NSSI-Non-Suicidal SELF INJURY: There is Hope



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Self-Injury

The deliberate mutilation of the body or a body part, not with the intent to commit suicide but as a way of managing emotions that seem too painful for words to express.

Youth who self injure share similar experiences

- Physical, emotional, or sexual abuse
- Parental (caregiver) alcoholism or other drug abuse
- Neglect or abandonment by a parent (caregiver)
- Loss of a parent (caregiver) through death or divorce
- Tense or abusive relationship between parents (caregivers)
- Disconnnection in meaningful communication

Personality traits that those who self injure commonly share

- Constant aim for perfection
- Dislike of one's body
- Frequent mood swings
- *Inability to cope with strong emotions
- *Inability to release or express emotions to others

Episodes of self injury result from varied emotions such as:

Anger Rejection Sadness Failure Fear Loss or abandonment Helplessness Shame Anxiety

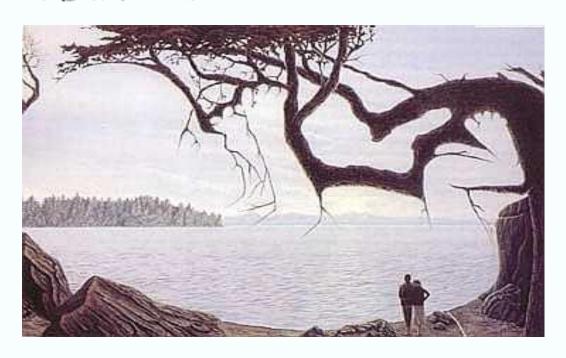


The Power of Interpretation:

A Strategy



Peaceful lake scene or a Baby in a tree?

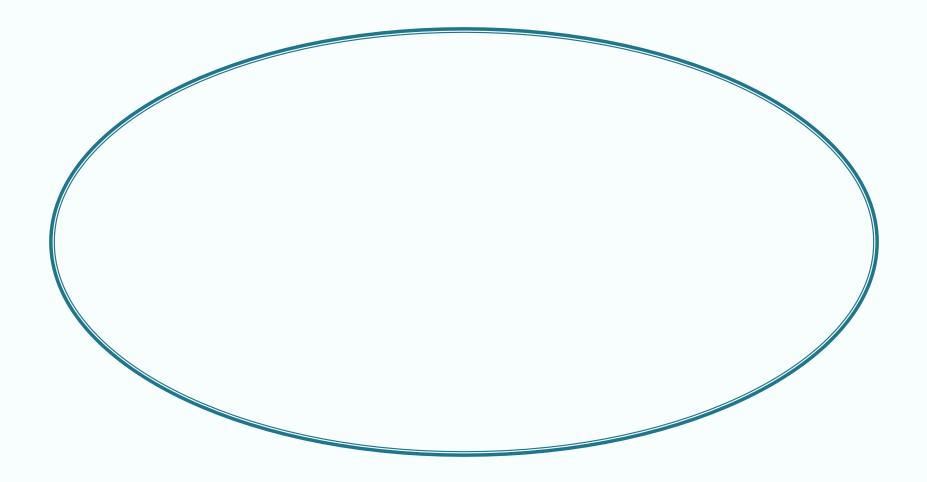




Face or Written Word?



Me as Author...A Responsibility Context



How have I contributed to this context...what has helped and what has not helped in my thoughts, interpretations emotions and actions

The experience of "Responsible"

"I am the Author of my life"

- Free
- Powerful
- Open
- Connected

- Worthy
- Energized
- Light
- Possibility

It's about choice!

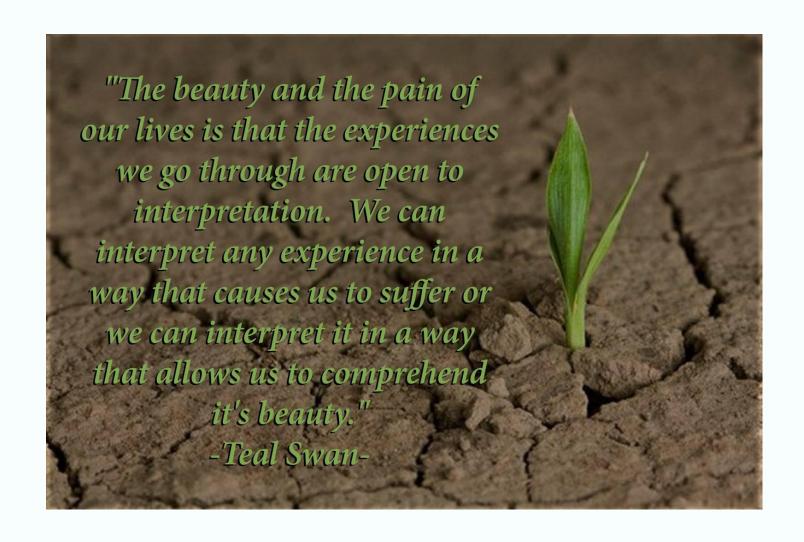
It's about choosing how you relate to your experiences.

