

## WHAT I LEARNED IN REFORM SCHOOL

BY Elton J Mellum

Jane looked at me and said, "I have spent hours and hours in counseling with darn little results and now you want me to believe that in one half hour you can show me what my problem is?"

It's a response I encounter many time over and I clearly understand why. It does seem impossible doesn't it, especially if you have been seeking the answer for a long-long time.

I didn't always know the answer either. I was very confused on how to explain to these young women, who were in this detention center, how it happened that they were so angry so abused and so dependent on drugs and alcohol.

I had one thing going for me and that was my ability to wade through all the BS and to usually find the truth behind problems that I confronted. I prayed that that wouldn't fail me now.

I begin to review everything that each of them had told me about their past experiences and was a dreadful litany of fear, oppression, sexual and physical abuse and intense anger. I begin to think what that would do to me or anyone I knew and I came to the conclusion that it would make my mind totally negative and unable to function properly if at all.

I was dwelling on all this when like a bolt of lightning it hit me. None of them saw a future with any hope or purpose. None of them could see a way out! They were essentially being programmed by the institution to learn to live with it as it was. To be good little girls and "take it"

So now I knew the problem! First they didn't know what their problem really was and secondly that there was even a way out.

As soon as we started talking to each other i saw their eyes start to brighten a bit and their body language changed from defiance to interest. As I talked and

answered questions I began drawing all kinds of little diagrams to try to make a point. Some worked some didn't. it was truly trial and error.

One girl said, "what good will it do me to know all this when I don't see any way to change anything where I live." She was right, living in the ghetto as she did was not going to leave her with any idea of what a better life looked like. But then a defiant girl said, "hell girl where I live in the suburbs I don't see any better life I want either."

There it was, neither had any vision of a future beyond their past experiences. So I asked each of them what they thought of each day. The answer I got was how to survive without getting hurt. When I asked if they ever thought about the future the overall response I got was "why?" Why indeed, I wanted to give all kinds of examples but the question was way deeper than any examples I had to give.

As I was sitting there I noticed a tattoo on one girls arm, it said "born to lose" I asked why she favored that tattoo. The answer was "because everyone says I'm a loser and I am."

In that moment I saw the big picture, it all came together in my mind! That was the day "Walking Through Walls" was born.

That was the beginning, someone, somewhere, somehow had convinced her that she was born to lose, she was no good, she would never amount to anything, She had this huge negative program in her mind and it was driving her life with totally false information. She was smart it was not true she could never amount to anything. She was not born to lose. I begin drawing a large diagram that explained to her what was driving her now and how that affected everything that she felt and how that drove her to more pain and uncertainty.

Several of the girls said immediately, "that's me!" I knew it was a breakthrough!

But it wasn't done. Not at all. Knowing the problem was only the beginning now how to solve the problem how to change their minds and their lives.

One day it came to me that we all need something bigger than ourselves to think about. In this case it translated in my mind that we all need to see something to live for. A future worth living and struggling for would create a positive program in our minds and in our lives. We needed to see it. These girls from inner city ghettos and from suburban ghettos all need a vision of something they had never really seen. How could I help them see it for themselves?

Then I remembered reading a book called "Psycho cybernetics" and using some of the visualization and programming in my life.

That was it! If they could see it they could do it and the best way to see it was to visualize what they imagine it to be. So I begin to show them how to use this idea to reprogram their minds to create a positive program that would work for them.

It worked! It still works! Many, many people have seen the 31 minute presentation on the video "Walking Through walls" and it's changed everything in their life. It changes negative to positive. It shows you what the problem was all along. It makes it simple to understand and it shows you how to fix it.

You can find the video on [anewliferising.com](http://anewliferising.com).