## CONFLICT RESOLUTION



## To Provide An Overview Of What Conflict Is And To Teach Methods To Effectively Resolve Its Challenges

#### **OBJECTIVES**

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of conflict. Will discuss conflict between people. Will learn conflict Management Styles. Will learn Active/Effective Listening Skills. Will practice and process learned materials.

## **GROUP QUESTION**

What Is Conflict?

- It can be defined as an opposition to something. Such as a disagreement between two people, genders, culture, nations etc...
- It can also be defined as:

a mental struggle resulting from incompatible or opposing needs, drives, wishes, or external demands **Do You Agree With This Statement**?

## CONFLICT OFTEN ARISES OUT OF THE COLLISION OF PASSIONATE BELIEFS AND UNMET EXPECTATIONS...

#### **CONFLICT IS ALSO..**

An opportunity for positive change/growth.

- A learning opportunity.
- A chance to use one's Emotional Intelligence

(E.I. - the ability to manage one's emotions and to make the best possible use of them in any situation)



You don't have to attend every fight you're invited to...

Is there an advantage and disadvantage to Conflict? Group Activity... Let's see...

## WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF CONFLICT?

#### **Advantages**

#### Disadvantages

Clarity-get your point across

Get Your Way

Heard/Understood

Control/Power/Influence/Fear

Respect/Empowerment

Recognition

Reduces Communication, People Shut down

People Won't Like You Anymore

You Could Be The Winner!

Hurt Feelings/Resentment

**Effects Reputation** 

Promotes Gossip/Rumors

People Remember The Worst Behaviors

#### **GROUP ACTIVITY**

You have 5 minutes to think about and talk to your group about a conflict causing event. It could be your experience or that of a friend or family member.

What was the outcome?

Elect a person with the most interesting experience to tell the room. Please remember to keep the story BRIEF...



#### Conflict is natural, normal and when reflected upon with Emotional Intelligence, extremely helpful for personal growth.

#### PEOPLE IN CONFLICT CAN...

- **Demoralize & frustrates individuals/Selves/Others**
- Create poor work/living environments
- **Could interfere with recovery**
- Decrease productivity, idea sharing, creativeness, individualism & communication
- Increase bad decision making
- **Ostracize self or others**
- Cause good people to leave, problem people to worsen
- **Increase unhealthy stress**
- Increase fear, anger and guilt

## What Makes People Desire Conflict?



## THE HIT LIST

- Think about 2 or 3 people with whom you find it difficult to communicate or tolerate...
  - What behaviors do they have that cause problems for you?
  - How do you respond to the behavior? (Action Plan)
  - What would your rate the result of your efforts thus far?

#### ASK YOURSELF HOW DID THESE PEOPLE LEARN HOW TO PUSH YOUR BUTTONS?



Answer: They Simply Watched How <u>You</u> Responded To Their Behavior - And They've Been Controlling Your Responses Ever Since!

#### THE CYCLE OF CONFLICT CAN START AND END INSIDE YOU!

#### **Point of Calm**

Biological vs E.I. Response

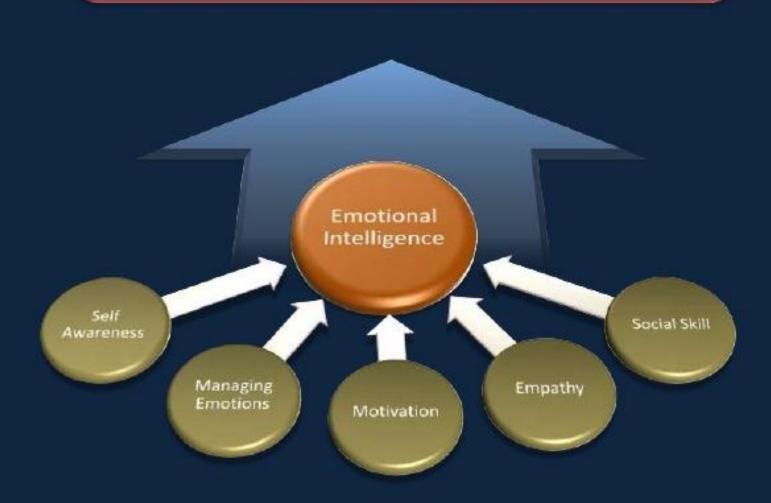
Message

# Perception of Interpretation

Moment of Instability

## Can you Avoid CONFLICT?

#### E.I. =Controlling Your Feelings



## Methods Of Resolving Conflict

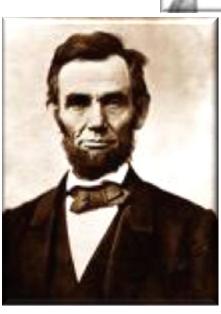


## **TACT AND SKILL**

"It's hard to hate a person When you understand their History" **D. Eisenhower** 



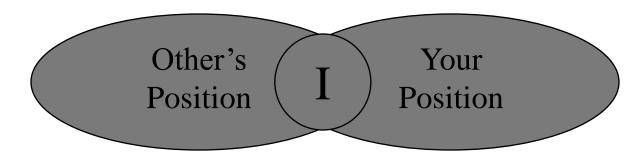






#### **COMMUNICATION IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

- Seek first to understand.
- Identify the intersection.



