The SSP system in DK

A formalized cooperation between Schools – Social services – Police
The programme:

- Presentation
- A short history of SSP
- How is SSP organised nationally  (the SSP-Council)
- The challenges and dilemmas for SSP
- Questions in 3 groups
Jørgen Pedersen

- Teacher by profession 1980
- SSP-consultant in Silkeborg since 1989
- Chairman of the SSP-Council from 2008
- Member of the Executive Committee in the Danish Crime Preventive Council
Kim Hansen

- Social worker by profession
- SSP-consultant in Kolding since 1986
- Chairman of the SSP-Council in 1996 - 2008
- Chairman of the Committee for Children and Youth within the Danish Crime Preventive Council
Charlie Lywood

- Bachelor in Social Science from Sussex University in 1974
- Teacher from Birmingham in 1976
- SSP-consultant since 1998
- Criminology from Copenhagen University in 2008.
A short history of SSP

- Long tradition for cooperation between the schools and police in Denmark
- An increase in Youth Crime up to the middle of the 70´ties
- The SSP-system (Schools – Social Services – Police) was formalized in 1975, in order to develop more efficient methods of crime prevention
- No SSP – law, but **strict rules** for handling information between the 3 co-participants in order to protect the rigths of the involved youth
- Information gathered from SSP-meetings may not be used by the Police in ongoing investigations.
Aim: to prevent and reduce crime and related risk behavior among young people by working together as early as possible.

- We work cross-sectionally within the municipalities, using best practice from our different professions and methods.
- We don’t want to punish. SSP is a system of aid to the young people and their parents.
- Main target group is 6-18 years but we continue up to 25 years in SSP.
SSP – logo from Silkeborg

• Logo was created by a 15 years old girl, when we started in 1985 in Silkeborg
The Good SSP-job
SSP in Denmark

- **98 municipals** with their own SSP-model
- **12 police districts** with a police commander in chief
- **The SSP-Council** with 95 municipals as members and divided into 12 SSP-districts equated to the police-districts
The SSP-Council: Aim and Mission

We want to support crime prevention work on local, regional and national level

• We do it by creating networks between local players and other participants within the area of SSP
• The SSP-Council cooperates with authorities, politicians and other central players to create an optimal framework for SSP work in Denmark
SSP-Council: Actions and efforts

• We are a dynamic organisation with a flow between all the participants in SSP – high level of information
• We want to share knowledge, experiences and new methods. – 4 annual meetings in the SSP-districts
• We want to be the main player in qualifying people for the SSP-job – A SSP-basic qualification has been created

We want to lift local experiences to a national practice
The SSP-Council

- Organisation of SSP-consultants, SSP-coordinators and others in the SSP-area.
- The Municipal representative is a member of SSP-council (we are now 95 members)
- Divided into 12 SSP-districts
- Executive Committee with 14 members
- Annual meeting (Congress) with more than 200 persons
- Website: [www.ssp-samraadet.dk](http://www.ssp-samraadet.dk) and a Facebook-Group with 100 mb.
- Activities both national and regional
- Changing knowledge and methods
The SSP-Council - partners

- The Danish Crime Prevention Council
- The National Board of Health
- The Ministry of Justice
- Other Ministries (Social and Integration, Education etc.)
- Universities and sections for youth problems and investigations
- NGO – movements
- And many more
The job as SSP-consultant

- Crime prevention
- Prevention of abuse (drug, alcohol)
- Cross disciplinary cooperation
- Projects
- Co-ordination
- Parents cooperation and information
- Campaigns
- Education
- Building up the SSP organisation and network
- Maintenance of the SSP organisation and network
- Knowledge gathering
- The multi cultural dimension
- Vacation and spare time activities
- Attitude work
- Children and youth advice
- Evaluation
- Information about SSP
  - On local basis
  - On regional basis
  - On national basis

It is a hard, but also complexed and interesting job to be a SSP consultant.
The Local SSP - work

Organised in different ways in 3 models:

**Small cities** - Coordination-group and local-groups and 1 (often part time) SSP-consultant

**Middle size** – Executive committee – coordination group and local-groups and 1-3 SSP-consultants

**Big cities** - Executive committee – secretariat – coordination group and local-groups and a numbers of SSP-consultants
Dilemmas and challenges in SSP

- All 3 participants in SSP have obligations in relation to crime prevention. But they have different cultures and traditions.
- Great variation in resources and manpower to do the SSP-job around in Denmark.
- The local need for and use of SSP is very different.
- There is competition between the players in the area of prevention for resources.
- The New Model, with focus on the Safety, development, prevention and less on the CRIME-PREVENTION, gives more work for SSP.
- New Paradigm: From focus on the Criminal Youth to “A good life for all”
Some pictures