



## STRESS RESPONSE SYSTEM

TRAUMA PRODUCES ACTUAL PHYSIOLOGICAL CHANGES INCLUDING A RECALIBRATION OF THE BRAIN'S ALARM SYSTEM, AN INCREASE IN STRESS HORMONE ACTIVITY, AND ALTERATIONS IN THE SYSTEMS THAT FILTER RELEVANT INFORMATION FROM IRRELEVANT.

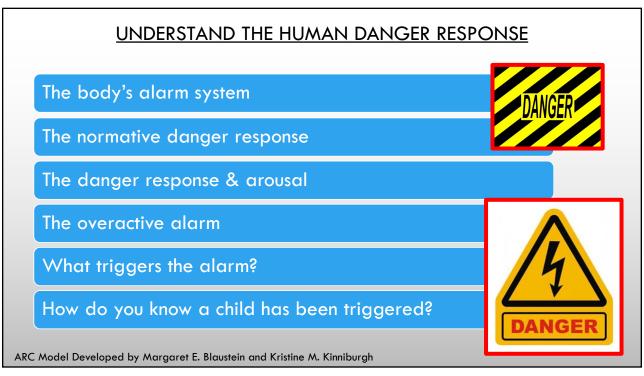
THIS IS WHY PEOPLE BECOME HYPER-VIGILANT TO THREAT ...AND WHY THEY SO OFTEN KEEP REPEATING THE SAME PROBLEMS AND HAVE SUCH TROUBLE LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE (P.2-3)



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Our stress response system is like a super deluxe firehouse with a fleet of fancy trucks, highly specialized tools and an expert team of firefighters. When the alarm bell rings the firefighter don't take time to analyze exactly what the problem is and figure out how the firefighter can be most effective and appropriate. Instead, the trucks rush off with sirens blaring and at top speed and respond with every tool at their disposal. This strategy is probably quite effective in saving lives in fires, but if the trucks pull up and it is only a smoldering trash can or worse and it is only a false alarm.

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### TRAUMA IS IN THE BODY

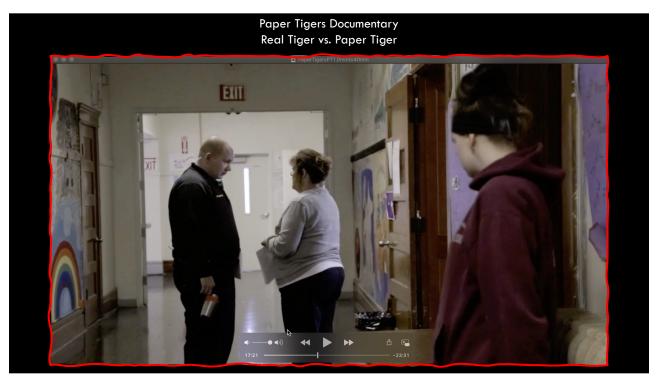
The body is where we live. It's where we fear, hope, and react. It's where we constrict and relax. And what the body most cares about are safety and survival. When something happens to the body that is too much, too fast, or too soon, it overwhelms the body and can create trauma....

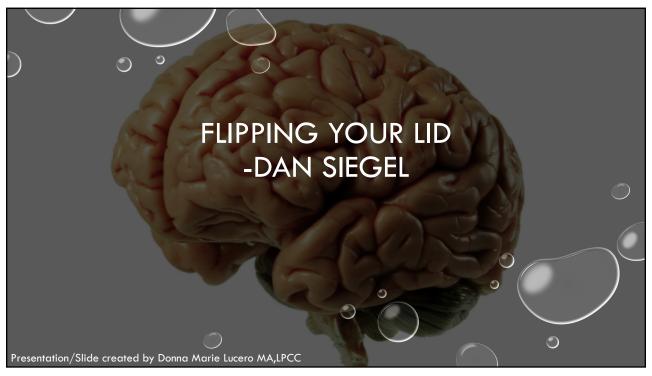


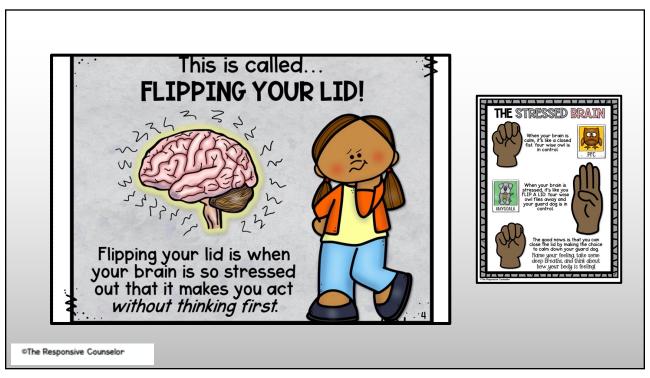
Trauma is not primarily an emotional response. [It] always happens in the body.... Trauma is the body's protective response to an event—or a series of events—that [the body] perceives as potentially dangerous. This perception may be accurate, inaccurate, or entirely imaginary....

