

BEing agile

Self development for agile
practitioners



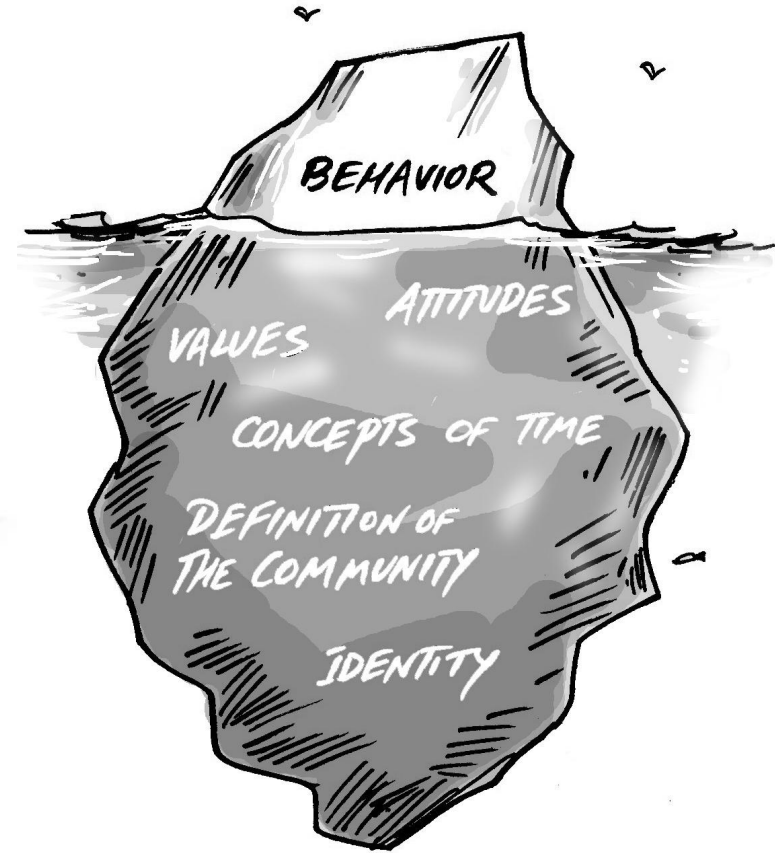
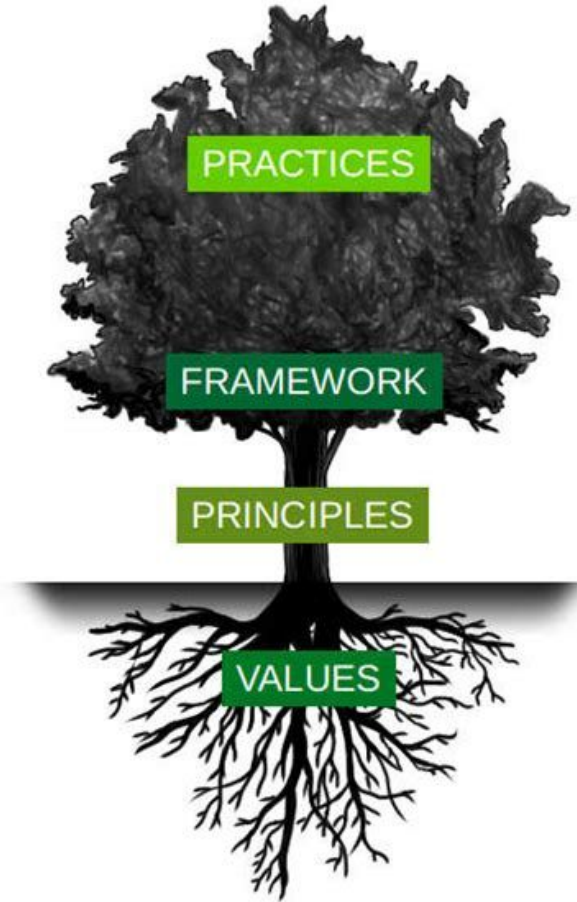
What we'll cover today

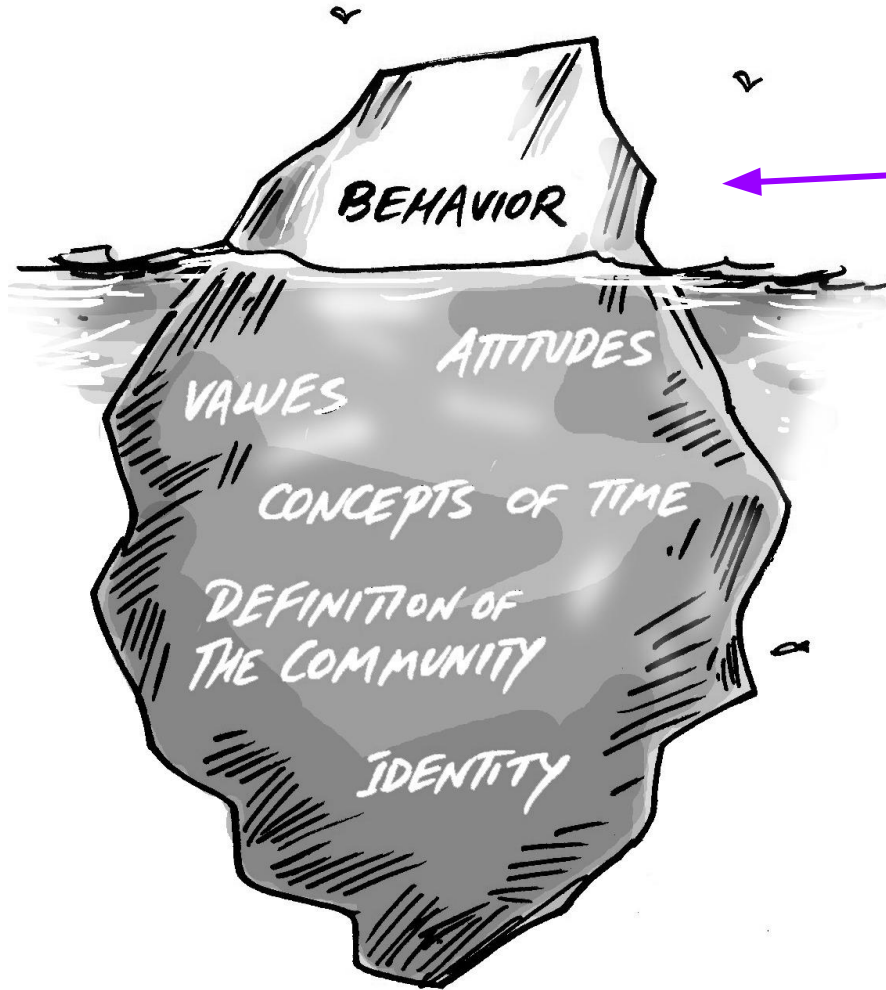
- Some theories & models to consider
- Some metaphors to help explain
- Why BEing agile matters
- 4 habits to unlearn on your way to BEing agile
- Formulae for BEing agile
- Experiences & stories from the field

