

Building Resilience in Children and Teens

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BACK

GRANT HALLIBURTON

What is Resilience? ABCs of Resilience Building Blocks of Resilience Teaching Life Skills

OVERVIEW



WHAT IS RESILIENCE?

Resilience is not the absence of distress or difficulty. Resilience is the ability to adapt and grow following adversity.

"When children aren't given the space to struggle through things on their own, they don't learn to problem-solve very well. They don't learn to be confident in their own abilities, and it can affect their self esteem.

The other problem with never having to struggle is that you never experience failure and can develop an overwhelming fear of failure and disappointing others."

-Julie Lythcott-Haims How to Raise an Adult



We can:

- Strengthen resiliency at any age
- Take specific steps to help develop resiliency in children
- Model handling stress in healthy ways

THE GOOD NEWS





WHY DO WE NEED RESILIENCE? **Setbacks** Poverty Stress Work Abuse **ADVERSITY** School **Relationships** Trauma







Illness

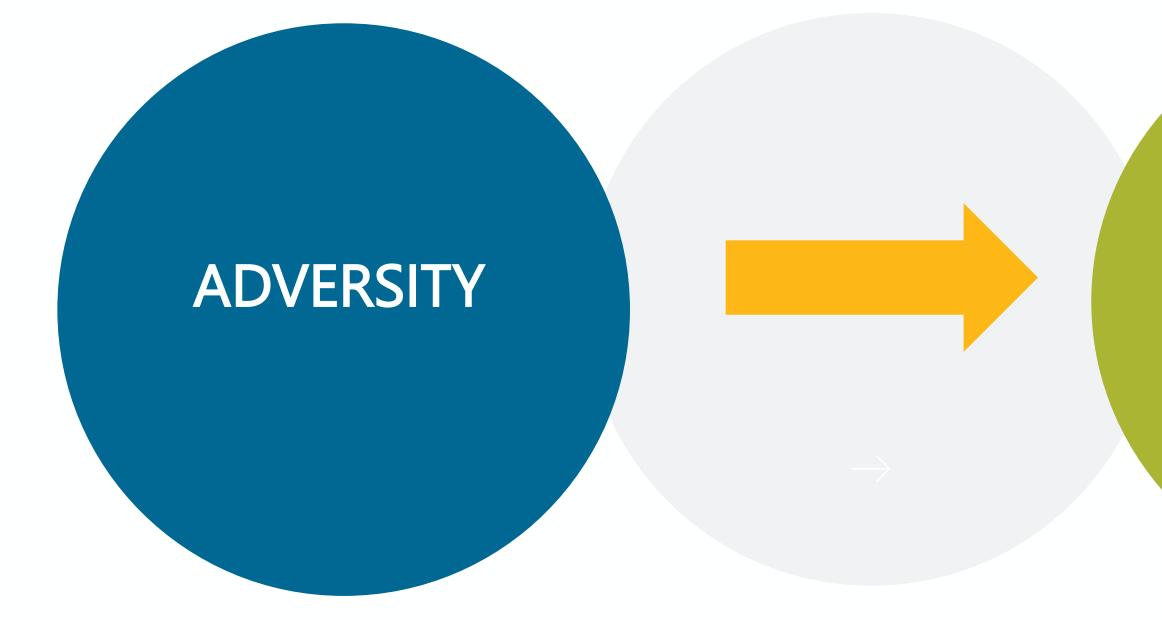
Neglect

Disasters



ABCs OF RESILIENCE

MISCONCEPTION



ABCs OF RESILIENCY

CONSEQUENCE



Example:

Jane and Daria are in Ms. Balch's 10th grade physics class. They both struggle through the class and end up with low final grades. Jane and Daria are angry, disappointed and sad



ADVERSITY





DARIA finds a tutor and commits to making a greater effort in physics going forward.

