

ENABLING

Enabling is defined as reacting to a person in such a way to shield him or her from experiencing the full impact of the harmful consequences of behavior. Enabling behavior differs from *helping* in that it permits or allows the person to be irresponsible.

PROTECTION from natural consequences of behavior.

KEEPING SECRETS about behavior from others in order to keep peace.

MAKING EXCUSES for behavior. (School, friends, legal authorities, work, other family members.)

BAILING OUT of trouble. (Debts, fixing tickets, paying lawyers, providing jobs.)

BLAMING OTHERS for dependent person's behavior. (Friends, teachers, employers, family, SELF.)

SEEING THE PROBLEM AS THE RESULT OF SOMETHING ELSE. (Shyness, adolescence, loneliness, child, broken home.)

AVOIDING the chemically dependent in order to keep peace. (Out-of-sight, out-of-mind.)

GIVING MONEY THAT IS UNDERSERVED/UNLEARNED.

ATTEMPTING TO CONTROL. (Planning activities, choosing friends, getting jobs.)

MAKING THREATS that have no follow-through or consistency.

TAKING CARE OF the chemically dependent person. Doing what he/she should be expected to do themselves.