DO agile

KNOW agile

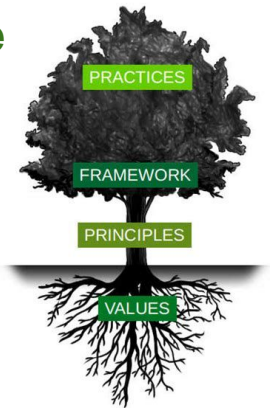
BE agile

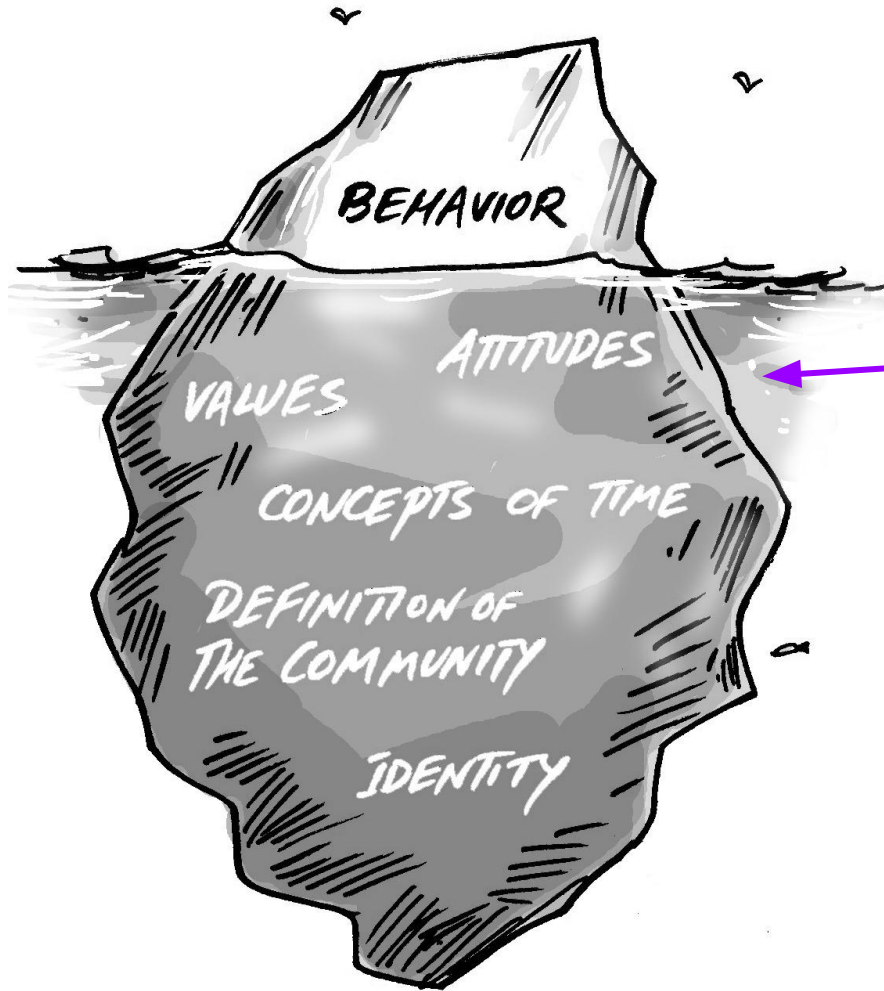




During the first half of the twentieth century, [John B. Watson](#) devised methodological **Behaviorism**, which rejected [introspective methods](#) and sought to understand behavior by only measuring observable behaviors and events.

DO agile

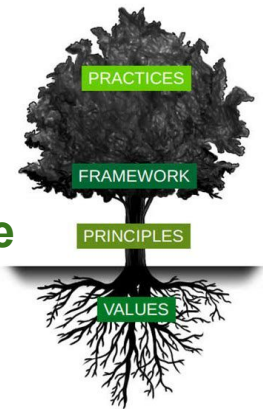


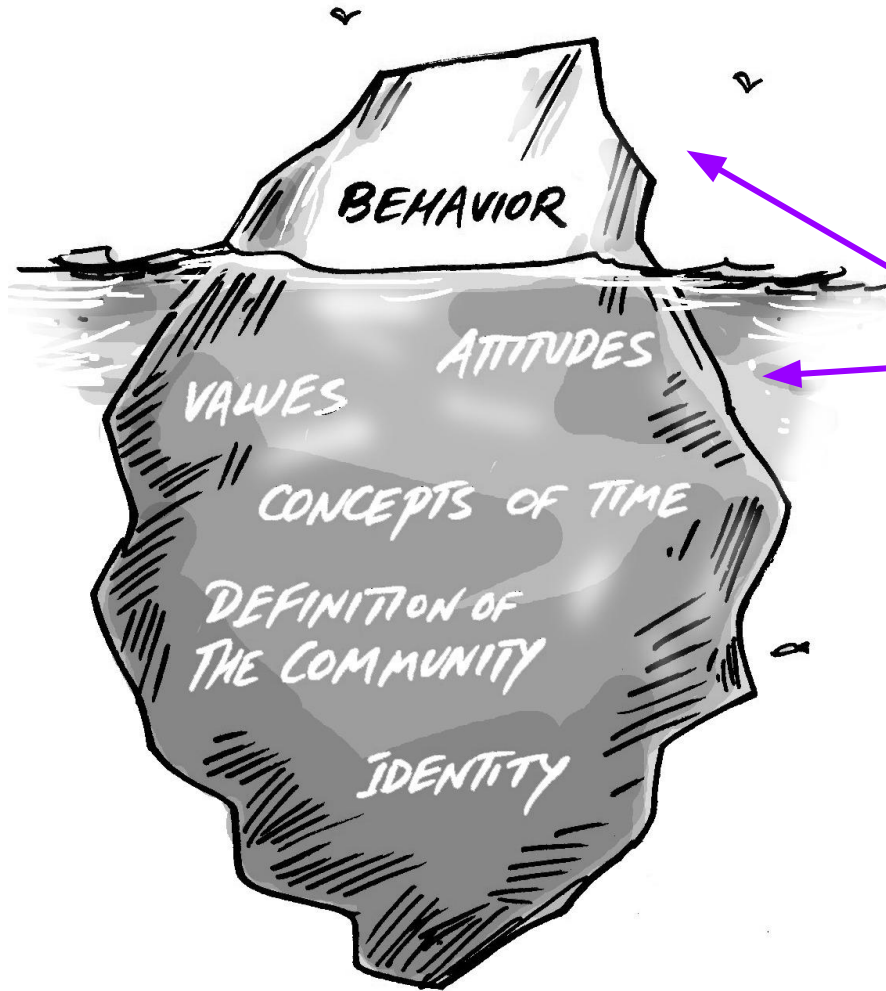


Cognitive psychology is the scientific study of **mental processes** such as "**attention**", language use, **memory**, **perception**, problem solving, **creativity**, and **thinking**".^[1]

The origin of cognitive psychology occurred in the 1960s in a break from **behaviorism**, which had held from the 1920s to 1950s that unobservable mental processes were outside of the realm of empirical science.

KNOW agile



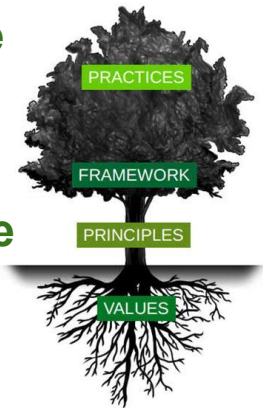


Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) focuses on challenging and changing unhelpful **cognitive distortions** (e.g. thoughts, beliefs, and attitudes) and behaviors, improving **emotional regulation**,^{[2][4]} and the development of personal **coping strategies** that target solving current problems.

