

#### The Icelandic Horn:

Introducing Culture into Our Discussions of Violence

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## Cedar Counseling Center

- Specializing in domestic violence and sex offender rehabilitation in both English and Spanish
- Addressing specific cultural practices and including them into treatment plans



#### Or Maybe You Have Heard About Us



#### World Travelers

- United States
- Canada
- Mexico
- Peru
- Brazil
- Iceland
- France

- Greece
- Spain
- Australia
- New Zealand
- Jamaica
- South Korea
- Germany

## Why?

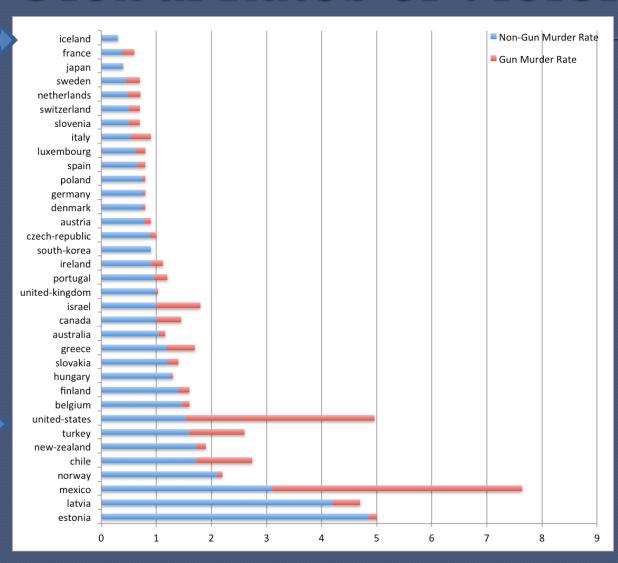


February 14, 2018

# Yes, we know it's a complex issue



#### Global Rates of Violence

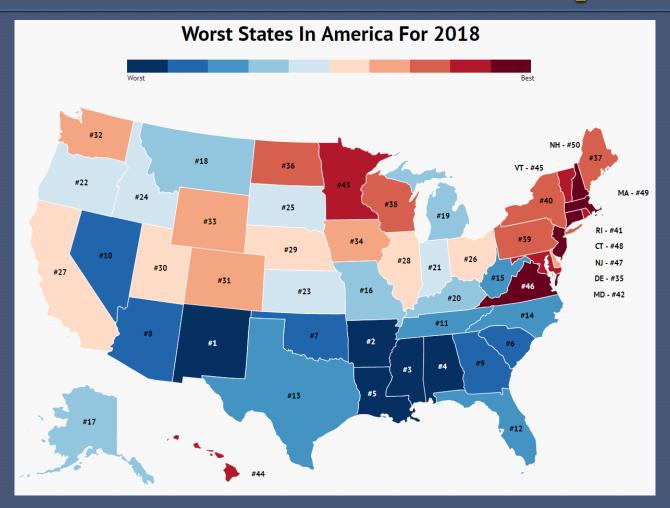


#### Most Dangerous Cities

#### THE FIFTY MOST VIOLENT CITIES IN THE WORLD



## Crime and Violence by State

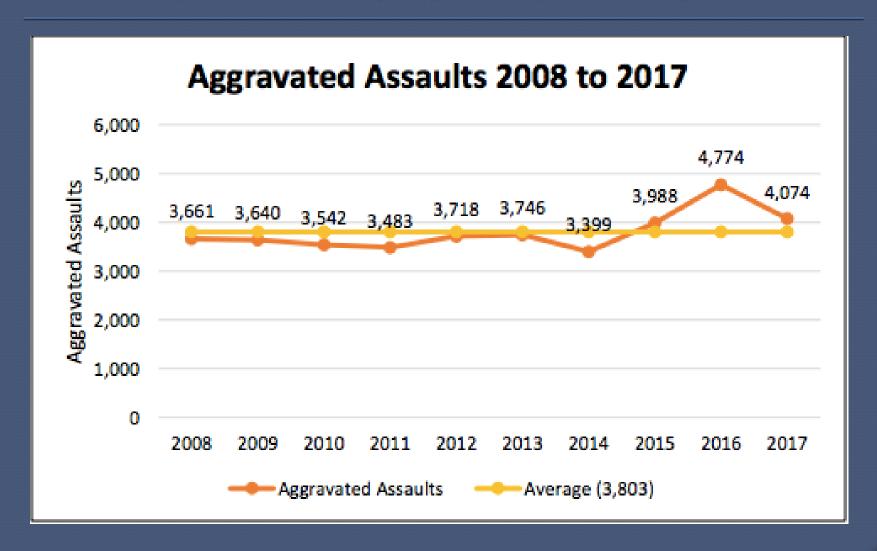


Blue = more violent

## By U.S. City



#### **Utah Violent Crimes**



## Why Not?



#### This is Iceland

why did they call it Iceland?



Kirkjufellsfoss Waterfall

### A gun issue?

United States: 80 guns per 100 residents

Iceland: 30.3 guns per 100 residents

| Country                               | Guns per 100<br>residents (2007) | Rank<br>(2007) | Comments                   |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| United States                         | 88.8                             | 1              |                            |
| Serbia                                | 58.2                             | 2              | [5]                        |
| Yemen                                 | 54.8                             | 3              |                            |
| Switzerland                           | 45.7                             | 4              |                            |
| Cyprus                                | 36.4                             | 5              |                            |
| Saudi Arabia                          | 35.0                             | 6              |                            |
| == Iraq                               | 34.2                             | 7              |                            |
| <b>—</b> Finland                      | 32.0                             | В              | [6]                        |
| uruguay Uruguay                       | 31.8                             | 9              |                            |
| Sweden                                | 31.6                             | 10             |                            |
| <b>₩</b> Norway                       | 31.3                             | 11             |                            |
| France                                | 31.2                             | 12             |                            |
| ■●■ Canada                            | 30.8                             | 13             |                            |
| Austria                               | 30.4                             | 14             |                            |
