

Resilience Through Community, Connection and Care

Supporting Others and Yourself in Challenging Times

#### ABOUT ME

#### Career & Leadership Coach, Speaker and Facilitator:

- Advance leadership education that emphasizes mastery of social, emotional and somatic intelligence.
- Help purpose-driven professionals align their passions, values and talents to a meaningful career.
- Help leaders develop success skills for courage, connection and conflict resilience.

Certified Coach (Integrative Enneagram/MBTI); Certified Personal Trainer & Exercise Physiologist (ACSM); Certified Life Coach (in progress, ULCT)

University of Nebraska Alum: M.Ed Higher Ed Admin (14) & B.S. Dietetics (11)





A resilience story from Will Smith.



- Recognizing Burnout with a Career Wellness Inventory
- Building Community with Supportive Communication
- Building Personal Resilience with Emotional Literacy

# Burnout

**Overview and Career Wellness Inventory** 

#### BURNOUT DEFINED

- "Extinction of motivation"
- "Insufficient recovery between stressors"
- "Chronic workplace stress that has not been successfully managed"
- "State of vital exhaustion"
- "Work-induced depression"

# Distraction Vs. Disruption

#### BURNOUT DEFINED

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Prolonged exposure to workplace stress without adequate recovery resulting in a disruption to the ability to work, live, and love.

#### SOURCES OF WORKPLACE STRESS

- X Unmanageable workload
- Unreasonable time pressure
- Unfair treatment
- Insufficient reward

- Lack of leader support
- X Lack of community support
- X Lack of autonomy/control
- Unclear communication from leaders

#### IN COVID-19 CONTEXT

- X Constant change
- **Constant crisis**
- Unclear roles, goals, expectations
- Overall life stress
- X Misaligned talents and values
- Disruption in shared understanding, knowledge, routines, etc.

In May 2020,

4196

of employees found themselves burned out from the stress of managing work amidst COVID-19. Almost double (23%) from a similar study just a few months before.

## 4196

of Americans struggle with mental health issues from the pandemic. That number increases to

75%

of among those 18-24 years old.

#### LIVE FROM THE AUDIENCE

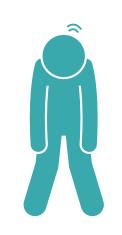
- What does burnout look like? Feel like?
- Respond: Burnout looks like \_\_\_\_ and feels like \_\_\_\_.

#### SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

**Constant complaining** 



Lack of confidence



Frequent illness



Focus problems, forgetfulness



Energy depletion with inability to recharge



**Body tension** 



Arriving late, leaving early



Unapologetic disengagement



Sleep disruption



Lack of meaning and motivation



#### Career Wellness Inventory

#### A note on grief.

## Community. Connection & Care

**Building Collective Resilience with Supportive Communication** 

"Care matters more than ever. Employees who feel cared for at work are

3.2X

more likely to be happy at work."