"problem-focused" and "action-oriented"

DO agile

KNOW agile

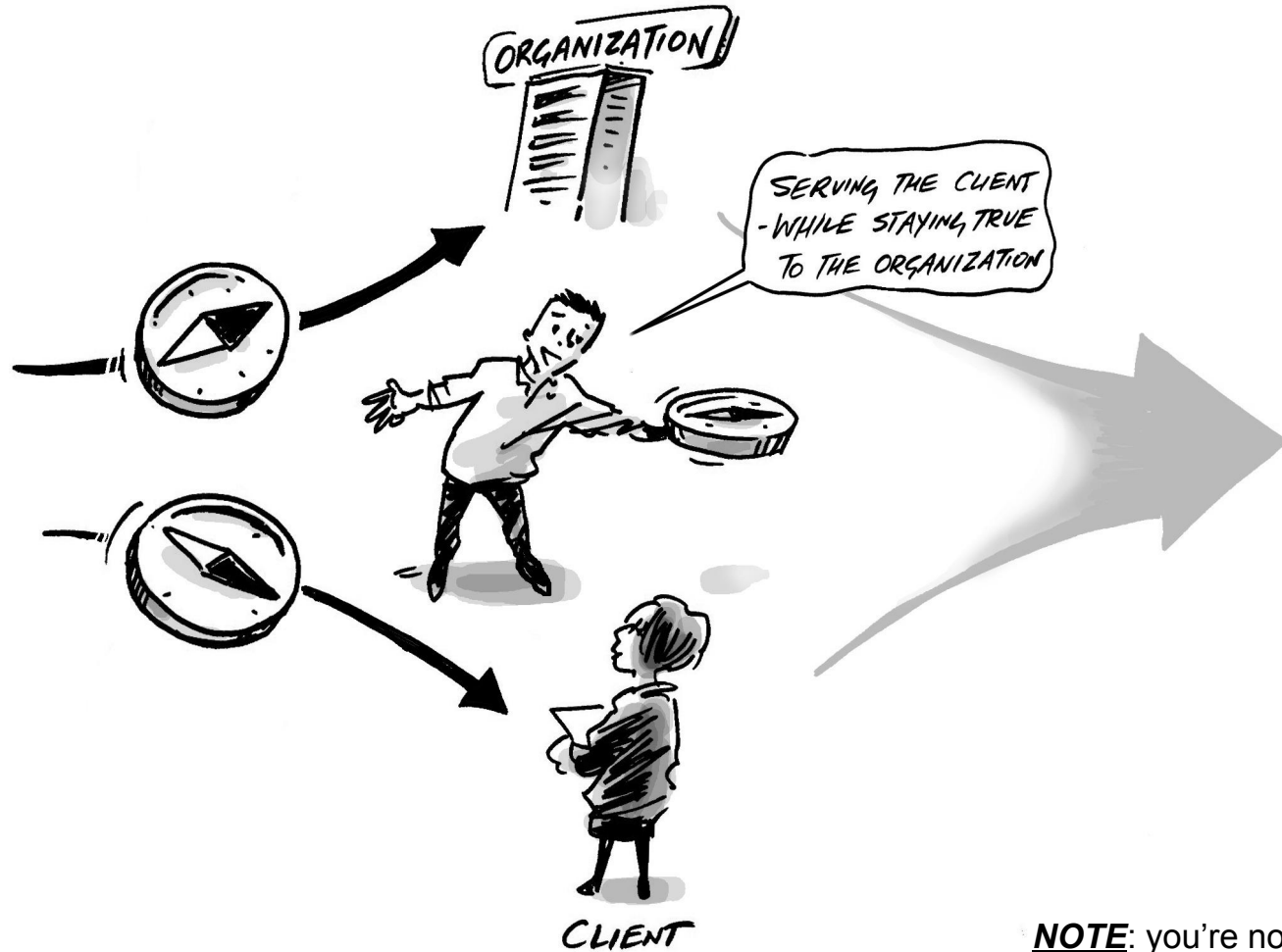




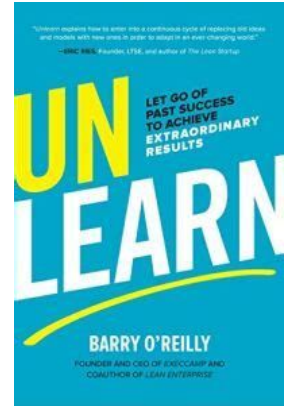
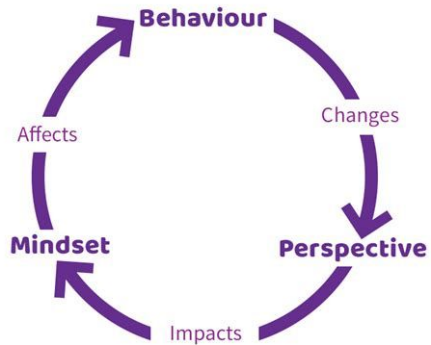
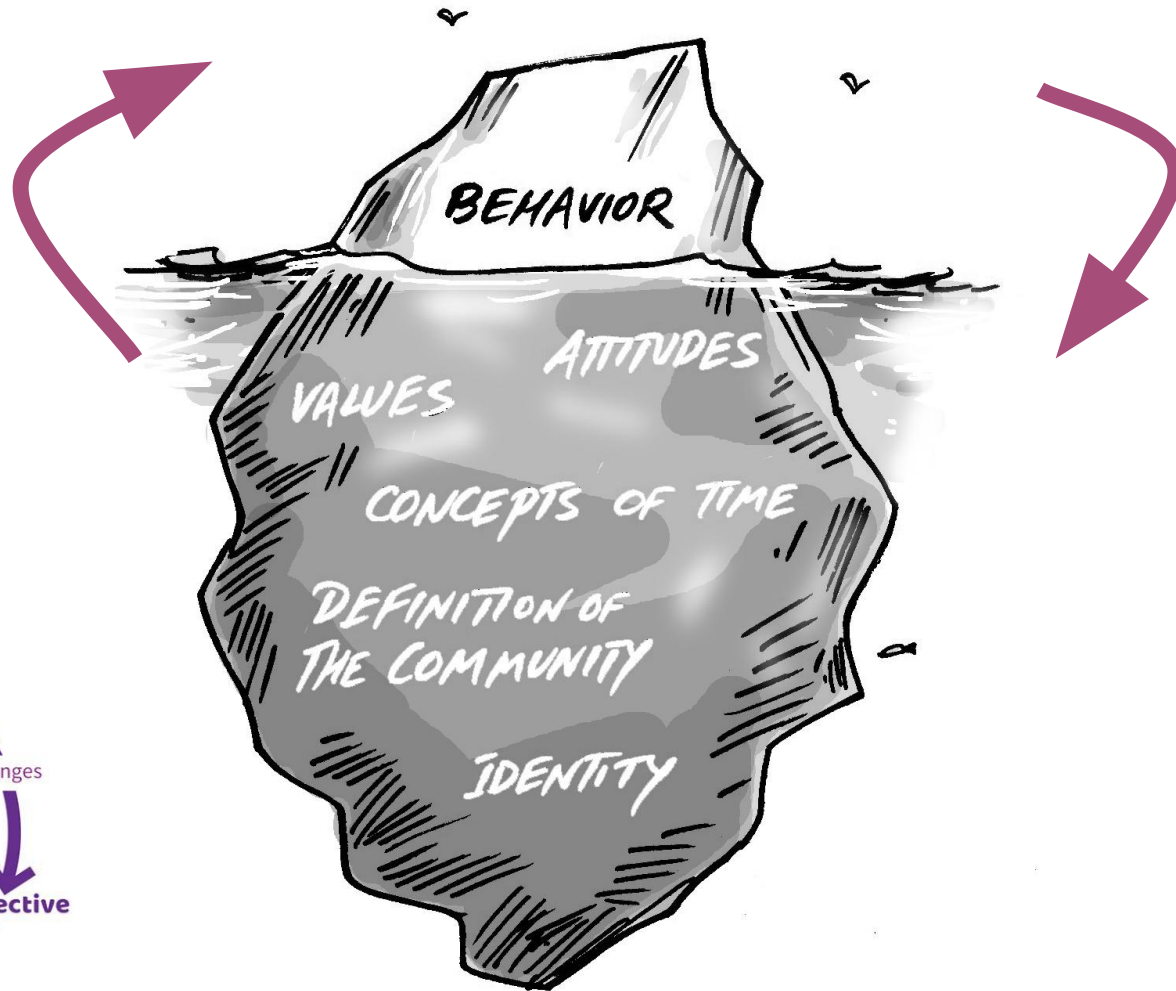
Sow a thought and you reap an action; sow an act
and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a
character; sow a character and you reap a destiny.

