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"They either avoid the conversations (go to silence), they react but do so poorly by lashing out or getting angry (go to violence), or they face them and handle them well."

Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When

#### Objectives

- 1. Experience a problem-solving approach to enhance your own accountability
- 2. Improve performance and ensure execution through crucial conversations
- 3. Review skills needed to resolve pressing problems, strengthen relationships, increase quality and improve morale
- 4. Review the principles for holding effective crucial confrontations.

#### Law of Crucial Conversations

"Anytime you find yourself stuck, there are crucial conversations keeping you there. Identify the crucial conversations that you're not holding or not holding well, and get better at everything."

Stakes are high **Opinions** vary **Emotions** are strong

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#### Conversations



#### The Two Styles

Silence

Violence

#### Silence



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#### Silence

# Masking

# Avoiding

Withdrawing

#### Violence



#### Violence

### Controlling

#### Labeling

#### Attacking

#### Analysis

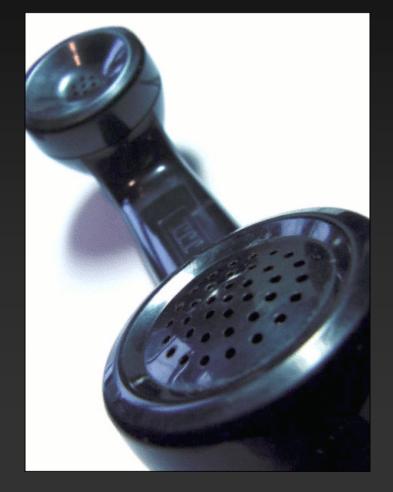
# Which are THEY using? Which are YOU using?

"Awareness of a problem is a problem half solved."

#### Having Conversations



#### Having Conversations



Remember that these are two-way conversatio ns

#### A Safe Environment

Step out of the issue and build safety before continuing

Seek to establish a mutual purpose

Seek to establish mutual respect

#### Five steps

Share facts, not opinions, emotions or judgments

Tell your story so people know your interpretation

Ask others to share their story and interpretation

Maintain tentativeness throughout the conversation

Invite solutions to deal with the issues

#### 1. Share facts

# Share facts, not opinions, emotions or judgments

#### 1. Share facts

Ask yourself, "Why would a rational person do what they did?"

#### 2. Tell your story

Tell your story so people know your interpretation

#### 2. Tell your story

Don't be blinded by your own personal narrative. See their perspective.

#### Ask others to share their story and interpretation

Listen to hear the other person's story

"I didn't hear what I said the same way you did " Kerry Benninghoff, PA State Representative

Replace what they heard with what you intended to say.

#### 4. Maintain tentativeness

Maintain tentativeness throughout the conversation

#### 4. Maintain tentativeness

Dissolve preexisting emotional barriers

#### 5. Invite solutions

# Invite solutions to deal with the issues

#### 5. Invite solutions

Create a "pool of shared meaning"

#### **Having Conversations**

Refuse "the suckers choice."

Win & Lose are not the only options.

#### Having Conversations



#### Conversation



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#### Remember...

"They either avoid the <u>conversation</u> (go to silence), they react but do so poorly by lashing out or getting angry (go to violence), **or they face them and handle them well**."

Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes are High, McGraw Hill

# Thank you!

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