WHOLISTIC STRESS CONTROL INSTITUTE, INC (WSCI)

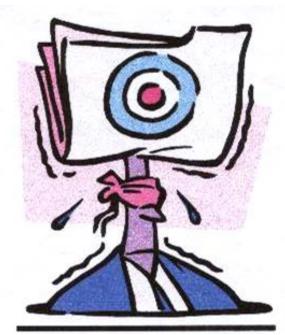
ATLANTA, GA

Maintaining Wellness in Stressful Times

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# **STRESS**

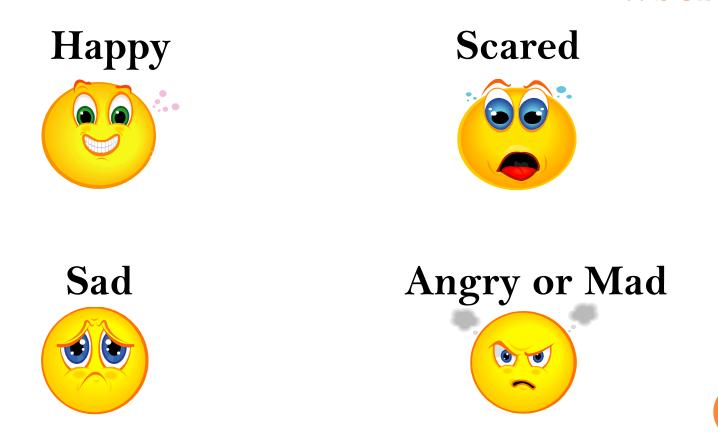
# What is Stress?



<u>STRESS</u> - is the non-specific response of your body to any demand placed on it.

-Hans Selye

### STRESS IS ANYTHING THAT <u>CAUSES A CHANGE IN</u> YOUR BODY. THIS CHANGE USUALLY RESULTS FROM PEOPLE FEELING..... - WSCI



## **CAUSES OF STRESS IN ADULTS**

### PERSONAL

- Low self esteem
- Poor nutrition
- Over Scheduling
- Lack of exercise
- Lack of Spiritual Principles





#### JOB • Problems with supervisor, managers or co-workers. • Promotions • Work overload Meeting Deadlines • Environment (temperature, overcrowding) • Burn out



### **FINANCIAL**

• Unemployed
• Underemployed
• Bills
• Poor budgeting
• Financial resources
• Budgeting

## FAMILY

• Physical Abuse (husband, mate)

- In-laws
- Parents
- Siblings
- Children
- Family member in trouble with criminal justice system
- Alcoholism or drug abuse in family



### **FRIENDS**

• Negative talk

- Abusing drugs or addict
- Alcoholic

• Criminal activity

• Negative Competition





COMMUNITY • Crime/drug dealers • Burglary • Noise • Neighbors • Racism • Violence

## Signs & Symptoms of Stress in Adults

#### **Physical**

fast heartburn upset stomach nervousness backaches

#### <u>Mental</u>

poor thinking being worried poor concentration drop in school performance

#### **Emotions**

anger outburst low self-esteem sad/depressed irritability

#### **Behavioral**

wants to be alone nail biting unable to eat changed habits

## **DEFINITIONS**

### STRESSORS

are the events or forces (physical, social or psychological) which causes stress of any kind.

### **EUSTRESS**

is the term used for positive or good stress, the kind that optimizes performances.

#### **BAD STRESS**

is the term used for stress that develops from negative stressors.

#### DISTRESS

is stress that is negative and the kind that can lead to illness.

## WELLNESS

- is that special arrangement that brings satisfaction from the interplay of our aspirations and actions with the world around us;
- an essential aspect of wellness is stimulation, adventure, challenge, mystery. With these goes the likelihood of periodically losing our footing of being pushed beyond our capability and – at least momentarily – being overwhelmed;
- is the ability and the belief in our ability to restore balance when it is periodically lost in our engagements with life.

### COGNITIVE TECHNIQUES FOR STRESS MANAGEMENT

#### **ABC' S - STRESS MODEL**

#### A

<u>stressors</u> death, illness job: fire or hire parenting relationships

#### B

<u>thoughts and beliefs</u> <u>about stressors</u> irrational rationalizations rational thinking

#### C

responses feelings and behavior

#### A

stressor

thinking

R

C

responses

#### A does not cause C: B causes C

## **3 TYPES OF THOUGHTS**

#### **IRRATIONAL**

• leads to greater worry, negativity, poor self-concept and INCREASED STRESS.

#### **RATIONALIZATIONS**

• leads to avoidance, poor decisions, excuses, and more problems which INCREASES STRESS

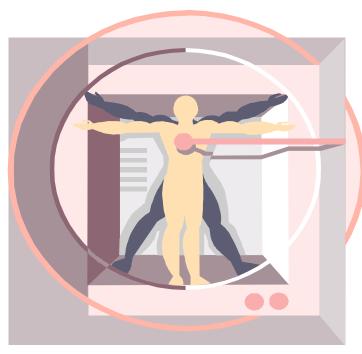
#### **RATIONAL**

- causes a DECREASE IN STRESS
- promotes an increase in mental clarity and effectiveness
- improves one's ability to relate to self, others and situations.

