

### Relapse Prevention *Taking The Mystery Out of Relapse*

Conference Workshop Presented By Dr. Stephen F. Grinstead Clinical Director for the Gorski-CENAPS® Corporation © Copyright Terence T. Gorski & Stephen F. Grinstead, 2015, 1982

#### How To Benefit From The Workshop

- 1. Understand the CENAPS® Relapse Model Know the Principles & Practices
- 2. Integrate it into your personal/clinical style Make it habitual part of your routine practice
- 3. Adapt it to your program's needs Improve your program's quality & effectiveness
- 4. Individualize it for each client you see Make a difference in the lives of your clients

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Now We're Going To Take A Short Quiz About Relapse



Answer True, False, or Not Sure for Each One

- 1. If you stop addictive use for a while and then begin to use again, you relapsed.
- 2. Relapse develops over a progressive period of time & has early warning signs.
- 3. You are in recovery if you have stopped the alcohol and/or drug use.



Answer True, False, or Not Sure for Each One

- 4. Relapse occurs because addicts/alcoholics drop out of treatment or stop going to meetings.
- 5. Recovering people may not be totally aware of the warning signs of relapse.
- 6. Once recovering people are consciously aware of the warning signs of relapse, they can choose to take action to make the warning signs go away.

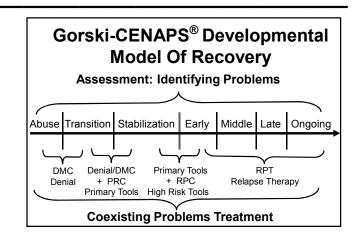
Answer True, False, or Not Sure for Each One

- 7. Relapse can be avoided by willpower and self-discipline alone.
- 8. People who relapse are not motivated to recover.
- 9. When people relapse it means that they haven't hit bottom yet and they need to experience more pain.

#### You Have To Be In Recovery Before You Can Relapse

Being in recovery requires...

- Understand addiction
- Apply that understanding to self
- Accept the painful feelings due to being addicted
- Having hope & belief recovery is possible & preferable than the old way
- Doing the B.P.S.S. recovery footwork needed
- Be abstinent  $\sim 60$  to 90 days
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#### Tools For Moving Into Early Recovery

- Moving from stabilization to early recovery requires...
  - $-\operatorname{Identifying}$  and managing stress

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- $-\operatorname{Normalizing}$  and managing cravings
- Identifying & managing Post Acute Withdrawal
- Identifying and managing high risk situations
  - Also known as Relapse Justifications

#### Defining Denial

 Automatic and unconscious reactions that defends us against the pain of recognizing serious problems; but can actually make our problems worse

### It's a Normal Part of the Human Condition

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#### Denial/Saboteur Patterns

- Primary irrational thoughts that ...
  - Deny seriousness of problems
  - Protect from the pain of facing problems
  - Lead to worsening of problems

There Are Twelve Common Denial Patterns

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### #1 — Avoidance

- Definition

   Refusing to think about, talk about, or do anything that will focus on my problems
- Mistaken Belief
  - If I refuse to think or talk about my problems, they will magically go away!

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#### Types Of Avoidance

- Saying Nothing

   It will go away if I don't talk about it!
- Distraction
  - It will go away if I focus on other things!
- Uproar
- It will go away if I create a crisis!
- Playing Dumb

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– It will go away if I pretend not to know about it!

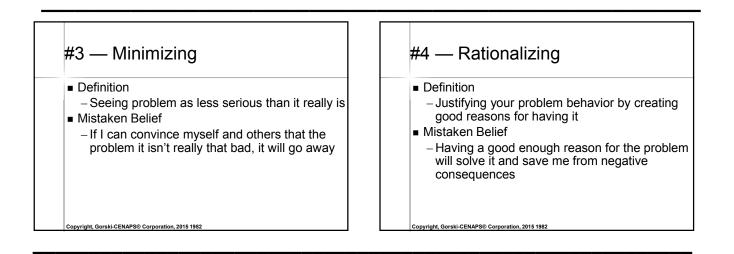
#### #2 — Absolute Denial

Definition

- Refusing to admit that a problem exists in spite of convincing evidence that it does
- Mistaken Belief

