### **Deep Release** Online Professional Training for Counsellors

### Working with Gestalt in the Counselling Room

## Gestalt Concepts



### **Fritz Perls**

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<u>1951</u>	work and the second sec	
Gestalt Therapy EXCITEMENT AND GROWTH IN THE HUMAN PERSONALITY	1968	193
EXCITEMENT		
O 2022 Deep Release Ltdu	GESTALT THERAPY VERBATIM Frederick S. Perls	<b>W</b> 50s

93	Born in Berlin into a Jewish family
	Tearaway child; later trained in medicine
26	Became interested in existential philosophy;
	met his wife to be, Laura
28	Trained to become a Freudian analyst but
	fell out with Freud. Turned to Gestalt
	Therapy.
33	Fled from Hitler to Holland and then S.Africa
	<ul> <li>started a training institute</li> </ul>
WII	His entire family killed in the Holocaust
s/60s	Trained and set up Gestalt Institutes around
	the world.
70	Died aged 76

#### **Stuck Places**

Gestalt suggests we gets stuck in fixed patterns and beliefs about ourselves that get in the way. Gestalt Therapy aims to uncover these patterns and to help us see how we are being held back from living freely.

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### The Way you See the World!



### Making Sense of our World



### **Micro Processing & Active Curiosity**



#### **Figure and Ground**



Our brain groups together elements that look the same into one whole picture



Something that 'doesn't' fit in. It catches our eye!

The whole is made up of different interacting parts – we can isolate them, examine and analyse them, and then reassemble them as a whole.

http://www.loyno.edu/~zemmels/A201/lecture/visual\_theory/gestaltprinc.html

#### **Gestalt Concepts**

# An organised whole that is different from the sum of the parts





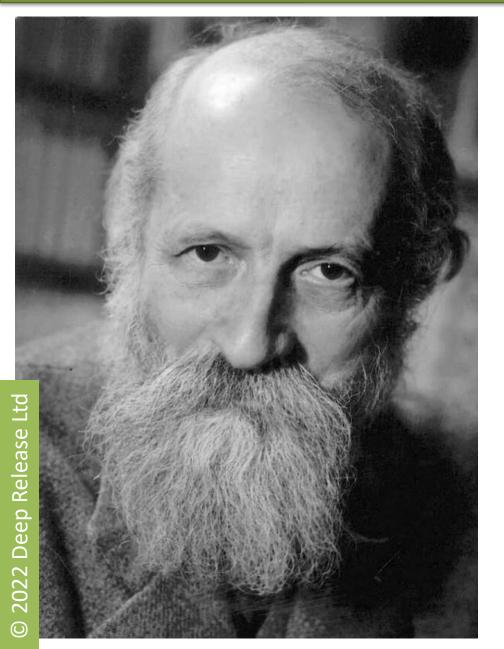
### Each component is a part of a system of dynamic relationships

### An organised whole that is different from the sum of the parts

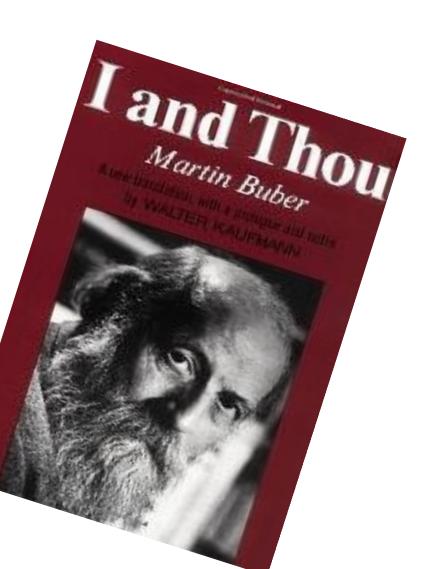
# The I-Thou Relationship



### **The I-Thou Relationship**



## *"Ich und Du"* Martin Buber 1923



### Here and Now

#### **IMMEDIACY**

#### What is happening now gives clues to what happened then



### "Just notice that..." "Be aware that..."

#### "Can we try something?"

change blog.com

"The therapist's job is to invite clients into an active partnership where they can learn about themselves by adopting an experiential attitude towards life in which they try out new behaviours and notice what happens."

### NOTHING HAPPENS until the pain of REMAINING THE SAME OUTWEIGHS the pain of CHANGE.

~ Arthur Burt

rls, Hefferline & Goodman, 1954 (in Corey 2005)

### The Dialogic Relationship



**Confirmation** Presence I am fully I accept you present with unconditionally you, in the I value you and here-and-now, fully receive in an honest, you authentic relationship

Inclusion l enter your world with embodiment, feeling and thought, and my own perspective