CONSEQUENCE



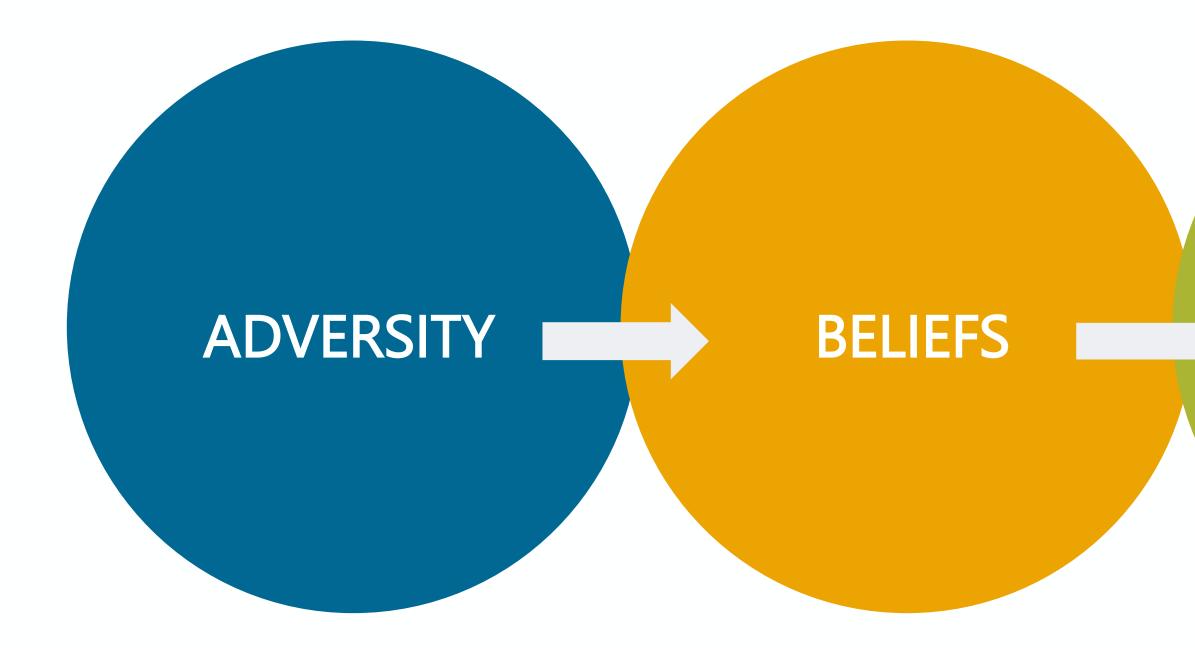
JANE grows more and more negative. She sulks and starts performing poorly in all subjects.



WHY DID THEY REACT DIFFERENTLY?

People react differently to the same exact challenges

because between A and C lies the crucial letter B.



ABCs OF RESILIENCY

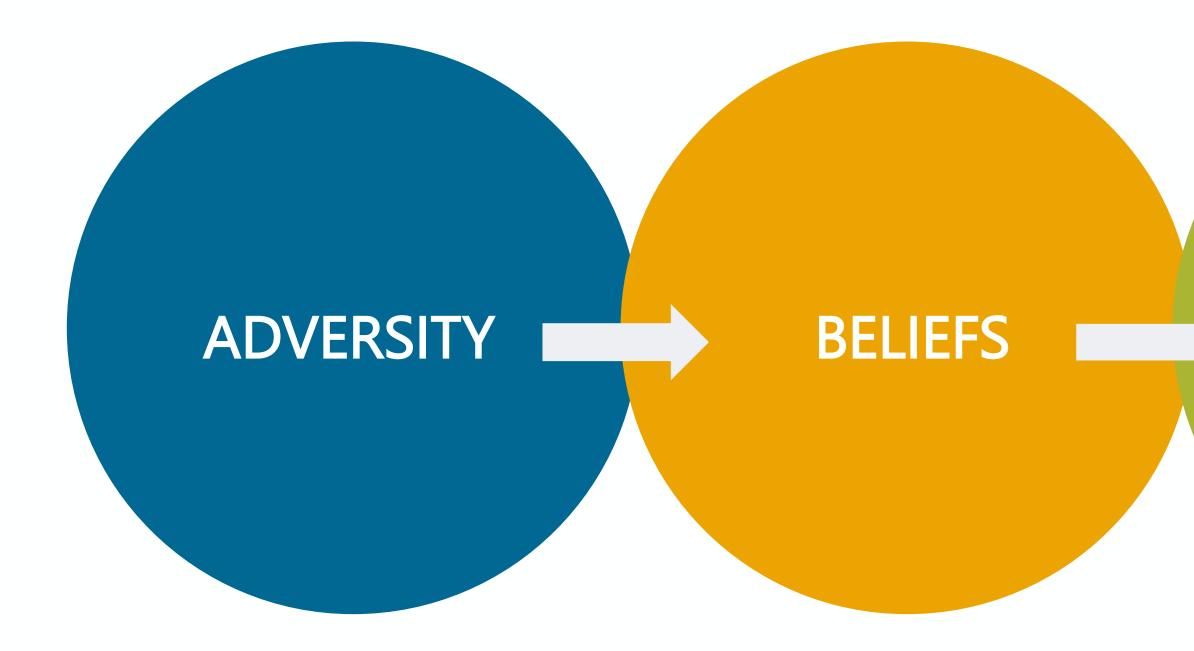
CONSEQUENCE





In times of adversity, what you believe can influence

the outcome or consequence.



ABCs OF RESILIENCY

CONSEQUENCE



COACH VS CRITIC



OUR BELIEFS ARE SHAPED BY OUR THINKING







DARIA believed she could do better. She used her coach mindset.

her critic.