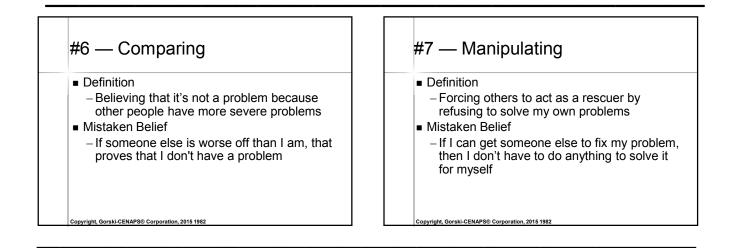
   If I can convince myself and others that I don't have a problem—then problem solved!

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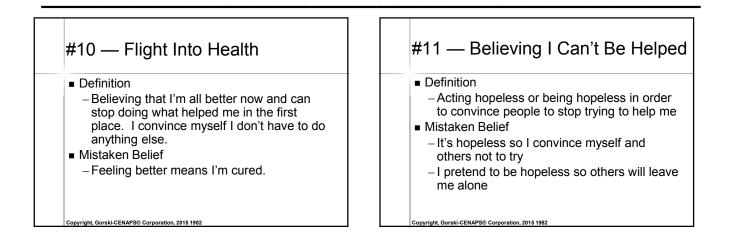


#5 — Blaming	Please Rate Your Patterns 1-
Definition	Avoidance 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
<ul> <li>Refusing to accept responsibility for solving</li> </ul>	Total Denial 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
the problem by believing that it is someone	Minimizing 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
else's fault	Rationalizing 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
<ul> <li>Mistaken Belief</li> <li>If someone else is responsible for the</li> </ul>	Blaming 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
<ul> <li>problem, I don't have to deal with it</li> <li>Have you blamed others to avoid taking action to help yourself?</li> </ul>	My Choice is:





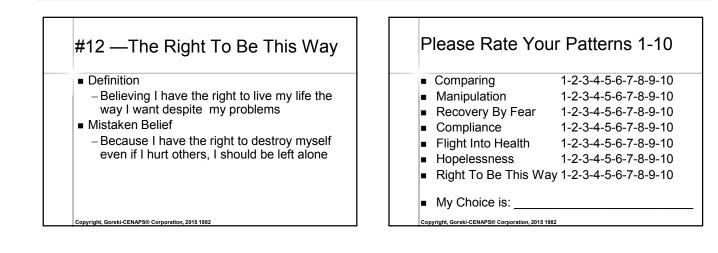
#8 — Change By Fear	#9 — Compliance
<ul> <li>Definition         <ul> <li>Believing that I won't have any more problems if I get scared enough</li> <li>Believing I will suffer if I change</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mistaken Belief         <ul> <li>Fear alone will prevent me from future problems or trouble</li> <li>Fear of change will keep me from suffering</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Definition <ul> <li>Pretending to solve the problem so I can be left alone.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mistaken Belief <ul> <li>If I can get people to leave me alone by going through the motions, the problem will go away.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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The Relapse Cycle Managing Stuck Points In Recovery Moving from being stable in recovery to becoming dysfunctional and relapsing Addictive To Relapse **Relapse Prone Recovery Prone** I Return To Denial Evade/Deny Recognize Stress Builds Accept It's OK Compulsive/Impulsive Detach Avoidance Tactics Ask For Help **Problems Multiply** I Retur To Old Behavio Respond w/ Action I Start solatin Evade/Denv



### Three Paths From Remission To Relapse Relapse triggered by exposure to addictive/rewarding drugs Relapse triggered by exposure to conditioned cues from the environment Relapse triggered by exposure to stressful experiences involves brain stress circuits The anatomy and the physiology in these three modes of relapse have been delineated through extensive neuroscience research.