#### LIVE FROM THE AUDIENCE

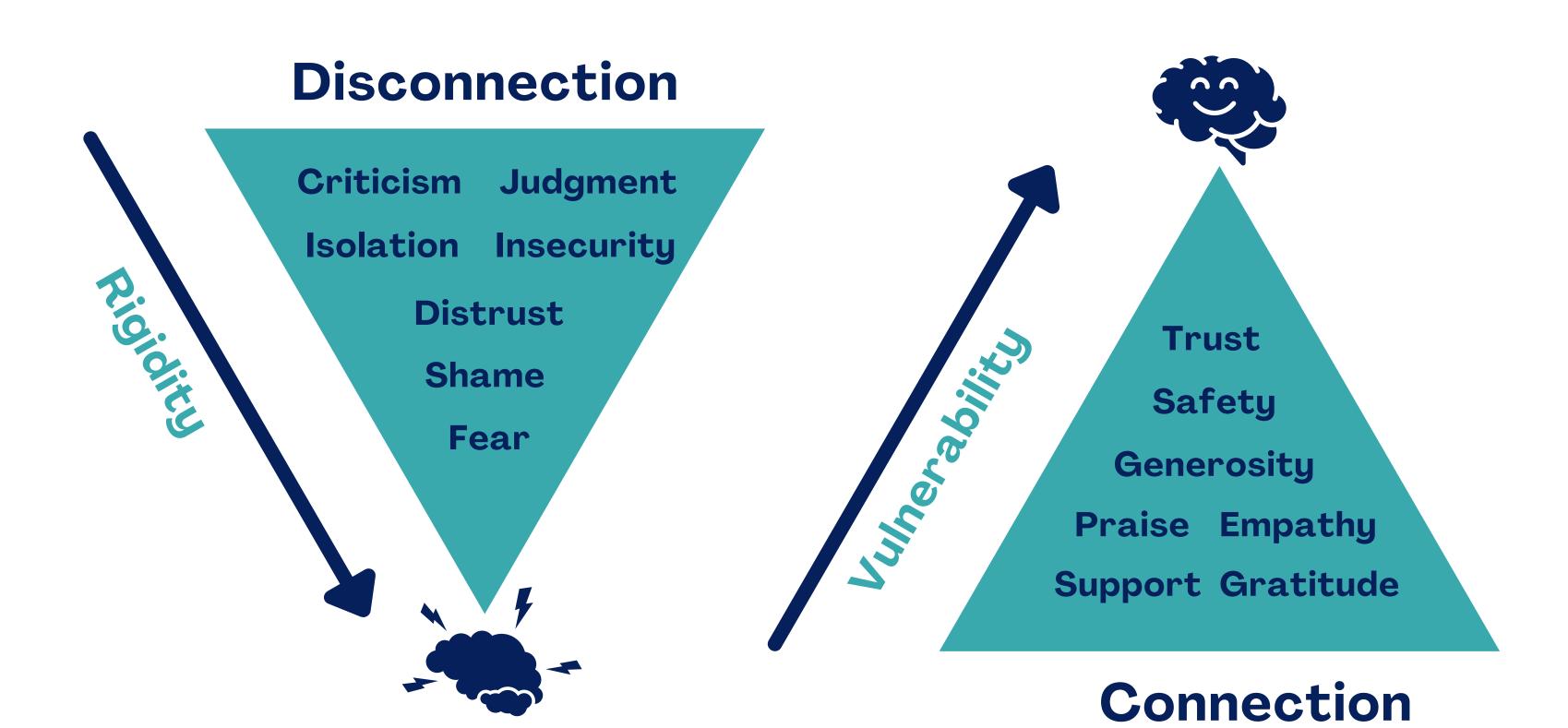
- What does disconnection look like? Feel like?
- Respond: Disconnection looks like \_\_\_\_\_ and feels like \_\_\_\_\_.

#### LIVE FROM THE AUDIENCE

- What does connection look like? Feel like?
- Respond: Connection looks like \_\_\_\_ and feels like \_\_\_\_.

#### Connection is being heard and seen.

#### The Neuroscience of Connection:



#### LIVE FROM THE AUDIENCE

- What does vulnerability look like? Feel like?
- Respond: Vulnerability looks like \_\_\_\_ and feels like \_\_\_\_.

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#### Courage and vulnerability are twins-they always go together.

**Moe Carrick** 

#### Supportive Communication

#### SUPPORTIVE COMMUNICATION

- CHECK-IN: create recurring, consistent spaces to see and hear each other.
- VALIDATE: listen to feelings, needs, emotions, experiences with non-judgment.
- CIRCLE BACK: provide follow-up and demonstrate follow through.

Repeat.

#### SUPPORTIVE COMMUNICATION

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#### WHEN TO CHECK-IN

- 1 At the beginning and end of 1:1/team meetings.
- 2 At recurring, consistent and committed times.
- 3 Human moments (high stakes/high emotions).
- When assigning, re-assigning or changing roles, goals, expectations, projects, duties and tasks.

#### **"WHAT...?"**

- 1 What do you need out of...?"
- 2 ) "Did you get what you needed out of...?"
- 3 ) "What does support look like?"
- 4 ) "What can I do to help?"

#### CONTRASTING

- 1 What's been a challenge? What's been a win?"
- 2 "What's working? What's not working?"
- 3 "What would be helpful? What wouldn't?"
- "What do you want to happen? What do you not want to happen?"



#### AFTER CHECKING IN

- 1 Pause until they respond.
- Listen with non-judgment and ask clarifying questions.
- 3 Validate the information offered.

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#### TABLE CONVERSATION

- What does invalidation look like? Sound like?
- \*Share in the spirit of safety and learning.

#### LIVE FROM THE AUDIENCE

- What does validation look like? Sound like?
- \*Share in the spirit of safety and learning.

#### INVALIDATING

- "Just be positive!"
- "There is nothing to be upset about."
- "Everything happens for a reason."
- "It's God's plan."
- You're just checked out."
- "Don't be so angry."
- "There's no reason to cry."

#### **VALIDATING**

- "Your feelings are valid."
- "Thank you for sharing this with me."
- "I'm sorry you have to experience this."
- "Take your time, I'm listening."
- "I'm sad to hear you're struggling."
- "Tell me more."
- **Empathetic silence.**



I've talked to nearly 30,000 people on this show, and all 30,000 had one thing in common.

They all wanted validation.

-Oprah

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#### CIRCLE BACK

- Follow-up: give a status update.
- Follow-through: communicate action taken.
- Continue the conversation; partner together to find solutions.



Support is a feeling.

Decoding it from heart brain (where feelings live) to head brain (where rationality lives) will often take more than one conversation.