JANE did not believe she could do better. She listened to



- An adult's beliefs about a child can shape their beliefs about themselves
- Youth live up or down to expectations

POWER TO INFLUENCE BELIEFS



BUILDING BLOCKS OF RESILIENCE

CONTROL

COPING

7 Cs of Resilience

CONTRIBUTION

CONFIDENCE

CONNECTION

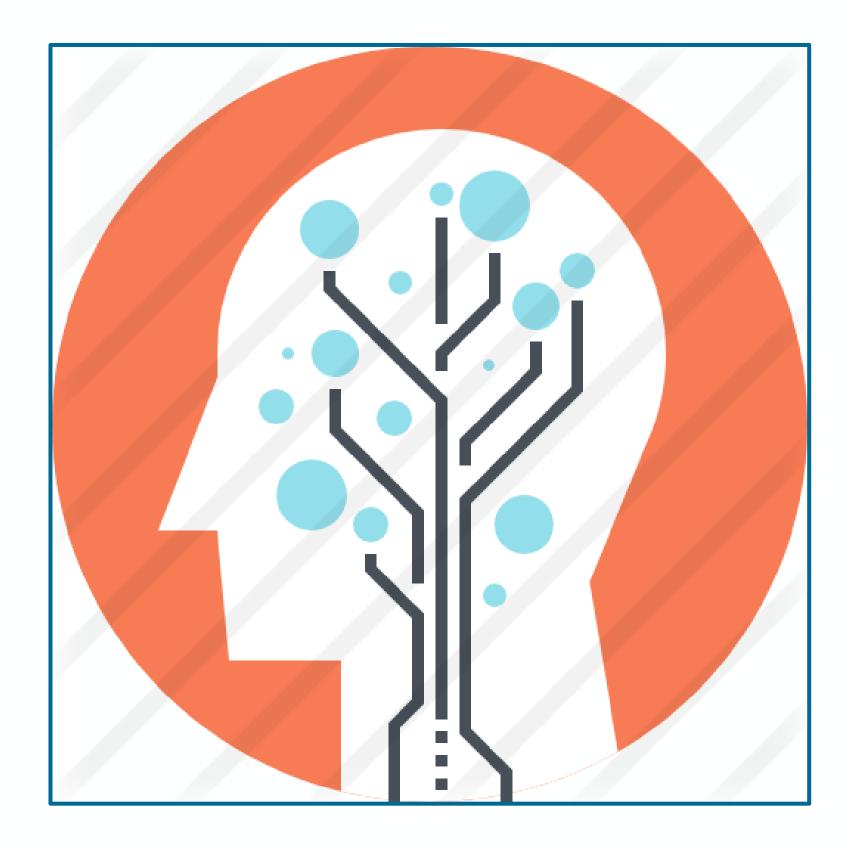


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- The ability to handle situations effectively
- Acquired through actual experience
- Derived from a wide range of achievements, from almost invisible steps to major leaps



- Help children focus on individual strengths
- Acknowledge what they do well, not just their mistakes
- Allow for safe mistakes and self-correction versus
 overprotecting them



CONTROL

COPING

7 Cs of Resilience

CONTRIBUTION

CONFIDENCE

CONNECTION



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CONFIDENCE

- Rooted in competence
- Not the same as self-esteem
- Not the result of praise or being told, "You're special"
- Solid belief in one's own abilities and willingness to try new things



CONFIDENCE

- See the best in a child so he can see the best in himself
- Praise honestly
- Treat a child as a youngster learning to navigate the world, not as an incapable child







CONTROL

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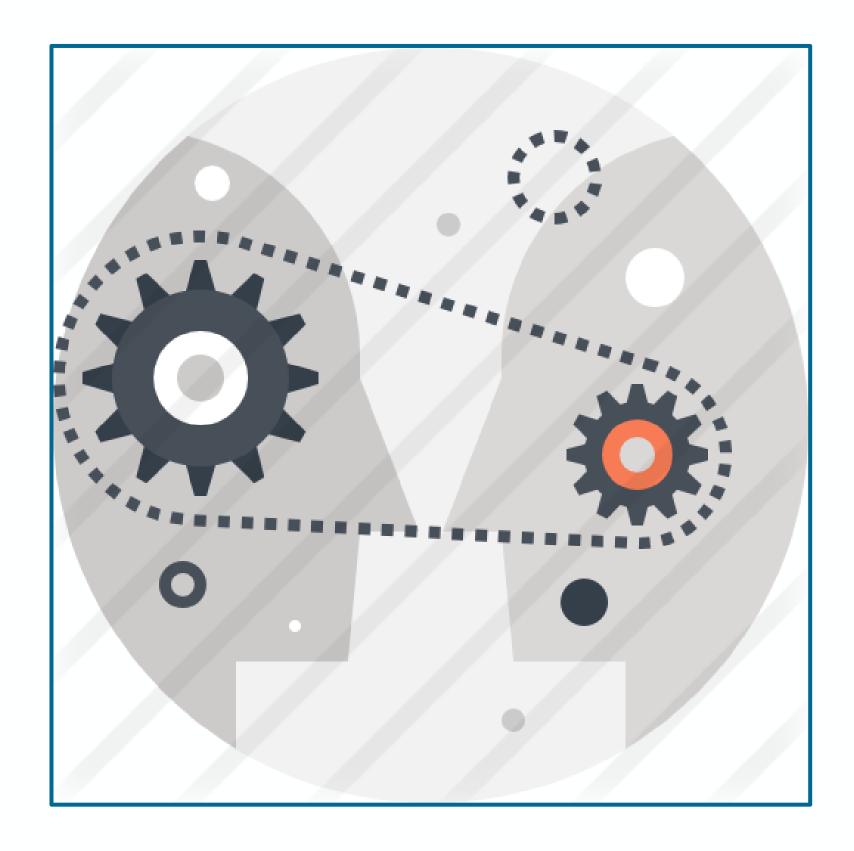


