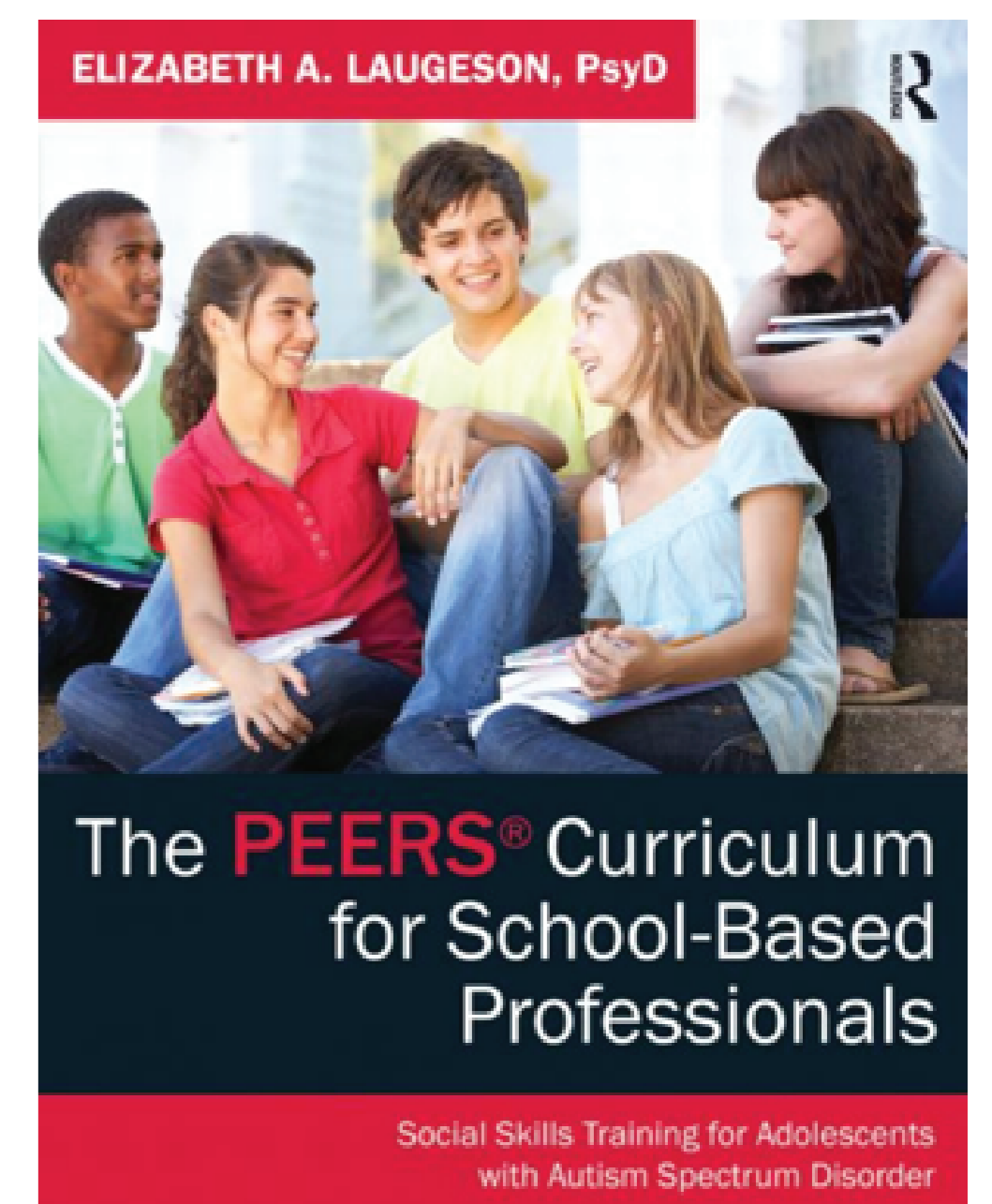


Pilot Application of PEERS® Social Skills Training Model in VTC

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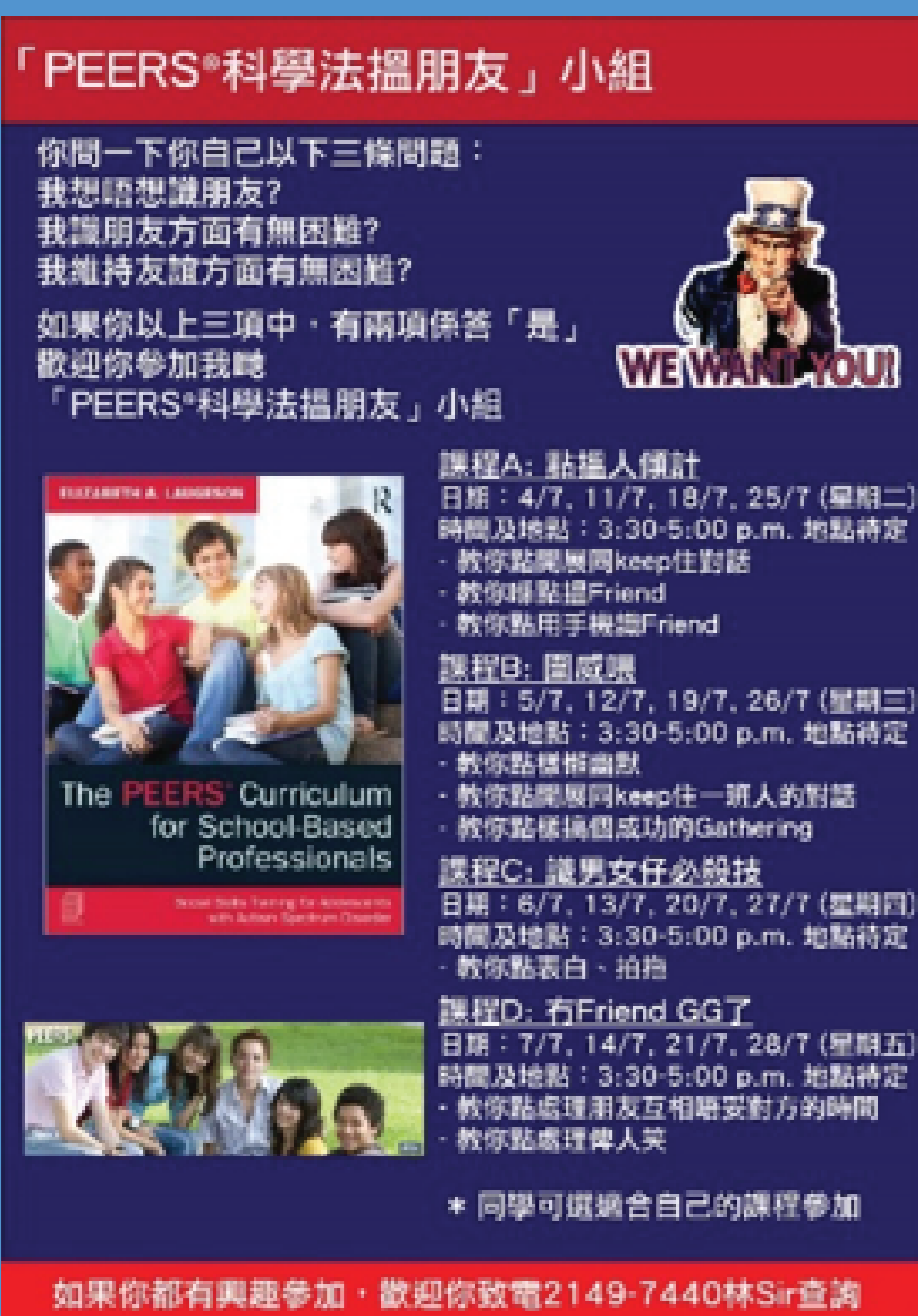
BACKGROUND:

In view of the increasing needs and deficit of social communication skills of adolescents with ASD in Hong Kong, it is important to have some evidence based and structured training package to meet the needs of this clientele in VTC. The PEERS® Certificated Training for Educators is designed exclusively for teachers, counsellors and school-based professionals who are interested in learning to implement THE PEERS® Model to work with ASD youth and adolescents by a structured manual. This training programme is an evidence-based social skills programme which suits for middle and high school adolescent which similar to the student background of VTC. This training will enable school-based professionals to implement PEERS® in the educational settings as Certified PEERS® School-Based Providers after 3 days training course. Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson is the founder of the PEERS® Model and PEERS® treatment manuals and she was invited by VTC (Task Force/SEN) to conduct training to VTC staff in 2015 & 2016 respectively. After the trainings, Task Force/SEN had conducted about 20 PEERS® Social Skills Training Groups in VTC campuses from 2016 onward. The feedback is very positive and effective.



KEY TOPICS TO BE COVERED IN GROUP SESSIONS:

- How to begin a two-way conversations
- How to enter and exit a conversations
- How to choose appropriate friends
- How to get-togethers successfully
- How to handle conflicts/ managing arguments with friends/ teasing / physical bullying & other forms of social rejection
- How to response to electronic forms of communication
- How to use humor appropriately
- How to build up social connection with people by good sportmanship



FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS:

- “The course is very practical and useful. I learnt how to start a conversation with strangers.”
- “The skills taught is very structured and easy to understand. I will not afraid to face with strangers in the future.”
- “I make friends with people after learned the skills taught by Michelle & Andy. It gave a new perspective to handle conflict with family members and friends.”
- “Now, I knew how to define friendship and how to maintain a conversation with a group of people”
- “I felt more comfort and confident to face with strangers after joined this group”



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