How you choose to interpret those experiences.

How you choose to respond rather then react

Being aware and intentional about what you contribute to your life and those around you.

Make choices that support your goals!



Why Do People Engage in Self-Inflicted Violence?

Relief From Feelings

A Method of Coping

Stopping, Inducing, or Preventing Dissociation

Physically Expressing Pain

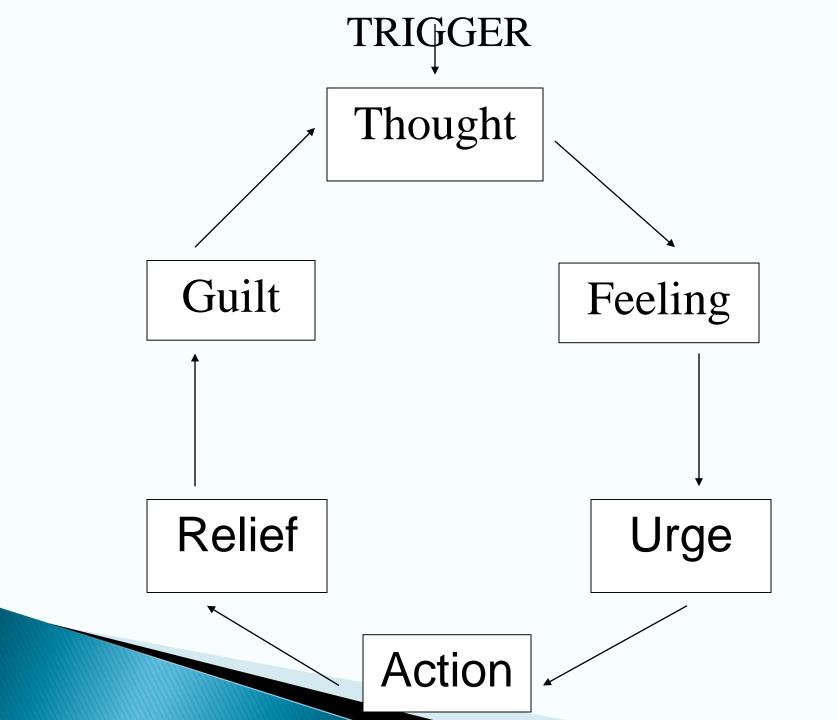
Communication

