

‘FGC is system change, citizens first’

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- **Not for profit, with a vision:**
 - Citizens are uniquely able to in their own situation, together with other directly affected, discuss what is going on, aimed at making a plan.
- **Independent organisation**
- **Implementing FGC in NL since 2000**

FGC Inspiration to the world

- NZ, Australia, USA, UK, Mainland Europe
- 2000, Netherlands...
- **Complication:**
 - No legal mandate
- **Pitfall:**
 - FGC regarded by professional field as new work method:
 - Offered to specific clients/ families at their professionals discretion
 - Professional domination

The discovery of EK-c as decision making model in NL

- It is not about problems, or conflicts...
- It is also not about people for whom yes or no EK-c could be usefull;
- It is only about investing in the social network: Can we convene a circle?;
- It is a citizens right not a professional method;

FGC / EK-c

- **Is a rights based procedure formulated to protect families from unreasonable intrusion by the government...**
 - A decision making model (FGDM)
 - Not an intervention, not professional method...
- **Has a significant body of international research and evaluation data**
- **Ownership of problem/conflict with citizen**
- **Requires professionals to work differently to gain good outcomes**

Conferencing is a bridge

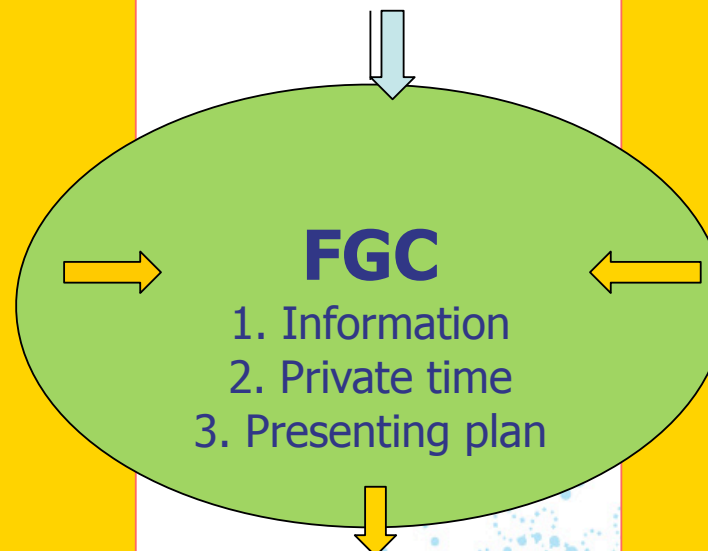
Systemworld

Structured
Bureaucratic
Formal
Procedures
Legal mandate
Mo-Fri , 9 tot 5
Employment

Life world

Unique
Dynamic
Varying levels
Historical knowledge
Informal
Unconditional love
Free discussion

independent coordinator/fellow citizen



A plan of all together by
co-operation and dialogue

Independence is key

- **Control and direction with citizens**

- Independent organisation
- Independent coordinators
 - lay people, 2x3 days training, community coord (83 languages)
- Coaching coordinators by EKC staff

- Independence meaning:

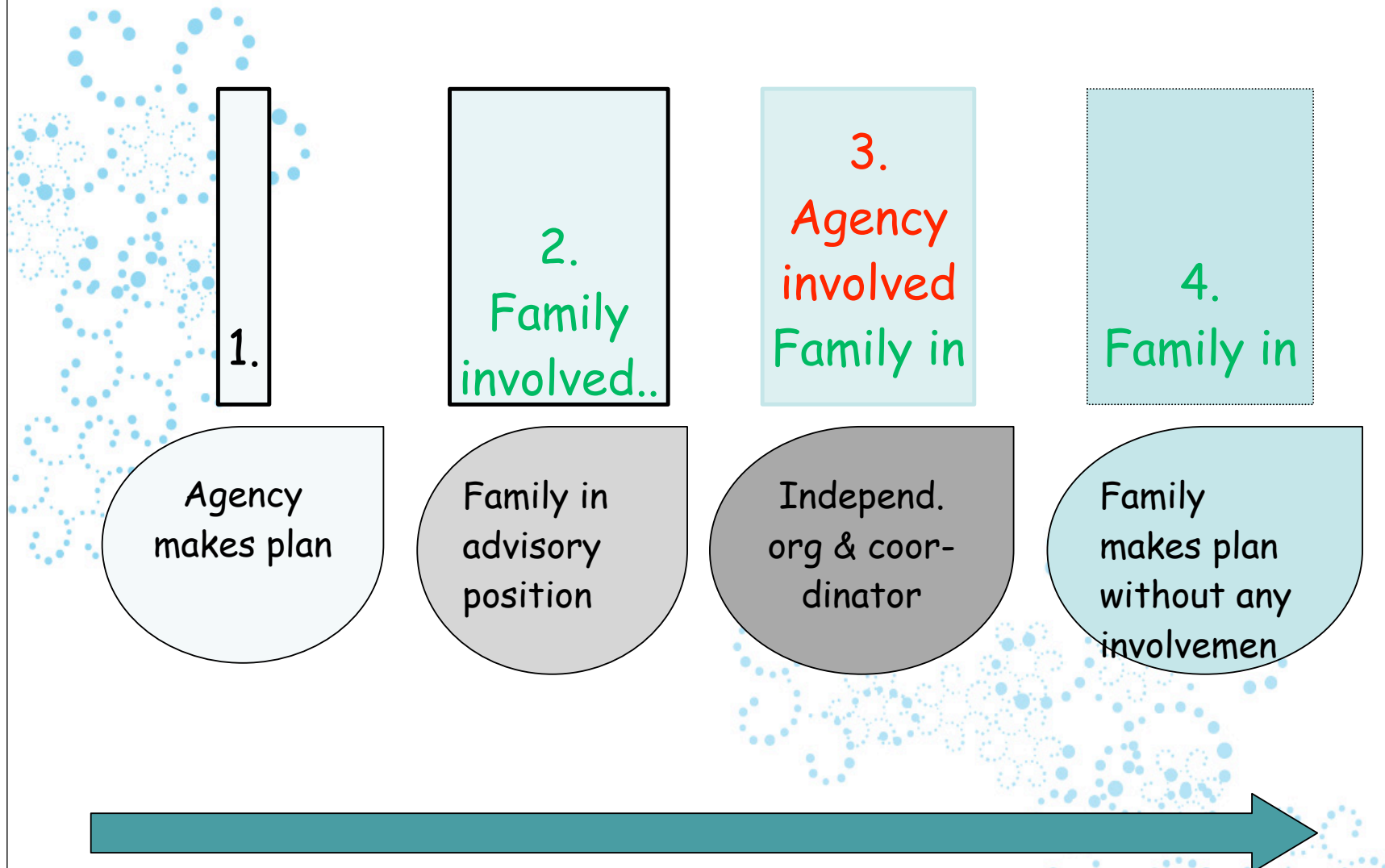
- No interest in the outcome of the plan
- No influence on the contents of the plan

Fair process

- A professional who leads and participate in a decision making process, easily gets into a split position
- Whether or not they use their power, it threatens confidence in the fairness of the decision making process

Frieling (2008)

Continuum of involvement and control



Asking for a plan...? Always and everywhere...

- **Families and individuals,**
 - Youth, Family, Vulnerable people: poverty, homeless, unemployed, Debt problems, DV, Health, Multi problem...
- **After wrongdoing and crime,**
 - Justice , Education, Business & Organisations,
- **For group, neighbourhood or district,**
 - Issues in neighborhood, Workplace,
- **Matters at school,**
 - Education, Restorative approaches

Different mindset

- **Reverse the current order: first citizens to move;**
 - Government leaves control with citizens until contrary is proven;
- **Holding citizens accountable for their own social capital**
 - Direction and control remains with citizens themselves;
- **Needs a (legal) mandate**

FGC challenges professional processes that...

- ...take over responsibilities that rightly belong with families
- ...exclude wider family involvement in decisions
- ...define service eligibility and need without reference to families

Renewal position professionals

- Thinking networks..
- Activating resilience in society
- Delivering the requested instead of offering the existing
- Professionalism measured by increase of solidarity in society rather than the number of interventions

Thinking circle's....


- Diminish conflicts perpetrator and victim
- Solving nuisance neighbors
- Plan for tackling domestic violence
- Keeping students inboard
- Countering risks of obesity
- Children during / after divorce
- Unemployment
- Imminent eviction
- Imminent psychiatric admission

Returns for citizens

- More support from their own circle;
- More care by their own people;
- Integral plan;
- Rapid improvement situation;
- Faster safety and decrease professional concerns;
- Less tears;
- Citizen remains the owner of problem/conflict;
- **DIRECTORSHIP WITH CITIZENS.**

Returns for state & organizations

- **Increase social cohesion;**
- **Families take responsibility;**
- **Less congested professionals;**
 - No undue burden on shoulders,
- **Control by citizens;**
 - Thus better collaboration citizens and service providers
- **More efficient use of resources:**
 - 21.000 € per child in CPS ASD (Schuurman & Mulder 2012)
 - 4,5 Miljoen € for 100 Multi Problem Families (Jagentenberg 2011)



**People who used to be seen
as the cause of the problem,
hold the key for the solution.**

» Prof.dr.Wim Slot





www.eigen-kracht.nl