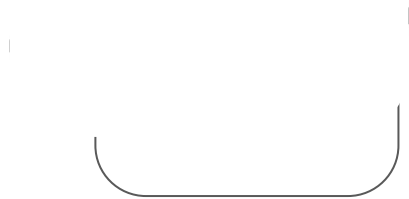
(Ralph Waldo Emerson)

*What thoughts does someone
BEing agile continuously sow?*



NOTE: you're not serving yourself





Habit #1: the expert reaction

“In the beginner's
mind there are
many possibilities.
In the expert's mind
there are few.”

Shunryu Suzuki



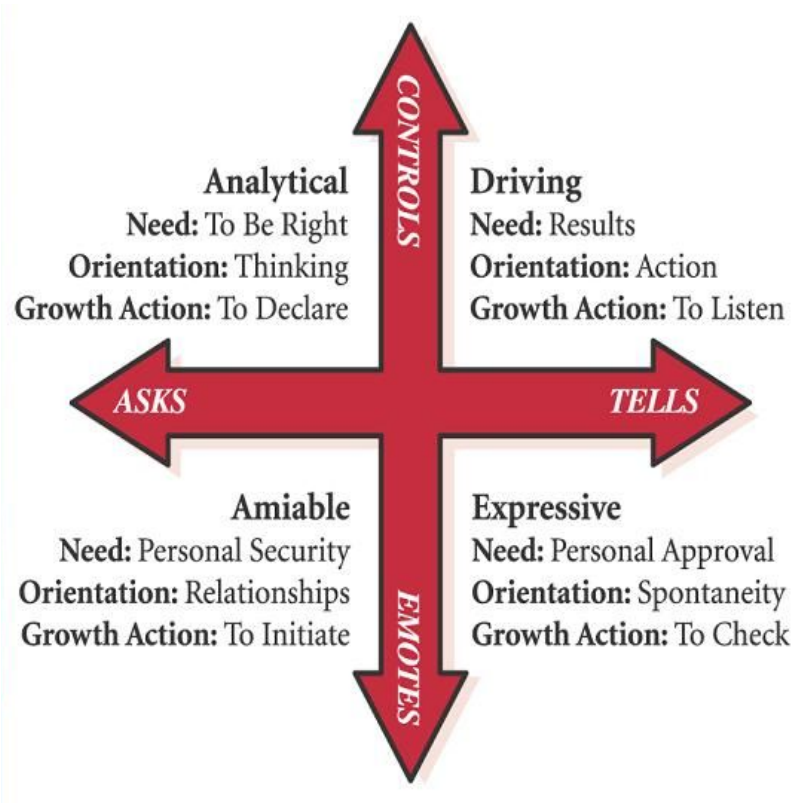
Habit #2: emotion avoidance

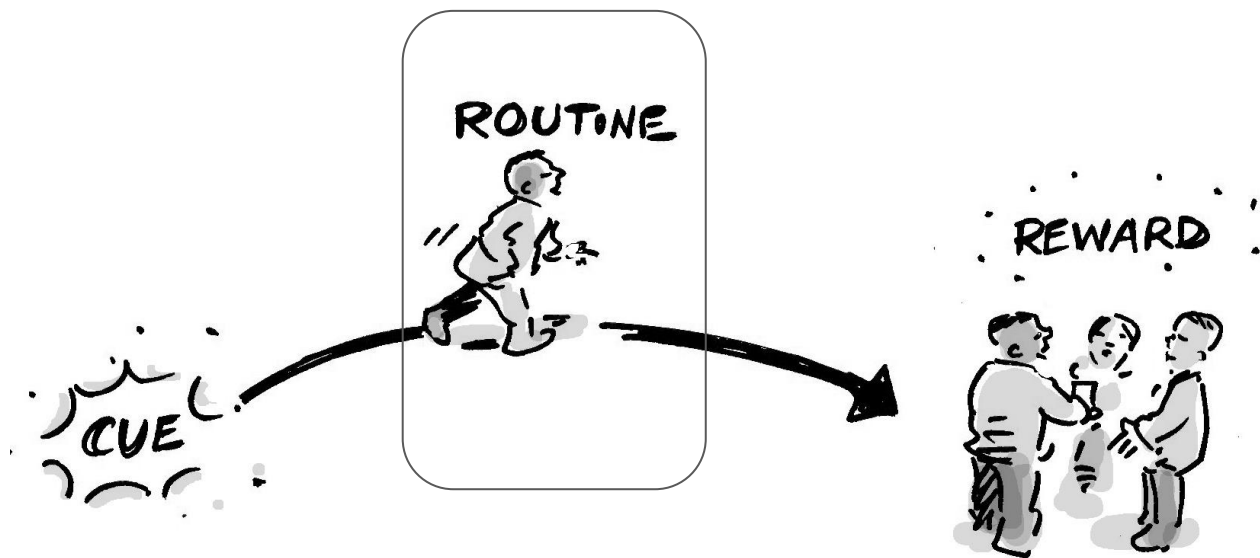


Habit #3: problem solver



Habit #4 social needs





TOPIC: *Being right and solving*

When, where, who of the test: *in the next two days*

When ____ *<<I notice the urge to be right>>* _____ ,
I will try _____ *<<hold back my opinion>>* _____ ,
which is not like me as I would usually *<<be the first to solve any problem >>* _____ ,
because I want to avoid feeling ____ *<<stupid or left out>>* _____ .

The following will happen *<<I'll earn the team's respect and ensure everyone knows I won't tolerate safety destroying behaviour>>*

Insights reflections *<<insert personal reflections, lessons and insights>>*

TOPIC: *Uncomfortable silence*

When, where, who of the test: *in the next two days*

When ____ *<<I ask a question and there's no immediate response>>* _____ ,
I will try _____ *<<sit in silence and let people come up with ideas>>* _____ ,
which is not like me as I would usually _____ *<<fill the silence with my ideas>>* _____ ,
because I want to avoid feeling ____ *<<awkward and uncomfortable>>* _____ .

The following will happen *<<I'll earn the team's respect and ensure everyone knows I won't tolerate safety destroying behaviour>>*

Insights reflections *<<insert personal reflections, lessons and insights>>*

I have the capacity & passion to grow at _____

I'm growing here!

