

Easily Dealing with Conflict and Stress

Peter Freeth Matt Hatson



Easily Dealing with Conflict and Stress

Understand the short and long term effects of stress

Manage demands on your time more easily

Navigate workplace conflict to deliver win/win outcomes



- **Understanding Stress**
- ★ Stress reduces performance and productivity
- ★ Stress shortens your life
- *Stress caused by conflict reduces your business productivity
 - Increases absenteeism and staff turnover
 - Reduces personal productivity
 - ★ Reduces sleep
 - ★ Reduces cognitive capacity



Stress

- ★ Stress caused by conflict with difficult clients (and colleagues!) causes you to...
- ★Lose sleep
- → Have difficulty thinking straight
- ★ Become unproductive
- ★ Suffer increased blood pressure
- → Die at a younger age up to 20 years younger



What is Stress?

- ★ Stress is the result of opposing forces
- Stress in any system will cause friction, and eventually failure of one or more components
- Would you drive your car with one foot on the accelerator and one on the brake?





We Cope with Stress by Shutting Down





Resolving Stress

- *Avoid cycles of stress and self-medication
- ★Understand why you're taking on too much
 - Proving that you can manage it all
 - **★** No-one said you couldn't
 - Proving that you are the best
 - **★** Who are you competing with?
 - Proving that you're successful
 - **★** No-one cares



Resolving Stress

- Understand why you're taking on too much
- ★ What are you afraid will happen if you don't do it?
- *And if that happens, then what?
- *And how important is that to you, really?



Resolving Stress

- ★ Stress is not caused by other people
- ★ Driving fast will not damage a car engine
- *Lack of maintenance will damage a car engine
- ★ Stress is caused by a barrier inside of you
- ★ That barrier is fear



Fear Creates Stress

- You take on too much work because of fear
- being good enough
- *France ei gij ded Care S
- *When you acknowledge the fear, you take control of it
- ★ No-one can use it to coerce you into taking on work



Manage Demands on your Time





Time

- ★ You can't manage time
- ★ It passes at the same rate whatever you do
- Choose what to do with the time you have
- ★ Because if you don't...
- ★ Someone else will



Time Management Woes?

- ★ If you find yourself saying 'yes'...
- ★ You are giving your time and focus away
- *And that must mean...
- ★ Your time has no value
- ★It's free
- ★ Here, take as much as you like



Time Management Woes?

★ Do you give your money away so freely?



What you Really Want to Say



No





Conflict







What you Actually Say



Yes



The Problem

There is only ever one problem

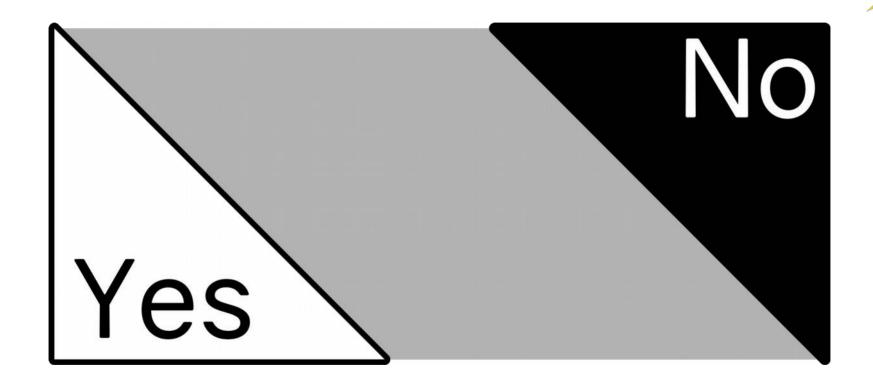
A faulty belief

That there are only two options

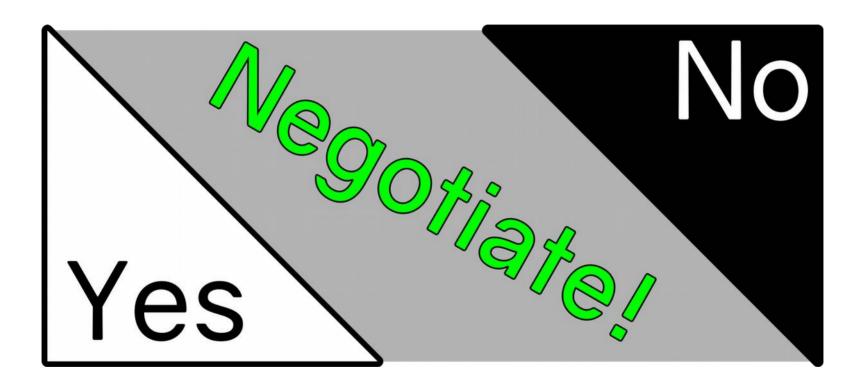
















"Can you do this for me?"

Yes...





cpd.works

Examples

- ★ Can you get this report finished by 5:00 today?
 - ★ Yes, if you can get me all the information by 2:00
 - * Yes, if you speak to my boss and clear my diary
 - ★ Yes, if you find someone to help me
 - * Yes, if you extend the deadline on this other work
 - * Yes, if you supply me with coffee on demand
- ★ My help is valuable, and therefore has a price



Navigate Conflict

- The root cause of conflict is a belief that resources are limited
- *A simple way to resolve conflict is to have a bigger goal or plan
 - A salesperson with one customer will usually concede more, out of desperation
 - ★ A salesperson with many customers will usually create more value by defending his or her position



Navigate Conflict

- ★ How can we have both?
- ★ How do we create more resources?



Navigate Conflict

- ★ Workplace conflict is often caused by one person making a promise that they had no authority to make, and then expecting you to honour that commitment
- ★ Your options are:
 - Say yes, creating conflict for yourself
 - Say no, creating conflict with them
 - ★ Defer to your boss



Enjoy Conflict

- ★In general...
- ★Internal conflict creates stress, and stress is dangerous
- External conflict can be a sign that you're stopping other people from taking advantage of you
- External conflict can be caused by your self-respect being inconvenient for others
- **★** How is that a bad thing?



Easily Dealing with Conflict and Stress

Understand the short and long term effects of stress

Manage demands on your time more easily

Navigate workplace conflict to deliver win/win outcomes





cpd.works www.geniuslearning.co.uk