| H Iceland                             | 30.3                             | 15             |                            |
| Germany                               | 30.3                             | 15             |                            |
| New Zealand                           | 22.6                             | 22             | 1993: 26.8. <sup>[2]</sup> |
| Greece                                | 22.5                             | 23             |                            |
| Northern Ireland                      | 21.9                             | 25             |                            |
| Angola                                | 17.3                             | 34             |                            |
| Thailand                              | 15.6                             | 39             |                            |
| Maria Australia                       | 15.0                             | 42             |                            |
| ■•■ Mexico                            | 15.0                             | 42             |                            |
| South Africa                          | 12.7                             | 50             |                            |
| C- Turkey                             | 12.5                             | 52             |                            |
| <b>■ ■</b> Italy                      | 11.9                             | 55             |                            |
| © Pakistan                            | 11.6                             | 57             |                            |
| Spain                                 | 10.4                             | 61             |                            |
| argentina Argentina                   | 10.2                             | 62             |                            |
| Russia                                | 8.9                              | 68             |                            |
| = Iran                                | 7.3                              | 79             |                            |
| England and Wales (England and Wales) | 6.2                              | 88             |                            |
| Scotland                              | 5.5                              | 93             |                            |
| China                                 | 4.9                              | 102            |                            |
| India                                 | 4.2                              | 110            |                            |
| Tunisia                               | 0.1                              | 178            |                            |

### Iceland's Gun-Related Shootings

- 2007 P-T-P
- 2013 SWAT the first time ever:
- "The police regret this incident and wishes to extend it's condolences to the man's family."



#### WT...H?

"The nation does not want its police force to carry weapons because it's dangerous, it's threatening," (State Run News Spokesperson) Arnorsdottir says. "It's a part of the culture. Guns are used to go hunting as a sport, but you never see a gun."