I wanna learn to _____

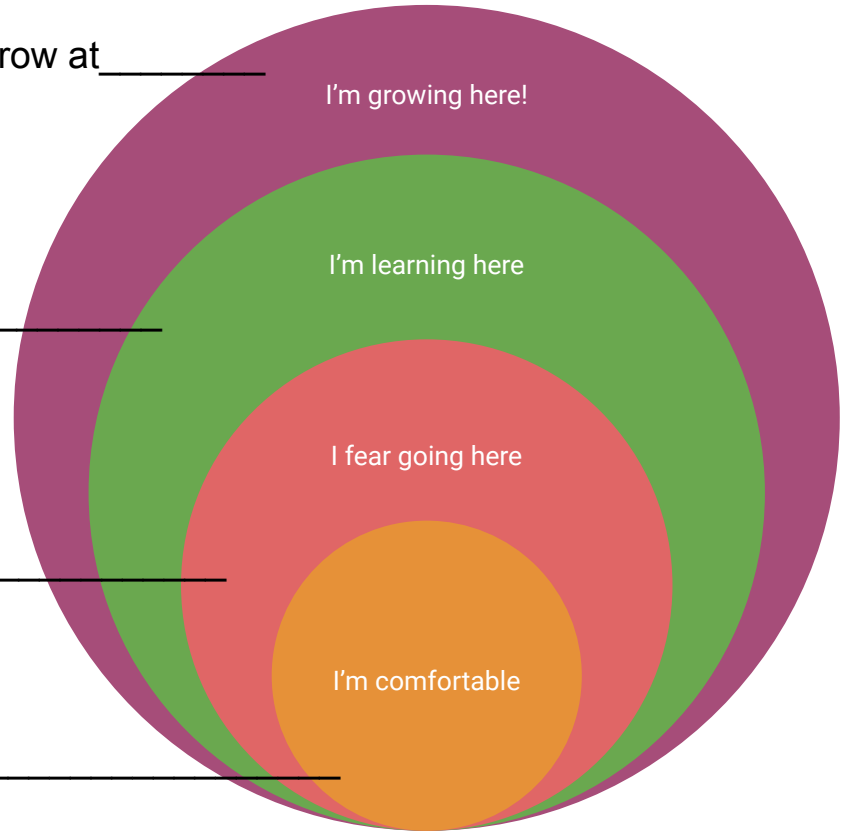
I'm learning here

I need courage to face _____

I fear going here

I don't want to change right now _____

I'm comfortable



Thinking about your goal does it make sense as a “stretch”?



Does your goal evoke feelings of nervousness or slight anxiety?

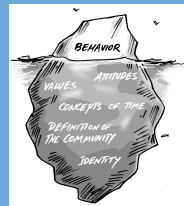


Are you convincing myself that this goal is challenging when it really is not. What’s my intuition say?



TIPS:

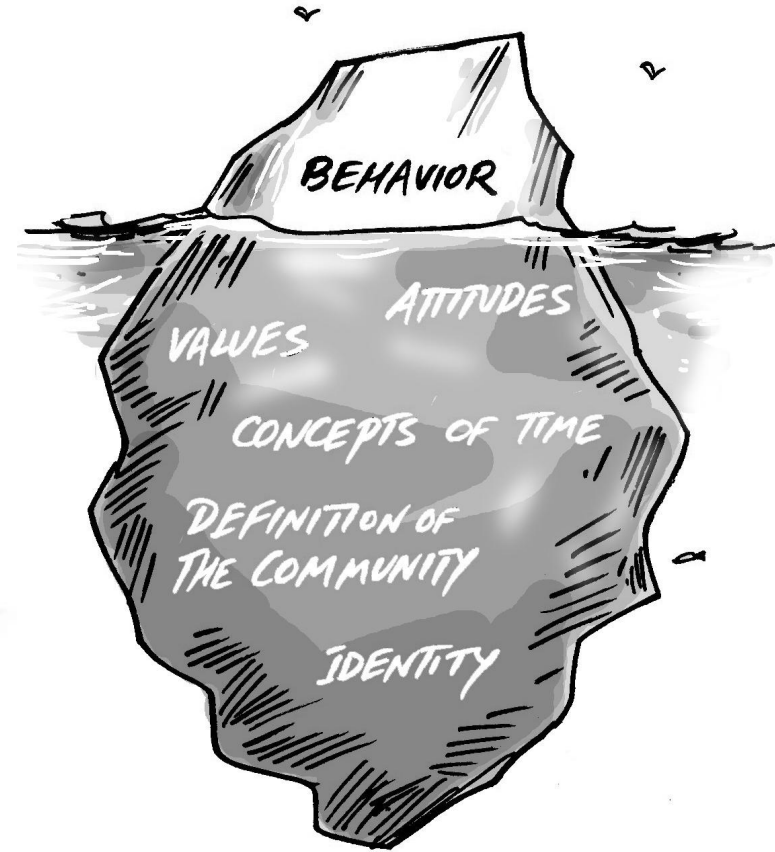
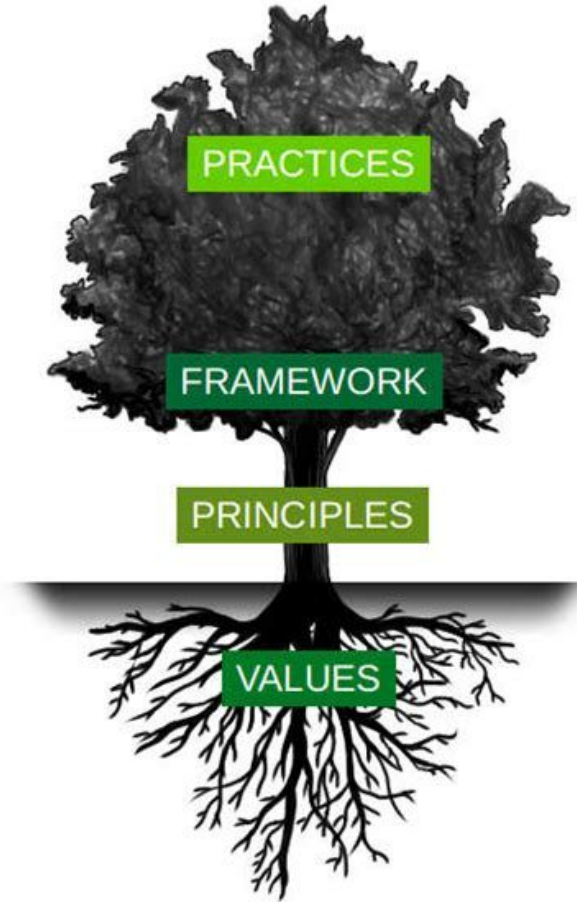
- Ask your friendly “other”
- Re-check as the experiment is live

