# Behavioral Considerations: Overview

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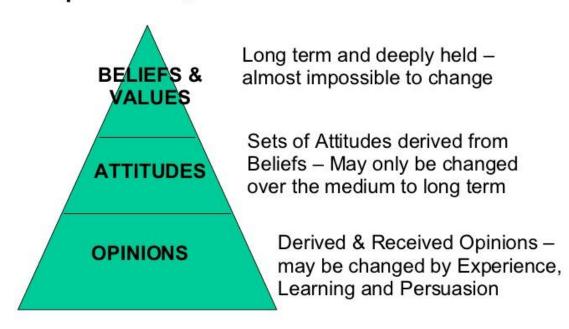




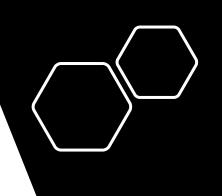
WHO VIEWS IT AS A PROBLEM BEHAVIOR?

## REACTING AND RESPONDING TO BEHAVIOR: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION BASED ON?

#### Opinions, Attitudes and Beliefs



Values	Attitude
Values represent judgment of what ought to be. This judgment is basic to respond in a given way.	Attitudes represent tendency to respond according to your like or dislike.
A value represents single belief that guides actions and judgment for objects and situations.	An attitude represents several beliefs focused on a specific object or situation.
Values are derived from social and cultural mores.	Attitudes are derived from personal experiences.



#### Situation

People learn to recognize that their thoughts are triggered by a person, place, or thing



#### Consequences

People weigh negative and positive consequences before taking action and evaluate results for future behavior



