Chapman Employment Relations

Managing Times of Peak Pressure



- 1. Strategies for managing your own resilience.
- 2. How leaders accidentally stress out their employees.
- 3. How people respond and behave differently under stress.
- 4. Dealing with unacceptable behaviour

SESSION OUTLINE



THE GLASS OF WATER

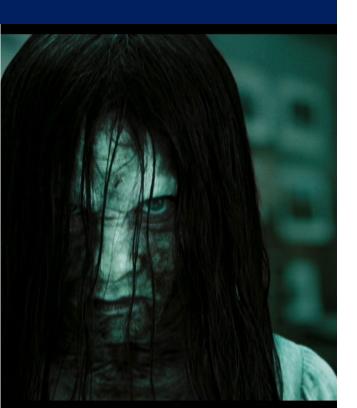
- Hold the glass of water out in front of you with one hand
- Keep it there until I give you further instructions or you can't hold it any longer

We have to mention the S word



Stress is our body's response to pressure

Stress is not all bad



If you like going to horror movies, and you went to one that didn't scare you, would you be disappointed?

Do you deliberately take part in any type of stress inducing activity?

Pursuing a stress-free life is not the utopia.



THREE STEP APPROACH TO RESPOND TO PRESSURE

- 1. See it (acknowledgement)
- 2. Own it (acceptance)
- 3. Use it (adaptation)

What is resilience?





1. Shit happens

Knowing this stops you from feeling discriminated against.

2. Choose carefully what keeps your attention

Realistically appraise situations Recognise and focus on the things you can change Accept the things you can't change





3. Is what I am doing, helping or harming me?

Is the way I am behaving/reacting, helping or harming me? Is what I am doing right now helping or harming me to get done this urgent work?

Is ruminating on the unreasonableness (of people, circumstances) helping me or harming me?

How leaders stress out their team members

- Not giving clear instructions
- Changing instructions part way through
 - Giving pointless instructions / tasks
- Not listening with the genuine purpose of hearing what I am saying

o Ignoring my emotions

 $_{\rm O}$ $\,$ Sending me an email when you could just talk to me $\,$

• Using negative language

- o Using euphemisms (e.g. challenging, win/win, do more with less)
 - Not being honest
 - Being unpredictable
 - Adding unnecessary complexity
 - Emotional volatility
 - Telling me how stressed you are
 - Excessive pessimism



Project calmness and composure

Remember leadership is not about you – you are a resource for your team



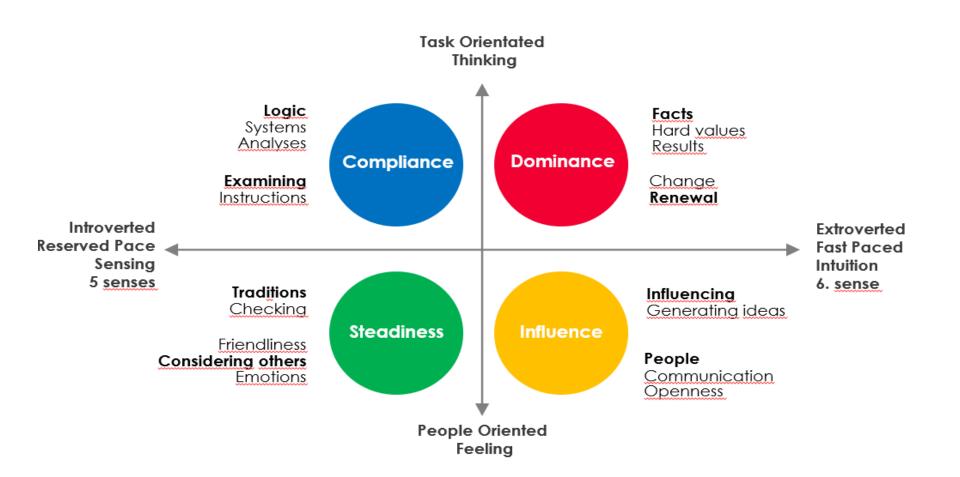
RESPONSES UNDER PRESSURE

Behaviour is observable and it is modifiable..... And we can all adapt and adjust





KNOWING OUR OWN & OTHER'S STYLES



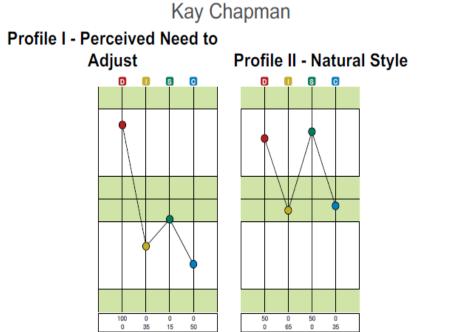
C compliance	Dominant D
D0 it Right!	Just Do it!
Do it Together!	Do it Happily!
S steady	Influencer

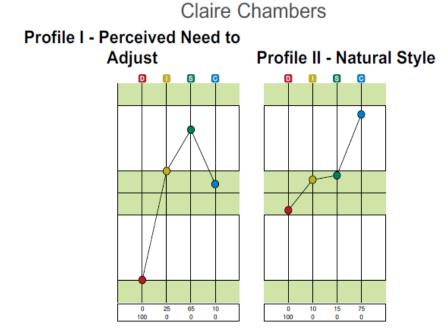
HOW DISC STYLES APPROACH TASKS





D STYLE- RESULTS ORIENTATED



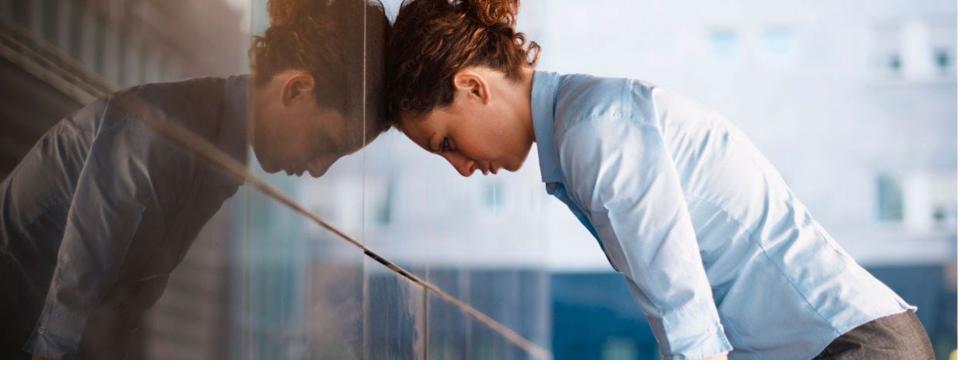


NATURAL vs ADAPTIVE STYLE





D STYLE- CAUSES & SIGNS OF STRESS



HELPING A D STYLE

- Give opportunity to act independently
- Let them contribute
- Give responsibility





To change the performance or behaviour

If all your best efforts fail only then progress to the disciplinary process



Setting the Standards

- These are non negotiable
- o Once set and communicated hold the line
- o Don't apologise for setting high standards and maintaining them
- o Never ignore a breach
- o It is human to push boundaries
- o Remain empathetic



The standard is not negotiable

YOU'RE FIRE

The disciplinary process is the last resort not the first step

Irrespective of the outcome, it will damage the relationship



Resilience can be learnt and Put the glass down



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DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

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Supporting employers in workplace culture, coaching and employment law