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CONNECTION

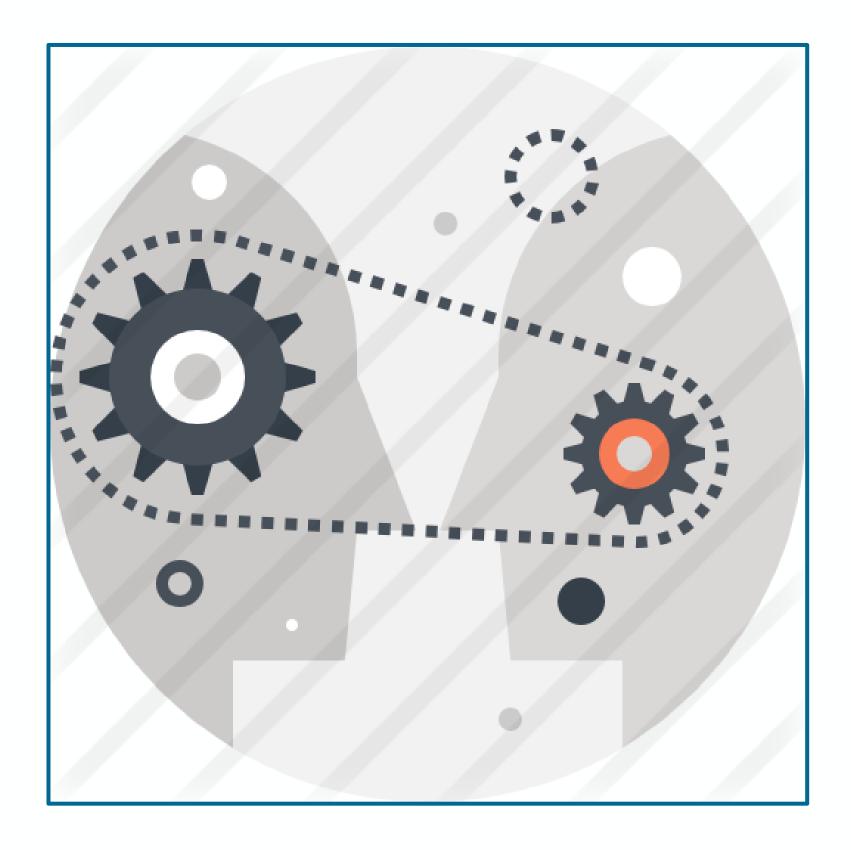
A solid sense of security that leads to strong values and helps to prevent seeking destructive alternatives



CONNECTION

Encourage connections

- Strong family ties—quantity and quality time
- Positive peer relationships
- School and community connections



