



Book Review

On being a supervisee: Creating Learning Partner-ships

***Carrol, M. & Gilbert. M. (2004) Private publication
www.supervisioncentre.com***

by Seamus Barry *

Carrol and Gilbert launched this manual at the British Association for Supervision Practice and Research (BASPR) in July 2004. The manual is supervisee focused and its principle aim is “to empower supervisees to take responsibility for their supervision and for their learning and to persuade supervisors to allow them to do so” (p.5)

The manual neatly divides into three sections.

Section one gives an overview of supervision and includes the key topics: the supervisory relationship, roles and responsibilities, supervisory contract and preparing for supervision.

Section two puts the spotlight on “understanding developmental stages of learning in supervision” and is especially suited for supervisees further down the road on their supervisory journey after integrating the key topics of section one. I personally found this the most interesting section of the manual with a focus on key learning skills in supervision. Carrol and Gilbert outline five key learning skills for supervisees which include:

- 1) learning how to learn
- 2) learning how to give and receive feedback
- 3) learning realistic self evaluation
- 4) learning how to reflect
- 5) learning emotional awareness

The authors also include a section on how to dialogue in supervision. Carroll and Gilbert maintain that “in our experience, the more you are able to practice these skills, the more you will be able to use supervision as a highly effective learning relationship” (p.45).

Section three is in the form of appendices (i.e. twelve in fact), which range from contracting, evaluation, ethical decision making to learning styles, multiple

intelligences and interventions to facilitate learning which help the supervisee progress further on the supervisory journey.

Overall this is an excellent manual for beginners and those supervisees who are already making progress in supervision. Written by two of the leading authorities on supervision in the UK, this is an indispensable resource that all supervisees, supervisors and coaches need to have in their book-shelf.

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