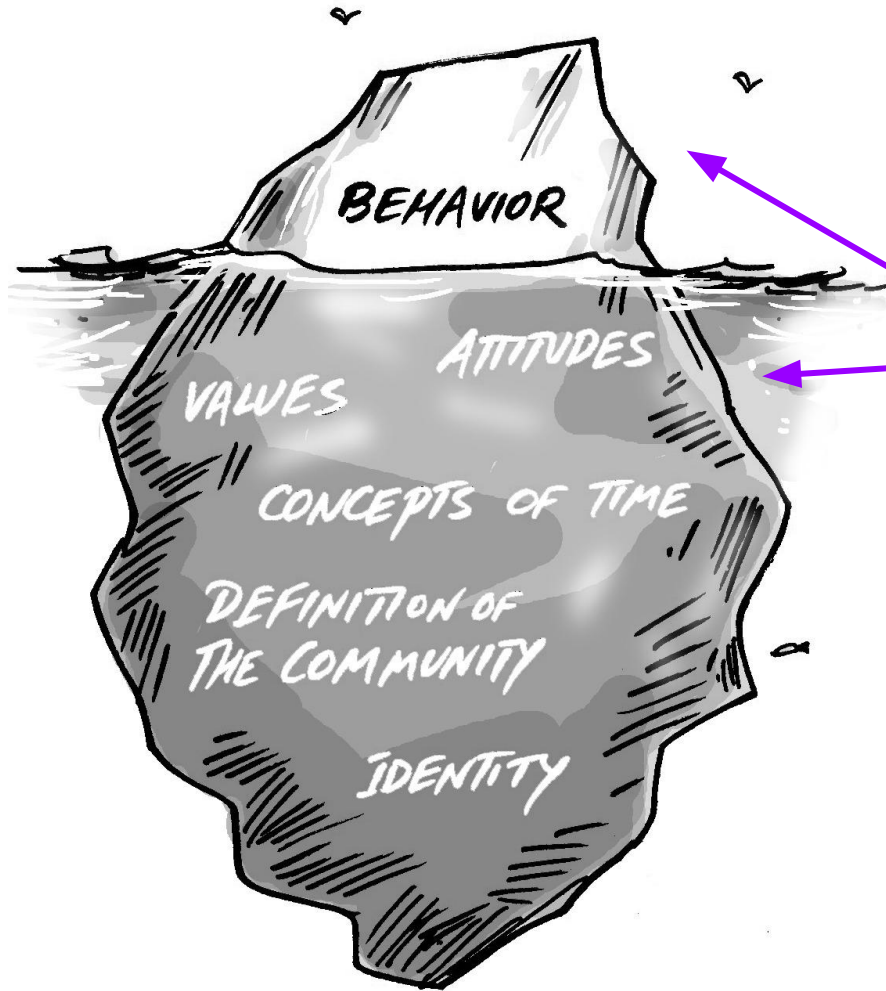


DO agile

KNOW agile

BE agile



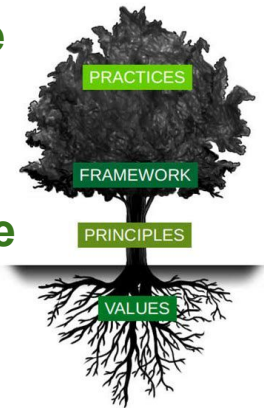


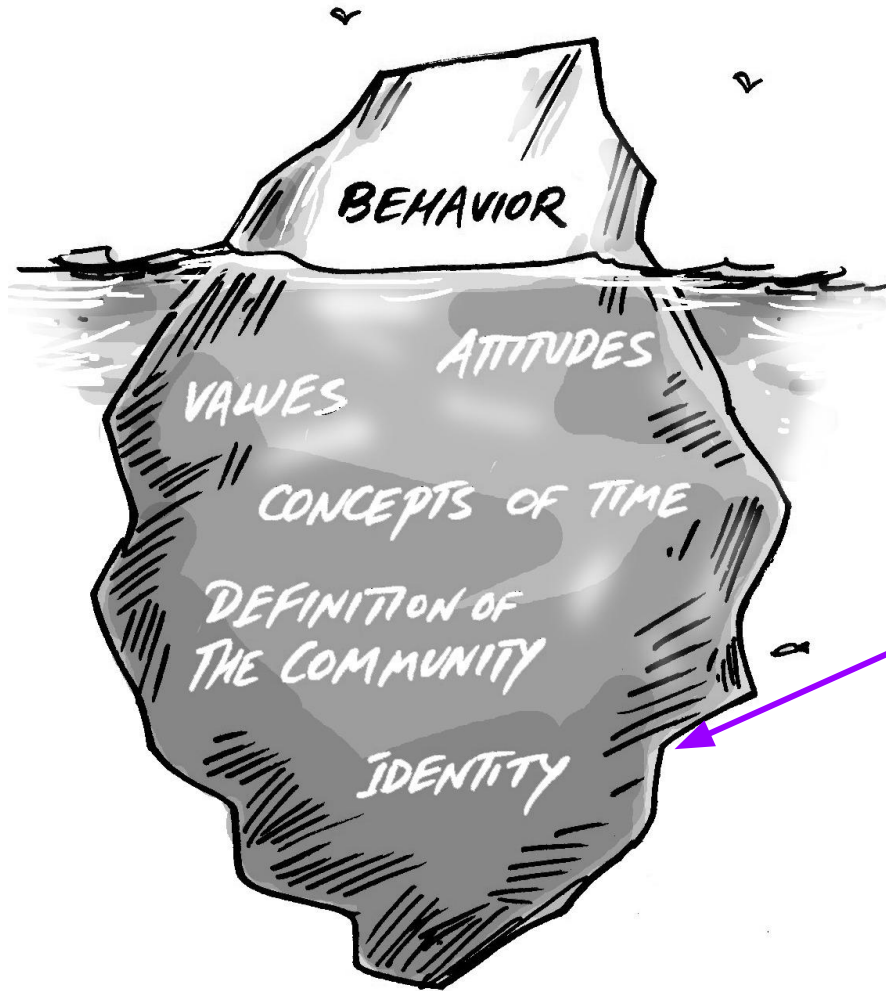
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"problem-focused" and "action-oriented"

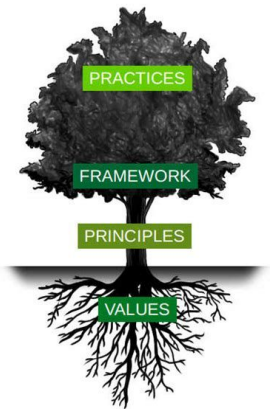
DO agile

KNOW agile





Psychoanalysis (from Greek: ψυχή, *psykhé*, 'soul' + ἀνάλυσις, *análysis*, 'investigate') is a set of theories and therapeutic techniques^[i] used to study the unconscious mind,^[ii]

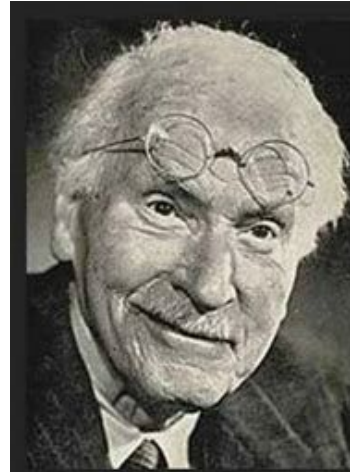


BEing agile

You **shadow** is either an **unconscious aspect** of the **personality** that the conscious **ego** does not identify in itself; or the entirety of the unconscious, i.e., everything of which a person is not fully conscious. In short, the shadow is the unknown side.