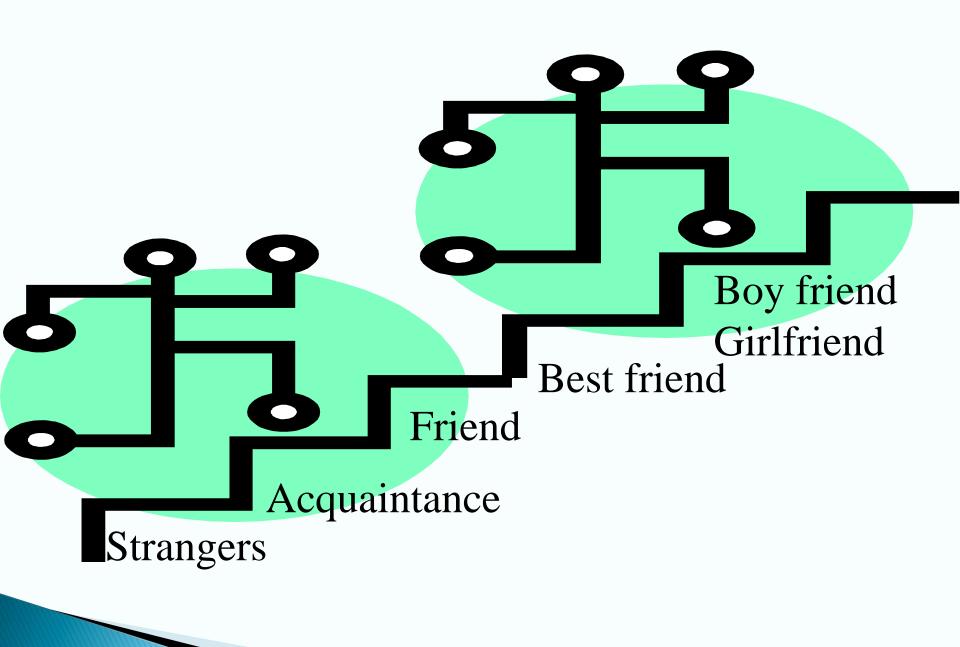
Self-Nurturing

Self-Punishment

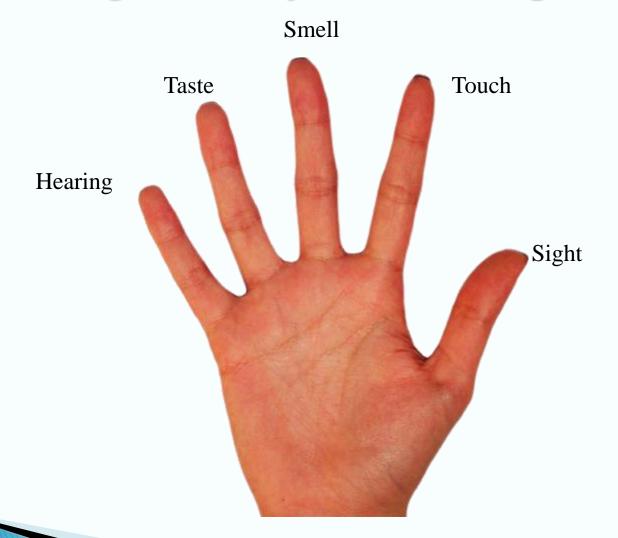
Re-Enacting Previous Abuse

Establishing Control





Healing Sensory Grounding Activity



COMFORT KIT

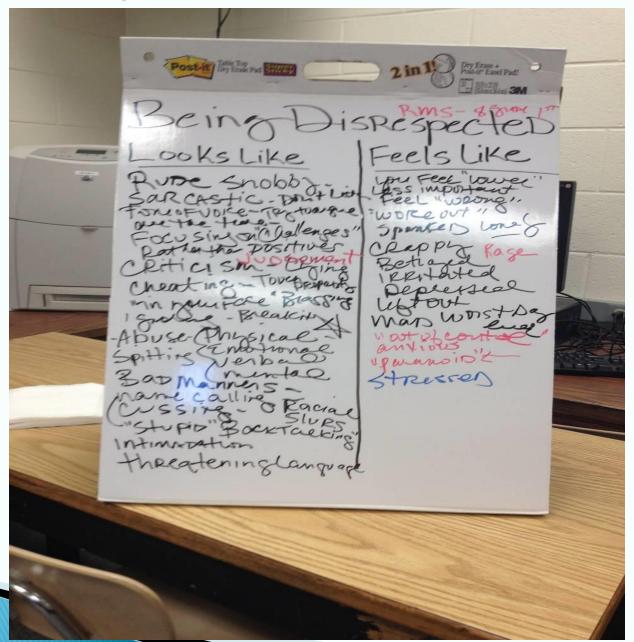


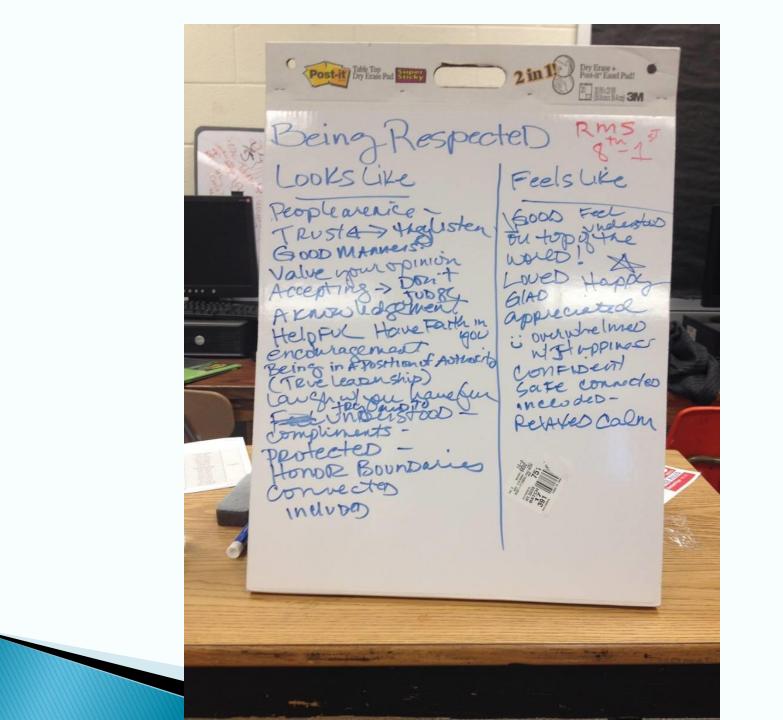
- Small journal
 - Hand lotion
- Names of people you can call
 - Sand timer/any timer
- ▶ An object representing personal strength

