

Notes on SCREENING AND DEBRIEFING from Global Connections Member Care  
/COMET seminar on the 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 2003 - Written up by Jackie Buie

Sorts of Questions to ask:

1. How do you feel about the way you look?
2. Have you ever tried to change it ie dieting/ vomiting?
3. Do you struggle with sexual issues eg Masturbation or Porn?
4. How do you relax? Do you take time off from work?
5. How do you feel about yourself?

Interviewer needs to watch for body language as well as spoken answers.

If patient says they have been miraculously healed of some addiction then this needs to be taken with a 'pinch of salt!' as often people have found other ways of coping. Christians often are good at saying the 'right' thing, but its not the case.

If interviewer (at Interhealth) is told of past history of addiction by the then such info may need to be passed to the agency, but there are issues of Confidentiality to deal with.

Some agencies have found the 1 in 20 of young people going on short term placements get some sort of eating disorder or other problem. To best help, then if they are sent in pairs, then one part of the pair needs to be able to tell the truth to the agency. If the problem is an eating disorder then they need to be given professional help as early as possible so may well need to return home.

Found that people of 18 may have a 'warped' view of time so they can say something happened ages ago, but actually it was only a few weeks ago. If a person is known to have had problems with eating disorders then they need to be 'well' for at least a year before going abroad as a short term placement.

Parents need to be helped too if it is their child who is struggling- they may try to deny the situation

All agencies need to keep their procedures clear and appropriate for screening and debriefing to make sure that they could not be sued by parents or person themselves should problems arise.

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