**Wholeness for
humans depends on
the ability to own
their own shadow.**

Carl Jung



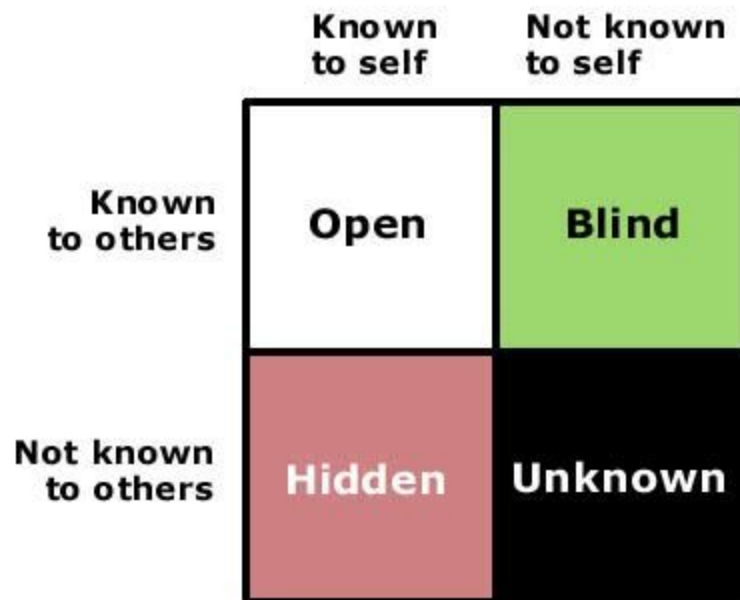
**“One does not
become enlightened
by imagining figures
of light, but by
making the darkness
conscious.”**

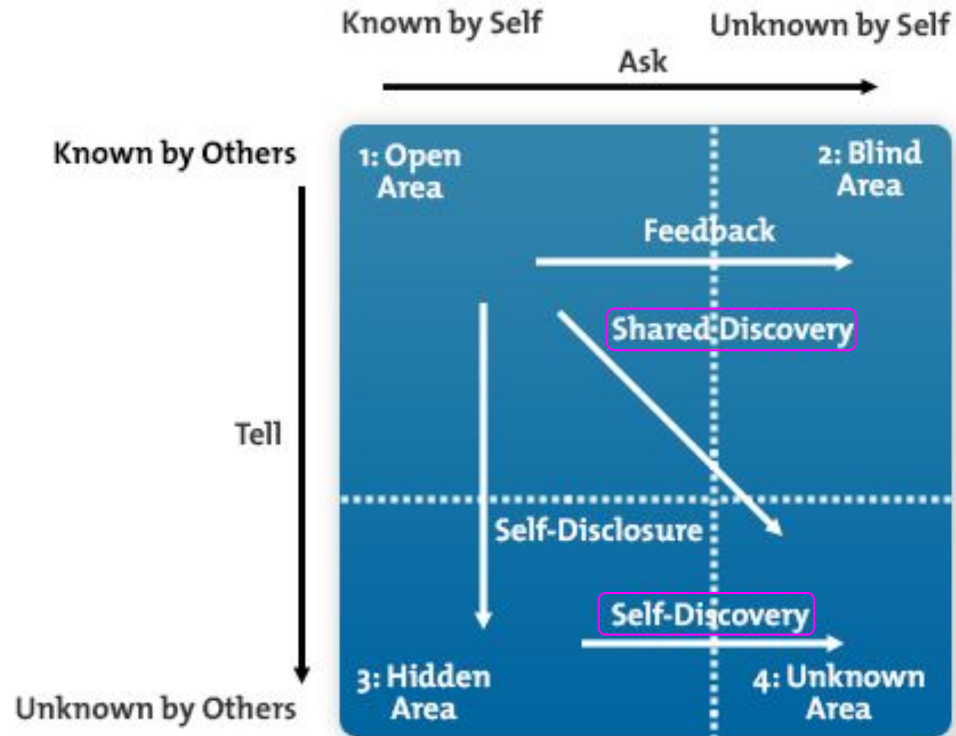
C.G. Jung

DISCLAIMER: Niall is NOT a trained psychologist



The Johari Window





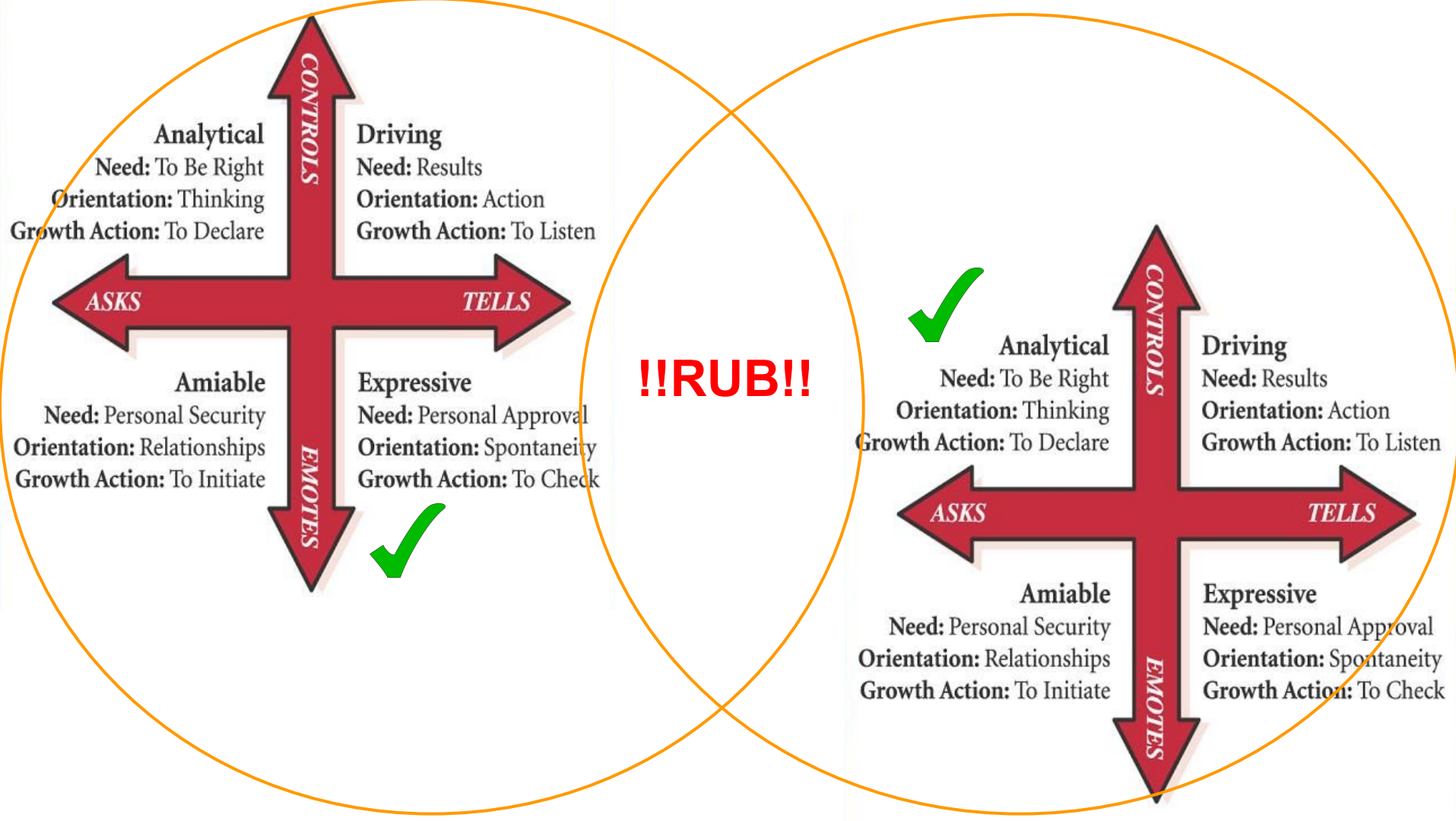
Glimpsing your shadow / shedding light

- Adaptive versus technical learning goals
- Immunity to change coaching
- Mentoring / coaching
- Interpersonal clashes and conflict (best)
- Common patterns across your career / life
- Weak signals trying to talk to you
- All your fails & problems are your fault
- Triggers emotions (high / low)
- Psychometric testing blitz (assume they're right and you're wrong about you)

It's not all about you...



