

International Conference
Video Interaction Guidance (VIG)
&
Video Home Training (VHT)

**'Empathy, contact, dialogue:
basic values in care and therapeutic services'**

Keynote speakers: Frans de Waal, Anton Hafkenscheid, Jack van der Veen



May 29 - May 31 2016

**De Reehorst Conference Centre
Bennekomseweg 24, 6717 LM Ede, the Netherlands**

[AIT-SPIN](#), founder and legal owner of the Video Home Training (VHT) and Video Interaction Guidance (VIG) methodologies, is organizing an International Conference on VHT & VIG.

The programme is of interest for those professionals providing care, therapeutic intervention or education to children and their parents, when pedagogical or developmental problems have arisen in the family or at school.

In VHT & VIG, micro-analysis of human interaction, followed up by video-feedback sessions with parents (and those professionals involved with the family), are powerful instruments to initiate and encourage positive development in the perception and behaviour of parents and children.

The conference will be of interest for those professionals who have already developed a know-how in the field of video-feedback, as well as for those eager to broaden and deepen their understanding of this innovative methodology.

The central themes of the conference will interlink ethology, psychology as well as economy!

Keynote speakers and presentations: Monday May 30 2016

Frans de Waal; 'Prosocial primates: Empathy in humans and animals'. Professor De Waal is a biologist and primatologist at Emory University, Atlanta, USA. His books on the behavior and social intelligence of primates have been translated into twenty languages. The leading themes in his work are: empathy, reciprocity, cooperation, peacemaking and morality in culture. [Full bio](#)

Anton Hafkenscheid; 'When empathy fails'. Dr. Hafkenscheid is a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist. He believes that the definition of the therapeutic relationship as an a-specific healing factor in mental health treatments is mistaken. Managing the therapeutic relationship (by empathic attunement, by successive approximation and by meta-communication) requires more advanced professional expertise and clinical wisdom than whatever therapeutic techniques or methods that are being applied by the therapist. [Full bio](#)

Jack van der Veen; 'Cooperation and not competition, leads to success in terms of innovation, change and long-term profits.' Professor Van der Veen is an economist. Research outcomes show that in the modern volatile and complex times, cooperation leads to more innovation and much better performance in terms of faster, better, lower cost and environmental and social sustainability, than competition does. Organisations that wish to survive in this unpredictable and fast changing world, need cooperation, within the organisation as well as externally.' [Full bio](#)

The methods VHT & VIG are based on the ‘interaction – analyses’ of the basic elements and patterns in communication. The knowledge and techniques involved have their origins in ethology. The specific therapeutic techniques, developed under the guidance of developer and originator Harrie Biemans, aim to restore communication between parents and children (as well as with others). These methods are in line with basic techniques, used by ethologists to observe and analyse interaction between primates. Frans de Waal links ethology and psychology in his research and publications. He concluded that the DVD that accompanies the book ‘Babies & Toddlers in the picture’ shows ‘excellent ethological analyses’.

After 30 years of development, we would like to share our know-how as well as the benefits from VHT and VIG (in education, care and therapeutic intervention) with you.

Outline of the Congress programme

Sunday May 29; lunch followed by three plenary presentations on prevention and therapeutic services aimed at parents with young children, experiencing the first onset of parental challenges. Presentations are in English

Monday May 30: combined programme for Dutch & international participants; keynote speakers will deliver their presentation in Dutch, which will be simultaneously translated into English.

In between the keynote presentations participants can attend various workshops. These will be presented in Dutch or in English.

Tuesday May 31:

Sessions to reflect and to be inspired. Participants have the opportunity to present films of specific pedagogic situations and video-feedback sessions and reflect on their video material it with the senior staff of AIT as well as their fellow participants. Participants have the opportunity to give a presentation about video-feedback in a specific professional setting. Questions and proposals by email to: marjanhoogland@ait-spin.com

Special offer: Book & DVD

All participants will receive the book & DVD ‘Babies and Toddlers in the picture’ by Marij Eliëns for the special reduced price of € 20 More information: (<http://toddlers.swpbook.com/>)

More copies can be ordered by participants at this discounted price. This book also provides access to the digital portal www.vibgezondheidszorg.nl with new films of the ‘first contact’ between parent and child as well as films about parent-child interaction in the first 3 months. This portal gives access to the films with an English voice-over by selecting the appropriate option.

