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**IT'S NOT WHAT YOU KNOW
– IT'S WHO YOU KNOW**

Thinking about Social Networks



ENCOURAGING SERENDIPITY

KEIRAN:

**Player
of the
Year**

**County
Honours**

**A Job –
Apprentice
Painter and
Decorator**



ABOUT



- Personalisation and Self-Direction in England (and the UK)
- Not an Employment Agency
- Learning by Doing how to support people to:
 - ❖ Think about their 'Good Life'
 - ❖ Develop plans to secure their wishes
 - ❖ Be creative and resourceful with €'s and other assets
 - ❖ Implement their plans
- Lots of the people we assist want a job
- As well as relationships, a home/place of their own, chances to contribute and 'earn' citizenship, and real meaning in their lives
- New, Different, and Diverse Solutions
- "There's more to life than Services"





FRANK'S RELATIONSHIP NETWORK



ALWAYS
STARTS
WITH
PEOPLE
AND NOT
WITH
SERVICES



SPECIALNESS AND SEGREGATION LONELINESS AND ISOLATION

What we learned from PLAN (www.plan.ca):

To ask a different question,

“What would be a ‘good life’ for you.”

And, from Go MAD Thinking (www.gomadthinking.com):

“People who make a difference ask High Quality Questions”.

And, from David Pitonyak, Judith Snow, many others, and ourselves:

“Loneliness is the greatest disability and there is an epidemic!”



OUR UNJUSTIFIABLY LOW EXPECTATIONS

- The Readiness Disease
- Hindering Thinking
- A quick visit to Ricky



ASKING A DIFFERENT QUESTION

*HOW HAVE DISABLED PEOPLE
WHO ARE IN STABLE
CONTINUING EMPLOYMENT
SECURED THIS?*

An Inclusion Example

*WHAT IS IT THAT HAS ENABLED 15% OF
THE PEOPLE WE SUPPORT TO HAVE 'SOCIAL
CAPITAL & LOVING AND PRODUCTIVE
RELATIONSHIPS?*



THE ANSWERS

- **LOVING** *PEOPLE*
- **PUSHY, 'UNREASONABLE'** *PEOPLE*
- **WELL CONNECTED** *PEOPLE*
- **ORGANISED AND FOCUSED** *PEOPLE*
- **RULE BREAKING** *PEOPLE*
- **PROBLEM SOLVING** *PEOPLE*

Maybe PEOPLE matter!

