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## FORENSIC COUNSELING SERVICES

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While many supervised visitation cases may revolve around issues of miscommunication and distrust between parents there are also many cases where there have been findings of fact or convictions prior to supervised visitation. I have often been asked how I can maintain a neutral approach and work with parents who are sometimes violent or otherwise abusive; who may be sex offenders, or who otherwise behave in ways that hurt other people and themselves. This is certainly challenging, however a fundamental respect for humanity is key to ethical provision of counseling and other social services. In my readings I discovered a quotation that sums up my feelings on this matter:

“Degrading others damages their pride, their self-respect, and potential for good, thus both denying us the benefits of their possible contributions and to increase the collective moral, psychological, and financial cost of repairing the damage they were likely to do to themselves or others.”

Bhukhu Parekh, Gandhi, Oxford University Press, 1997.