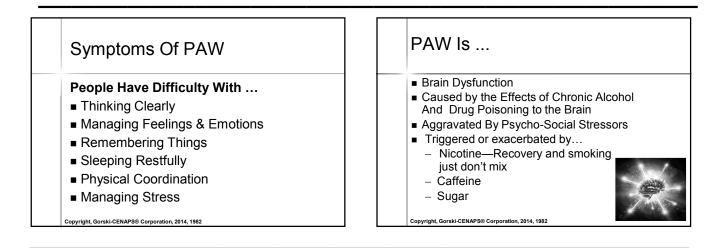
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#### Post Acute Withdrawal (PAW)

#### A Withdrawal Symptom That Is...

- Often Sub-Clinical (not easy to see)
- Long-term (18 months to 3 years)
- Previously Unidentified
- Causes Dysfunction In Recovery

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#### Causes of PAW ...

- Chronic Alcohol And Drug Poisoning
- Genetic Brain Chemistry Imbalances
- Fetal Alcohol Effects

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Head Trauma From Falls While Intoxicated

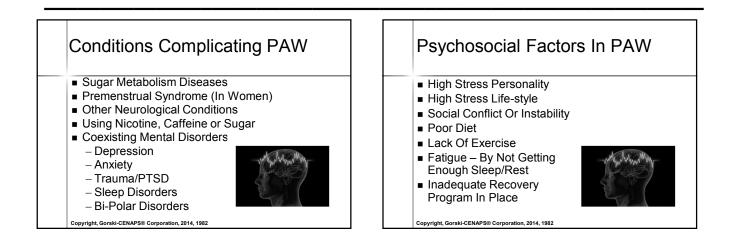


#### Typical Courses of PAW Symptoms

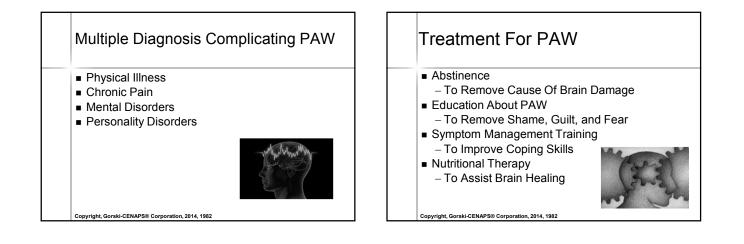
- Regenerative It Gets Better
- Intermittent It Comes And It Goes
- Stable It Stays The Same
- Degenerative It Gets Worse

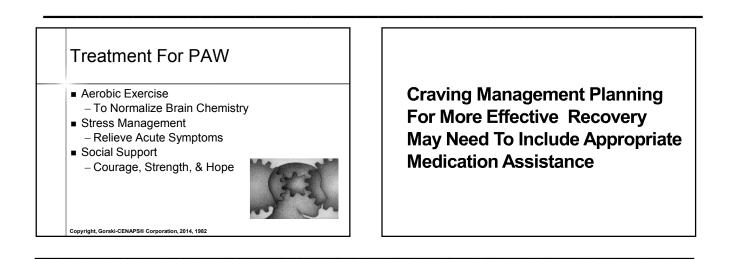


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#### Craving Management

- Biological and psychological factors
- Medication may be appropriate intervention
- Developing a Craving Management Plan
  - Generic craving management interventions
  - The personal craving management plan



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#### Craving Management Planning

- Recognize and Accept: Recognize the craving and accept it as a normal part of recovery. Remind yourself that just because I'm having a craving, does not mean there is something wrong with me—it is normal to have cravings.
- Decide Not to Act on the Craving: Tell yourself the following; "No matter what happens, I'm not going to act on this craving. Instead I'll call someone."
   "Cravings go away whether I use or not, I have proven this before and I can do what it takes to shut this down."
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Craving Management Planning Craving Management Planning Negative Consequences: Remind yourself of the negative Change Physical Setting: Change your physical and/or social location-GET OUT OF THERE!!! Sometimes things that will probably happen if you give into your craving and start to use again-have this prepared something as simple as changing chairs makes a big before you start having cravings. Remember all the difference. Don't be around people who would be pain and problems you have experienced and the negative peer pressure. Be around positive recovery money you have spent as a result of giving into supportive people. cravings before. Meditation and Relaxation: Learn simple relaxation and/or Benefits of Staying Sober: Remind yourself of all the good meditation techniques. Sometimes just taking a few deep things that can happen if you remain clean and sober. breaths can also make a big difference. Meditation and/or List some of the things that you can now accomplish relaxation CDs MP3s-check it out! Remember, because you are clean and sober that would have been contempt prior to investigation equals ignorance. difficult if not impossible to do while using. Copyright, Gorski-CENAPS® Corporation, 2014, 1982 Copyright, Gorski-CENAPS® Corporation, 2014, 1982

