

Overview:

Germany is divided into 16 federal lands. The concept of the FGC is meanwhile tried out in 6 federal lands in smaller or larger projects: Baden-Wuerttemberg (Stuttgart), Bavaria (Rosenheim), Schleswig-Holstein (Nordfriesland/North Sea), North Rhine-Westphalia (landscape federation Westphalia lip), Hessen (landscape federation Hessen) and in the capital Berlin. In 6 federal lands the introduction and evaluation from FGC is in project phases. In 2 of the 6 federal lands the projects are accompanied by the international society for educational assistance (IGfH) e. V. . In the core FGC is at present tried out in the range of the Youth = (Child) welfare services. In some projects it shows up that the coordinators have problems in and with the structure. It has to be checked, how role conflicts, which are justified in the structure, correspond with the concept of the FGC. An example is in our work if the coordinator function is settled in a double mandate of consultation and control in the youth welfare office. In the meantime in Stuttgart the range of the juvenile court assistance performed some conferences in the range of restorative justice. The method is applied in the context of perpetrator-victim-^{mediation}~~reconciliation~~ and encounters very much positive resonance, both on sides of the specialists and of the clients. FGC is partly used in Germany with the English- term. At the moment different terms are used, f.e. Relationship advice, family advice or family group conference. It's necessary to develop a uniform conception. In Germany different versions of Dutch flyers are used, f.e. "information about FGC for children and Information about FGC for adults". Many of the German projects use these flyers from the Dutch colleges, download in German language on the homepage www.eigen-kracht.nl. Thank you to allow the free-download. They are very helpful for us to develop our own flyers for the future.

Challenges:

A central point of challenges lies in the arrangement of the coordination. Should the coordinators stand outside of the public services, be employed by non-public services or outside of a paid commitment – in an honorary capacity? In the near future the question of the financing arises: Should the coordinators be financed by hour, by a whole arrangement of FGC, or only with reaching a certain number of persons, who met from the ^{life-work}~~environment~~ of the family? The quality criteria are still unclear. A national network must be still developed.

An exchange of experience between the different German projects is very important. Finally the largest social challenge is, if it is possible to develop actually an engaged, ~~empowerment~~ ^{community} oriented citizen ~~community~~ by a change of the social systems. For that the social services have to make it possible to build and establish family-oriented concepts like FGC.

Research:

The scientific research and project support is different. Special thanks goes to the prof. Frank Früchtel and prof. Wolfgang Budde of the University of Bamberg, who discuss FGC for many years in professional circles and accompany projects in practice, among other things also the capital project. In Berlin these two scientists build a direct contentwise bridge to the experiences of New Zealand, because one of them spent many years in New Zealand.

Financing:

Participation is understood as one of the central structure maxims of an ~~empowerment~~ ^{community} oriented Youth Welfare Service. At present the youth welfare service in Germany is changing. Also the requirements to family work change. ~~Empowerment~~ ^{community} orientation, commitment of the citizen, empowerment, case-management are those professional - and structure-leading approaches. The youth welfare services in Germany will be converted. In the context of the reorganization of the youth welfare service different organization and financing models are tried out. In the course of these changes FGC meets open and interested conditions, so that the introduction of FGC to Germany, as in other countries already happens, is to be expected.

Use:

In practice it comes to difficulties to mobilizing people from the ~~empowerment~~ ^{life-work} of the family.

In would interest me, which experiences you have. Perhaps you can tell some of your "tricks" and "shortcuts"