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#### Leaders set the tone.



# "Employees who strongly agree that they feel supported by their manager are about 70% less likely to experience burnout regularly.

Gallup's Perspective on Employee Burnout: Causes and Cures

# Personal Résilience

Supporting Yourself with Emotional Literacy

## Emotional literacy: The power of language.



"It's a huge part of the mythology around emotion that if we look it in the eye, it gives it power... the reality is, if we look it in the eye and name it, it gives us power."

-Brené Brown

# Emotional Literacy

## Emotional Empowerment

Emotional Resilience

#### **EMOTIONAL LITERACY**

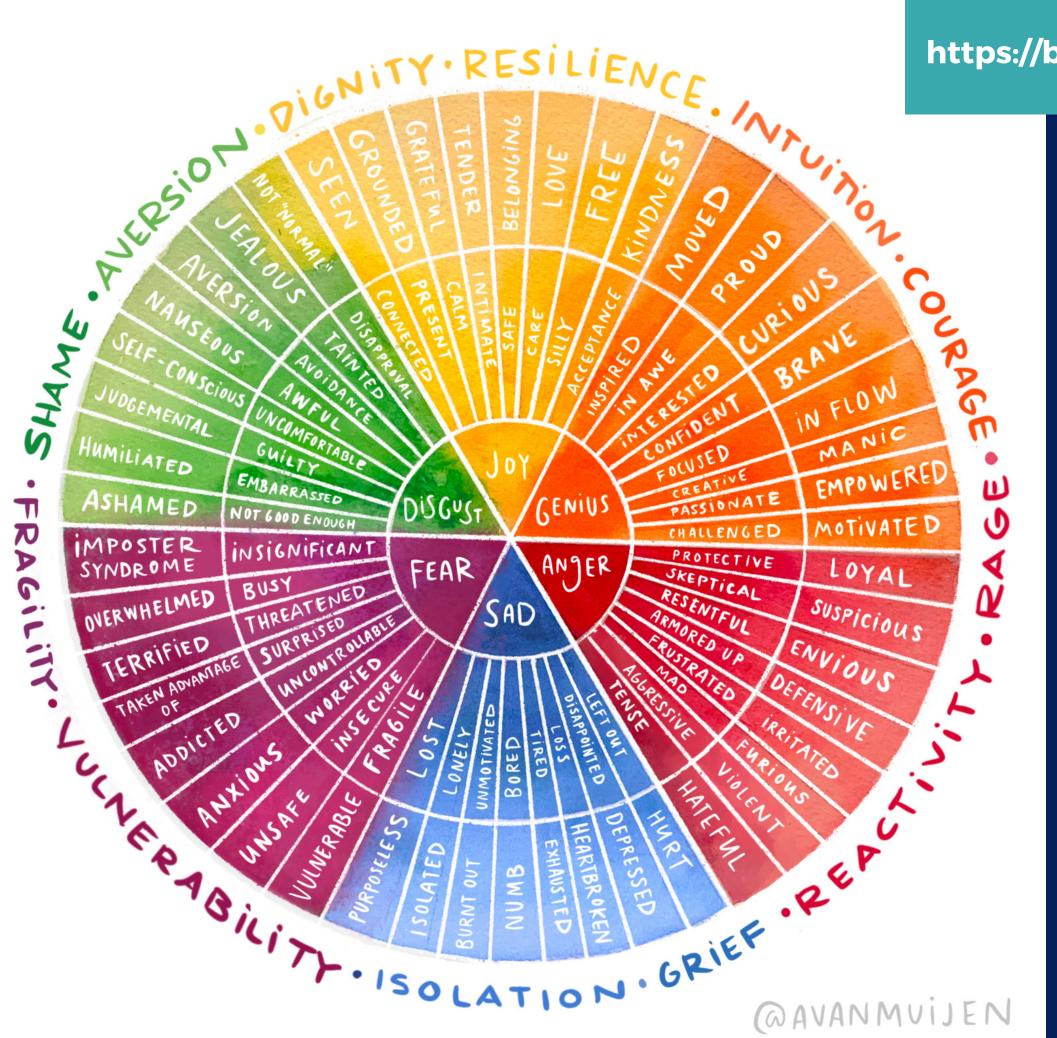
- 1 Name It
- Feel It
- (3) Accept It
- 4 Support It

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@whitneyhsullivan Dr. Susan David

#### https://bit.ly/resilientconnection

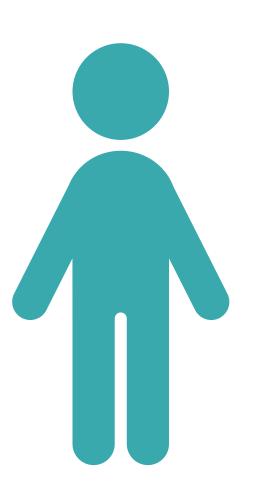


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#### **EMOTION = ENERGY IN MOTION**



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#### RESISTING

- Judging: "This feeling is wrong."
- **Rationalizing:** "I shouldn't feel this."
- Avoiding: "I'll ignore this feeling."
- **Editing:** "I'll pretend I feel."
- **Blaming:** "It's their fault I feel."
- Numbing: "I'll drown out this feeling."