## WHOLISTIC STRESS MANAGEMENT

### **EMOTIONAL**

#### SOCIAL



#### PHYSICAL

MENTAL

#### **SPIRITUAL**

#### WHOLISTIC APPROACH

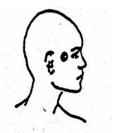
- Involves the total person
- States that total healing comes from within the individual

## WHOLISTIC STRESS MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

#### **PHYSICAL:**

- Exercise
- o Nutritious Diet
- Massage
- Acupressure
- Relaxation
- Breathing







**HEGU** 

#### **MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL:**

- Praise yourself
- Affirmation
- Automatic suggestion
- Visualization/daydream
- Colors

- Positive attitudes
- Set Priorities
- Mind and feeling control
- Take one thing at a time

**POSITIVE COMMUNICATION** 

#### SUPPORT PERSON

#### SOCIAL

- Don't compete
- Do things you enjoy
- Talk over problems
- Support person



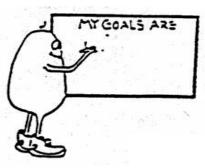
#### SPIRITUAL

- Love yourself
- Pray/mediate/mantra
- Forgive others
- Do something for others
- Inspirational readings
- Learn from mistakes
- Energy fields



MASSAGE

#### **GOAL SETTING**



## AFFIRMATIONS

- Affirmations are positive statements about one's self or a situation. This can be a fact or a belief.
- Affirmations means to affirm or make firm something you want to happen.
- Affirmations works better when you imagine a picture and express the feelings you desire along with repeating the affirmation.

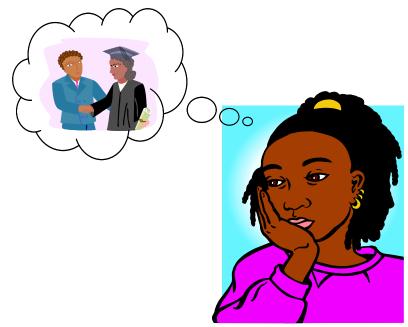
- Affirmations can help correct negative self-talk comments that can cause one stress.
- Affirmations should be: positive, personal, stated in the present tense, short/simple, indicated accomplishment or achievement, realistic, private and express feeling.

## For example:

I am healthy and calm.

I have everything I need to enjoy a wonderful life. I am in complete control to handle any stressful situations.

# VISUALIZATION



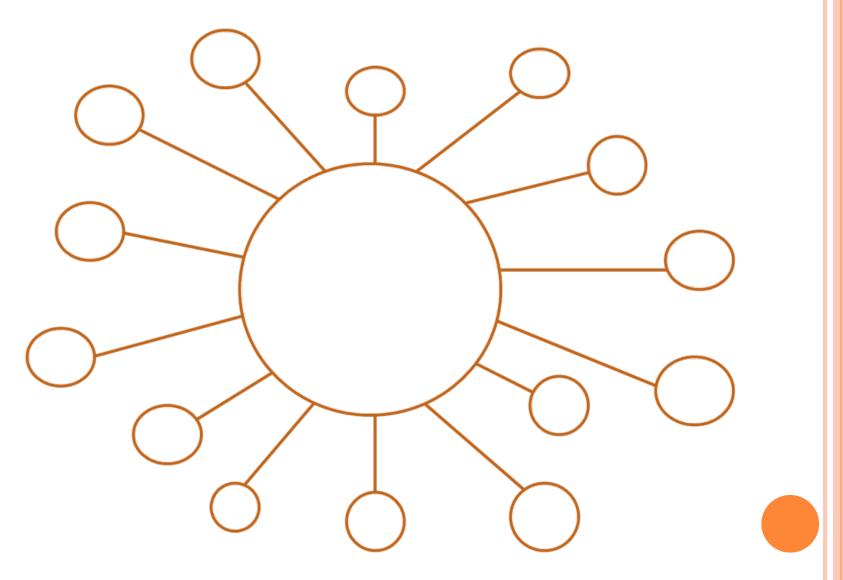
#### CREATIVE VISUALIZATION IS THE TECHNIQUE OF USING YOUR IMAGINATION TO CREATE WHAT YOU WANT IN YOUR LIFE.

#### IMAGINATION IS THE ABILITY TO CREATE AN IDEA OR MENTAL PICTURE IN YOUR MIND.

4 BASIC STEPS FOR EFFECTIVE CREATIVE VISUALIZATION:

- 1. Set your goal
- 2. Create a clear picture
- **3.** Focus on it often
- **4.** Give it positive energy

## My Support Group



## **Rules for Being Human**

You will receive a body.
 You may like it or hate it, but it will be yours for the entire period this time around.

2.You will learn lessons.
You are enrolled in full-time informal called LIFE.
Each day in this school you will have the opportunity to learn lessons.
You may like the lessons or think they are irrelevant and stupid.

3. There are no mistakes, only lessons. Growth is a process of trial and error: experimentation. The "failed" experiments are as much a part of the process as the experiment that ultimately "works".

4.A lesson is repeated until learned.A lesson will be presented to you in various forms until you have learned it.When you have learned it, you can then go on to the next lesson.

1.Learning lessons does not end. There is no part of life that does not contain **6**.its lessons. If you are alive, there are lessons to be learned.

7. "There" is no better than "here".When you're "there" has become a "here" you will simply obtain another "there" that will again, look better than "here".

8.Others are merely mirrors of you. You cannot love or hate something about another person unless it reflects something you love or hate about yourself.

9.What you make of you life is up to you. You have all the tools and resources you need. What you do with them is up to you. The choice is yours.

10. Your answers lie inside you.The answers to Life's questions lie inside you.All you need to do is look, listen and trust.

11.You will forget all this.

12.You can remember it whenever you want.