

RESISTING BURNOUT & SHOULDERING EACH OTHER UP



Julie Sach Client Services Manager



The many faces of Burnout

- Vicarious trauma
- Secondary traumatic stress
- Compassion fatigue
- Empathic stress disorder
- Transmission of traumatic stress
- Burnout
- Breakdown



Language, labels and location of harm

- Where is the pain located?
- What/who becomes visible? What/who remains invisible?
- How does this shape our responses?
- What alternatives are there?

What parallels are there between the use of medicalised language to label workers and clients' 'trauma' symptoms/experiences?



Source: Paget Michael Creelman, CC 4.0





Resisting Burnout With Justice-Doing

Dr Vikki Reynolds

What is at the heart of your work? Why are you here?



What are the ethics that drew you to do this work?

What ways of being in this work do you value, hold close, maybe even sacred?

What ethics are required for your work, without which you would be unable to work?

What is the history of your relationship to these values and ethics? Who taught you this?

How have these ethics shown up in your life and work?

Reynolds, V. (2011). Resisting burnout with justice-doing. *The international Journal of Narrative Therapy and Community Work*. (4) 27-45.

Part 1: Collective care - an alternative to worker 'burnout'







When are you fabulous?

- When is your team fabulous?
- How do you know you are in the zone?

What do you Think, Feel, Say & Do that let's you know you're fabulous?



WORKERS USUALLY BURN OUT ONE OF TWO WAYS ...

What ways can we get caught up that take us too far away from the person?

What ways can we get caught up that take us close to the person?



HOW DO YOU SLIP OUT OF THE FABULOUS?

Disconnection

• Think, Act, Do, Feel?

Enmeshment

• Think, Act, Do, Feel?



- You can't keep yourself fabulous!
- Being fabulous requires critique, feedback, accountability

Part 3: Creating cultures of accountability

CREATING CULTURES OF COLLECTIVE ACCOUNTABILITY

WITH VIKKI REYNOLDS, PHD, RCC

Part 4: Sustainability & transformation



Solidarity Teams

- Resilient organisations
- Culture of appreciation
- Taking it back practices
- Gratitude, spirit of generosity
- Celebrate small changes/successes
- Measure the immeasurable our work matters



Resisting Burnout – "the wisdom is not in the wound, but in the resistance....."

- How have you resisted attempts to trample on your ethics?
- How have you kept your ethics alive in the work?
- Who holds you up in this work?
- How does this work transform you?
- Who can you howl at the moon with who doesn't tell you to leave the work?



Thank you

NOBODY HAS ALL THE ANSWERS. THAT'S WHY WE HAVE EACH OTHER.





https://vikkireynolds.ca/