#### ACCEPTING

- Acknowledgement: "These feelings are valid."
- Compassion: "It's okay to feel this way."
- Curiosity: "What is this feeling teaching me?"
- Courage: "This is my honest feeling."
- Responsibility: "I feel."
- Presence: "I will give this feeling space to exist."

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### COURAGE TO ASK FOR SUPPORT.



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# What would feel like a luxury today?

Whitney Sullivan



### Energy audit: "Swiper, no swiping!"

"...awww, mannn!"

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- <sup>2</sup> MINDSET: believing needs are selfish.
- ATTACHMENT: tethering self-worth to achievement and productivity.

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# YOU are your life and work's most valuable asset.

Whitney Sullivan

#### LIVE FROM THE AUDIENCE

Self-care isn't selfish.

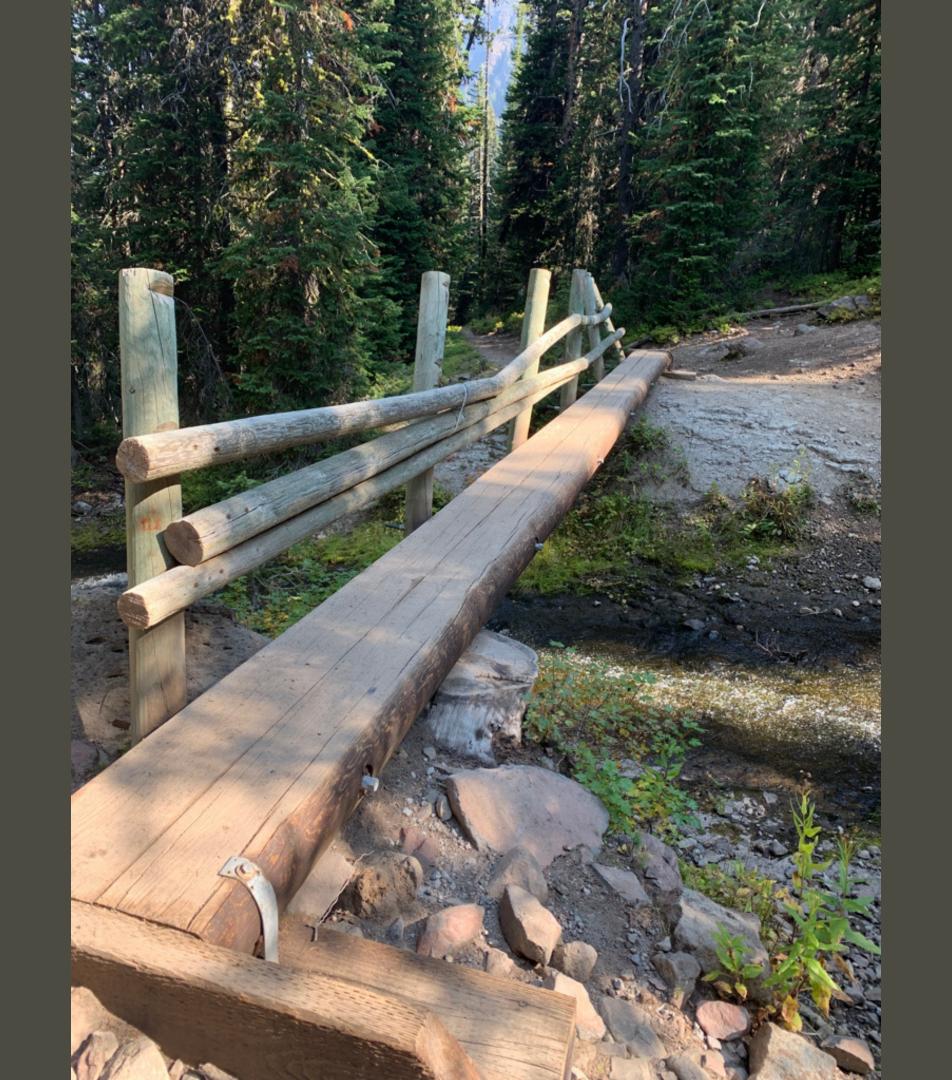
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- JUDGMENT: labeling emotions, feelings, experiences and needs as good or bad.
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- ATTACHMENT: tethering self-worth to achievement and productivity.

### "Compulsion to prove oneself."



A Feeling of Trust







# Thank you!

#### I'd love to connect with you!

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