



# TRAINING

## DANGEROUS LIAISONS: Friend or friendly?

PRESENTED BY: DR BARBARA MEDDIN

Dr Barbara Meddin is a social worker who has practiced in a wide range of human service fields and her reputation as a trainer is recognised throughout Western Australia. She has presented a huge array of training and professional development programs to human service workers both in Government and non-Government agencies in WA, other states and territories, and overseas. Her workshop, Dangerous Liaisons, has been presented to numerous human service agencies and has always been exceptionally well received.

**Date:** 27 February 2018

**Cost:** \$240 per person (incl. GST)

**Time:** 9:30am-4:30pm

**Location:** East Perth

### Course Overview

The purpose of this one-day training workshop is to look at what is, and what should be, the nature of the relationship between a worker and their clients in terms of appropriate boundaries. The focus will be on assisting human service workers to appreciate the difference between being 'friendly' to develop a supportive and trusting relationship with clients versus establishing a friendship or personal relationship with a client. This workshop provides the understanding and skills to avoid behaviours that inadvertently lead a client to believe that the relationship is one of friendship, rather than a positive working relationship.

Some of the issues raised will include:

- How workers can establish friendly, helpful relationships with clients without crossing boundaries that may pose a risk to the client, the worker themselves or to the agency
- Appropriate ethical boundaries for working with clients
- How to be assertive but not aggressive towards clients when trying to maintain appropriate relationships and boundaries

### Who is this course suitable for?

This workshop is suitable for all human service workers both in Government and non-Government agencies where they seek to engage the client in a positive and trusting working relationship.

### By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Understand the difference between being a friend of the client versus having a relationship that is friendly and supportive in order to assist them to address the issues that have brought them to the agency
- Identify what types of relationship boundaries are appropriate between a client and a worker and which are likely to place the client, worker or the agency at risk
- Gain a brief overview of assertive communication as compared to aggressive communication and how this impacts on appropriate boundaries and relationships
- Know what are the rules that apply to client/worker relationships and how long these rules apply for

If you wish to attend, please complete a [registration form](#)

**Bookings essential**

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