- Seek to be understood.
- Mutually generate options and resolutions.

The Key To Internal Conflict: Ask Yourself "Am I Taking This Too Personally?"- Why?

#### CONFLICT RESOLUTION DEFINITION

Conflict resolution is a process to assist parties in communicating their issues and exploring solutions.

In the duality of the human mind, one might recognize that true conflict resolution is based on honest self-re-evaluation and the willingness to provide oneself with kindness and acceptance

#### **CONFLICT MANAGEMENT STYLES WITH OTHERS**

Avoidance – "Conflict"? What Conflict?

Accommodation - "Whatever you want is fine with me."

Competition – "My way or the highway."

Compromise – "Let's split the difference."

Collaboration – "How can we solve this problem?"

#### WHAT ARE THE PROS OF THESE STYLES: IN GROUPS

Avoidance: Avoids micromanaging, big brothering. Lets people handle their own conflicts. Lets the team live another day without challenging the norms that they are setting.

Accommodation: Lets the person recognize their importance, shows flexibility, calms things down.

**Competition: When healthy its a great motivator** 

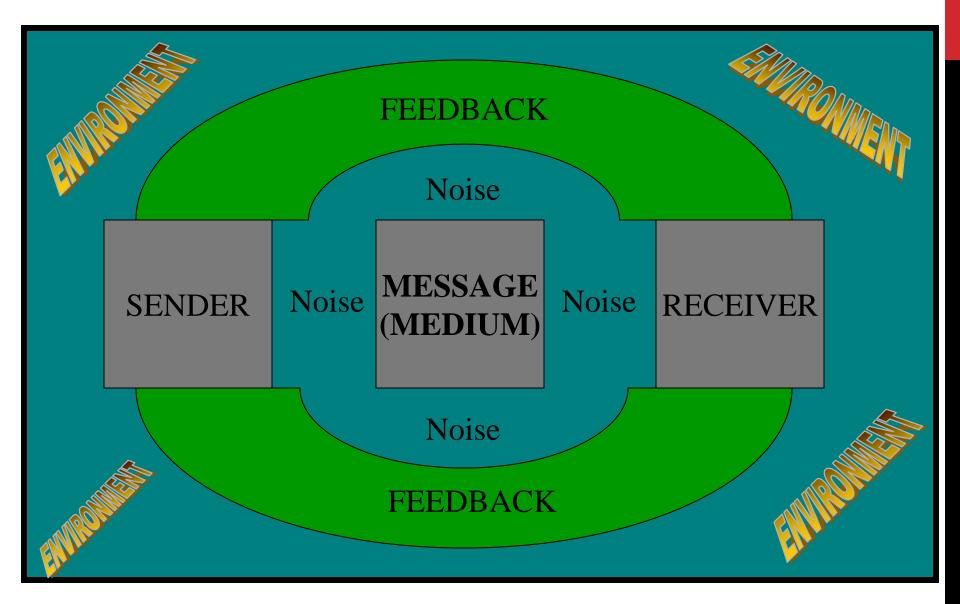
Compromise: All's fair, helps people to communicate and come to a decision fairly.

Collaboration: Working together for a successful conclusion

#### **CONS OF THESE STYLES:**

- Avoidance: people get angry with you. Feels that nothing gets addressed/done.
- Accommodation: Makes the behavior seem as if its ok. People take advantage of this Makes manager appear weak
- Competition: could hurt feelings keep things brewing, creates resentment, could reduce effectiveness/productivity
- Compromise: People may not want to agree, could take time and appear that nothing being done.
- Collaboration: Working together might reduce confidentiality and the principal individuals expectations.

#### **OUR COMMUNICATION MODEL**



## EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

**Active Listening** 

**Open – ended questions** 

Rephrase

Reflect

Summarize

Non-judgmental

Check body language

**Use "I" Statements** 



## SEARCH FOR THE HIDDEN MEANING

#### Find your third voice and search for the following:

- Issues What is the true conflict?
- Personalities Are differences between your personalities contributing to the conflict?
- Interests What do you really want?, What does getting what you want have to do with the conflict?

#### **RESOLVING CONFLICT**

- Have a true desire to resolve the conflict
- The challenge is not the conflict but the way in which you go about resolving it.
- Identify the true problem
- Remember to focus on the problem not the person.
- Share to problem solving process and be accepting of the best information regardless whom might have shared it.



- Learned the advantages and disadvantages of conflict
- **Discussed conflict between people**
- Learned conflict Management Styles
- Learned Active/Effective Listening Skills
- **Discussed collaborative Problem Solving Tools**
- **Practiced and processed learned materials**

# Thank-you!

Upon completion of this curriculum, please send your name and that of your supervisor to the e-mail box: <u>dsamhpromise@state.de.us</u> as proof of your task completion.

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