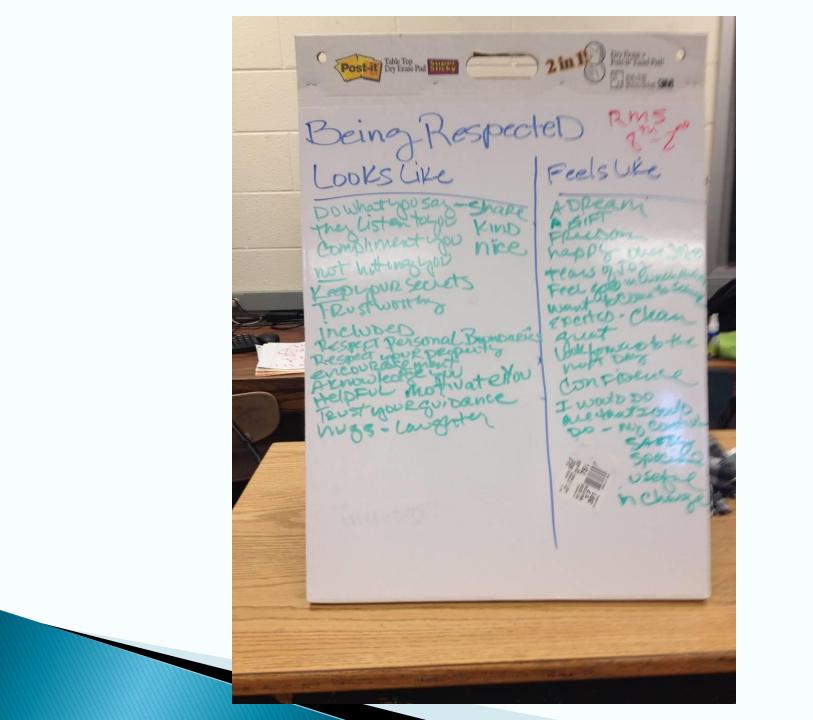
Looks Like/Feels Like:

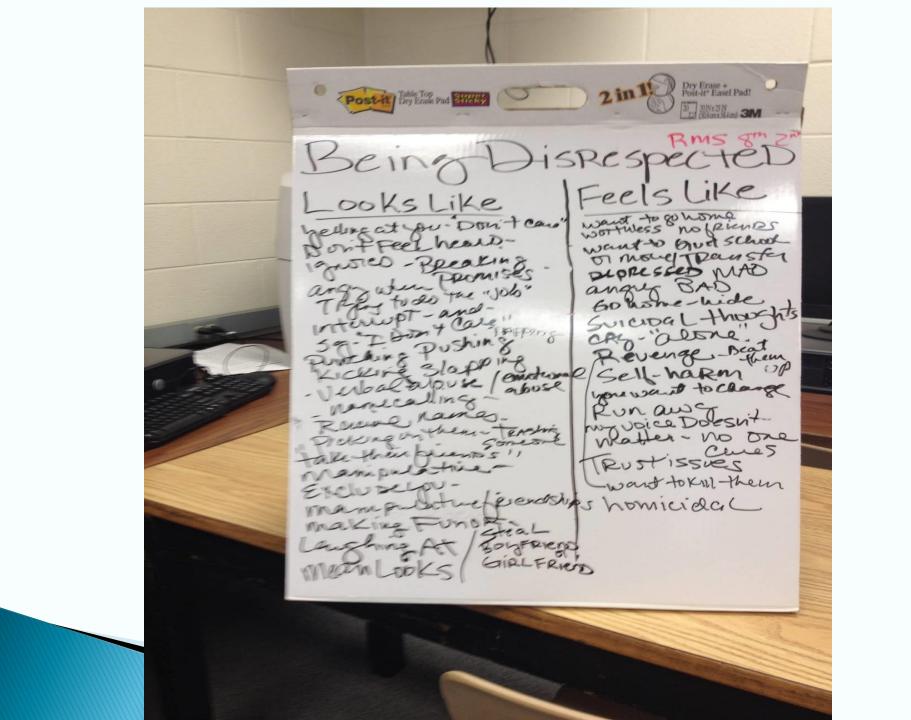
The Experience

Respect: The Experience









It begins with a simple question....

How Will Be a Difference Today?



"Be the change you wish to see in the world" ~ Gandhi