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# Cohesion – words like jigsaw pieces

## With Friends Like These

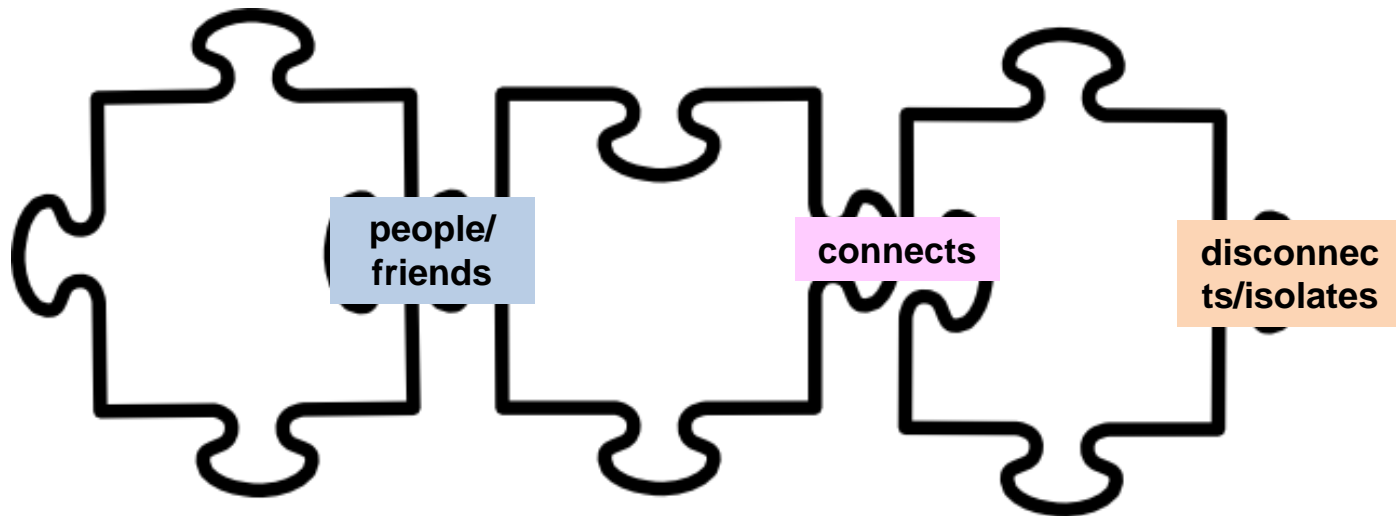
By Tom Hodgkinson (2009)

I despise Facebook. This enormously successful American business describes itself as “a social utility that connects you with the people around you”. But hang on. Why on earth would I need a computer to connect with the people around me?

And does Facebook really connect people? Doesn't it rather disconnect us, since instead of doing something enjoyable such as talking and eating and dancing and drinking with my friends, I am merely sending them little ungrammatical notes and amusing photos in cyberspace, while chained to my desk? A friend of mine recently told me that he had spent a Saturday night at home alone on Facebook. What a gloomy image. Far from connecting us, Facebook actually isolates us at our workstations.



# Jigsaw words and phrases



Gender matters everywhere in the world. And I would like today to ask that we should begin to dream about and plan for a different world. A fairer world. A world of happier men and happier women who are truer to themselves. And this is how to start: we must raise our daughters differently. We must also raise our sons differently.

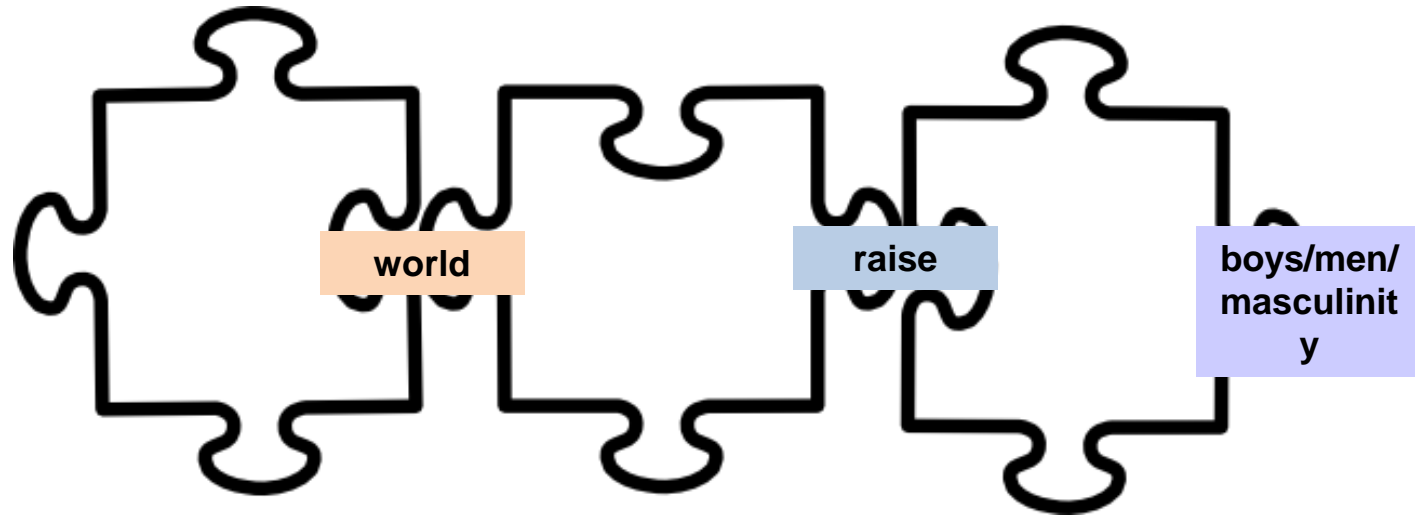
We do a great disservice to boys in how we raise them. We stifle the humanity of boys. We define masculinity in a very narrow way. Masculinity is a hard, small cage, and we put boys inside this cage.