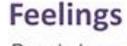
#### **Thoughts**

People learn to take time to pause, reflect, and recast thoughts

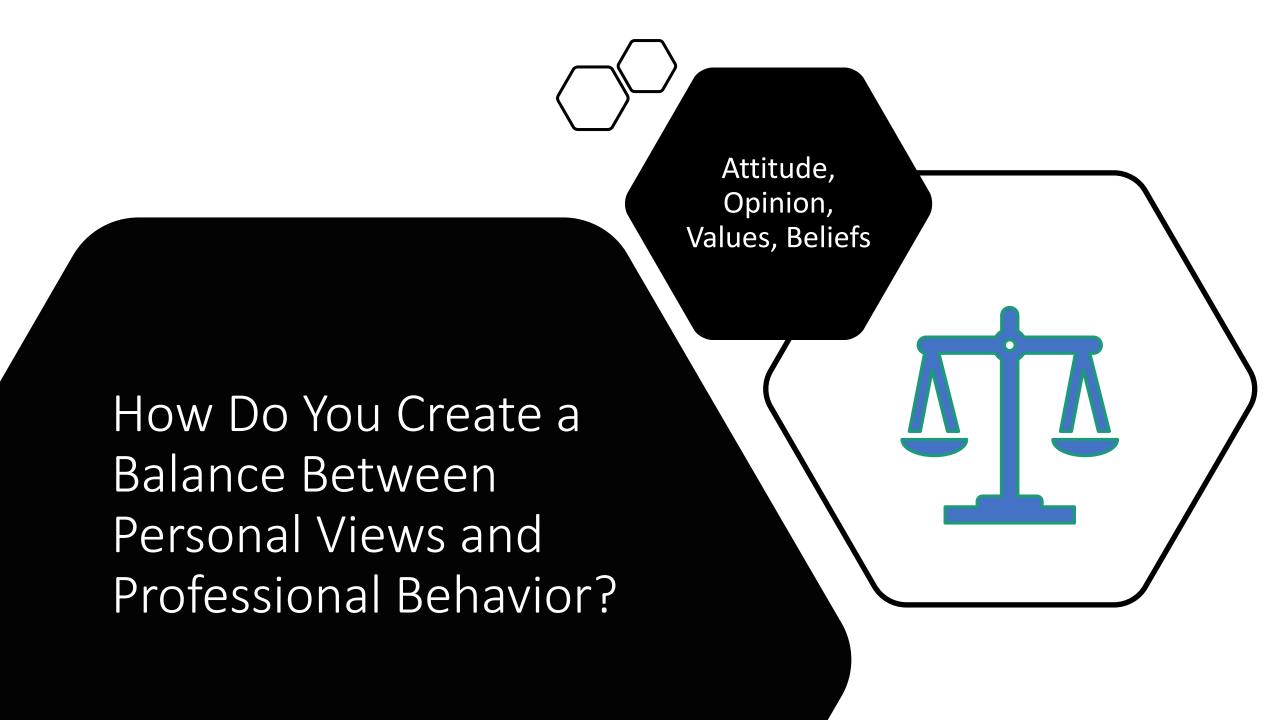


#### **Behavior**

People make a choice about a situation based on their thoughts and feelings

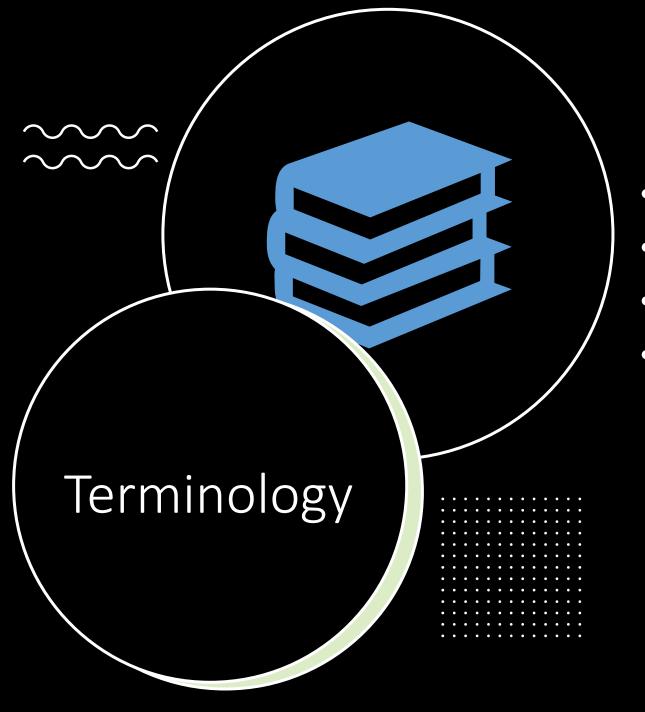


People learn to identify and deal with uncomfortable emotions and see their behavior as a choice



IDENTIFY AND DEFINE THE BEHAVIOR





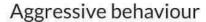
- Prosocial Behavior
- Negative States of Behavior
- Assessment
- Behavior Management



### Prosocial behavior

- This is a broad term used to identify the behaviors people use to interact with others.
- Behaviors include giving help and comfort to others, particularly friends.
- Prosocial skills help individuals to show empathy and get along with others in positive ways.
- Helping, Sharing, and Comforting

#### What We See



Fighting

Kicking

Screaming

Throwing

I need a break

I need love

I'm overwhelmed

I need to connect with you and this works

I'm not bad, I'm communicating

I'm tired

I want that toy

You aren't understanding me

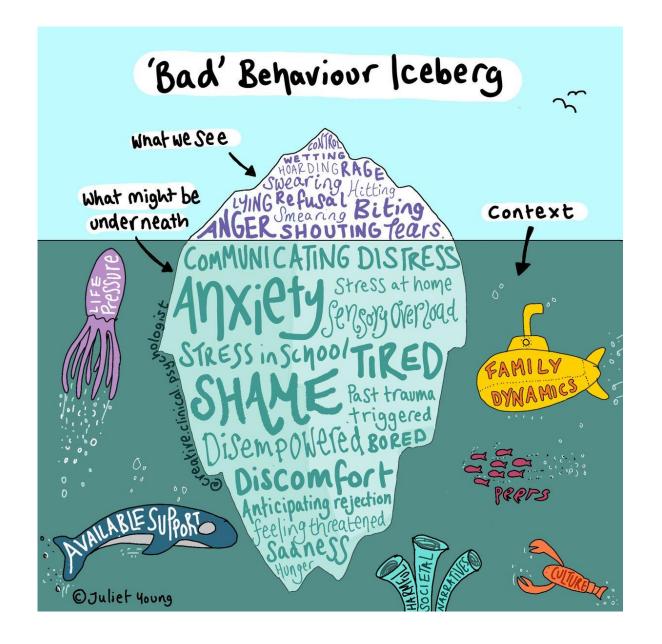
I need to release my emotions and this is the way I know how

I'm hungry

What We Don't See

@ourmamavillage

# Other things to consider



#### ESCAPE/AVOIDANCE

Four functions of behavior

#### **SEEKING ATTENTION**

ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A DESIRED ITEM/ACTIVITY

SENSORY STIMULATION

#### Ranking the Severity/The 5 Ds of behavior

Dangerous

Destructive

Disgusting

Disruptive

Developmentally inappropriate



FREQUENCY OF THE BEHAVIOR: Frequency data is an important tool in determining when or if to address the behavior.

