

Slide 1

Creative, Constructive and Restorative Dispositions

WV Teen Court Implementation Training Seminar

Charleston, WV
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Slide 2

Sentencing Options/Services Need to:

- Hold youth accountable for their behavior
- Offer opportunities to repair harm
- Build competencies in youth
- Need to address criminogenic needs

Slide 3

Accountability

Taking full responsibility for behavior requires:

- Understanding how that behavior affected others.
- Acknowledging that the behavior resulted from a choice that could have been made differently.
- Acknowledging to all affected that the behavior was harmful to others.
- Taking action to repair the harm where possible.
- Making changes necessary to avoid such behavior in the future.

Slide 4

Implement strategies that provide youth the opportunity to...

- Reflect/articulate harm caused.
- Apologize/acknowledge harm caused to those affected (when desired by those harmed)
- Repair harm caused (literally or symbolically)

Slide 5

Competency Development

Provides opportunities for youth to:

- belong
- contribute
- form close relationships
- make meaningful choices
- develop transferable skills
- mentor others while avoiding harmful behavior

Slide 6

Implement Strategies that...

- Teach new skills
- Give youth a chance to practice/use what they have learned
- Strengthen the connections between offenders/respondents and their community
- Strengthen the youth's relationships with law abiding adults that increase their ability to become contributing members of their community

Slide 7

Criminogenic Factors

- Anti-social personality
- Anti-social attitudes and values
- Anti-social associates
- Family dysfunction
- Poor self-control, poor problem-solving skills
- Substance abuse

Slide 8

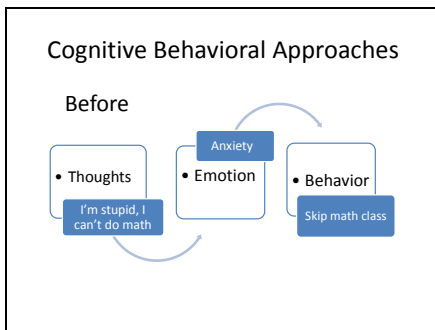
Evidence-based Practice Indicates We...

Must Target and Address Offender Issues Of:

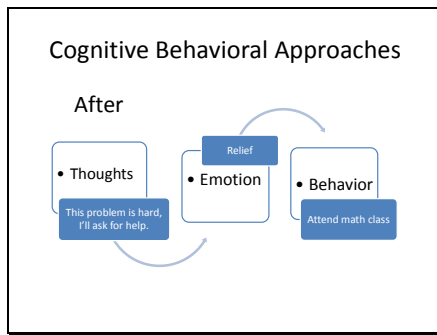
- Negative attitudes and behaviors
- Negative influences by friends
- Personality issues
- Negative influences from family
- Substance abuse

(Gendreau, Latessa, Lipsey)

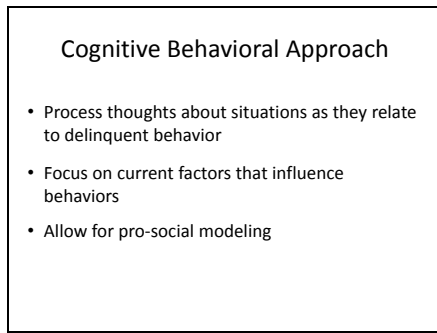
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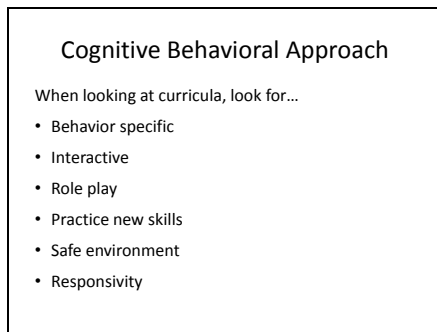
Slide 10



Slide 11



Slide 12



Slide 13

Steps in the Deliberation Process

- Identify the general facts and circumstances of the case.
- Identify who was affected and harmed by the defendant/respondent's actions.
- Identify what the defendant/respondent has already done to make up for his/her behavior and what he/she still needs to do to make amends.
- Construct a disposition that is tailored to the unique circumstances and facts of the case.
- Justify why you feel the options in the disposition you are recommending are the most appropriate ones.