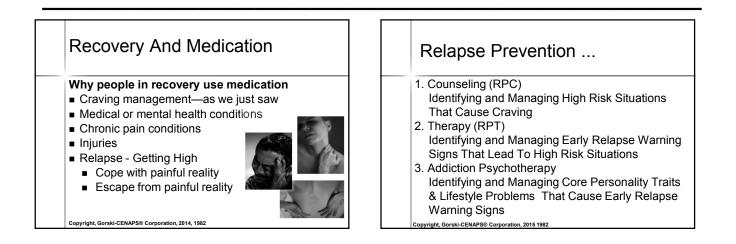


### Craving Management Planning

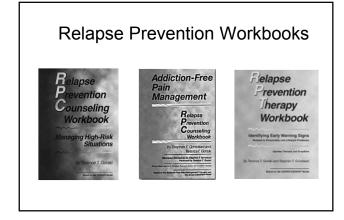
- Exercise: Have a regular daily pattern of exercise and other pain management protocols developed and practice them on an ongoing basis. When you have a craving, you can begin using one of these activities.
- Eat Healthy: Eating three balanced meals per day with nutritious snacks in between will be very helpful. Avoid eating as a "substitution" for the using, but do fuel your body in a healthy way. Avoid sugar, caffeine and nicotine as much as possible, but especially when having cravings. Copyright, Gorsk-CENAPS Corporation, 2014, 1982

### Craving Management Planning

- Master Imagery: Close your eyes and imagine yourself being successful and powerful in not giving into the cravings. Imagine all the positive benefits you will experience and how good you will feel about yourself for not giving in to the cravings.
- Your Personal Plan: Try to imagine yourself in a situation when you would begin to experience strong urges or cravings to use alcohol or other drugs. Then using the previous steps as a starting point, please list your step-by step action plan with at least 4-5 steps.
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Early Relapse Warning Signs Lead To High Risk Situations Stuck Point in Recovery Irrational Thinking (Unnecessary Pain) Self-Defeating Behaviors (Unnecessary Problems) Addictive Thinking (AOD As Solution) Drug-Seeking Behavior (Acting Out) High Risk Situation (Activates Craving) Alcohol Or Other Drug (AOD) Use

#### Relapse Prevention Therapy (RPT)

Identifies And Changes Core ...

- Personality Factors
- Lifestyle Factors
- ... That Lead To A/D Use

Relapse Prevention Counseling (RPC) Stabilizes Clients For Relapse Prevention Therapy (RPT) Stabilizes Clients For Addiction Psychotherapy

### **Relapse Prevention Counseling**

- 1. Time Limited Abstinence Contract
- 2. Relapse Intervention Plan
- 3. High Risk Situation (HRS) Identification
- 4. HRS Situations Mapping
- 5. HRS Management
- 6. HRS Decision Point Management
- 7. Recovery Planning For Future HRS

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#### Goals Of Relapse Prevention Counseling

- Get An Abstinence Contract
- Develop A Relapse Intervention Plan
- Identify High Risk Situations
- Map High Risk Situations
- Manage High Risk Situations
- Manage Problematic Decision Points
- Develop A Recovery Plan

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#### **Relapse Intervention Planning**

- Goal in developing an effective plan . . .
  - To stop alcohol or other drug use quickly should it occur.
  - To stop a relapse process before it ends up in alcohol or other drug use.

### Planning To Stop Relapse Quickly

- Your plan to stop relapse
  - What will you do if you start to use A/D and want to stop before having serious consequences?
- The helper's plan to stop relapse
- What is the helper supposed to do if you relapse?
  Involving <u>appropriate</u> significant others
  - Identify 3 appropriate significant others who you know will support your sobriety.
  - "What are they supposed to do if you start using alcohol or other drugs?"

### Some Things You Can Do To Stop A Relapse Quickly

- Recognize that you started using AOD's.
- Acknowledge that alcohol & drug use can lead to serious consequences.
- Stop using immediately.
- Get out of the situation that supports use.
- Immediately call for help & get into a sobriety supportive environment.