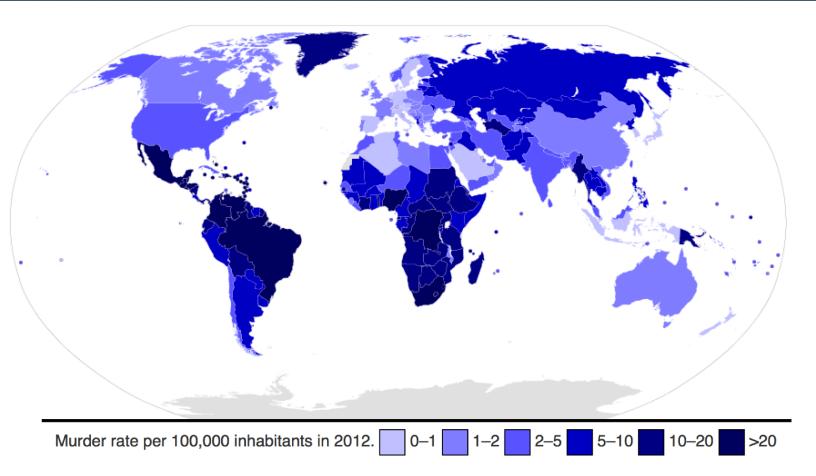
# Did you know?



### What's the point of having guns?

- Sport, target shooting & Hunting
- You don't take them in public
  - "When people view guns as a tool of self-defense they make them more accessible."

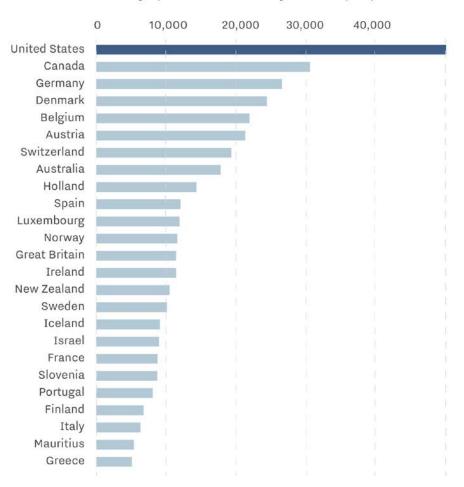
## Is it drugs?



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of countries by intentional homicide rate#/media/File:Map of world by intentional homicide rate.svg

## Americans consume more opioids than any other country

Standard daily opioid dose for every 1 million people



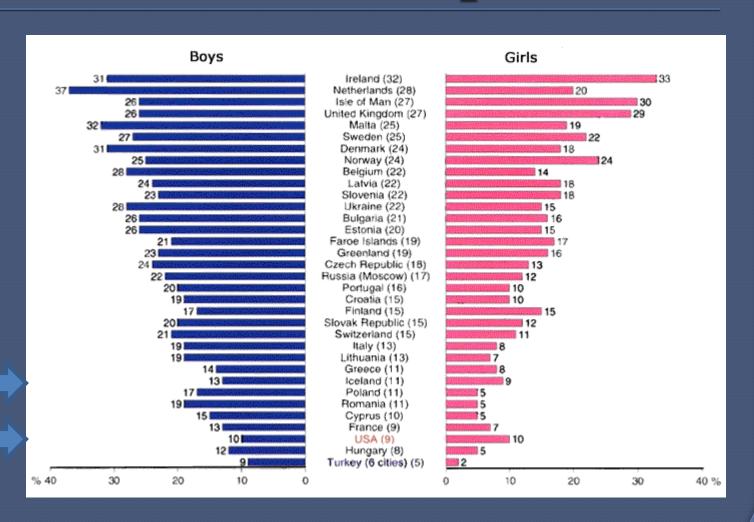
Opioids?