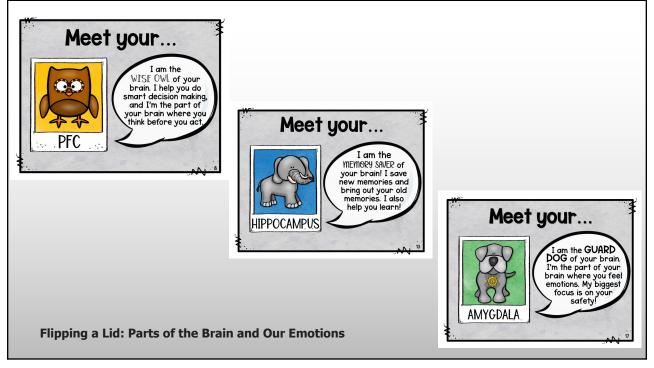
An embedded trauma response can manifest as fight, flee, or freeze—or as some combination of constriction, pain, fear, . . . reactive behaviors, or other sensations and experiences. This trauma then gets stuck in the body—and stays stuck there until it is addressed.

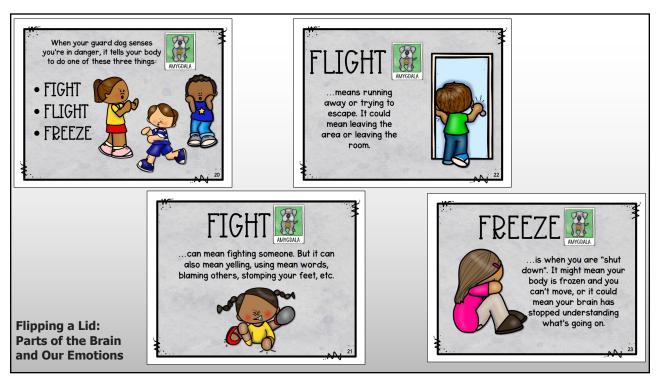
Fr. Richard Rohr-Franciscan Priest
Daily Meditation





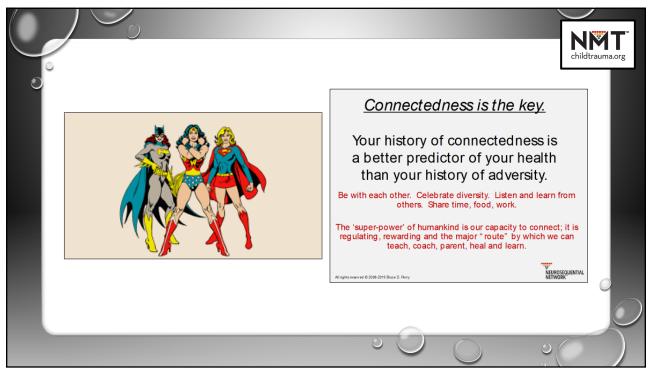












EFFECTIVE ANTIDOTE TO THE ILL EFFECT OF EARLY STRESS/TRAUMA

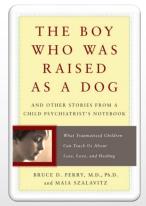
CLOSE, NURTURING
RELATIONSHIPS WITH TRUSTED
ADULTS CAN FOSTER
RESILIENCE AND OFFERS
PROTECTION FROM THE
EFFECTS OF HARSH EARLY
ENVIRONMENTS

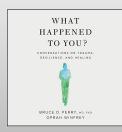


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# MOST THERAPEUTIC EXPERIENCES DO NOT TAKE PLACE IN THERAPY.

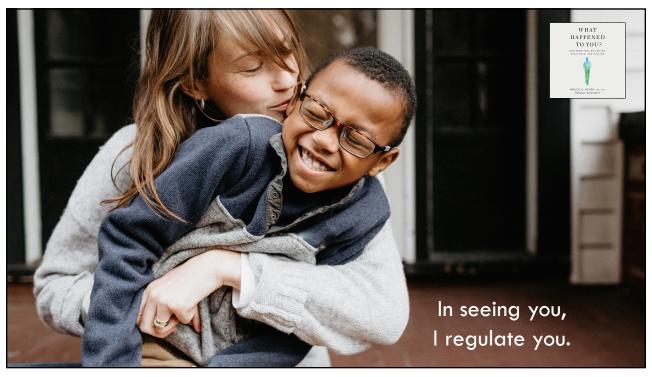
The neural networks involved in relational connection and regulation are very responsive to MOMENTS. This means that a meaningful "dose" of therapeutic interaction isn't 45 minutes once a week. When you are dealing with intense trauma, a "tolerable dose" may be only seconds long.

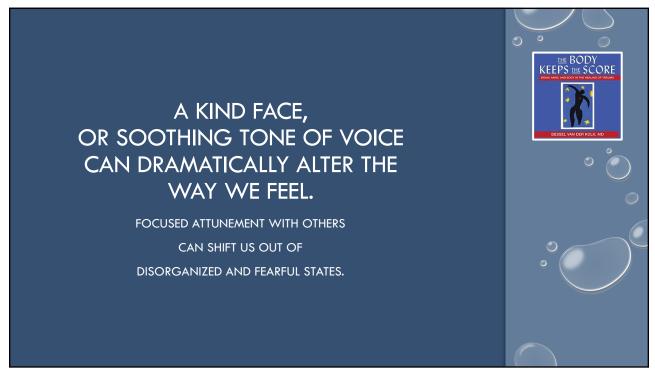












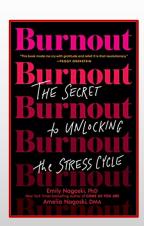


PATTERNED
REPETITIVE
RHYTHMIC
RELATIONAL
Helps Us Get
Back
"IN BALANCE."

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## The Most Efficient Ways to Complete the Stress Response Cycle

- 1) Physical Activity
- 2) Breathing
- 3) Positive Social Interactions-Relationship/Connection
- 4) Laughter
- 5) Affection-touch, animals
- 6) A big, good cry
- 7) Creative Expression



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# THANK YOU AND PEACE!



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