

A high-angle photograph of a diverse group of people, including men and women of various ages, sitting in a circle on a paved courtyard. They are seated on light-colored wooden chairs and appear to be in a meeting or discussion. The courtyard is surrounded by a brick building with a dark door and a stone bench. A decorative street lamp is visible on the right side. The scene is well-lit, suggesting daytime.

**‘I am from the government
and here to help...’**

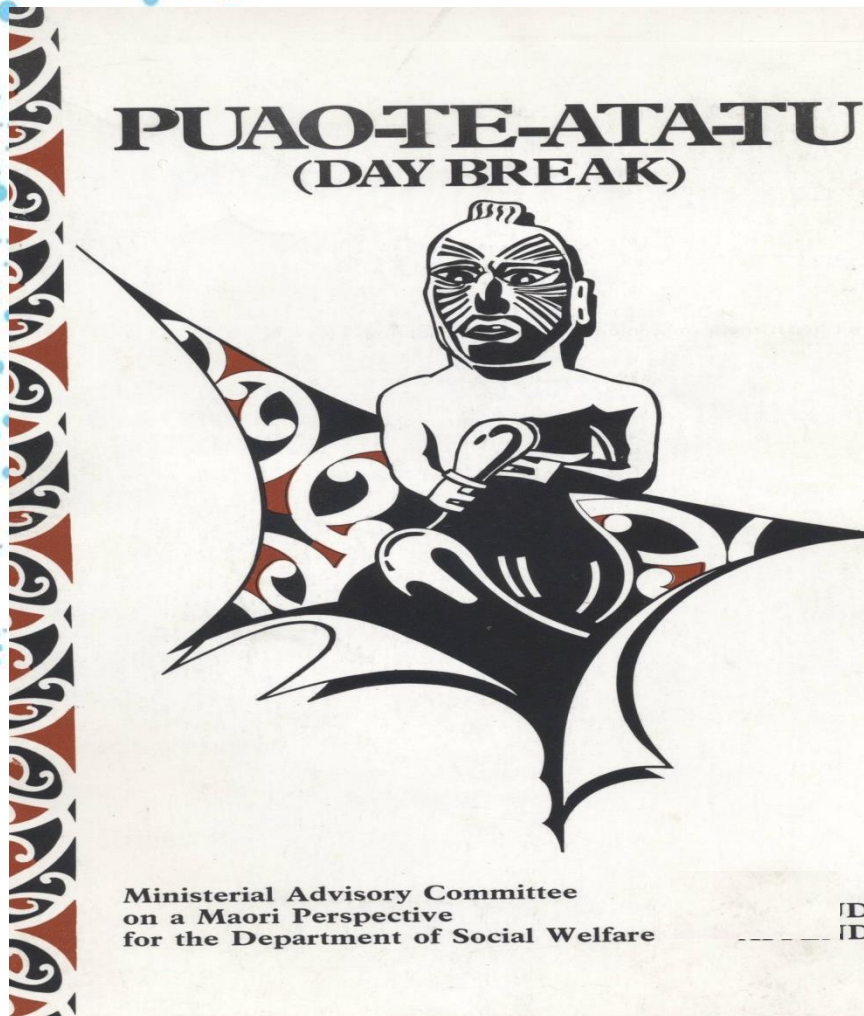
‘

Rob van Pagée
Eigen Kracht Centrale NL
www.eigen-kracht.nl/en
www.fgcnetwork.eu

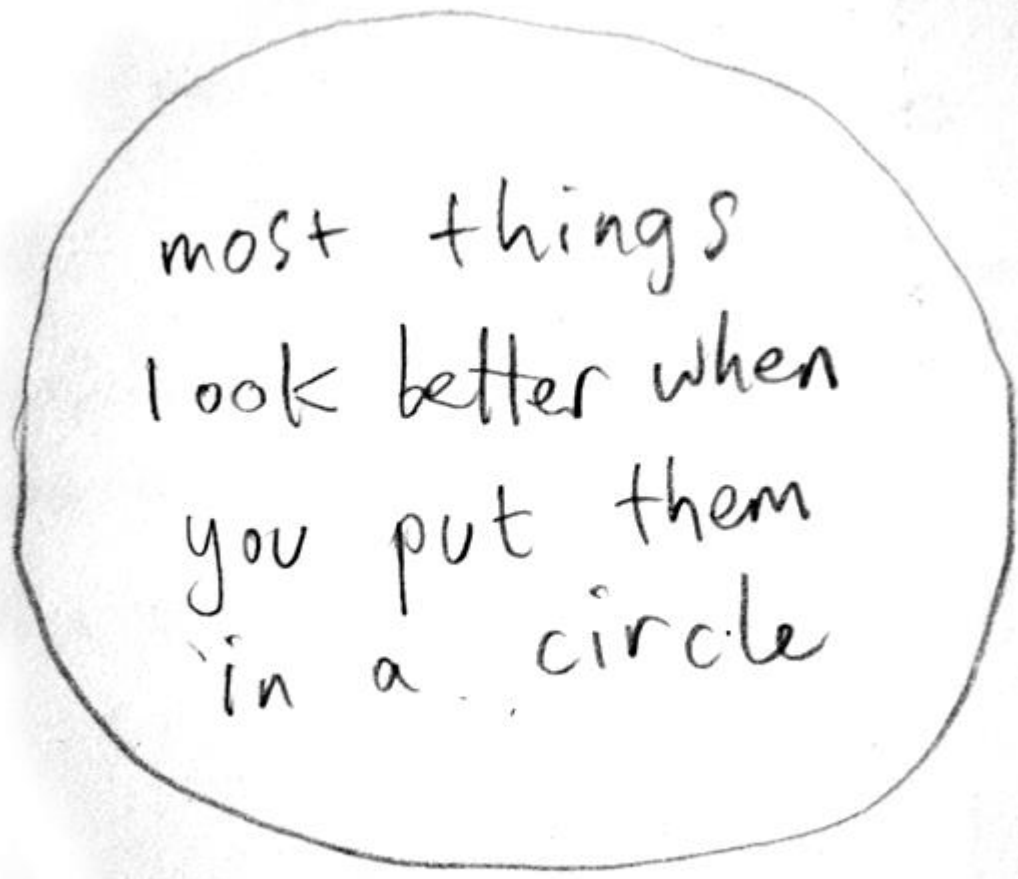
Orthodox Child Welfare Beliefs

- Agencies know best
- Professionals are expert
- Focus is on children and parents
- Professionals are key decision makers
- Families `fit in' to systems
- Compulsory plans
- Menu of agency services
- Worker specialisation

NZ inspiration to CYPFA 1989



- Society is not aware of the extent to which the law has defeated the Maori way of life
- Our institutions simply ignore and freeze out other cultures
- Social work is often a removal of responsibility and power from people to look after themselves



most things
look better when
you put them
in a circle

Widening the circle

**Independent community
coordinator**

In private time
'own people'
discuss what's is
going on, aimed at
making a plan for a
solution.

