

# EMPOWERMENT EDGE COACHING



Keep Your Cool

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To be used in conjunction with: Keep Your Cool With Your Kids - Anger Management For Parents

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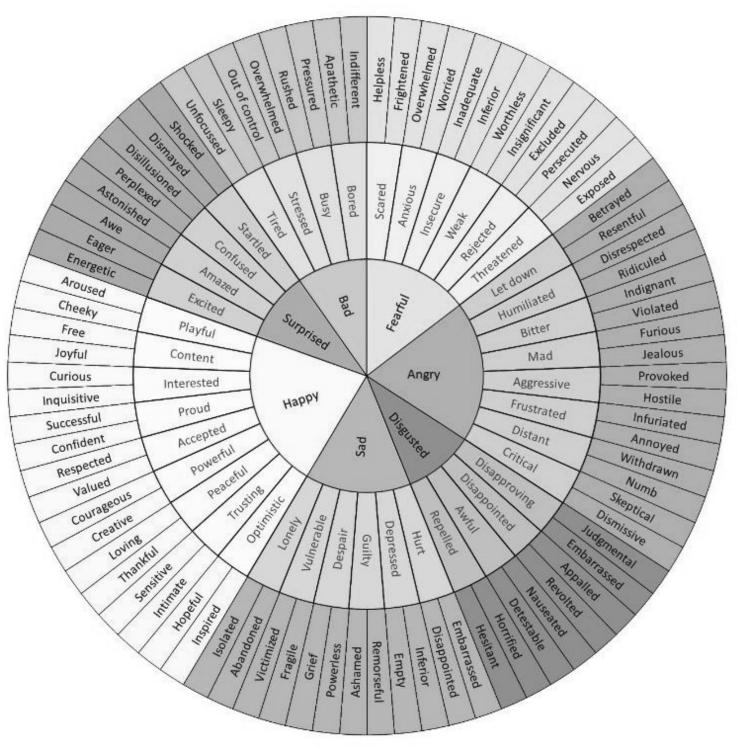
## THE ANGER ICEBERG

In the book we refer to Anger as the outward expression of another deeper emotion. Use the Anger Iceberg to try to identify any emotions behind Anger.



### THE FEELINGS WHEEL

The feelings wheel can help you drill down to accurately identify what you are feeling exactly.



https://feelingswheel.com Geoffrey Roberts

## **RECORD YOUR PHYSICAL SIGN**

Physical Signs of Anger				
Mind Goes Blank	Sweating/Perspiring	Looping Negative Thoughts		
Shaking Hands/Body	Clenched Fists	Crying		
Become Quiet	Clenched Teeth	Face/Neck Feels Hot/Red Flushed		
Shallow Rapid Breathing	Raise Voice Pitch	Tension Headache		
Physical Posturing Puffing Chest-Arms Waving	Scowling Angry Face	Feeling Sick to Stomach		
Pacing Up and Down	Aggressive Gestures	Racing Heart Beat		
Agitated Restless Movements	Abusive Language	Muscle Tension		

/hat are your Physical Signs?	

## **TRIGGERS - WHAT HAPPENED?**

Recall the circumstances just before being triggered and what was the actual trigger.

Place/Time (where were you?)	Circumstances just before Trigger fired	Actual Trigger
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# CHECK IN WITH YOUR THINKING Cognitive Distortions

Catastrophizing	<ul> <li>If I don't clean the house, everything is going to fall apart</li> <li>If my son doesn't exercise everyday, he will develop poor health</li> </ul>
Generalizations	<ul> <li>That school is doomed, it has just lost 2 good teachers</li> <li>That child got an average mark at school, they must be struggling</li> </ul>
Black and White or All or Nothing	<ul> <li>It's all your fault</li> <li>You are quiet so either you are upset at me, or you don't care</li> </ul>
Mind Reading	<ul><li>You think I'm angry all time</li><li>She thinks she is the Queen</li></ul>
"Should" Statements	<ul> <li>We have been together a long time; you should know better</li> <li>I should be a better Father</li> </ul>
Global Thinking	<ul> <li>You're late for our date so you do not respect me</li> <li>That chore hasn't been done so they don't care about family life</li> </ul>
Discounting the Positive: Ignoring the Good and Magnifying the worst	<ul> <li>Thanks for the complement but I actually look terrible today</li> <li>He might be nice but he is terrible lazy</li> </ul>
Emotional Reasoning	<ul> <li>I'm feeling lonely so I must be a bad friend</li> <li>I'm feeling angry so I must have anger issues</li> </ul>
Fortune Telling/Jumping to conclusions	<ul> <li>Single dad says to himself "I'm never going to find love again" based on one bad date</li> <li>My kids will never learn to clean up</li> </ul>
Personalization and Blame	<ul> <li>He/she is grumpy, it must be about me</li> <li>My wife doesn't want to cuddle in bed, I must be unattractive to her</li> </ul>

## **GET CURIOUS ABOUT YOUR THOUGHTS**

When triggered, record the thoughts you had. Check for Cognitive Distortions. Then find a positive alternative thought to work with

# **Thought Record**

THOUGHT:			-		
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### STRATEGIES FOR REDUCING TRIGGERS

Reducing circumstances behind the Triggers is very helpful. Where possible, once the situation and Trigger are identified, set up some achievable strategies that are SIMPLE to do to help you avoid the Trigger. Making them simple and achievable will enhance your success at reducing them firing into the HOT zone.

TRIGGER	STRATEGY
Emotional State - Fatigue	Get to be by 10 pm, Stop watching screen 1 hour before bed, 20 min lie down/relax during day instead of chores 10 min meditation at bedtime, Stop Caffeine after 2.00 pm

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TRIGGER	STRATEGY