



## Creating a "Conflict Positive School"

Franky D'Oosterlinck( RYI Board Member) and Eline Spriet



Our work with children and youth who struggle with emotional and behavioral disorders and the staff members who work with these often demanding youngsters, have caused us to ask, "How can we create a positive school in the midst of so much conflict?"

Recent research from Soenen and others (2011) who studied problem behavior in a large Flemish facility provides insight from the group workers, the teachers and the youths themselves. In this study, the astonishing finding is that problem behavior is seen quite differently through the eyes of the adults and the youth themselves. People working in the facility, who experience the harsh externalizing problem behavior, are more likely to be blind to the pain and suffering of the youth. A 17-year-old boy, for example, who is verbally aggressive, threatens the attorney that he will do something to her daughter but the adults, including the attorney, doesn't know his fear of being placed in residential care and not being able to see his family.

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## Time



Submitted by Beate Kreisle, RYI Board Member

Time is something we all need to take into account. It is the one thing that everybody claims they do not have enough.

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## About Us

Reclaiming Youth International (RYI) is dedicated to helping adults better serve children and youth who are in emotional pain from conflict in the family, school, community, or with self.

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There are words of wisdom about time. Pericles suggested time is the wisest counselor of all. Henry Van Dyke said "Time is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those who fear, too long for those who grieve, too short for those who rejoice, but for those who love, time is eternity." Benjamin Franklin, said "Time is money". Carl Sandburg argued that "Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you." Albert Einstein had thoughts about time, too. "When you spend two hours with a girl, you think, it was a minute. But if you sit on top of a hot oven for one minute, you think, it was two hours. That's relativity."

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