**Health
Welfare
Justice
Education
Labour
Housing**

**Central
person(s)**

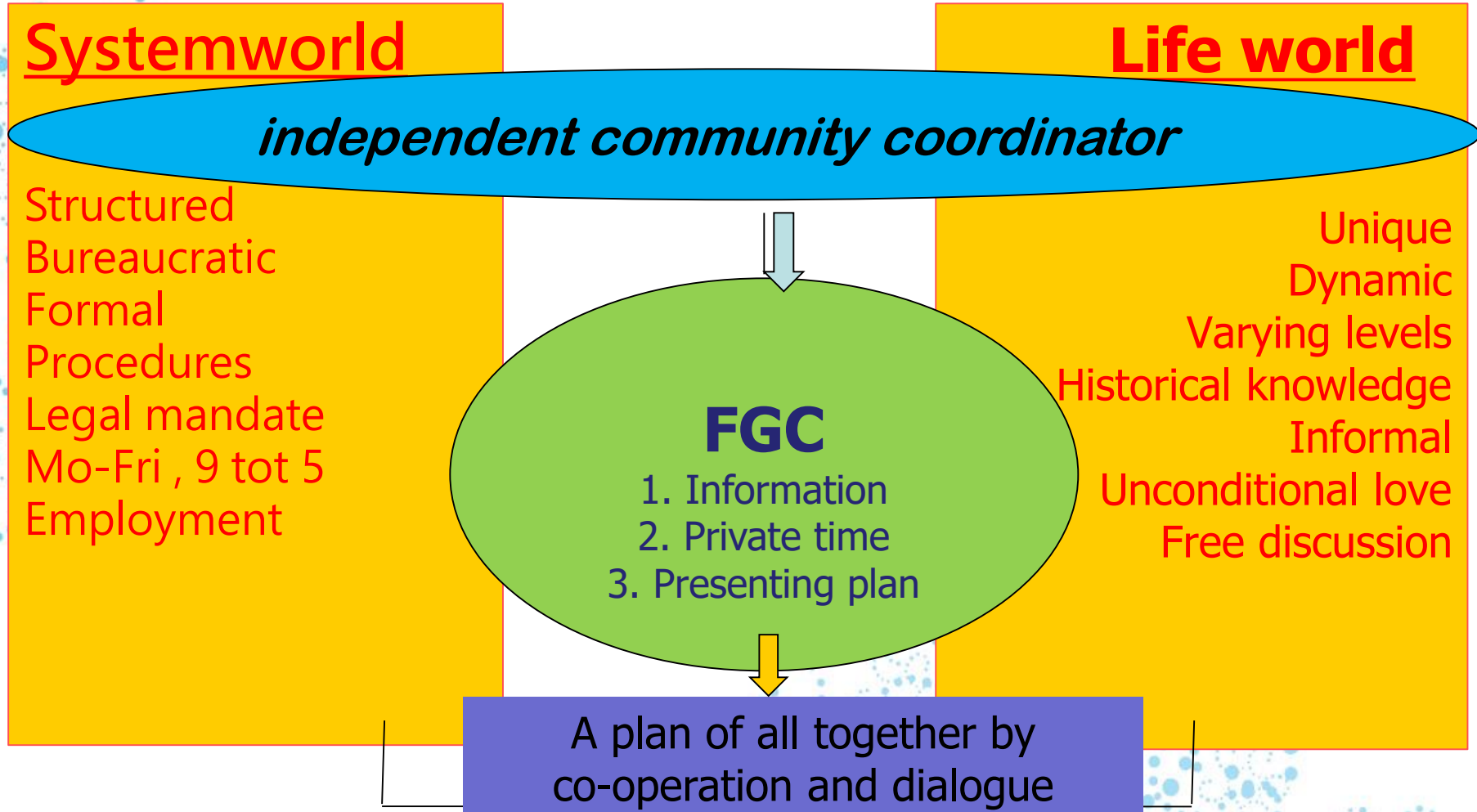
**Prof:
express concerns,
offers knowledge/services
can set conditions**

**Prof:
express concerns,
offers knowledge/services
can set conditions**

Independent facilitation key

- **Control and direction with citizens**
 - Independent FGC organization
 - Independent community coordinators
 - Together they speak over 100 languages

Conferencing is a bridge



2015 Family group plan in Act

- **2005 – Awareness FGC is citizens right.**
- **2011 – Amendment CP & Youth Care Act**
 - Provides(..) with the opportunity to first construe an action plan, or to adapt an existing plan...
- **2015 – New Law on Child Welfare**
 - Family group plan.. Right to first make an aid or action plan as prepared by the parents together with (..)
- **In progress: involuntary placement in psychiatry**

Over 60 studies...

- Average 14 participants
- Plans after conference (1 - 10):
 - 7 % formal conference plan
 - 2 % informal plans
 - 1 % no plan

» *Always an outcome;*
- No unsafe agreements accepted
- 66% plans fulfilled within 8 weeks
- High satisfaction (1 – 10):
 - Young people > 8,
 - families > 7,6
 - professionals > 7,5

FGC EU Network