Participants can collect this book(s) with DVD on May 30th at the SWP desk in the foyer. Please provide over your AIT letter of confirmation showing your name and the amount of books ordered. Arrangements can be made on the main-congress day May 30th, with publisher SWP about the delivery of more copies later on to your office or home address.

Congress Programme, Sunday May 29

11.00 – 13.00	Welcome & registration
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 14.15	Opening. Marij Eliëns, director AIT. AIT supports ‘The 1001 first critical days manifesto’; which highlights the importance of intervening early in the 1001 critical days between conception to age 2, to enhance the developmental outcomes for children. Marij Eliëns is a health scientist and specialist in the field of VIG in youth health care.
14.15 – 15.00	Golden hour. Marij Eliëns presents new films about the development of the first contact between parents and children and the development of the contact during the first three months. Every participant receives access to these films, with voice-over in English through a variable code in the book ‘Babies and Toddlers in the picture’. Marij Eliëns is the author/filmmaker of book & DVD ‘Babies and Toddlers in the picture.’
15.00 – 15.30	Tea break
15.30 – 16.15	Baby Extra, Cecilia van der Zeeuw. The programme Baby Extra provides support for parents who are very vulnerable as a result of psychiatric problems, drug addiction and social isolation, at the health centre during ‘regular contacts’, with video-feedback. Cecilia van der Zeeuw is a psychologist and coordinator of all prevention projects concerning children and their parents at GGzE (organisation for mental health in Eindhoven)
16.15 – 16.30	Drinks & snack
16.30 – 17.30	VIG in hospitals, Marga Sibbing. VIG is implemented at 75% of the hospitals in the Netherlands to support parents of premature baby’s and very vulnerable sick children. Presentation: content of the methodology, implementation strategy & real-life films from VIG at the Academic Medical Centre (AMC) in Amsterdam. Marga Sibbing is medical social worker and senior VIG-supervisor.
19.00 – 20.30	Dinner

Congress-programme Monday May 30 (programme for Dutch as well as international visitors)

9.00 – 10.00	Welcome & registration
10.00 – 11.00 <i>Simultaneously translated in English via headsets</i>	‘Prosocial primates: Empathy in humans and animals’. Professor De Waal is a biologist and primatologist at Emory University, in Atlanta, USA. His books on the behavior and social intelligence of primates have been translated into twenty languages. The leading themes in his work are: empathy, reciprocity, cooperation, peacemaking and morality in culture. Full bio
11.00 – 11.15	Marjan Hoogland: observations and analysis of human communication, with the focus on empathy in the contact between parents and children as well as in other human relations
11.15 – 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 -12.45 1st workshop sessions	<i>In English.</i> ‘Nurse home visiting programme’: Lieke van der Meulen. The Dutch variant of the programme includes 8 sessions with parents with VIG within a maximum two year period. David Olds developed the programme in the USA, in the Netherlands it is implemented under the direction of NCJ (National Centre for Youth Health Care). Research (an RCT) showed clear results in the Netherlands (including the effect of VHT) in several areas.

12.45 – 13.45	lunch
13.45 – 14.45 <i>Simultaneously translated in English via headsets</i>	Anton Hafkenscheid ; ‘When empathy fails’. Dr. Hafkenscheid is a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist. He believes that the definition of the therapeutic relationship as an a-specific healing factor in mental health treatments is mistaken. Managing the therapeutic relationship (by empathic attunement, by successive approximation and by meta-communication) requires more advanced professional expertise and clinical wisdom than whatever therapeutic techniques or methods are being applied by the therapist. Ruptures in the therapeutic alliance are inevitable in any mental health treatment. These ruptures should be repaired skillfully and respectfully, in order to help patients develop more trust and confidence so that internal and interpersonal conflicts can be resolved. A solid and flexible therapeutic relationship paves the way for emotional and interpersonal changes in patients’ ‘daily life’- Full bio
14.45 – 15.00	Tea break
15.00 – 16.00 2nd workshop sessions	<i>In English:</i> Henk Vermeulen; ‘Empathy and communication in the psychotherapeutic relationship’. Henk Vermeulen is a developmental psychologist and psychotherapist at max Ernst Mental Health Services. Adults who suffer mentally and are referred, usually couldn’t experience in their childhood sufficient empathy and support due to a variety of causes. As a consequence there is often a higher risk for the development of emotional and psychological problems such as depression, anxiety and psychosomatic symptoms. The therapeutic relationship can be viewed as an alliance between therapist and client in which both cooperate closely to overcome stagnation and promote positive emotional development. The way this occurs has many similarities with the interactions between parents and children in healthy functioning families. Together with the participants Henk reflects on films of therapeutic sessions with the focus on providing attention, empathic attunement and empathy. The therapist needs a mindful attitude and advanced professional expertise to help repair ‘ruptures in communication and within relationships’.
16.15 – 16.45 <i>Simultaneously translated in English via headsets</i>	Jack van der Veen; ‘Cooperation and not competition, leads to success in terms of innovation, change and long-term profits.’ Professor Van der Veen is an economist. Research outcomes show that in the modern volatile and complex times, cooperation leads to more innovation and much better performance in terms of faster, better, lower cost and environmental and social sustainability, than competition does. Organisations that wish to survive in this unpredictable and fast changing world, need cooperation, within the organisation as well as externally.’ Full bio
16.45 – 17.45	Reception to thank Marjan Hoogland for her work as director AIT from the beginning of 1997 until 2016. Marjan is still active within AIT as a senior developer for a few specific projects and as an advisor.