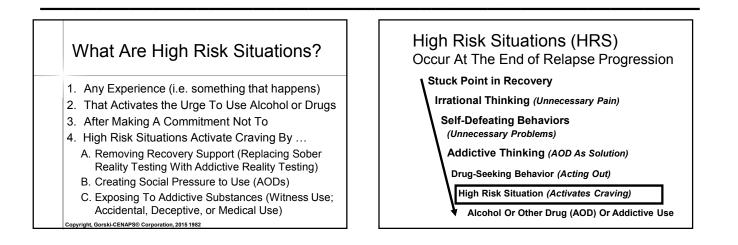
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# Taking The Mystery Out Of Relapse

Intervention Letter T	emplate
Dear, If you see me recovery or actually using Ad behaviors I want you to do th 1. X 2. Y 3. Z 4. Show me a copy of this le	OD or addictive ne following:
Signature:	_ Date:

Please Develop Your Initial R.I.P. Plan

- What I promise to do if I'm in trouble is:
- What my sponsor/coach/counselor can do is:
- Three appropriate people on my team:



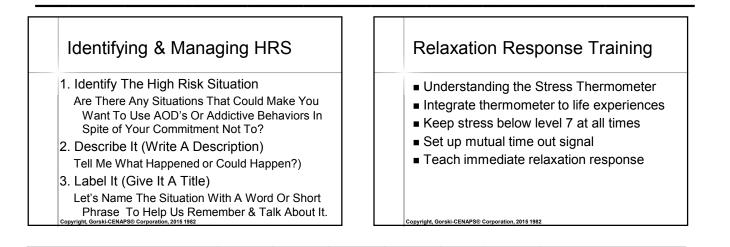


Each HRS Is Composed Of		
1. Internal Factors	2. External Factors	
Biological States	People	
Beliefs	Places	
Perceptions	Things	
Thoughts	Situations	
Feelings	Grave Illness	
Urges	Death & Loss	
Actions	Homelessness Joblessness	
Copyright, Gorski-CENAPS® Corporation, 2015 1982	Poverty	

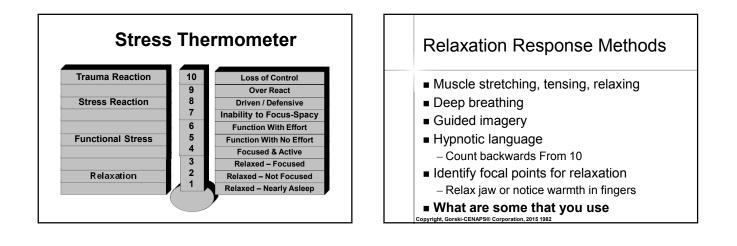
#### **Common High Risk Situations**

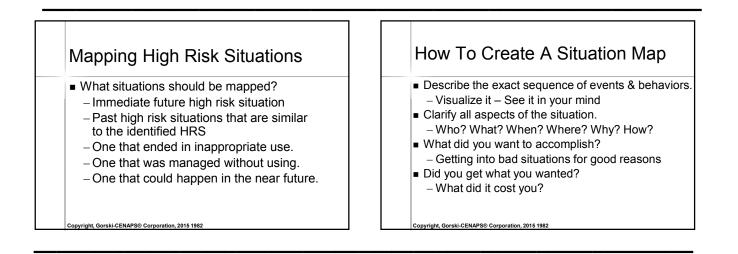
- 1.People, Places, & Things That Center Around Alcohol Or Other Drug (AOD) Or Addictive Use
- 2.Cues or Triggers Related To Past Addictive Use That Activate Craving (Movies, Songs)
- 3. Problems, Losses, Traumas in Recovery
- 4.Anything That Causes Personal Survival Threat By Challenging Survival Beliefs (I must/ Can't Or Else I Will Die!)