Photo: <https://buddypunch.com/blog/communication-at-work/>

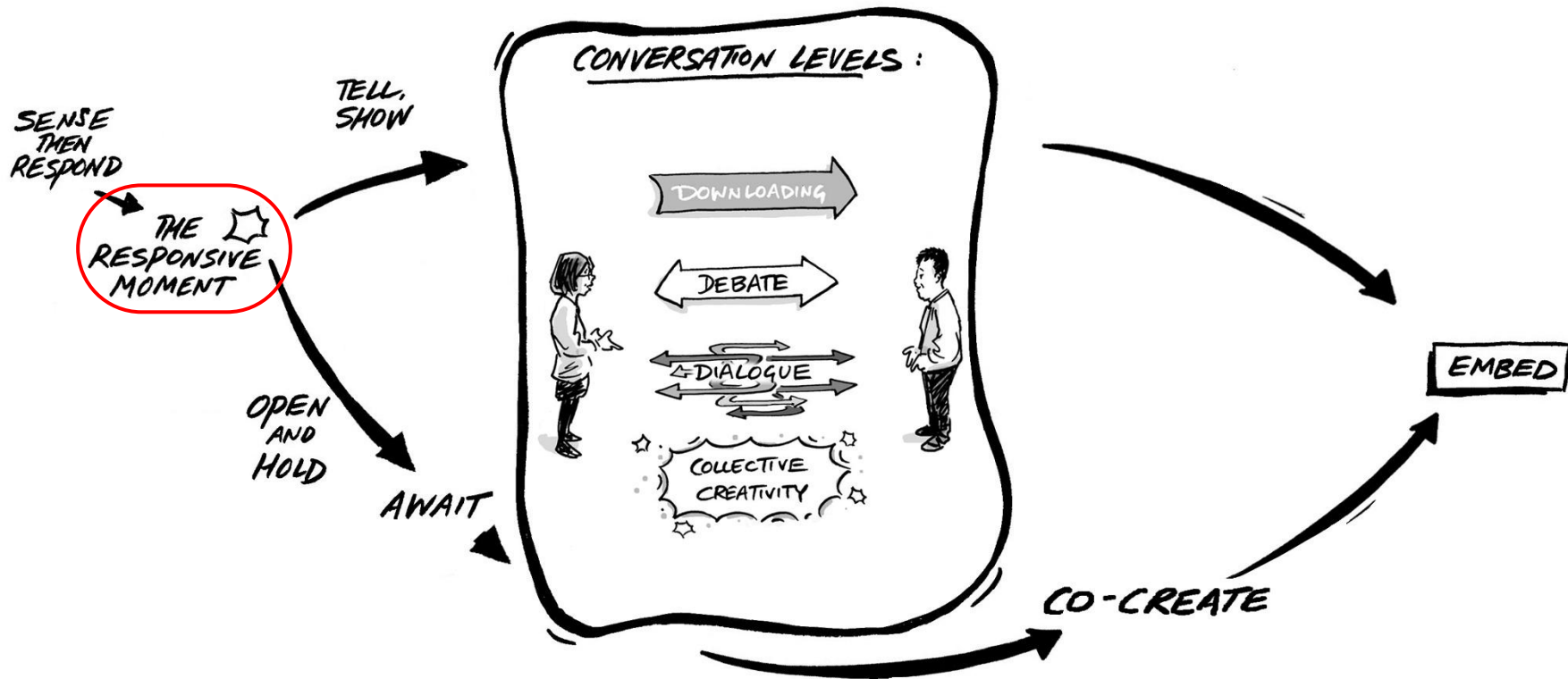


PERSONALITY PIE

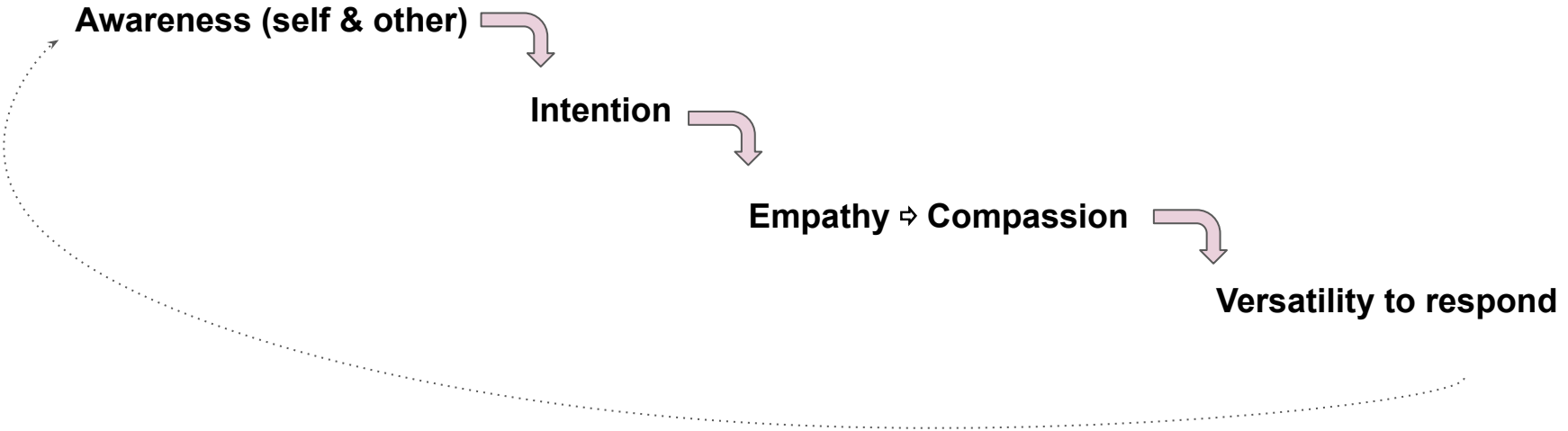


Style is like the crust of the personality pie. It is the part that can be seen – the observable behavior.

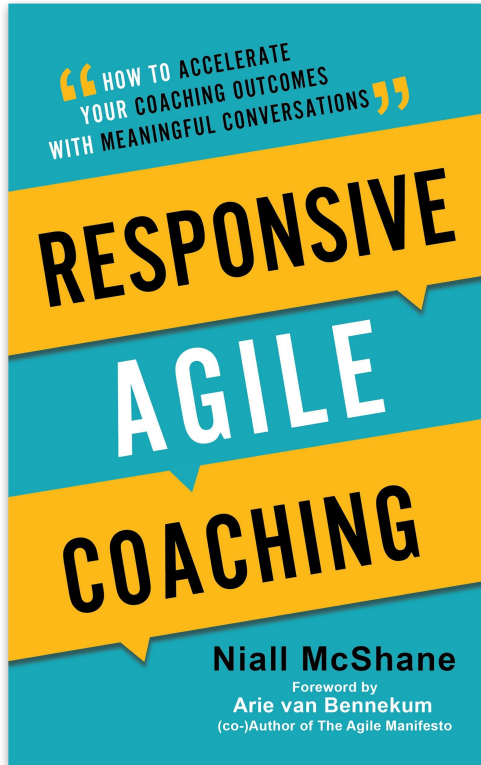
Personality includes inner qualities – attitudes, aptitudes, dreams, values and abilities.



Formulae for BEing agile



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More about me at
www.niallmcshane.com