CONTROL

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7 Cs of Resilience

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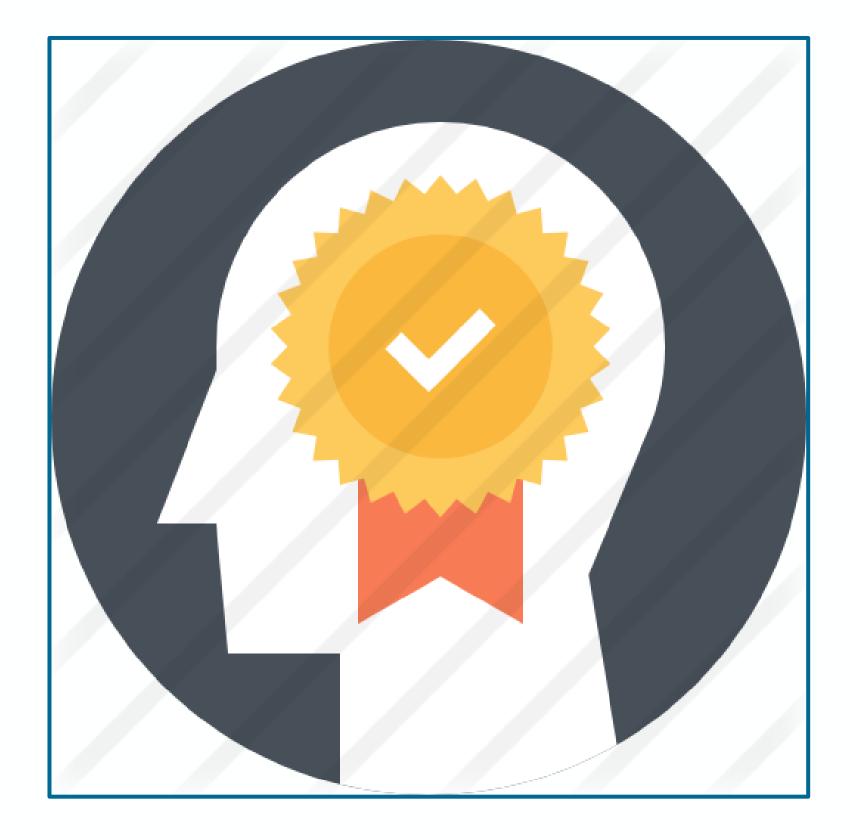


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CHARACTER

- Young people need a clear
 sense of right and wrong and
 a commitment to integrity
- Determine the character
 traits you want to build in
 your children
- Character helps youth make wise choices and become stable adults



CHARACTER

- Help children understand how their behaviors affect others
- Allow children to consider right versus wrong and look beyond immediate satisfaction or selfish needs



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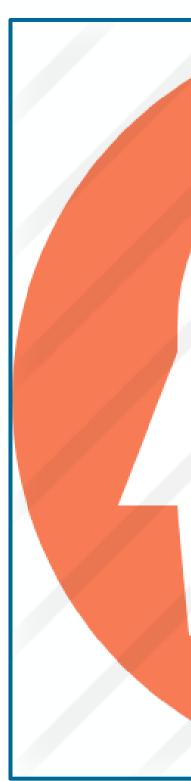
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CONTRIBUTION

Provides a sense of purpose

- Realize the world is a better place because they are in it
- Believe they have the power to positively impact their world
- Helping others makes it easier to seek help when needed



Being willing to ask for help is a big part of being resilient.

CONTRIBUTION

- Help them understand that there are many people who don't have what they need in terms of human contact, freedoms, money, and security
- Discuss how they can make positive contributions to change others' circumstances
- Teach and model generosity and serving others



CONTROL

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7 Cs of Resilience

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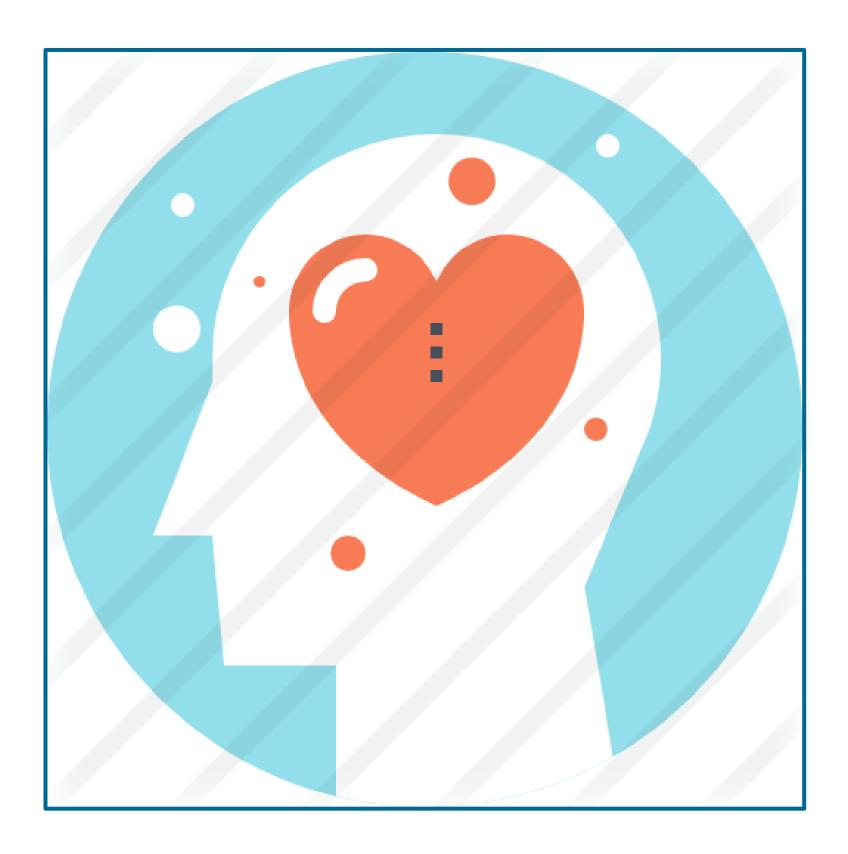


