# Trauma Informed Lancashire

Training: Introduction to Trauma Informed- Lunch and Learn

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## What is a Trauma Informed Approach?

Trauma informed approach and practice means recognising:

- how common traumatic stress is
- potential impacts of trauma

#### and

- acting to avoid people becoming 'retraumatised' or unnecessarily stressed by interacting with you or your service.
- It may also mean reviewing/auditing your service and making changes to make your service accessible to those who struggle to trust professionals



## Trauma affects us all



Trauma, is a 'common human experience'. It happens to YOU and to ME and to individuals in the COMMUNITIES we live and work within.

If we can understand its affects and consequences we will be better placed both personally and organisationally to deal with the experience of Trauma and to help those in need.



## What is Trauma

Traumatization occurs when both internal and external resources are inadequate to cope with external threat.

Van der Kolk B. A. (1989).



# What is Trauma/ Adverse Childhood Experience?

Please discuss/ shout out

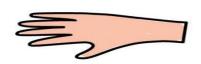


## Adverse Childhood Experience

#### Abuse







Sexual abuse



Verbal abuse

#### Neglect



**Emotional neglect** 



Physical neglect

#### Growing up in a household where:



There are adults with alcohol and drug problems



There are adults with mental health problems



There is domestic violence



There are adults who have spent time in prison



Parents have separated



# What is a Traumatic Experience?

### Trauma is more than Adverse Childhood Experiences:

Racism

Bullying

Death

Living in Poverty

Community Trauma.....



# Types of Trauma

#### **Adverse Childhood Experiences**

Domestic violence
Drugs and/or alcohol abuse familial mental health issues
Physical abuse
Emotional abuse
Sexual abuse
Neglect
Loss due to separation or divorce of parents
Loss due to bereavement
Incarceration of a family member

#### **Type 1 Trauma**

Car accident

Single occurrence of sexual assault

**Terrorist incident** 

**Physical assault** 

#### Type 2 Trauma

Multiple traumatic events over a period of time

#### **Complex Trauma**

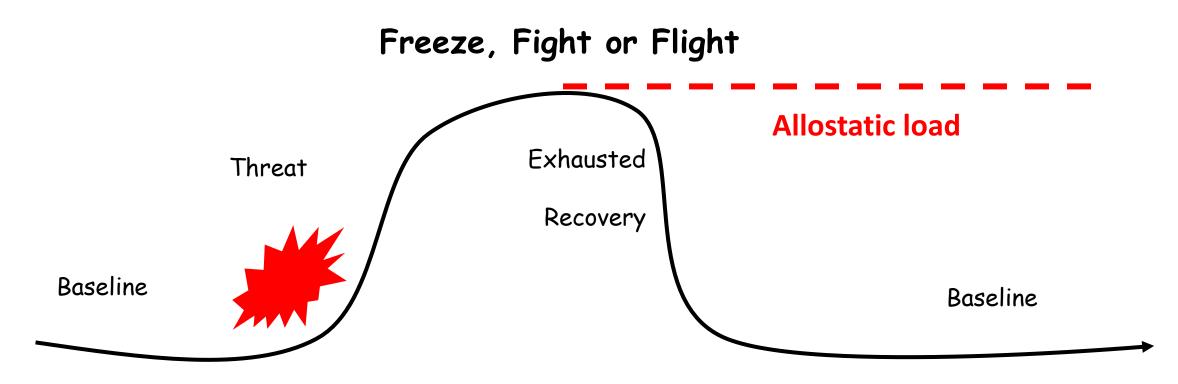
Repeated, often multiple forms of abuse - physical, sexual and/ or emotional

