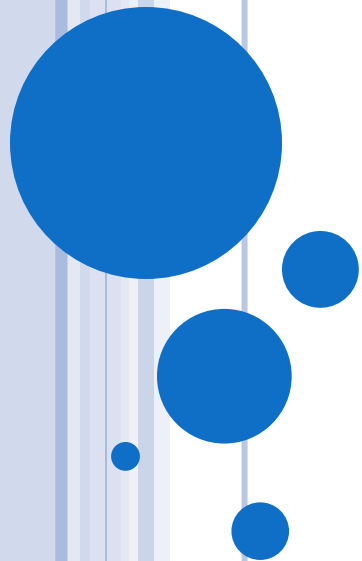


CRITICAL REFLECTION

Is it Me?



Alison Johns
2017 Early Childhood Conference



CRITICAL REFLECTION

- What is critical reflection?

There is no clear definition of what critical reflection is but in general it can be seen as a process that allows us to make meaning of an experience.

It can be descriptive, analytical, and critical, and be presented in a number of ways such as written, and orally.



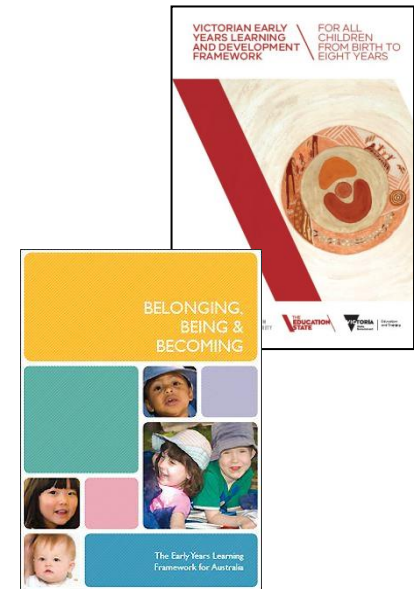
CRITICAL REFLECTION

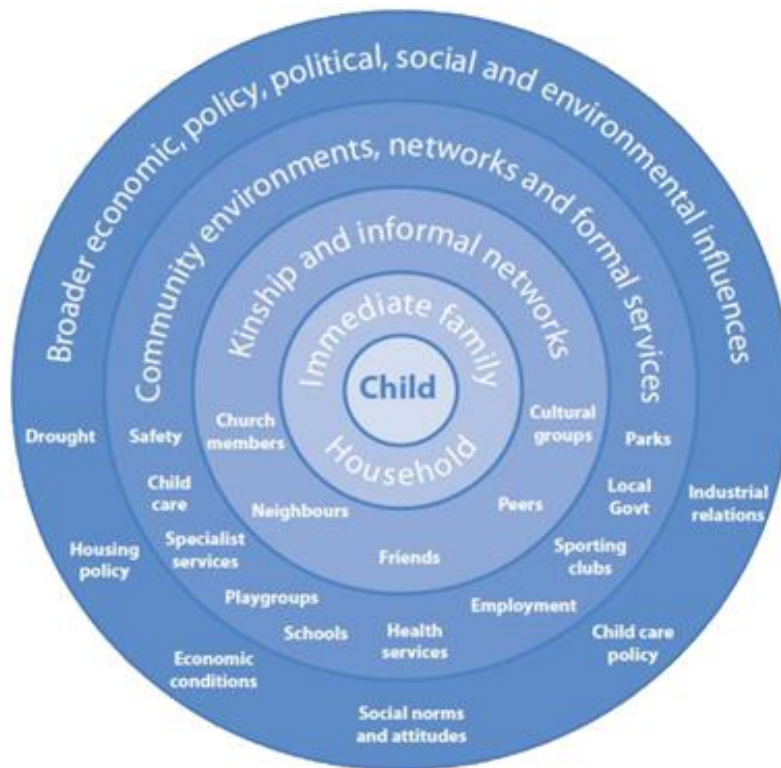
- What guides our practice?

- * National Quality Framework
- * Early Years Learning Framework
- * Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework

- What else?

- our values
- our experiences
- our beliefs
- our perspectives





Ecological Model (adapted from Bronfenbrenner 1979)

Each child is unique, active and engaged in their own learning and development shaped by their own family, culture and experience.

We are all influenced by the world around us which helps to shape our thoughts, beliefs and establishes our values system.



CRITICAL REFLECTION

- Is not personal, and can be complicated.
- Is an analytical tool that can be used to promote better outcomes for teaching and learning.
- Promotes collaborative teams and approaches.
- Encourages supportive environments, not competitive.



CRITICAL REFLECTION

Takes:

Practice

Collaboration

Support



CRITICAL REFLECTION

SCENARIO: EARLY YEARS

At a team meeting educators share their concerns about a parent who has asked that their 2 ½ year old child does not sleep during rest time. The parent believes that after having an afternoon sleep the child is not sleeping well at night.

The educators explain to the team that there have been occasions where the child has fallen asleep and they have allowed them to sleep but have not notified the parent and that the parent had commented the next day on how well the child had slept the night before.

This has caused some concerns for other members of the team.



CRITICAL REFLECTION

- Should be meaningful to Educators, Children and Families.
- Can be represented both orally and through written communication.
- Promotes ongoing learning and professional development.
- Is complicated.