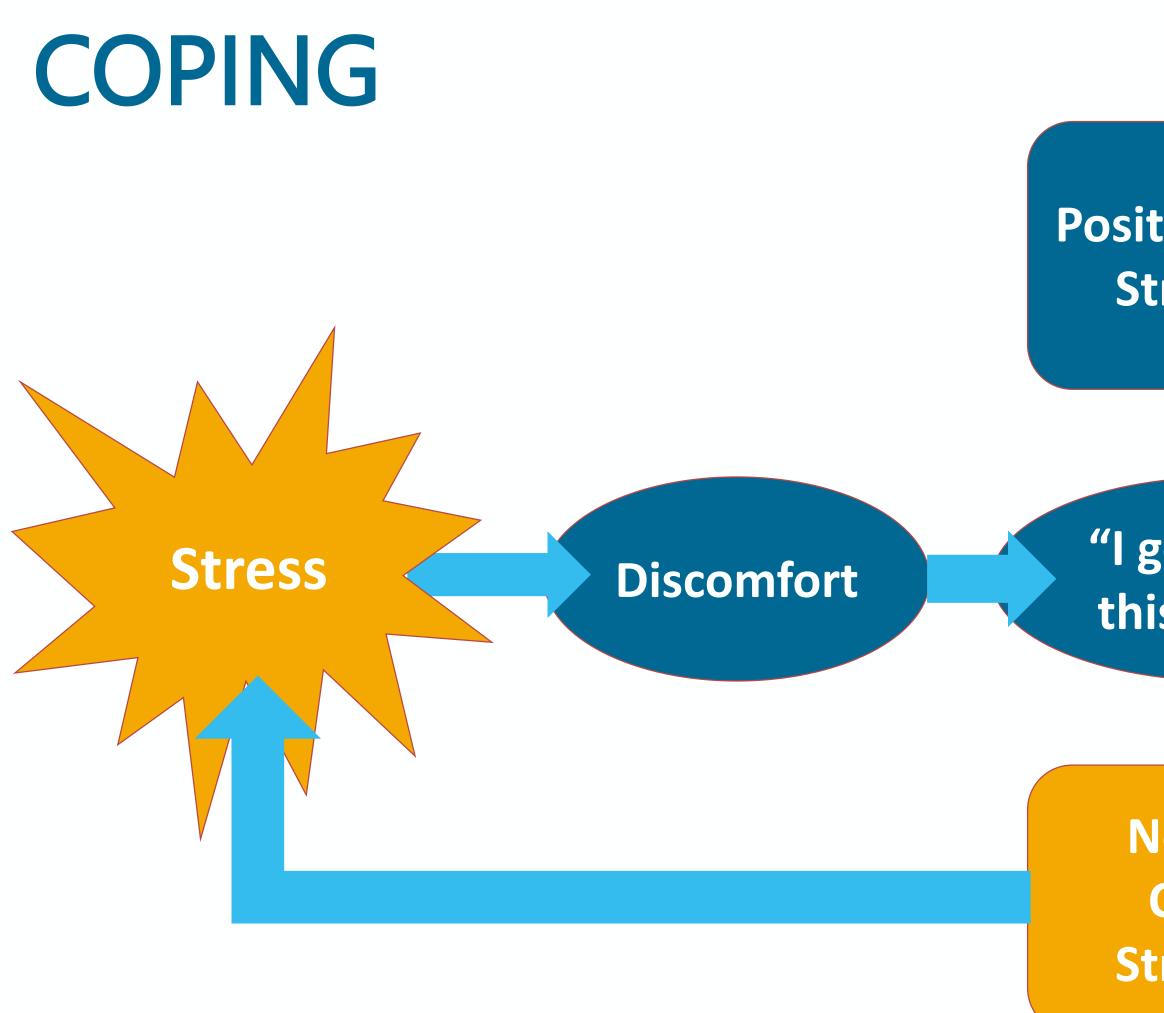
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COPING

Children with positive coping and problem-solving skills are:

- Better prepared to deal with life's challenges
- Less likely to turn to unhealthy behaviors when stressed