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### Clarifying The Big Picture

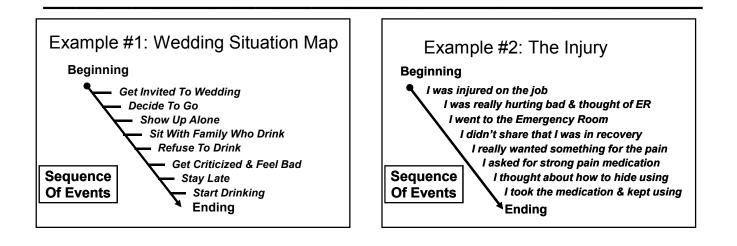
- What did you want to accomplish by managing the situation the way you did?
- Did you get what you wanted?
- Yes or No. To what degree? (0 10)
- What was the price you paid?
- What could you do differently to get those needs met in a healthy way?

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#### Testing The High Risk Situation

- It occurs at a specific time.
- It has a beginning, middle & end.
- It is time limited (usually 24 hours or less).
- It involves specific people, places or things.
- It activates craving or addictive use.

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#### Situation Management

- 1. Identify 3 Decision Points Where More Effective Strategies Could Be Used – Near The Beginning
  - Near The Middle
  - Near The End

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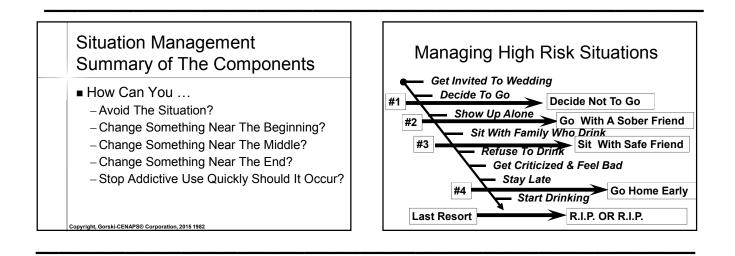
- 2. What Can You Do Differently At Each Decision Point
- 3. How Will That New Behavior Change The Outcome (Best? Worst? Most Likely?)

#### Situation Management

- 4. Explore How To Responsibly Avoid The Situation.
- 5. Explore How To Stop Addictive Use Quickly Should It Occur As A Result Of The Situation

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# TFUARs That Promote Addictive Use At Each Decision Point

- Thoughts → That Support Addictive Use
   Feelings → Deprivation Anxiety (F.E.A.R.)
- Urges  $\rightarrow$  Craving That Make You Want To Use
- In Spite of the Negative Consequences ■ Actions → Drug Seeking Behaviors That Lead You
- Closer To Addictive Use
- Reactions → Social & Situational Responses To Addiction Seeking Behavior That Support Your Movement Toward Your Addictive Use
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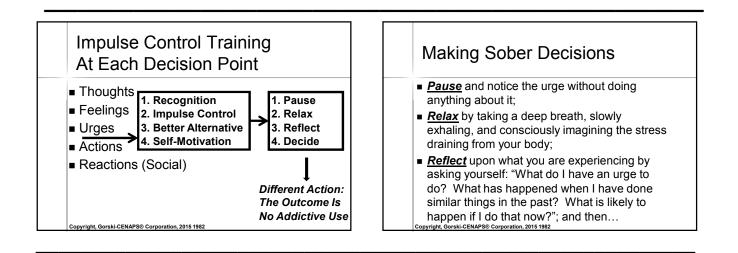
### Cognitive-Behavioral Response Can Promote AOD Use or Abstinence

- Addictive Thinking V Feelings of Deprivation V Craving (Urge to Use) V
- Addictive Seeking Behavior
  - Addiction Enabling Social Reaction
  - Next Step In The HRS

Sober Feeling Management Appropriate Feelings

- Sobriety Seeking Behavior
- V Sobriety Supportive
- Social Reaction

Move Out of HRS —





#### Making Sober Decisions

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- Decide what you are going to do about the urge. Make a conscious choice instead of acting out in an automatic an unconscious way.
- <u>Do It!</u> When making the choice about what you are going to do, remind yourself that you will be responsible for both the action and its consequences.