We teach boys to be afraid of fear, of weakness, of vulnerability. We teach them to mask their true selves, because they have to be, in Nigerian-speak, a *hard man*.

*We Should All Be Feminists*, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie



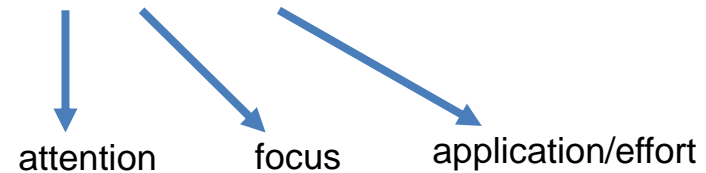
# Jigsaw words and phrases



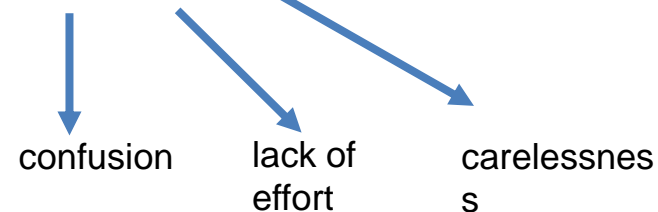
# Generating jigsaw words

- Take one idea you plan to develop
- Generate a few words that might be used for that idea
- Generate a few words that show the opposite side of that idea

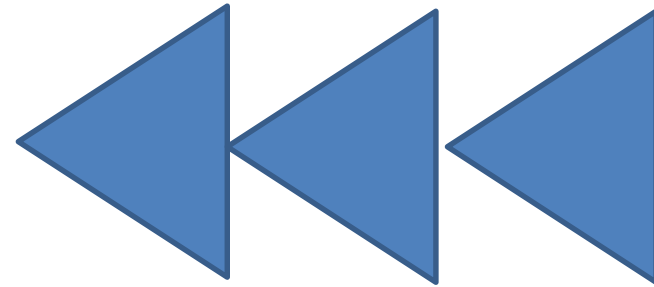
## Concentration



## Distraction



# Introduce, explain, expand



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- Introduce the idea in the last sentence of one paragraph
- Explain the idea in the next paragraph
- Expand on the idea in the next paragraph



# Using an extended metaphor to build cohesion

But – like a **soldier** dropped into a **war zone** – you have to get some ideas, and fast. You need **reconnaissance**. You have to **plan**. You have to single out your **objectives**, and then *move*. Because once those hormones kick in, there's no way to stop them. As I rapidly discovered, you are a monkey strapped inside a **rocket**; an element in a **bomb-timer**. There isn't an **exit plan**. You can't call the whole thing off – however often you may wish you could. This shit is going to happen, whether you like it or not.

...

And at the most dysfunctional end, of course, there are the **kamikaze** girls who wade into **war** with their pituitary – trying to starve it, or confuse it into **defeat**, with anorexia, or bulimia.

But the problem with **battling** yourself is that even if **you win, you lose**. At some point – **scarred**, and **exhausted** – you either accept that you must become a woman - that you are a woman – or you **die**. This is the brutal, root truth of adolescence – that it is often a long, painful **campaign of attrition**. Those self-harming girls, with the latticework of razor-cuts on their arms and thighs, are just reminding themselves that their body is a **battlefield**. If you don't have the stomach for razors, a tattoo will do; or even just the lightning snap of the earring gun in Claire's Accessories. There. There you are. You have dropped a marker pin on your body, to reclaim yourself, to remind you where you are: inside yourself. Somewhere. Somewhere in there.

(Caitlin Moran, *How To Be A Woman*)