7 Cs OF RESILIENCE

Positive Coping Strategies

Relief

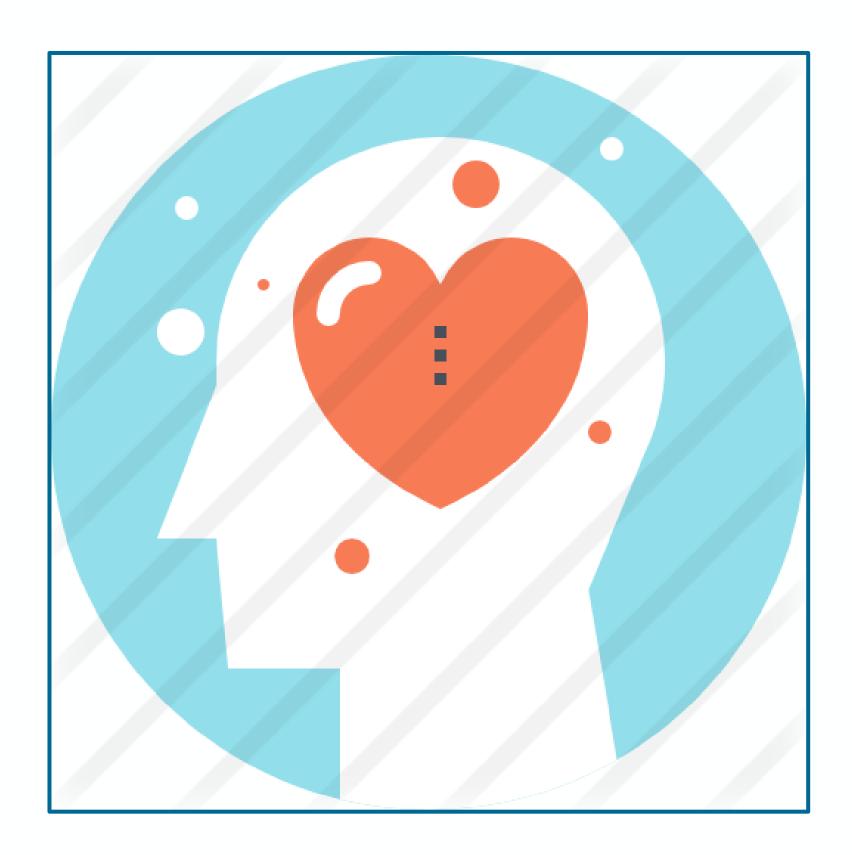
"I gotta stop this stress."

Negative Coping **Strategies**



COPING

- Help children put the situation into perspective
- Teach healthy coping skills
- Model positive coping strategies consistently



CONTROL

COPING

7 Cs of Resilience

CONTRIBUTION

CONFIDENCE

CONNECTION



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CONTROL

When children realize they have the power to control the outcomes of their decisions and actions, they are more likely to believe in their ability to bounce back.



7 Cs OF RESILIENCE

CONTROL

- Help children trust their own decision-making skills.
- Don't hand out privileges lightly;
 freedoms should be earned
 through responsible actions.
- Know when to take control.



7 Cs OF RESILIENCE

COMPETENCE

CONTROL

COPING

7 Cs of Resilience

CONTRIBUTION

CONFIDENCE

CONNECTION



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- Notice and reinforce your child's COMPETENCE.
- Build CONFIDENCE in your child's competence.
- Foster the vital CONNECTION between adult and child.
- **Develop CHARACTER and a sense of CONTRIBUTION.**
- Develop those critical COPING strategies that will help your child thrive even through difficult times.
- Help your child gain CONTROL by learning that the privileges they earn are linked to the responsibility they demonstrate.

7 Cs OF RESILIENCE



"Parents are critical to the puzzle's completion. Boundaries and monitoring create those borders teens can push against as they work on the harder inner pieces on their own.

When we serve as healthy role models we offer our children a reliable picture on the cover. Adolescents with appropriate boundaries and trustworth role models can navigate the rest on their own."

– Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg

7 Cs OF RESILIENCE





THE HELICOPTER PARENT

- Takes too much responsibility for child's experiences
- Does not allow for natural exploration and growth
- Overprotects and
 - over-perfects



THE HELICOPTER PARENT

"I challenge parents to think about how much our perceptions of our kids as dependent and needy fuel the reality of their dependence and helplessness."

-Jessica Lahey *The Gift of Failure*



THE LIGHTHOUSE PARENT

- Sets the right kind of high expectations
- Protective, not overprotective
- Nurtures coping skills



THE LIGHTHOUSE PARENT

"We should be like lighthouses for our children. Stable beacons of light on the shoreline...

We should look down at the rocks and make sure they do not crash against them. We should look into the water and prepare them to ride the waves, and we should trust in their capacity to learn to do so."

– Dr. Kenneth Ginsburg





TEACHING LIFE SKILLS

BUILDING LIFE SKILLS AT ANY AGE

- 2 to 3: Small chores and basic grooming
- 4 to 5: Important names and numbers
- 6 to 7: Basic cooking techniques
- 8 to 9: Pride in personal belongings
- 10 to 13: Gaining independence
- 14 to 18: More advanced skills are learned
- YOUNG ADULTS: Preparing to live on his/her own







4-STEP STRATEGY

- I do it
- We do it
- I watch
- You do it

TEACHING LIFE SKILLS

"It's your reaction to adversity, not adversity itself, that determines how your life's story will develop."