Source: United Nations International Narcotics Control Board

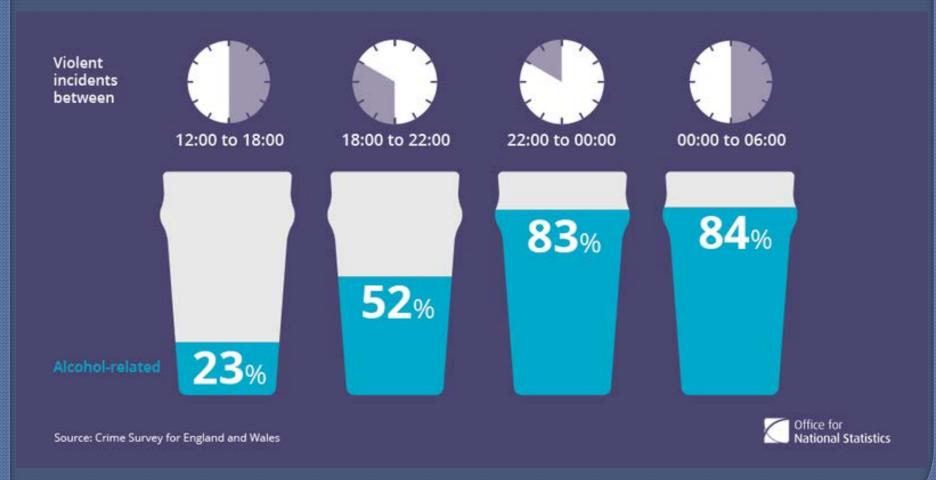
Credit: Sarah Frostenson



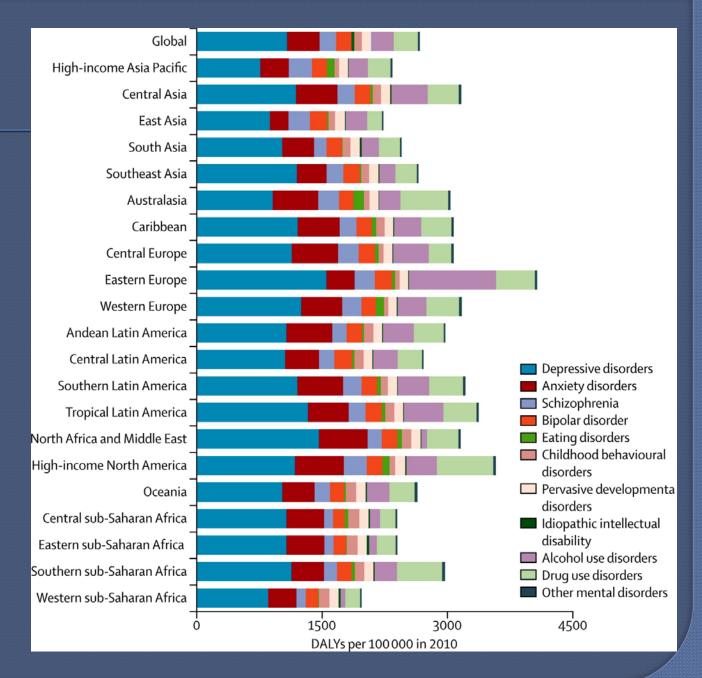
## Alcohol Consumption



## Alcohol Consumption & Time



Can't be
mental
health – it's
consistent
everywhere



#### Global antidepressant drug consumption visualised

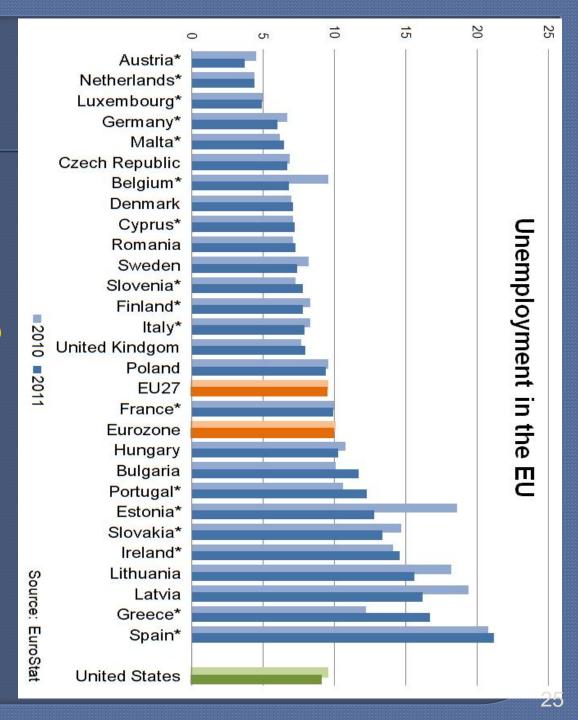
Defined daily dose, per 1,000 people per day in 2013



• Did You
Know?

Iceland: 118 daily doses per 1,000 people As of 2/2018 Iceland's Unemployment rate was 2.7%

Is it unemployment?



# Hey, Where's Your Homeless Population?



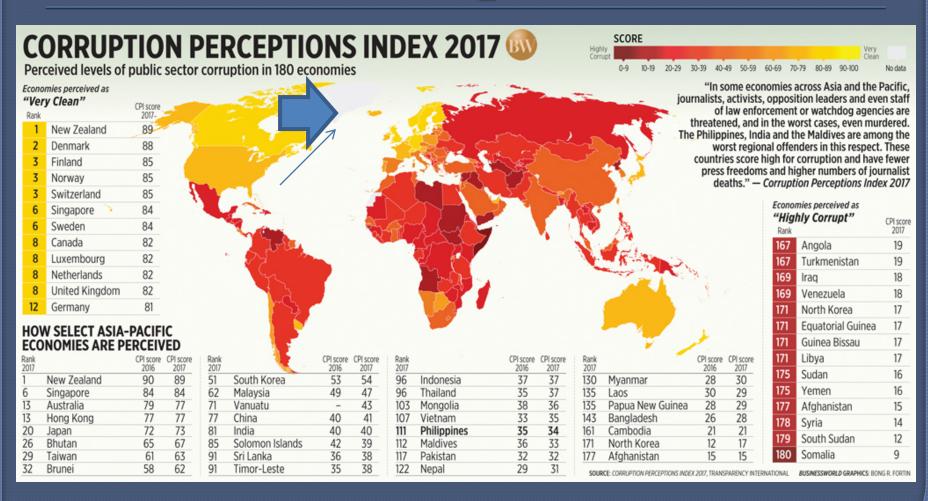
# Economic Capital Inequity in Resource Distribution

Stratification cultures = Inequality

Surplus = potential inequality

Survival during resource shortages
 = unequal access to wealth =
 increased "mortality" in lower
 classes

## Corruption



## Arni Johnsen, PM



Linoleum

## Did you know?

This is Iceland

Iceland let its 3 biggest banks fail after the 2008 financial collapse

Iceland bailed out its citizens instead.

Iceland prosecuted those banksters that caused the meltdown.

Iceland had one of the strongest economic recoveries ever.

Be like Iceland.

# Did You Know? Millenials

**Table 6.** Correlations (r) Between the NPI Total Score, the NPI Scales of Leadership/Authority, Grandiose Exhibitionism, and Entitlement/Exploitativeness, the Psychological Entitlement Scale, and Measures of "Pathological" Narcissism (Study 3)

