a hard situation, how did you respond? What did you do?" Then we begin to learn about their problem-solving competence, their problem-solving skill and awareness, their problem-solving efforts to be safe. We help their problem-solving, dignity, spiritual capacity. That's what we are looking for. That is the name of dignity. That's what we want to uphold."

ENGAGE | THINK | TALK

What surprised you? | What did you appreciate about that? | What might you reflect on?

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INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Video 10: [Student of Dignity](#) (7:19 mins) | [Creating Conversations Card 10 – Student of Dignity](#)

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Core tenet of Response-Based Practice

Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Violence is social and unilateral:
Violence is *social* in that it is committed in specific interactions that involve at least two people. Violence is *unilateral* in that it entails actions by one person or group against the will and well-being of another person or group

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Violence is Social

Watch the 21min video of 'social' on <https://www.insightexchange.net/creating-conversations/04-social-response/>



"The resistance of the victim is part of the "fact-pattern". We are not just re-framing and trying to be you-know- "socialist" here, people do actually resist violence. Resistance to violence is as real as violence." Dr Allan Wade

"It is not at all uncommon that people being raped and beaten, that they respond in a way not only to resist the attacker but to protect other people around them. They children do that." Dr Allan Wade

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What surprised you? | What did you appreciate about that? | What might you reflect on?

Creating Conversations Event © 2011 DVSM Equities | Content © Linda Coates & Dr Alan Wade | Digital Facilitation Team Wade | Videography: Chad Fisher

INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Video 04: [Violence is Social](#) (21 mins) |
Creating Conversations Card 04 –
[Violence is Social](#)

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Core tenet of Response-Based Practice

Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Violence is, with rare exceptions, deliberate: Perpetrators anticipate and work to suppress victims' resistance. Even so-called “explosive” or “out of control” acts of violence involve deliberate action.

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Understanding abusive behaviour

Watch the 2:59min Video of 'Understanding abusive behaviour' on <https://www.insightexchange.net/creating-conversations/about-exchange-safety-liaison/>



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What surprised you? | What did you appreciate about that? | What might you reflect on?

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INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Video 09: [Understanding Abusive Behaviour](#) (2:59 mins) Creating Conversations Card 09 – [Understanding Abusive Behaviour](#)

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Core tenet of Response-Based Practice


Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Resistance is ever-present:
Individuals respond to and resist violence and other forms of injustice. Resistance can be open and direct or subtle and disguised depending on the situation.

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Resisting Violence and Resisting State Colonialism

Watch the 6:42min Video of 'Resisting Violence and Resisting State Colonialism' on <https://www.insightexchange.net/creating-conversations/resistance-safety-integral/>



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What surprised you? | What did you appreciate about that? | What might you reflect on?

Creating Conversations Card © 2019 DVSM. All rights reserved. | Created by Arian Wade | Digital Facilitation: Open State | Illustration: Arian Wade

INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Video 07: [Resisting Violence and Resisting State Colonialism](#) (4:42 mins) | Creating Conversations Card 07 – [Resisting Violence and Resisting State Colonialism](#)

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Core tenet of Response-Based Practice


Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Details of social interaction in context: "A sense of the unique, specific and concrete circumstances of any situation is the first indispensable step to solving the problems posed by that situation" (David Trimble, 1998). Close analysis of social interaction in social-material context is the essential starting point for effective intervention.

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Contextual Analysis

Watch the 12min Video of 'Contextual Analysis' on <https://www.insightexchange.net/practice/conversations/our-social-response/>



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What surprised you? | What did you appreciate about that? | What might you reflect on?

Creating Conversations Card © 2017 DVSM Systems | Contact: Dr Linda Coates & Dr Neil Rowe | Digital Facilitator: Gavin Baker | Videography: Dave Fisher

INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Video 02: [Contextual Analysis](#) (12 mins)
Creating Conversations Card 02 –
[Contextual Analysis](#)

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Core tenet of Response-Based Practice

Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Fitting Words to Deeds: There are no neutral descriptions. Where there is violence, the question of "which words are fitted to which deeds" is crucial (Danet, 1980, p. 189).

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Language and Example

Watch 20min Video 'Language' & 'Language Sample' on <http://www.insightexchange.net/online-conversations-for-social-practice/>

LANGUAGE OF VIOLENCE

SEX WITH A POWER

ANDERSON

POWER

WOMEN'S POWER

UNILATERAL	MUTUAL
• FORCEFUL	• EQUAL
• ON JERKS	• WARE
• SHAKES/WHIPS	• ASSAULT
• WIFE ABUSIVE	• RELATIONSHIP

"Language is inseparable from ourselves, as a community of human beings with a separate form and character; a specific history & specific relationship to the world." Dr. John Searle

"Violence, of course necessarily involves the application of force against the will and wellbeing of another person." Dr. Linda Coates

"We need to spend a little bit of time working out what is a mutual social interaction and what is a unilateral social interaction... violence is a unilateral action." Dr. Linda Coates

ENGAGE | THINK | TALK

What surprised you? | What did you appreciate about that? | What might you reflect on?