### Challenging Addictive Beliefs

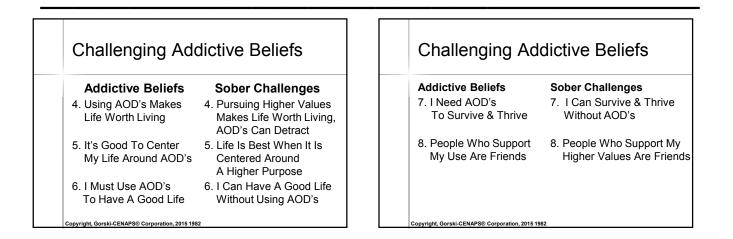
#### Addictive Beliefs Sober

- 1. AOD's Are Safe & I'll Never Get Addicted
- 2. Using AOD's Is Good For Me
- 3. It's OK To Use AOD's Regularly, Heavily, And Abusively

#### Sober Challenges

- 1. AOD's Are Not Safe, It's Best Not To Use
- 2. Using AOD's Can Be Bad For Me Even If It Feels Good
- 3. It's Not OK To Use AOD's Regularly, Heavily, And Abusively

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Distorted Feelings	Primary F	:ee ♪	elings	Distorted Feelings
Grandiose ←	Strong	]⊷[	Weak	→ Helpless
Resentful +-	Angry	]⊷[	Caring	<ul> <li>Obligated</li> </ul>
Manic ⊷	Нарру	]++	Sad	<ul> <li>Depressed</li> </ul>
Complacent	Safe	]++	Threatened	→ Panicked
Gluttonous ←	Fulfilled	]⊷	Frustrated	→ Hopeless
Isolated ←	Lonely	]⊷	Connected	→ Enmeshed
Arrogance +-	Pride	]⊷	Guilt	→Toxic Shame

Decision Point #1: Decide Not To Go Addictive Thought Management		
Addictive Thinking	Sober Thinking	
1. I have to go or my family will hate me!	1. My family loves me & wants me sober so they'll Understand.	
2. I should be able to go without wanting to drink!	2. At this stage of my recovery its normal to have cravings around people who are drinking.	
<ol> <li>If I do have a drink or two it won't be that bad.</li> </ol>	3. Once I start, I'm not sure I'll be able to stop before I have serious problems.	

Decision Point #1: Decide Not To Go **Addictive Feeling Management** Unmanageable Feeling New Management Strategy 1. Feeling: Fear 1. Feeling: Fear. 2. Activating Thought: My 2. New Thought: My Family Family Will Hate Me! will understand & support my decision. 3. Activating Behavior: Always 3. New Behavior: Respectfully Having To Do What My refusing to do what's **Family Wants** expected & negotiate acceptable alternatives.

 Decision Point #1: Decide Not To Go

 Addictive Behavior Management

 Old Behavior

 1. Doing what I'm told, pretending to like it, feeling angry inside

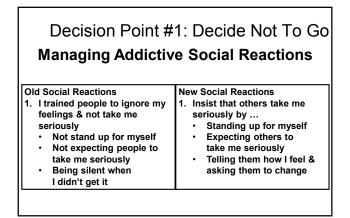
 New Behavior

 1. Refusing to do what I'm told.

 2. Honestly telling people why

 3. Negotiating new alternatives for meetings the needs of all involved, including me.





Decision Point Management Questions

#### What Are The Lessons Learned ...

- 1. What's The Most Important Thing You Learned From This Situation Mapping?
- 2. What Other High Risk Situations Are You Facing?
- 3. How Can You Apply What You Learned To These Other Situations?

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TFUAR Management Keep It Simple		
Problem Solution		
Thinking —	$\rightarrow$	
Feeling	$\rightarrow$	
Urges ——	$\rightarrow$	
Actions	$\rightarrow$	
Reactions (Social)	→ R.I.P. or R.I.P.	

### One Day At A Time

My Favorite Sanskrit Proverb

Today well lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope



#### **Closing Call To Action Exercise**

- What Is The Most Important Thing That You Learned By Attending This Workshop That Will Enable You To Help Your Clients Avoid A Potential Relapse Episode?
- What Are You Going To Do Differently As A Result Of What You Learned?

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- What Obstacles Could Get In Your Way & What Is Your Plan To Overcome Them?
- Are You Willing To Make That Commitment?

### Web Site & Contact Resources

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Dr. Grinstead's Contact Information Email: sgrinstead@cenaps.com Phone: (916) 575-9961