|  |                 | NPI Scale Scores         |                            |                                  | Psychological        |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
|  | NPI Total Score | Leadership/<br>Authority | Grandiose<br>Exhibitionism | Entitlement/<br>Exploitativeness | Entitlement<br>Scale |
| Psychological Entitlement Scale                | .41             | .26                      | .32                        | .36                              | _                    |
| Pathological Narcissism Inventory              | .14             | 02                       | .13                        | .30                              | .28                  |
| Narcissistic vulnerability                     | .05             | 10                       | .07                        | .32                              | .24                  |
| Entitlement rage                               | .31             | .08                      | .30                        | .44                              | .46                  |
| Contingent self-esteem                         | 04              | 19                       | .06                        | .23                              | .14                  |
| Hiding the self                                | 07              | 06                       | 15                         | .05                              | 02                   |
| Devaluinga                                     | .02             | 07                       | 01                         | .31                              | .19                  |
| Narcissistic grandiosity                       | .29             | .15                      | .20                        | .16                              | .26                  |
| Exploitativeness                               | .40             | .27                      | .18                        | .31                              | .25                  |
| Self-sacrificing self-enhancement <sup>a</sup> | .11             | .06                      | .13                        | 02                               | .12                  |
| Grandiose fantasy <sup>a</sup>                 | .17             | .05                      | .16                        | .09                              | .22                  |

Note. NPI = Narcissistic Personality Inventory. The Psychological Entitlement Scale used here refers to the measure developed by Campbell et al. (2004). The Pathological Narcissism Inventory used here refers to the measure developed by Pincus et al. (2009). Entries in boldface are significant at p < .05.

a. Variables for which the difference in dependent correlations between the Psychological Entitlement Scale and the NPI scale score for Entitlement/ Exploitativeness was significant at .05.

#### I broke the law



"But rules are made..."

## We're different



#### Genetics

#### Inherently Species-Driven



Capuchin Monkey Experiments

Fairness/ "fair share"

Punishment of those receiving "more"

Spite

## Did you know?



Skolavordustigur

#### Genetics & Evolution

Monkeys and Humans

- Attachment
- Rank & "Class" (hierarchy)
- •Peer Group Influence
- Rough and Tumble Play
- Testosterone = Aggressive behavior
- Stress/ Trauma (effects on cognition, learning, memory, impulse control, empathy)
- Empathy, reward & benevolence

# Some Monkeys



# Not Every Monkey

- Group cohesion differs
- Old World Monkeys =
   males more aggressive
   (vs. others have few M-F behavioral differences in pair bonds)
- Aggression/Violence
- Anxiety = nurture/ sex



### DID YOU KNOW?



Macaques

#### Hormones?

- In Primates
  - Aggression related to Testosterone
- In Non-primates
  - Aggression enhanced by Testosterone
  - Aggression enhanced by Testosterone + Estrogen
- Both Male and Female Primates
  - Aggression increases during menses
  - Aggression related to high T & E ratio

## Did You Know?



## DID YOU KNOW? Oxytocin

- Good: Social behavior, bonding, trust, emotional sensitivity
- Bad: Out-Group bias, hinders trust, reduces cooperation, triggers schadenfreude,



### Schadenfreude



#### Cultural



Ivar the Boneless

"Berserkr"were feared by enemies and even their battle companions"

#### Cultural Universals

- Aesthetics
- Magic
- Baby talk
- Gods
- Induction of altered states
- Marriage
- Body Adornment
- Nepotism
- Afterlife
- Music
- Color terms
- Prohibitions
- Toilet training

- Kinship terms
- Numbers
- Cooking
- Names
- Dance
- Play
- Rituals
- Gossip
- Binary sex
- Humor
- Lying
- Symbolism
- Tools

## Key Cultural Universals

- Murder & Violence
- Prohibition of violence & types of murder
- Right vs. Wrong
- Conformity
- Fairness
- Perception of gender = different natures
- Private sex & Prohibition on types of sex
- Empathy
- Reciprocity

# Key Differences Collective vs. Individualistic



#### **Basic Human Interactions**

Giving and Receiving Benefits

TAKE

**ALTRUISM** 

#### **EXCHANGE**







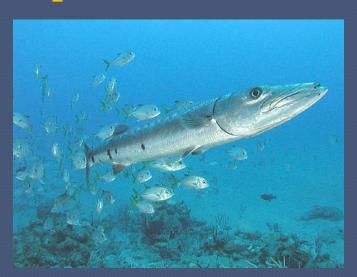
#### Individualistic Values

- Competition
- Achievement
- Dominance
- Looking out for #1
- Autonomy
- Uniqueness
- Noncooperation (vs. noncomformity)
- Needs & rights of the individual

Kill them with kindness and bury them with a smile.