Copyright © 2019 DVSM Systems | Contact: Dr. Linda Coates & Dr. John Wade | Digital Facilitation Cards Made | Using only Clay Paper

INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Video 06: [Language](#) (7 mins)
 Creating Conversations Card 06 – [Language](#)

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Core tenet of Response-Based Practice

Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Misrepresentation: Verbal deception is central to most forms of violence. This can be *strategic* (e.g., perpetrators obscure their actions), *tactical* (e.g., victims conceal their resistance), *inadvertent* (e.g., professionals use misleading terms), or *systemic* (e.g., authorities promote ongoing distortions).

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INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Video 01: [Masterclass on Language and Violence](#) (94 minutes) Dr Linda Coates

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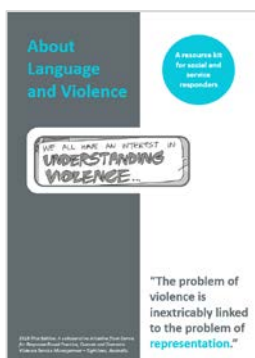
Core tenet of Response-Based Practice

Coates, L. Ph.D., Todd, N. M.Ed. & Wade, A. Ph.D. (2000) (Updated 2019)

Four Operations of Language:

Language can be used to (a) conceal or reveal violence, (b) obscure or clarify perpetrator responsibility, (c) conceal or elucidate victim responses and resistance, (d) blame and pathologize, or contest the blaming and pathologizing of victims.

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INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE

Explore the [Language Lab](#) on Insight Exchange and related resources. Download the first edition of the [Language and Violence Resource Kit](#).

This Resource Kit draws directly from the work of Dr Linda Coates and Dr Allan Wade: [The Interactional and Discursive View of Violence and Resistance Interaction. 2007](#) and work of the wider team from the Centre of Response-Based Practice team.

DEEPER DIVE **INSIDE INSIGHT EXCHANGE**



Learn more about insights from lived experiences of violence and other adversities through the videos, narratives and resources hosted on www.insightexchange.net



Shared insights from lived experience:

The **Insight** component of Insight Exchange is grouped into projects or initiatives that shared the lived experience insights of others.

- [Voices of Resistance](#)
- [Voices of Insight](#)
- [Voices of Reflection](#)



My Safety Kit speaks in the voice of the reader who may be reflecting on their own relationships and (possible) experiences of domestic and family violence.

Read prototype 1.1 of [My Safety Kit](#)

Read the [feedback summary report](#) of Prototype 1.0

We welcome continued [feedback](#) in order to improve future editions.



Follow My Lead speaks from the voice of people with lived experience of Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) who need the professionals and their social networks to be more prepared to respond effectively; more prepared to respond in ways that uphold dignity and build on safety.

Read the first edition of [Follow My Lead](#).

We welcome continued [feedback in order to improve future editions](#).

Read about the background and build up to [Follow My Lead](#).

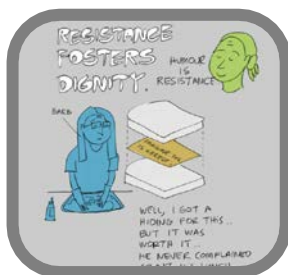


[Guide to Selecting a Counsellor](#) is a resource to support with some things to consider if deciding to talk to a therapist. There is a wide range of types of therapy available and every counsellor will be different in some way. Finding the right counsellor isn't always straight forward. This booklet can help you with some questions you might like to consider when selecting someone to work with.

This guide is a first edition. We welcome continued [feedback about this guide](#) in order to improve future editions.



Explore the [Practice Exchange Portfolio](#) on Insight Exchange and related resources.



Explore the short and long form [videos on Insight Exchange](#) and related [resources/publications](#)

Read the [Insight Exchange Engagement Report](#) to find out more about our reach and influence in taking the ideas more broadly and deeply across sectors.

To find out more about participating in Insight Exchange visit the [Participate](#) page.

My Lived Experience

Through INSIGHT EXCHANGE I have the opportunity to share my lived experience of violence in an accurate way through a safe, ethical supported process.

I am supported to share the contents of my lived experiences and how I have resisted and responded to violence and other affairs to me dignity.

Insight Exchange
UPHOLDING DIGNITY

My Insight Shared
INSIGHT EXCHANGE shares my lived experience, highlighting my responses and resistance to violence and where 'social responses' were helpful or harmful.

This reveals the role that individuals, communities and organisations play in people's experience of violence.

Our Social Response

Through INSIGHT EXCHANGE we will have the opportunity to strengthen our responses to violence, as individuals, communities and organisations.

Our Social Responsibility

Through INSIGHT EXCHANGE we will have the opportunity to gain a more accurate understanding of lived experiences of violence and the role we play as social responders.