Congress-programme Tuesday May 31

Sessions to reflect and to be inspired.

Participants present films of specific pedagogic situations and video-feedback sessions and reflect on them with the senior staff of AIT and other members in the group. Each presentation may last max 30 minutes. Candidates may apply to give a presentation or ask for information by email to marjanhoogland@ait-spin.com

Senior staff AIT; exchange and discussion leader with regard to specific topics:

Marij Eliëns,	(youth) health care and (infant) mental health
Monique Konings	day care and preschool education
Ton Stroucken,	social work, youth care
Dorini Janssen,	foster care & attachment
Henk Vermeulen	therapeutic interventions in mental health

9.00 – 10.00	1 st and 2 nd presentations and feedback sessions
10.00 – 10.30	Coffee break
10.30 – 11.30	3 rd and 4 th presentations and feedback sessions
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 – 13.00	Plenary session about ongoing exchange of information en cooperation
13.00 -14.00	Lunch & Good-bye

To protect the privacy of clients you are not allowed during the conference to record films, videos, sound recordings, or take photos.

Registration

Digital registration via <http://goo.gl/forms/S7j2H41wIP>

Payments: Bank transfer/IDEAL to Rabobank Haarlem (*Bankname & location*)

IBAN: NL52 RABO 0151 5585 15

SWIFT/BIC: RABONL2U

in the name of Stichting AIT at Santpoort-Noord.

Details of payment: AIT Int. Conference May-2016/followed by the name of the participant

Admittance to the conference is not be permitted without receipt of payment before 23d May 2016. [Terms and conditions](#)

Upon receipt of the registration form and your payment, a letter of confirmation will be sent digitally to the participant/s. Please present your 'Letter of Confirmation' at the International Registration Desk.

Registration Fees ('all in one' or separate booking of congress days):

All prices are inclusive lunch, dinner, coffee/tea & snacks. (Hotel & breakfast are not included!)

Total	Price for three days	Hotel & breakfast are not included!	€ 450	
				<i>You may also attend 1 or 2 days</i>
May 29	day of arrival	3 plenary sessions, inclusive lunch, drinks, snack & dinner	€ 100	
May 30	main conference day	keynote speakers, 2 rounds of workshops, inclusive lunch, drinks, snack & dinner	€ 265	
May 31	inspiration & feedback sessions	4 presenters from abroad at 'inspiration sessions'. Inclusive drinks & lunch	€ 65	
Book & DVD	Babies and Toddlers in the picture	Book & DVD are part of the booking	€ 20	€ 20
Book & DVD	Extra copies at € 20	Handed over at the SWP desk in the foyer		

[Hotel accommodation \(more info\)](#) Rooms with 2 separate beds or double bed are available at: De Reehorst, prices vary from € 59, - to € 69, - breakfast € 15, - De Paasberg, prices vary from € 61, - to € 71, - breakfast € 12, 50.

NB; Hotel de Reehorst is in the same building as the Conference Centre. Hotel de Paasberg is located at 2 km from the Conference Centre, a 20 min. walk. In the morning and evening a shuttle bus will connect De Paasberg with the Conference Centre De Reehorst. Participants who share a room, (max 2 persons) can be invoiced individually, for half the price of the room. At both hotels local tax per night is € 2, -