-Dieter F. Uchtdorf *How to Inspire Resilience with Words*

ad times don't last. Things get better.

ther people can only help if you share with them.

nhelpful thinking only makes you feel worse.

obody is perfect, not you, your friends, or your family.

atastrophizing makes things worse. Don't believe the worst interpretation of events.

verybody suffers. Everyone feels pain and experiences setbacks. They are a normal part of life.

lame fairly. Negative events are often a combination of things you did, things others did and plain bad luck.

B

ccept what you can't change and try to change what you can...

oncentrate on the good things in life, no matter how small.

eep things in perspective. Even the worst time is just one moment.



When you need answers, support and resources for mental health

FORTEXAS www.HereForTexas.com



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FOUNDATION





www.HereForTexas.com

Insights Collaborative Therapy Group

Private, for profit | Group Practice

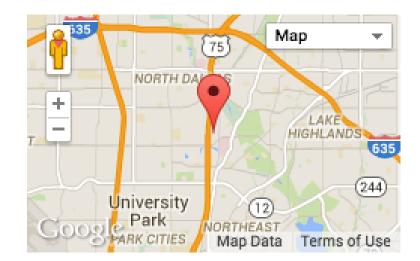
Learning, growing and changing don't have to be scary, overwhelming or faced alone. Our counseling services include individual, couples, family, child and marriage therapy. Our goal is to help our clients discover new ways of looking at old issues and provide them with the tools that they need to move forward in life. Whether you are struggling with personal or relationship problems, the Insights Therapy Team will help you develop the necessary skills to navigate tough times and challenging situations.

Licenses and Accreditations

- Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor (LCDC)
- · Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)
- Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
- Psychiatrist
- Licensed Psychologist

Areas of Focus

- ADD / ADHD / Behavioral Disorders
- Addictive Disorders
- Process Addiction
- Substance use disorders
- Adjustment Disorder
- Adoption Issues
- Aggression / Impulse Control Disorders
- Anxiety Disorders
- Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- Social Phobias
- Co-occurring disorders (like mental illness and substance) use disorder)
- Divorce/Blended Families
- Dual Diagnosis (developmental disorder and mental illness)
- Domestic Violence
- Eating Disorders
- Anorexia
- Bulimia
- · Binge eating disorder
- Compulsive overeating disorder



www.insightstherapy.com

5445 La. Sierra Dr., Suite 204 Dallas, TX 75231 214-706-0508 Primary Email: thinktank@insightstherapy.com 6

Appointments available

Office

Hours

- Monday: 09:00 am to 07:00 pm
- Tuesday: 09:00 am to 07:00 pm
- Wednesday: 09:00 am to 07:00 pm
- Thursday: 09:00 am to 07:00 pm
- Friday: 09:00 am to 05:00 pm
- Saturday: 09:00 am to 12:00 pm

Payment Options

Self Pay

Methods of Payment Accepted

- Cash
- Check
- Credit Card
- Health Savings Account

Languages Spoken

English

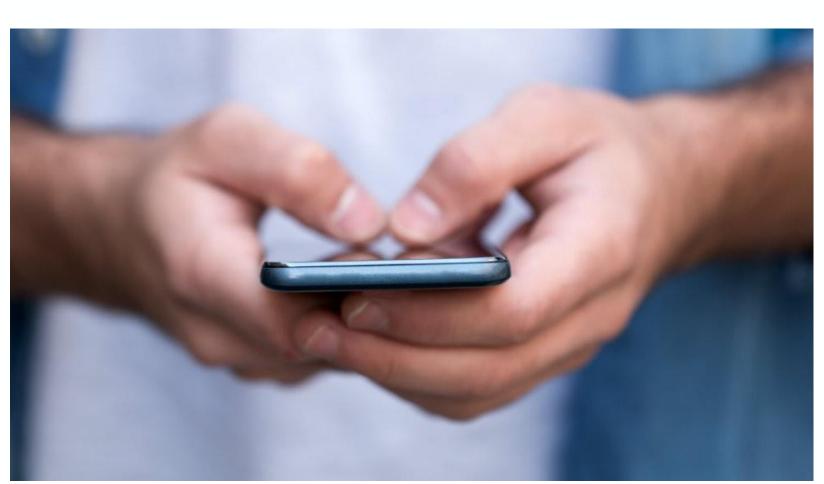
972.525.8181 FORTEXAS Mental Health Navigation Line

When you need answers, support and resources for mental health

CRISIS TEXT LINE

Text HELLO to 741741

A free, nationwide, 24/7 text line for people in crisis



741741

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)

- Save this number in your cell phone
- Call for yourself or someone else
- Free, confidential, available 24/7

QUESTIONS?

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