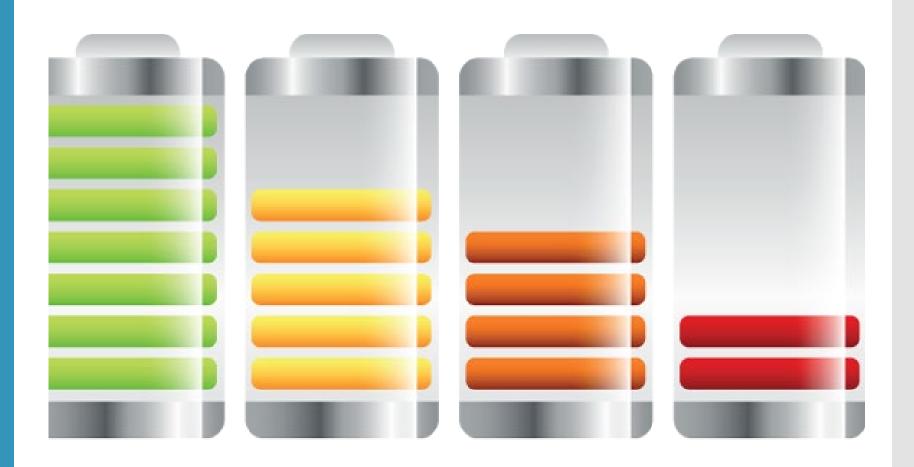
Building Resilience During Challenging Times

Niki Irish, LICSW

D.C. Bar Lawyer Assistance Program

> 202.347.3131 LAP@dcbar.org

How full is your battery?







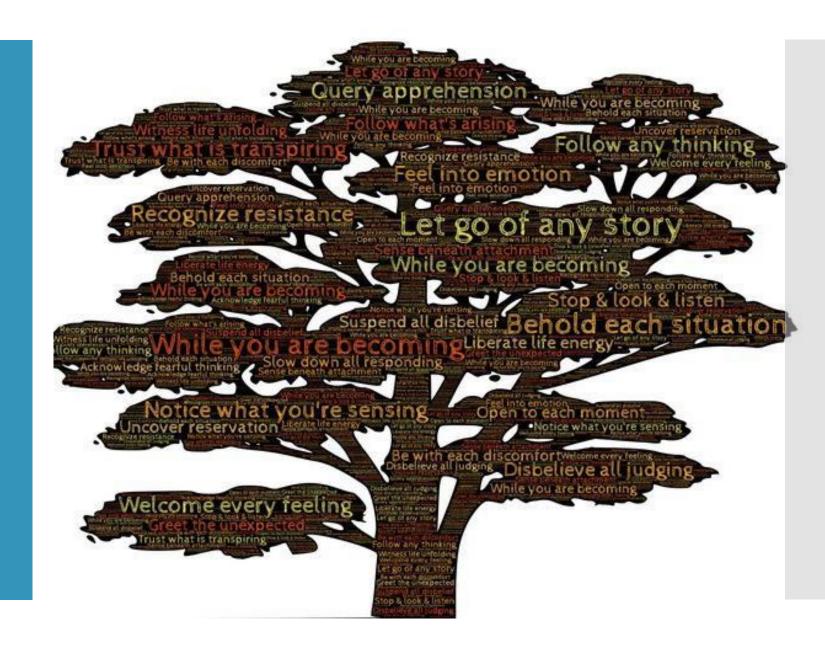
RESILIENCE: WHAT IT IS NOT



RESILIENCE: WHAT IT IS

resilierce is a mirdset that is in our tavght control charges over time

<u>Cultivating</u> <u>awareness</u>





self-a-ware-ness

noun

conscious knowledge of one's own character, feelings, motives, and desires.

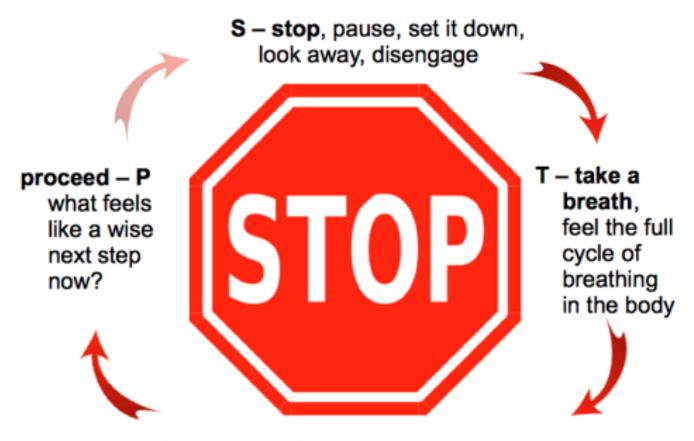
Cultivating <u>awareness of self</u>

How self-aware are you?

- What am I noticing in my body?
- What am I feeling?
- What am I thinking?
- What am I doing?

