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A story of stories

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Stellingen

Propositions accompanying this dissertation

A story of stories

The impact of caring for a foster child with a history of sexual abuse on family life

Dorijn Wubs

1. Fostering a victim of child sexual abuse not only impacts individual family members on an intrapersonal level, it also affects the manner in which individuals relate to other family members and the family system. (this dissertation)
2. Relationships are possibly threatening to children who suffered child sexual abuse. Still, relationships also seem key to healing from these traumatic abuse experiences (this dissertation)
3. Dialogical safety is a social, relational construct, which implies an interlocutor to feel safe enough to engage in an open dialogue concerning sensitive issues. The need of this type of safety is apparent to all children in a foster family. (this dissertation)
4. Safety and unsafety in foster families can be viewed by the Thomas theorem: “If men define situations as real, they are real in their consequences” (Thomas & Thomas, 1929, p. 572).
5. It is necessary to review and respect each individual’s fostering experience, as well as the families’ experience as a system. (this dissertation)
6. Children are challenged to disclose sexual abuse by a female person as they have less sensory information to build their abuse narrative. (this dissertation)
7. The use of meta-level sensitivity during data-collection enables researchers to co-construct a person’s narrative more rigorously and ethically. (this dissertation)
8. “Words are, in my not so humble opinion, our most inexhaustible source of magic, capable of both influencing injury, and remedying it.” (J.K. Rowling)
9. “...we accept the love we think we deserve.” (Stephen Chbosky)
10. “Fear to a great extent is born of a story we tell ourselves and so I chose to tell myself a different story.” (Cheryl Strayed)