#### Behavior/Behavior Management

- Everything people say or do
- How people negotiate their way through life
- Behavior is a form of communication
- There is always a reason for problem behaviors
- There can be many reasons behind one specific behavior
- Caregivers can learn to understand and interpret challenging behaviors
- Challenging behavior can be reduced with support, not punishment

Traditional behavior management vs Positive behavior supports

Traditional behavior management

Views individuals as "the problem"

Attempts to "fix" individual

Extinguishes the behavior

Sanctions aversive

Takes days/weeks to fix a single behavior

Implemented by a behavioral specialist

Often in atypical settings

Often resorted to when systems are inflexible

### DISCIPLINE: CONSIDERATIONS



Discipline vs
 Punishment

#### DISCIPLINE:

Meant to guide and help children, gives children the tools of self regulation. It builds self esteem, respects, heals, encourages, emotionally supports and facilitates trust.

#### PUNISHMENT:

Adult Oriented, Imposes Power and Control, Lowers self esteem, Humiliates, Hurts (physically &/or emotionally), Angers, Embarrasses, Discourages, Emotionally abandons, Frustrates

Definitions:
(Applies to individuals of all ages not just children)

#### **Positive Reinforcement**

Positive behavior followed by positive consequences (Manager praises the employee)

#### **Negative Reinforcement**

Positive behavior followed by removal of negative consequences (Manager stops nagging the employee)

#### **Punishment**

Negative behavior followed by negative consequences (Manager demotes the employee)

#### Extinction

Negative behavior followed by removal of positive consequences (Manager ignores the behavior) Perspective: (again, think of all ages)

Thinking of your child as behaving badly disposes you to think of punishment.

Thinking of your child as struggling to handle something difficult encourages you to help them through their distress

Something to Consider: People Do Well If They Can

#### **Kids Do Well If They Can**

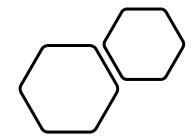
The single most important thing a care-giver can do to help a behaviourally challenging child is to be the person who, at long last, identifies the lagging skills and unsolved problems that have been contributing to challenging episodes.

- Dr Ross W Greene



#### Stages of Learning

- Acquisition new skill or concept
- Fluency the ability to immediately use the skill or concept without a prompt
- Maintenance continuing to use the skill or concept over time
- Generalization applying the skill or concept to new situations, people, activities, ideas, and settings



### Positive Behavioral Support strategies

Alter	Alter the Environment (include/consider client needs, room arrangement, room traffic patterns)
Increase	Increase Predictability and Scheduling (schedules, teach/support planned/unplanned change, transitions)
Increase	Increase choice making
Make	Make Curricular adaptations
Appreciate	Appreciate Positive Behaviors
Teach	Teach Replacement Skills

# PBS four main steps

- Identifying the purpose of the challenging behavior-WHY ARE THEY DOING THAT? (Functional assessment of behavior; Frequency, intensity, and duration)
- Teaching appropriate alternative responses that serve the same purpose as the challenging behavior
- Consistently rewarding positive behaviors and minimizing the rewards for challenging behavior- "Catch them being good"
- Minimizing the physiological, environmental, and curricular factors that trigger challenging behaviors.

#### Skill vs. Performance Deficits

Skill: student doesn't know how





Performance: student knows how but doesn't do it







# Behavior sample variables checklist

#### Physiological Factors

- Sickness/Allergies
- Medication/Side effects
- Fatigue
- Hunger/Thirst/diet
- Arousal (e.g., missed bus, fight)
- Sleep patterns
- Sensory sensitivities (e.g., noise, odors, colors)

# Continued variables

#### Curriculum and Instruction

- Few opportunities to make choices
- Schedule unpredictability
- Inadequate assistance
- Unclear activity directions
- Lack of communication opportunities
- Difficult activity
- Activity perceived as too long, irrelevant, or useless
- Staffing support

## Variables continued

#### Classroom Environment

- High noise levels
- Uncomfortable temperature
- Over or under stimulation
- Poor seating arrangement
- Frequent disruptions

\*apply to all ages/stages/ people



### Just a couple of resources

- Stormont, M., Lewis, T.J., Beckner, R., & Johnson, N.W. (2008). *Implementing Positive Behavior Support Systems in Early Childhood and Elementary Settings.* Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.
- Hieneman, M., Childs, K., & Sergay, J. (2006). *Parenting with Positive Behavior Support*. Baltimore, MD: Brookes Publishing.
- Greene, R.W. (2021). The Explosive Child 4th Edition: A New Approach for Understanding and Parenting Easily Frustrated, Chronically Inflexible Children. Harper Collins Publishing.
- Hogdon, Linda, M. Ed., CCC-SLP (1995). Visual Strategies for Improving Communication
- Hogdon, Linda, M.Ed., CCC-SLP (1999). Solving Behavior Problems in Autism.
- Hogdon, Linda, M.Ed., CCC-SLP. Blog: https://usevisualstrategies.com/