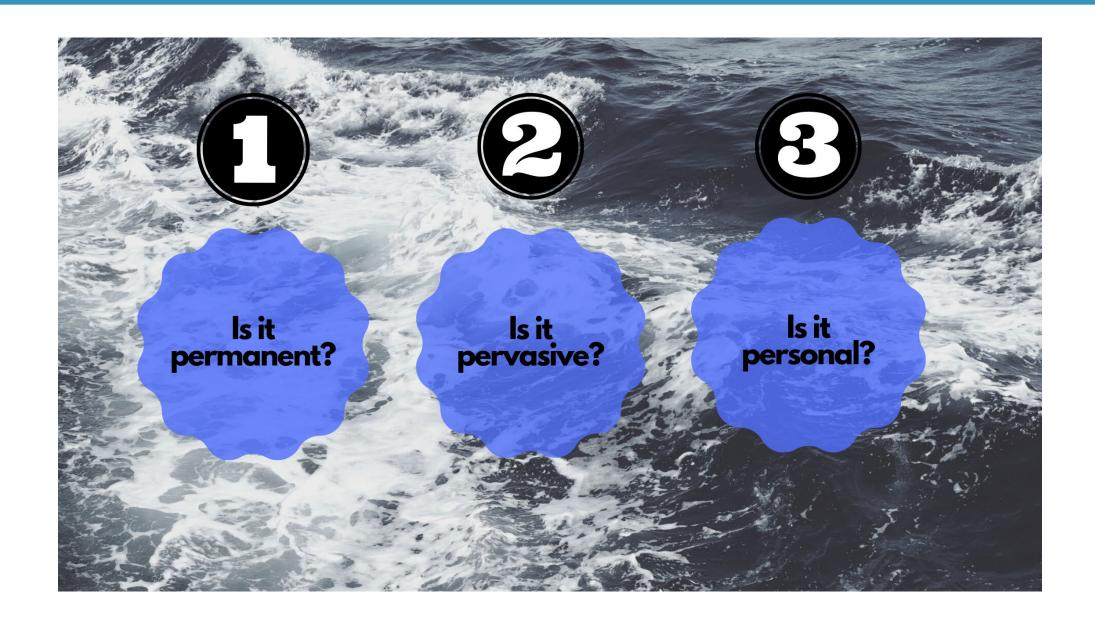


The S.T.O.P Method



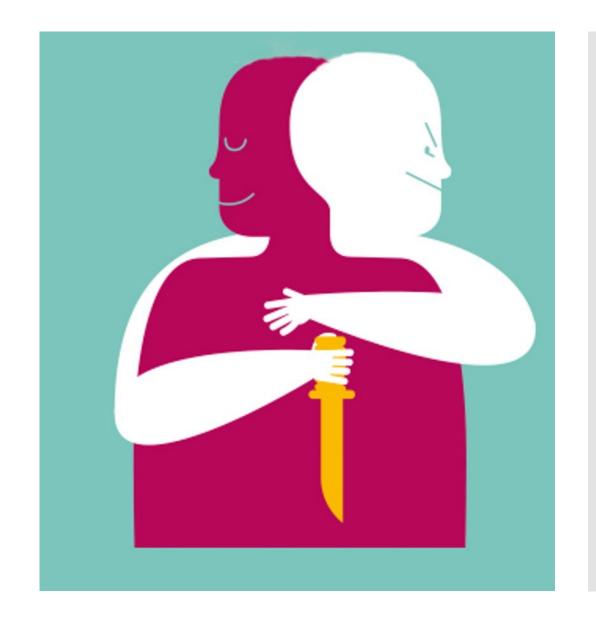
O – observe first bodily sensations, then thoughts and emotions. Be curious.





Compassion

Raising awareness of the inner critic



Compassion

Changing your self-talk

Importance of Self-Talk

Talk to yourself
Like you
would talk
to someone
you love

Control

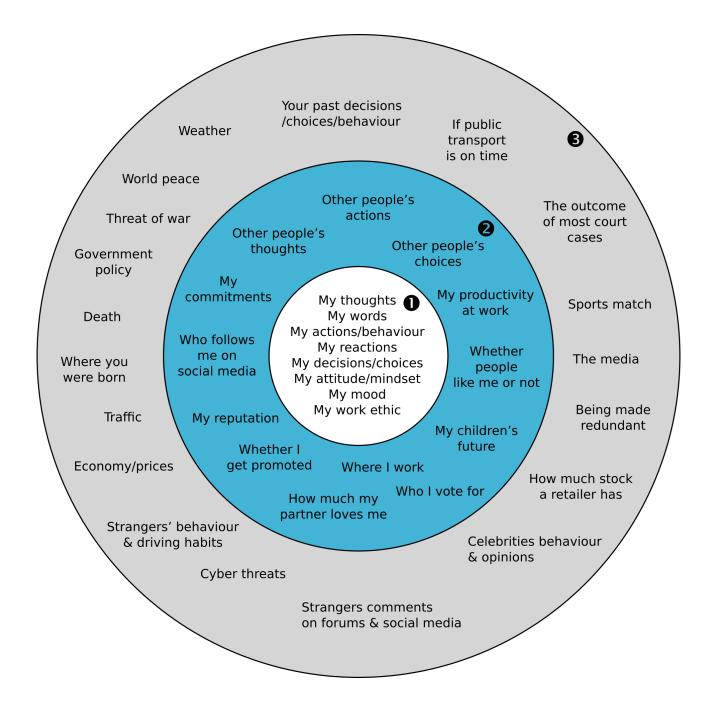
Reality, perception and illusion



The Circle of:

