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19 January 1962
Deputy Chief *Jugenddienst Kantonspolizei Zürich*
(youth services Canton Police Zürich)
married
three sons (20, 17 and 15)
trained chef
with the Canton police since 1 February 1989



After completing my training as chef and working altogether seven years in my profession, at the age of twenty-seven, I applied to the Canton Police Zurich. Strictly speaking, I did not do this in order to fulfil a childhood dream, but for rather more practical reasons. The fact is, that the life of a chef is even more difficult to reconcile with family life than the life of a policeman. Which is not to say that I am practicing my second profession entirely for practical reasons. I like being a policeman very much, and I also noticed very soon that in addition to creativity and empathy, a high degree of pragmatism is quite helpful when one exercises the profession of a policeman generally, and especially when solving crimes.

After attending police training, I was eight years at the Canton police station in Schlieren working as a detective. I have remained true to my roots since I grew up in the immediate vicinity of Schlieren. Schlieren is directly adjacent to the city of Zürich, belongs to Limmattal, the Swiss banlieue which, at 40%, has the highest quota of foreigners in the Canton. This was an extremely instructive period for me, personally as well as professionally. The experiences I made at that time, especially in dealing with young people, were very helpful - not to say basic - when the youth service was being established and the concepts implemented. This task I was permitted to take up after an excursion into 'Housebreaking' and 'Sex Crime', in July 2002, as the deputy of my boss Rolf Weilenmann, and initially with four staff members. After an introductory "trial phase" of two years, there followed the final change in the concept in the years 2004/ 2005, and its implementation which represents the basis of today's organisation and working methods of the Youth Service of the Zürich Canton police. Not only would it go beyond the scope of the present presentation to describe all these, but it would also be unnecessary, since we set up our own website a few weeks ago, where, amongst a great many other things, the concept and the working methods of the Youth Service of the Canton police in Zürich are described. So if you are interested, you are invited to visit our site at www.jugenddienst.zh.ch and perhaps even discuss the issue of juvenile crime and its causes in the forum there.

Who knows? You might even be the one to come up with the solution!