Anger Management: Integral / Developmental Approach

Laura Moss, CAMS-IV Rich Pfeiffer, MDiv, PhD

NAMA 2015 International Conference March 12 - 13, 2015

"Anger Aggression and Violence"

Integral / Developmental Why?

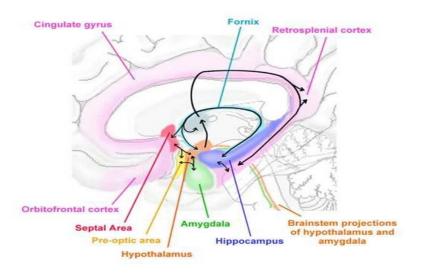
Integral - Include as much of 'reality' as possible

Developmental - Simple -----> More Complex

Focus:

The Process of Healthy Change and Transformation

Primitive Brain (reptilian & mammalian)



Automatic - (Autopilot - w/o processing)
Survival, Instincts, Drives, Urges
When angry and functioning out of Primitive Brain:
You want to Punish
Teach a lesson, Get back at, or Fix the 'other'
Something destructive
Make the 'other' feel what you feel.

7 conditions that tend to increase functioning out of the Primitive Brain

Stress

Anxiety

Drugs

Alcohol

Tired

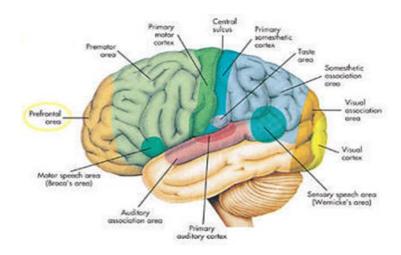
Hungry

Sick (illness, pain)



Knowing these 7 conditions has a powerful influence on capacity for anger management.

Evolved Brain (human)



Prefrontal cortex (subject to development of worldview)
Reasonable
Rational
Logical
Creative

Worldview Development Ladder

1st Tier

Post Modern - Pluralistic - HumanBonders

Equality, Harmony, Community World-centric

Essential Concern: "sensitive or insensitive"

Motivation: Inclusiveness

Consequence: Seen as Exclusive, Greedy, Dogmatic

Modern -Rational - Strive Drivers

Success, Autonomy Beginning World-centric

Essential Concern: "win or lose"

Motivation: Achievement and Becoming a Winner Consequence: Become a Loser and "Fall Behind"

Traditional - Mythic - Truth Forcers

Stability, Purposeful life

Ethno-centric Essential Concern: "right or wrong"

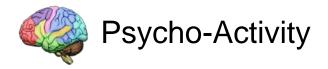
Motivation: Respect and Doing the Right Thing Consequence: Chaos and Admonishment of Others

Tribal - Magic - Power Acting

Vigilant, Aggressive, Impulsive Ego-centric

Essential Concern: "strong or weak" Motivation: Respect and Physical Safety

Consequence: Loss of Safety and Kicked out of "Tribe"



The brain is designed to develop through Psycho-activity in 2 Ways

via the limbic system (Primitive brain) - automatic process For example, you observe a scene never seen before and your brain automatically sets in motion the processing of this new experience. There is no intention require – it just happens. via the (1) mirror and (2) mentalizing systems (Evolved brain) and which requires engagement with information, explanation, or framework.

For example, learning how to play a new game.

Once Psycho-activity is initiated the brain spontaneously reaches toward the novelty (new-ness) with curiosity Psycho-activity is the action of neuroplasticity

Psycho-activity Capacity List

(partial)

- 1. Autonomy/Communion
- 2. Empathy
- 3. Polarities
- 4. Compassion
- 5. Big Question(s)
- 6. Cycle of Relationships
- 7. Attunement
- 8. Self Awareness
- 9. Range of Feelings
- 10. Needs Satisfaction
- 11.Assertiveness
- 12.Confidence

- 13.Emotional Resiliency
- 14.Commitments
- 15.Creativity
- 16. Alone Time
- 17.Gratitude
- 18. Roles & Responsibility
- 19.Receive & Give
- 20. Forgiveness
- 21. Develop a Vision
- 22. Healing Wounds
- 23.Resolve Conflict
- 24. Presence & Listening

COGNITIVE AWARENESS

Education of Brain/Body
Anger Log
Anger Scale
Destructive Thinking
Shadow
Family of Origin
Trauma

MINDFULNESS TECHNIQUES

Calming Techniques
Breathing
Walking 20 Steps
Jaw Drop
Focus on One Thing
Meditation
Bi-lateral Ball Toss

LIFESTYLE PRACTICE

Daily messages of well-being/non-aggression 3-2-1 Process Journaling Yoga Healthy Habits Fun/novelty/humor