- Control
- Influence

Concern



Competence

Making progress towards small goals



<u>Competence</u>

Reviewing <u>past struggles</u> and <u>accomplishments</u>





Connection



Contribution

Care of Self

Taking care of all your parts

Physical

Emotional

Social

Spiritual

Occupational

Intellectual



List three things that you did in the past week and that was 1	
How did they make you feel? 1	
What are the three things/achievements that you wish to weeks/months? 1	·
How would you feel after you have accomplished them a 1	

For your consideration

REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS TO WRAP UP 2020

@ABLACKFEMALETHERAPIST

WHO OR WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO KEEP GOING IN 2020?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY
THIS YEAR IF YOU COULD?

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES CAME OUT OF THE DIFFICULTIES YOU FACED THIS YEAR?

HOW WERE YOU KIND TO YOURSELF IN 2020?

IN WHAT WAYS WERE YOU RESILIENT IN 2020?

WHAT DID YOU LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF THIS YEAR?

COMING CLOSE TO THE END OF 2020, WHAT ARE YOU GRATEFUL FOR RIGHT NOW IN THIS MOMENT?

IF YOU COULD GO BACK & ENCOURAGE YOURSELF THROUGHOUT 2020 WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

WHAT ARE THREE WORDS YOU WOULD LIKE TO LIVE BY IN 2021?

WWW.BEWELLMENTALHEALTH.ORG

D.C. Bar
Lawyer
Assistance
Program

202.347.3131 LAP@dcbar.org



Free & Confidential Services of the D.C. Bar Lawyer Assistance Program

- Clinical assessment, short-term counseling, and referrals to resources
- Wellbeing support groups
- Consultations with concerned others, such as employers or family members
- Monitoring
- Volunteer/peer mentor connection
- Well-being guidance for legal employers and law schools
- Outreach and education to legal employers, voluntary bars, D.C. Courts, and law schools located in the District of Columbia

Call 202-347-3131 or email LAP@dcbar.org.

Resources

- https://www.resiliency.com/
- https://thework.com/
- https://discoveryinaction.com.au/our-resilience-model-incl-link-to-tips-and-hints-on-avoiding-burnout-fatigue/
- https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/lawyer_assistance/ls_colap_well-being_toolkit_for_lawyers_legal_employers.pdf
- Books:
 - Anything by Daniel J. Siegel, M.D <u>www.mindsightinstitute.com/</u>
 - Resilient: How to Grow an Unshakable Core of Calm, Strength, and Happiness by Rick Hanson Ph.D & Forrest Hanson
- Podcast:
 - The Science of Happiness by UC Berkeley's Greater Good Science Center

DIMENSIONS & Resilience

PHYSICAL

nourishing / nurturing your body

Did you know...lack of sleep causes the stress hormone to increase even when there is no stress trigger present? Your self control, attention and memory suffers.



taking control of thinking + action



- understand that set backs are part of life
- are optimistic

In summary:

- · squash negative thoughts + use self talk
- build positive belief in their abilities
- get 'out of their head' (journal), disconnect, practice mindfulness

Resilient people:

- ensure they get enough sleep
- · limit their alcohol + caffeine in-take
- make time for exercise (cardio and strength training)
- · are mindful of their nutrition
- notice the symptoms of energy depletion
- take regular breaks to rest and recover
- · focus on their breathing

Resilient people:

- work to get organised, stay focussed and make realistic goals + plans
- understand what they can and can't control, and actively problem solve
- have good communication skills and respond well to feedback
- find ways to navigate through change
 reframe their thinking when their
 resilience is challenged

Resilience is not a trait...it is a capacity that involves behaviours, thoughts and actions that can be learned.

Resilient people:

- cultivate self awareness they read cues and know what they need /
 want + what they don't
- allow themselves to feel their emotions + find healthy ways to manage them
- actively work to fuel positive emotions
- · cultivate an attitude of gratitude
- · know when to ask for help
- are mindful of their emotional triggers
- defuse negative emotions through deep abdominal breathing
- · actively work to manage moods



When we identify our own greatest strengths, we can consciously engage in work and activities that make us feel most confident, productive and valuable.

EMOTIONAL

actively working on self awareness + self management



Did you know...cultivating an attitude of gratitude reduces the stress hormone cortisol by 23% and can improve your mood?

Resilient people:

- have a 'menu' of self care habits (eg routine, volunteering, 'me' time)
- find meaning in every day and difficult events
- use humour and look for the 'fun'
- identify their 'sweet spots' things that give them feelings of effectiveness, fulfilment + find ways to do more of them
- consciously allocate time and energy to areas of life that are most important
- live their core values in daily behaviours

Resilient people

- have strong connections / and keep good company
 - use their support system + ask for help
 - talk to someone they can trust
 - have good role models



investing in connections + relationships

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