SAMARITAN CONFIDENTIAL TELEPHONE SOCIETY

Emergency Telephone Services – a Tool for Empowerment of Victims of Violence

Jasna Lamut





In the next hour...

... we will have a closer look on how callers in mental distress can benefit from seeking help by using emergency telephone services...

SOCIETY CONFIDENTIAL TELEPHONE SAMARITAN

- Is a member of IFOTES.
- that brings together National Associations of Telephone Emergency Services which offer *emotional support*, *immediately accessible to any person*, suffering from loneliness, contemplating suicide, in cases of violence, or any other personal psychological crisis.
- INTERNATIONAL NORMS OF LISTENING SERVICES.



SOCIETY CONFIDENTIAL TELEPHONE SAMARITAN

- ... is a **non-governmental**, **non-profit**, **humanitarian** and **voluntary** organization, acting in the public interest.
- The basic mission is the implementation of the programme "confidential telephone for calls in mental distress", which was professionally verified by the Social Chamber of Slovenia.
- An individual in need has the opportunity to call the free of charge telephone number 116 123, intended for adults in mental distress. A qualified volunteer is available to talk to him.
- In addition to implementing the programme, the society contributes, through various activities, to the detabulization of mental distress in Slovenia.

... OUR VALUES and PRINCIPLES ...

- Mutual respect.
- Absolute anonymity.
- Non-stop availability (365 days a year).
- Free of charge.
- Laity.
- Rogerian method of counselling.



... AND OUR AIMS ...

Rogerian non-directive method of counselling helps callers to:

- feel accepted and understood,
- confirm their right to live their own lives and to take responsibility for it,
- express and relieve their emotions,
- and through that feel empowered.

Our aim is to offer an emotional support the caller needs to take necessary action.



EXCEPTIONS - WHEN THE ROGERIAN METHOD IS NOT ENOUGH

In cases of *violence* or when a life is in *danger*: in case of threat of self-harm or threat or past experience of any kind of abuse or violence.

BUT... The principles of the Society Confidential Telephone Samaritan provide that a counselor is going to, in case of violence, react in a manner that respects principles of the Code of Conduct in Society Confidential Telephone Samaritan and Law of Family Violence Prevention.

Since our Society Confidential Telephone Samaritan is intended to anonymous call in psychical distress, **anonymity** of the caller and a counselor should be respected...

Examples and exception.



Our aim is to offer an easy accessible emotional support the caller needs at the given moment.

- Any caller has the right to be listened to and respected regards of his/her beliefs, convictions and personal choices.
- Listening is offered in a welcoming and open attitude and the listener's golden rule is never to impose any obligation to the caller.
- The contents of a call are highly confidential, especially with regard to any information pertaining to private lives.
- During a telephone conversation, the listener should remain strictly anonymous and the caller has the right to remain anonymous.
- Branches of IFOTES work on a voluntary basis, listeners having been selected, trained and supervised with a view to constantly improving their listening competence.
- Emergency Telephone Services are entirely free of charge to the caller.



INFORMING THE CALLER ABOUT AVAILABLE SOURCES OF HELP

(here are listed only some of the GOs & NGOs in Slovenia)







DRUŠTVO ZA
NENASILNO
KOMUNIKACIJO
association
for nonviolent
communication



















Thank you!