# Individualistic Parenting

- Speak louder, loud music, animated expression
- View self as teacher rather than protectors
- Influential
- Leader
- Autonomy
- Value high energy affect
- Individual competition
- Hobbies of doing (vs. observing)
- Verbal assertiveness (vs. Cooperation)



### Community of Sufferers

Individualistic Cultures Pull Together When...



"The worst of times, the best of times"

# Collective



Relational

#### Collective Values

- Selflessness
- Community
- Affiliation
- Needs of group guide behavior
- Harmony & Interdependence
- Conformity = morality
- Supporting others is essential
- Relationships are stable, strong and longlasting ("new" relationships are hard to form)

## Well, that would explain...



#### Icelandic Collectivism

- Everyone needs to pitch in (winter = survive)
- Anonymity
- Social approval
- Not impossible to reach people of power
- Equal Opportunities:
  - 95% Rate selves as middle income (low poverty or wealth)
  - Health care
  - Attend same schools
  - Less fear

## Collective Parenting

- Mothers spend more time soothing
- Maintain contact
- Contact with other adults
- Value low arousal affect
- Co-sleeping

- Cooperation
- Fitting in
- Sharing
- Get along, think of others, accept and adapt
- Morality and conformity

# Individualistic vs. Collective Perceptions

- Define self personally: "I am a counselor"
- Memory = personal events: "I learned how to ski"
- Intrinsic Success = "I'm really good at ..."
- Norm Enforcement = guilt: "How could I live with myself?"

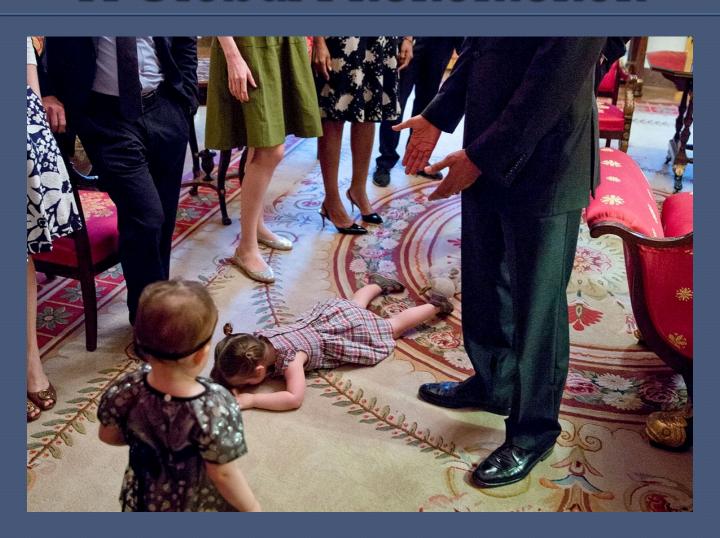
- Define self relationally: "I'm her husband/ their child"
- **Memories:** "That's the summer I met you"
- Success = situational:
  "Right place, right time"
- Norm enforcement = shame: "What will people think?"

