

Gloriously Ordinary Lives and language

GLORIOUSLY
ORDINARY
LIVES



TEST ONE

1

Would I want or accept that for **ME** or for someone I **LOVE**?



TEST TWO

2

Would I use that **LANGUAGE** in my kitchen with my **FAMILY**, or at the café or pub with my **MATES**?



TEST THREE

3

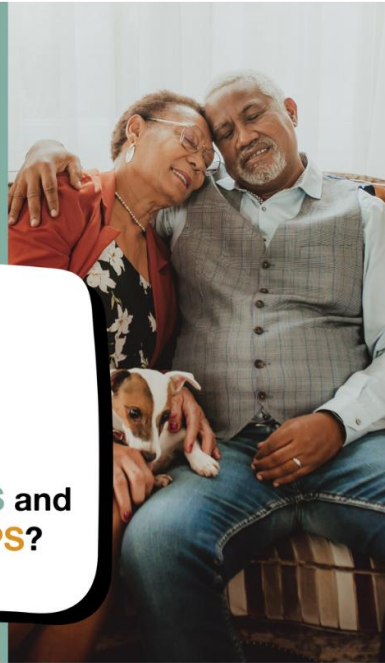
Would it make a **GREAT PHOTO**? What would the photo tell us?



TEST FOUR

4

Would it strengthen and support the person's **CONNECTIONS** and **RELATIONSHIPS**?



TEST FIVE

5

Would it give the person a **REASON TO GET OUT OF BED** in the morning?



MUNDANE

+

HEART SING

=

Gloriously Ordinary Lives

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TEST² TWO

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TEST TWO

People working in health, social care and education have a strange desire to create and use a language of a parallel universe. Some is just plain silly... 'activities of daily living'? 'Accessing the community?' 'Mobilising?' Some is downright dehumanising... People described as 'complex cases', someone being offered a 'placement', or being described as 'non-compliant'. Using this language means people are viewed, and treated, as 'other' than us or less than human. And history teaches us how dangerous this distance and division can be. Think about the words you use to describe people, where people live, the way people communicate, and the things people do. If those words aren't words you'd use with family and friends, they are probably words that get in the way of people living Gloriously Ordinary Lives.

Labels stick.

What are the words that people have said or written about you that have stuck?

“Reading my SW files a few years ago and seeing me described as manipulative by a teacher I’d trusted shattered me. That teacher has since passed (while I was still at the school) and I’d grieved her for years. Was tough to take and people think it’s just words. It’s not. I was 14.”

- [Careleaver123](#)





What are the words that make you go hmmm?



Go to menti.com and enter the code **79474136**

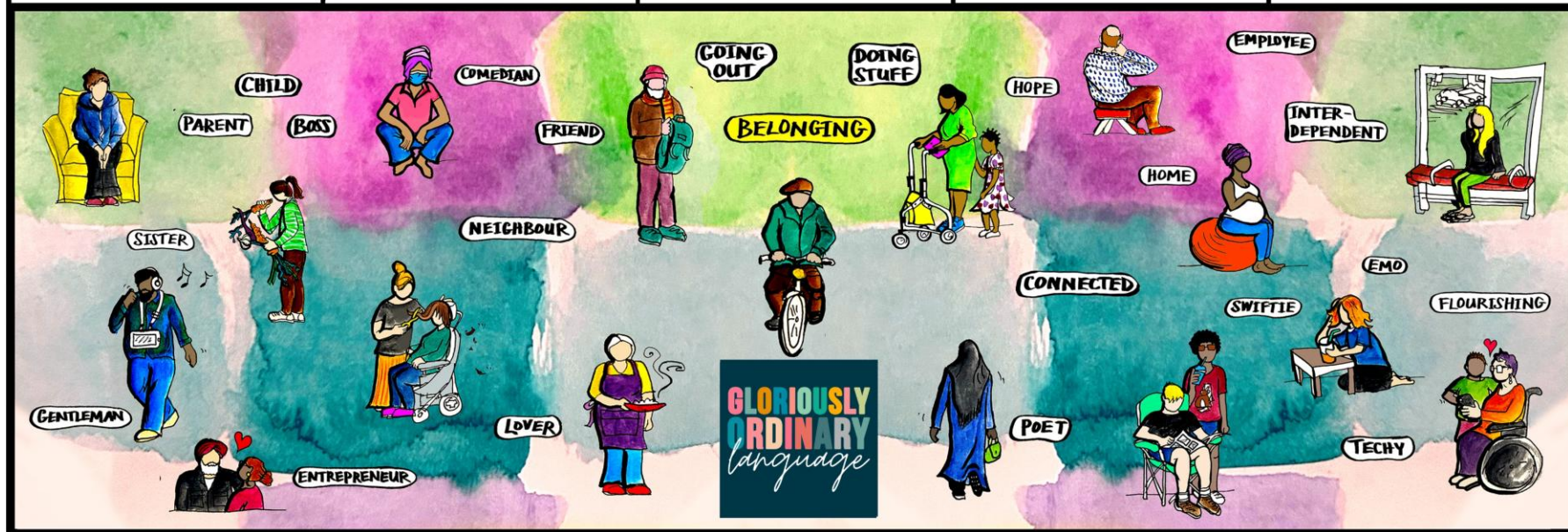
GLORIOUS
ORDINARY
LIVES



Would you use this language around your kitchen table?

WORDS THAT MAKE US GO *Hnnmm...*

BLAMING WORDS	SILLY WORDS	SORTING OFFICE WORDS	DECEPTIVE WORDS	THEM & US WORDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COMPLEX • VULNERABLE • HARD TO REACH • NON-COMPLIANT • CHALLENGING 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACCESSING THE COMMUNITY • PERSONAL CARE • ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING • TOILETING • MOBILISING 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIGNPOSTING • PATHWAY • PLACEMENT • SCREENING • TRANSITION 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INDEPENDENT • PREVENTION • CO-PRODUCTION • COMMUNITY • CARE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLIENT • SERVICE USER • PROFESSIONAL • CASE • CUSTOMER





['Accessing the Community' - Service Speak](#) - Oxfordshire Family Support Network (OxFSN)



Rewriting social care

Words that make me go hmmm...

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Why language matters

<https://rewritingsocialcare.blog/author/bryonyshannon/>

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