



Australian Association for
Infant Mental Health
West Australian Branch Inc.

BEING WITH CHILDREN'S FEELINGS – A MODEL FOR REFLECTIVE PRACTICE WORKING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

With Robyn Dolby, PhD.

Being protective involves being with children's feelings. This can be difficult, as infants and children often evoke strong feelings in us. In this one-day workshop participants will reflect what 'being with' children's feelings can bring to their practice. Educators often tell children to "use your words" in emotional moments. Participants will look at how parents and educators can use their own words as one path into 'being with' the children in their feelings. The material in the workshop comes from the Resolving Conflict project in which moments of conflict between toddlers and preschoolers and their educators are filmed and shared with Glen Cooper (Circle of Security) who supports the educators to reflect upon the children's emotional communications and make sense of them.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

This material is relevant to educators, professionals working with young children and families and parents. Participants will reflect on:

- (1) How to "be with" children's feelings and what this brings to the children.
- (2) How to observe their own feelings closely and register their own reactions as a pathway to understanding how children are feeling.
- (3) How to find their "own words" or language to talk with children about feelings and the process of managing emotions.

Friday 24th March 2017

Registrations - 8.30am

Start - 9am

Finish – 4.30pm

Morning tea and lunch provided

Venue: Herb Graham Recreation Centre, 38 Ashbury Crescent, Mirrabooka, WA, 6061

Cost: AAIMHI WA Members \$140 / non-members \$180

RSVP: Friday, 10th March to aaimhiwatraining@gmail.com

Online payment details to be provided upon RSVP

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WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR
INFANT MENTAL HEALTH

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AAIMHI WA Competency Guidelines addressed:

Theoretical Foundations: Relationship-focused therapeutic practice

Direct Services: Intervention/treatment planning

Reflection: Self awareness

Reflection: Emotional response

For educators, this material will relate directly to NQS Quality Area 5: Relationships with Children, p123. "Every child is supported to manage their own behaviour, respond appropriately to the behaviour of others and communicate effectively to resolve conflicts".



Dr Robyn Dolby is a psychologist who has worked in the field of Infant Mental Health for thirty-five years. Between 2000 – 2011 she co-ordinated the project called “Attachment Matters – from relationships to learning”, an attachment-based intervention in a preschool. From this project Robyn has written the booklets, “The Circle of Security: Roadmap to Building Supportive Relationships”; “About Bullying” and “Promoting Positive Behaviour” and “Secure transitions: supporting children to feel secure, confident and included” published by Early Childhood Australia. She is clinical co-ordinator of the Resolving Conflict Project.

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