Can arise in the context of extreme neglect

Complex trauma is interpersonal in nature

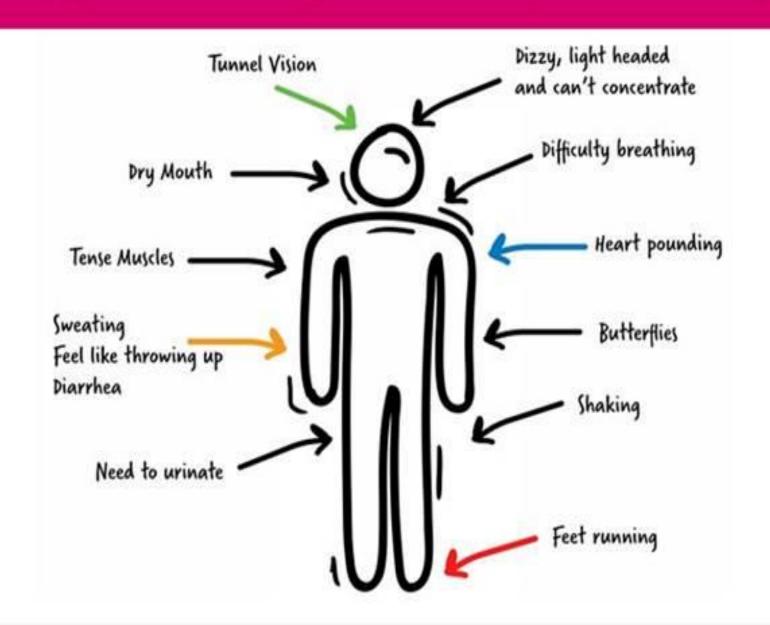


# Early Life Experiences and The Brain





## What happens during a Trauma/Stress Response





# The Impact of trauma on the physical body

Cardiovascular
Skin

Joints and Muscles

**Immune System** 

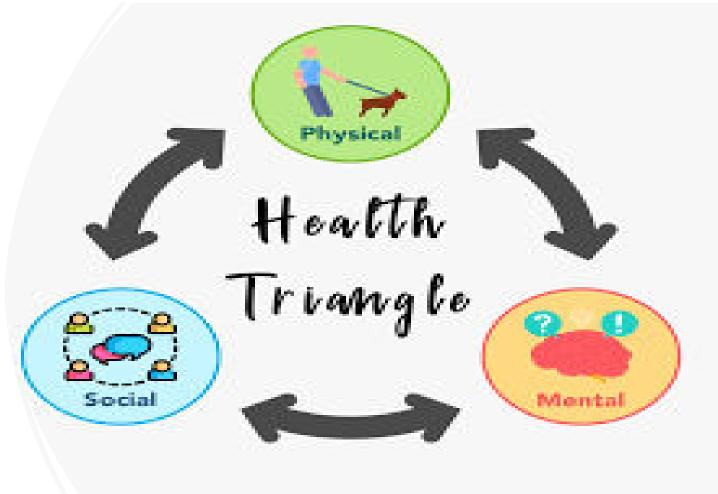
Gut

Reproductive System



# Why does it matter?

Without the right support, trauma/ACEs can have negative, lasting effects on physical health, mental health, and social outcomes.





# Is it all doom and gloom?





# How does Trauma impact on individuals, children and communities?

Everyone responds to trauma in their own way. Trauma can present as:

- angry outbursts,
- poor self-esteem,
- distrusting,
- anxious,
- difficulty controlling emotions,
- feelings of guilt/shame,
- hyper-vigilance
- perceived hostility in others.



## **Professional Curiosity**

The capacity and communication skill to explore and understand what is happening within a family, rather than making assumptions or accepting a version of events at face value.

Why might someone not be honest? Embarrassment, shame, worried about what might happen, no one has ever asked before....



## Language

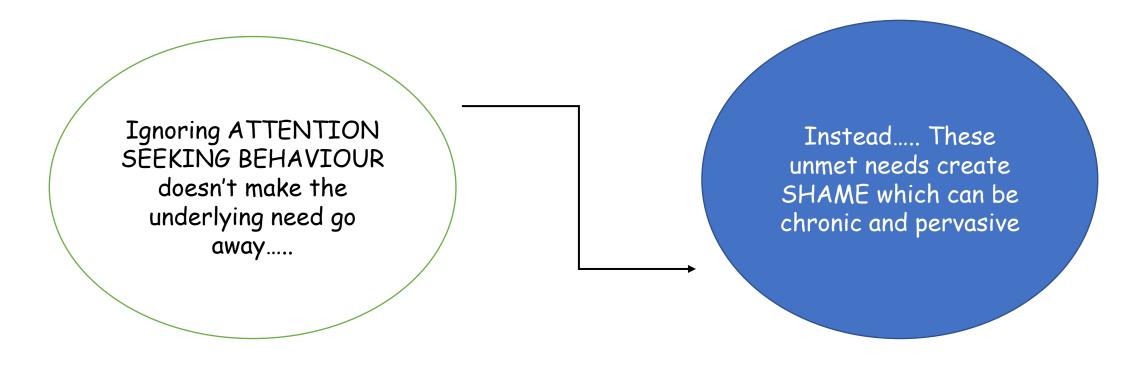
What has happened to you?

rather than

What is wrong with you?



# Importance of Language: Attention Seeking





People seek attention through behaviour when attempts to get care by asking verbally have **failed**.

Humans are expressive and creative. It is a sign of a healthy brain that we creatively try different ways to get our needs met.

## Language: Aggressive

#### What does being aggressive actually mean??

Dysregulated?
Struggling to contain emotions?
Stamping their feet?
Raising their voice......
say what is happening rather than just using a word...

When we are emotionally dysregulated we might feel cross, anxious, stressed, upset, distracted and this makes it hard to be 'emotionally available' to interact and learn.



Trauma, is a 'common human experience'. It happens to YOU and to ME and to individuals in the COMMUNITIES we live and work within.

Being 'Trauma Informed' means using a knowledge of trauma and its potential effects to be kind, empathetic and compassionate.

Being kind is at the heart of everything you do as a professional or organisation.



## Video: Empathy v Symapthy

Brené Brown on Empathy vs Sympathy - YouTube



# Opening Doors: Trauma Informed Practice for the Workforce on Vimeo



## Final Thought...







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