

SATURDAY 17TH JUNE 2023

With Lavinia Dowling

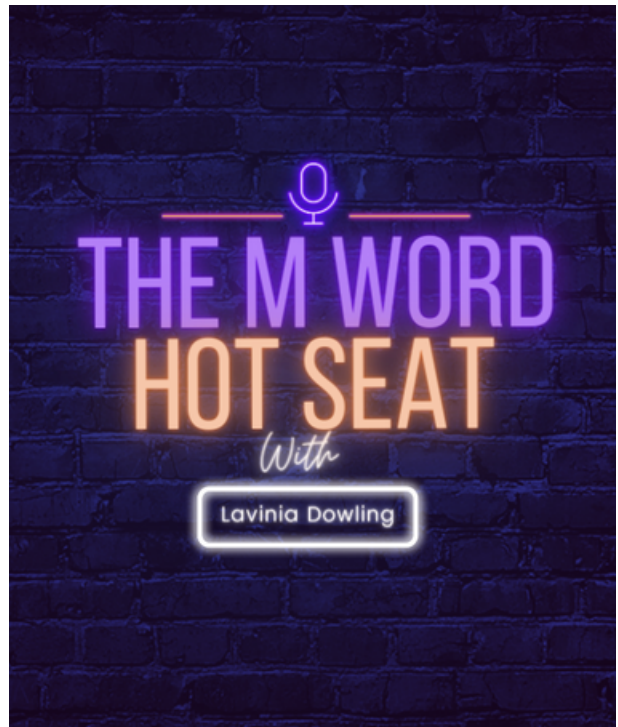
FII (FABRICATED INDUCED ILLNESS)

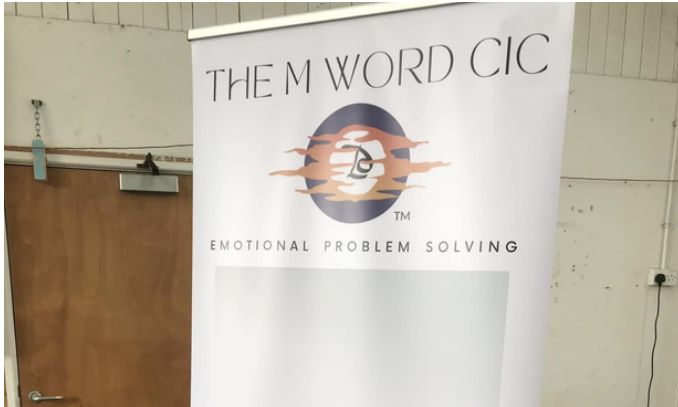
2 weeks ago, Rebecca and I completed her FII interview which ended up being 2 lengthy talks which Yasmin has split into four episodes. It is such a big topic, and every parent should consider watching as it can so easily happen to any parent if a professional decides that a child is emotionally at harm from the parent - usually because a child is struggling to attend school. This week I will be talking with some more parents about their shared experiences of being investigated for FII, and this will be going live at the end of Rebecca's interview. Thankfully,

not all young people are school avoidance but there are a sufficient few which is why parents approach us at The M Word for help. Stories are very familiar. School do not see what the parents see at home of the poor sleep, the poor diet, and the meltdowns. There can be more serious behaviour such as vomiting, non epileptic fits, self-harming, and suicidal expressions of intent or even serious attempts. Parents struggle to be seen by CAMHS, and, even if they are assessed, can often be shocked and upset at not being taken seriously enough when they are discharged despite their child having self-harmed or struggling with their mental health.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Whilst the education department are determined to get every child into school, and the Local Authority are as determined not to agree to the identified needs, parents are often struggling to know who to go to for support. We try to network amongst social media to raise awareness as well as go out to events to meet people and show them there is a resource when thinking about their child's mental health.





CLWYD VETERAN & VINTAGE RALLY

Yasmin and I recently attended the Clwyd Veteran and Vintage Rally held at the Oswestry Show ground. The amount of people who thanked us for raising awareness and doing what we do was amazing. We have Yasmin to thank so much for all the coverage of our social media as well as our websites! The M Word CIC supports parents in a variety of ways through assessments and screenings for their child, and indeed them, as well as the Expert Parent program for tweaking their parenting skills to support their Autistic child, as well as attending meetings with schools and other professionals.

EXAMS

This week was the last week for exams for many young people. For one of our young clients, they have actually made it to say they survived it. When I first met them, they were actively suicidal. The school only began to listen when I got involved and the SEN Ninja met with school regularly face to face to show through my repeated assessment that the young person could not cope with being full time at school. Eventually an EHCP was agreed and my job was complete allowing the young person to remain part time and complete school. They are looking forward to attending college to complete their dream aspiration of becoming a mechanic.

In the meantime, have a lovely weekend. For those of you celebrating Father Day, enjoy! We are off out over the w/e to celebrate Fathers Day and my birthday

Lavinia