## Relational Identity

#### Influence:

- Americans = remember how they <u>influenced</u> <u>someone</u>
- East Asians remembering who influenced them
- Brains activate (emotion + PFC):
  - Individualistic = when looking at <u>pictures of</u> themselves
- \*Force an American or East Asian to do the opposite and they secrete stress hormones

# Temper Tantrums: A Global Phenomenon



# All Cultures: In Group/ Out Group

- •Belonging & Security
- •Perception = shared experience
- Social ID's = shift to fit in
- Resources to members
- Similarities & affinity
- Positive Judgments
- Suffered in similar ways

#### All Cultures

#### IN GROUP

- Bias/ Favoritism
- Leniency, cover-ups, excuses
- More extreme decisions
- Increasingly "antisocial" = forgiven
- Bias & Favoritism
- Contempt & Hostility for the outgroup

#### **OUT GROUP**

- Incompetent
- Discrimination
- A threat
- Hindering In Group
- Harsh Judgments
- Derogation
- Focus on differences
- Negative image/ memory

## Reciprocal Responsibility

•"...the motivation and likelihood for helping ...may differ if the recipients are considered ingroup or out-group members."

# Back to Iceland: Hey, It's Awful Quiet Here



#### Attitudes & Schemas

- Retribution
- Sensitivity to Violence
- Violent attitudes: when is it acceptable?
- Trauma Schemas (Mistrust and Abuse): expectation others will hurt, abuse, humiliate, cheat, lie, manipulate
- •Narcissism = Entitlement/ Grandiosity

### Honor Cultures

- Willing to die for your honor ("better to come back in a coffin than a coward")
  - honor killings
- Reputational consequences for failing to do so
- Power Vacuum = minimal presence of rule of law
- Prestige is lost if challenges are left unanswered
- Taking retribution after affronts to the self, family, clan and place

# Did you know?

#### Chiefs or Sachems

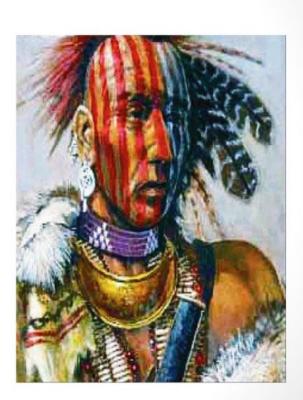
- Iroquois society was run by a council of 50 chiefs called Sachems
- These men were chosen by the women who led the maternal families

#### Civil Chief

Directed the normal activities of the clan

#### Military Chief

 In charge of settling conflicts with other groups



# So What Are We Saying and Doing? Theory into Practice



#### Our Perception of

#### Violence and Peace

- Aggression may be biological but the expression is <u>CULTURAL</u>
  - How we organize the culture
  - How we think consciously and not
  - How we feel and not
  - How we develop relationships with family and strangers
  - How we perceive and act on violence

### Do this



# Reykjavik & Urban Planning



# Downtown Reykjavik



## Plaza in Peru



# Canadian Community Centre



## DID YOU KNOW?



The Hopi's and the Nuns

#### Collective Wellness

- Collective NOT Individual
- Restorative Justice
- Look into societies who claim to have wellness, what does "taking care of people look like?"
  - Financial risks & equity
  - Gender equity
  - Mental and Physical Health
  - Emotional: 93% of Philippines people report feeling loved (Armenia is 29%)

#### Collectivists

- It only works if EVERYBODY listens, gives, trusts
- Everybody takes responsibility
- Identity is connected with each other
- Tolerance
- The Culture, The Community, The Family
- Better perspective-taking = empathy
- Norm enforcement = you took so return it

#### We All Own It

How do you contribute to aggression in society?

#### Need

- Love
- Warmth
- Affection
- Reliability
- Happy knowing you exist (abortion rates)

- Responsiveness
- Stimulation
- Consistency
- Poor attachments lead to anxiety, depression

#### Benefits of Altruism

- Tranquility
- Connections/ intimacy
- Improved Self-Worth
- Greater Optimism
- Raised Self-Esteem
- Compassion Satisfaction
- Physical health/longer life
- Decreases in depression & helplessness

#### The Pizza Rule



Punishment = Exclusion

# Did you know?



SOCIAL FACTORS = TRAUMA RECOVERY

# Questions?



Start the Turn