

Engaging men who use violence: Invitational narrative approaches

Invitational Narrative Approach (INA) combines both Narrative (engaging with people through their stories which reveal meanings they attach to lived experience) and Invitational (engaging perpetrators in an ethical journey, supporting change and taking responsibilities) practices.

“Both approaches are underpinned by the assumption that, with skilled and careful facilitation, men are capable of generating their own commitments to non-violence and to honouring the needs, rights and interests of others”

In this project, interviews were conducted with invitational narrative experts, interviews with men who use violence, with each man’s invitational narrative practitioner, and (where consent was obtained) with each man’s partner/ex-partner.

This practice studio would involve the implementation of INA within a service working with men to achieve behaviour change. Recommendations for practitioners emerging from the report include emphasising that invitational narrative practitioners must be highly skilled and receive ongoing supervision and training. Additionally, the implementation of INA must occur within a strong authorising environment with organisational buy-in. When submitting an EOI for this topic, organisations should consider and detail their plans for upskilling the existing workforce to use INA and/or sourcing new talent and how they manage change within their organisation.

Further reading:

[Engaging men who use violence: Invitational narrative approaches Key Findings and Future Directions](#)

See also:

[Project page Engaging men who use violence: Invitational narrative approaches](#) (includes symposium presentations by Professor Sarah Wendt and an ANROWS podcast episode about the report).