

Waterside Press, Hampshire

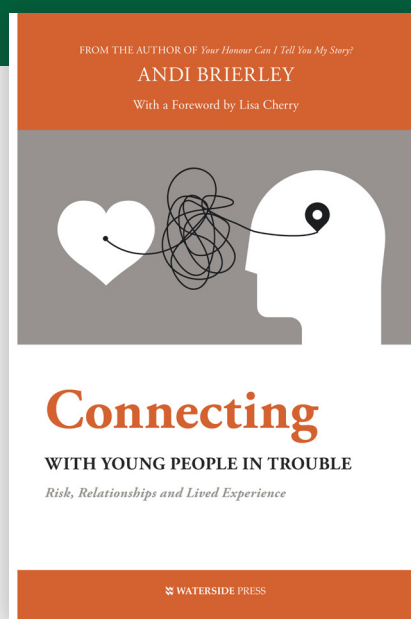
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Advance Information

Title	Connecting with Young People in Trouble	
Subtitle	Risk, Relationships and Lived Experience	
Authors	Andi Brierley	Foreword Lisa Cherry
Publisher	Waterside Press Ltd	
Format	Paperback 256x134mm 200 pages	
ISBNs	978-1-909976-89-4	
Price	£20.00	Rights Worldwide
Publication	16 March 2021	Edition 1st
Category	Social work; criminal justice; youth work; interventions; coaching;	
Subjects	JKSN=Social Work; JKVQ2=Juvenile offenders	
Who will buy it?	Youth workers, social workers, teachers, course leaders, service managers, libraries and students	



The only work of its kind, in which a Youth Justice Specialist with experiences of crime and incarceration as a young person combines those lived experiences with practice and teaching theory to show how services can better serve and empathise with children and young people in trouble.

Andi Brierley explains why existing ways of dealing with children and adolescents can at times be counterproductive. From the everyday atmosphere of reporting arrangements, to preoccupation with risk-management processes, to the language used by professionals, the author invites us to re-assess the consequences. These can be especially problematic if practitioners do not connect, attune, and resonate effectively. Something which requires sensitivity to how youngsters' brains and bodies react to toxic stress, complex trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), including within their home life and the impact of being exposed to attachments to adults and peers involved in criminality in their 'village'.

Centrally, better relationships help build self-esteem, worth, resilience and improve youngsters' choices. This is not something to be imposed or directed. It requires real connection so that they feel their lives, priorities, fears and pressures are understood. In this, Andi Brierley brings his extensive experience as both former prisoner and Youth Justice Specialist to bear — and whilst he

champions the skills of others who have travelled his journey, he also explains how this approach can be used by anyone.

Key Selling Points

- **A powerful critique of existing youth services.**
- **Spans lived experience, theory and practice.**
- **Contains first-hand accounts of relational change.**
- **Sees youth crime via a refreshing new lens.**

From the Foreword

'This book sits at the intersection between personal lived experience and professional practice and ... makes it a hugely valuable contribution to the discourse ... Brierley not only contextually articulates his experiences but seeks to provide a new framework through which youth justice can effect change.'

Author

Andrew Brierley is a Youth Justice Specialist with 15 years of experience working with the most prolific, serious, vulnerable and complex youngsters involved in offending behaviour. He is the author of *Your Honour Can I Tell You My Story* (Waterside Press, 2019) which made a difference for other incarcerated young people and professionals working with young people in trouble concerning the relational issues many such children experience — and how they bounce back.