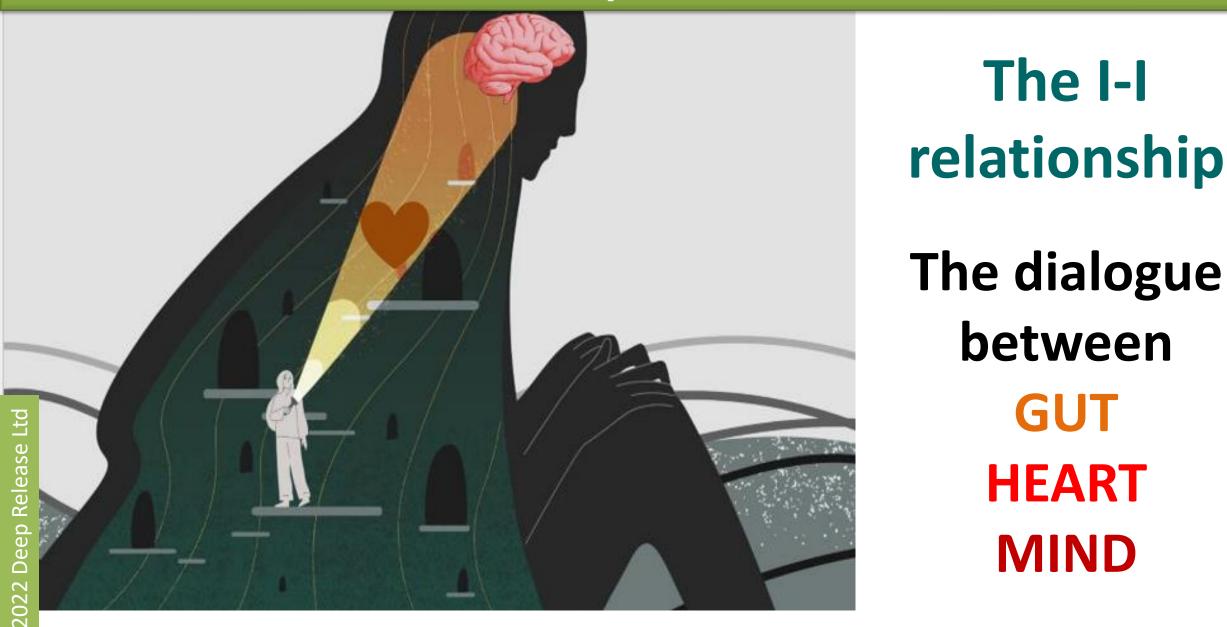
Open communication We build the road as we travel, discovering together, each of us sharing and experiencing

# The Gestalt 'Prayer'

I do my thing and you do your thing. I am not in this world to live up to your expectations, and you are not in this world to live up to mine. You are you, and I am I, and if by chance we find each other, it's beautiful. If not, it can't be helped.

Gestalt Prayer ~ Fritz Perls

#### **Gestalt Concepts : AWARENESS**



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https://www.trainingjournal.com/articles/features/self-awareness-indispensable-tool-when-it-comes-innovation

# Responseability



### **Gestalt Concepts**

### **Response-ability**



### Choices

- I become increasingly aware of myself and all my senses
- I gradually assume ownership of my own experience
- I take responsibility for what I think, feel and do
- I take responsibility for the consequences of my actions
- I seek to acquire values and develop skills to live as full a life as possible, without violating the rights of others
- I can give help to, and receive help from, other people

https://www.trainingjournal.com/articles/features/self-awareness-indispensable-tool-when-it-comes-innovation



## Fairy Tale session with Morag

### Pause for Reflection

### Which Fairy Tale character would <u>you</u> be? Who would you talk to?

Share in Buddy Groups Option 1 Practice

Would one of you like to continue working with their Fairy Tale? Choose a counsellor and a client and have a go!



elease



# Share in Buddy Groups Option 2 Discussion

- 1. What did you think of the different Gestalt concepts? Which impacted you most?
- 2. Have you worked with Fairy Tales? Share your experience.
- 3. How did Morag use the fairy tale to work with Response-ability?

### **15 minutes**







# Comments/ Questions

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# The Gestalt Cycle of Awareness

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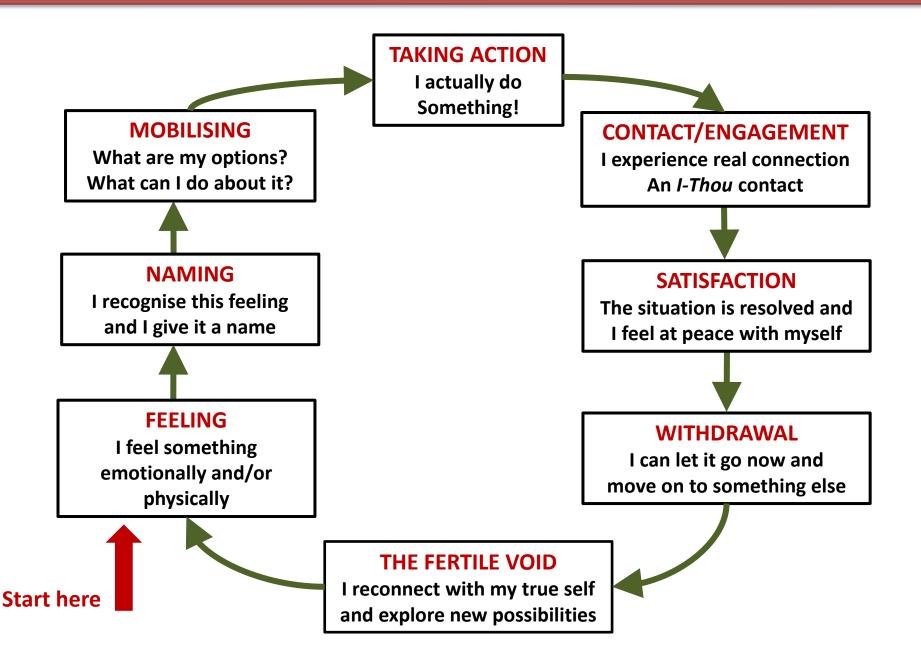
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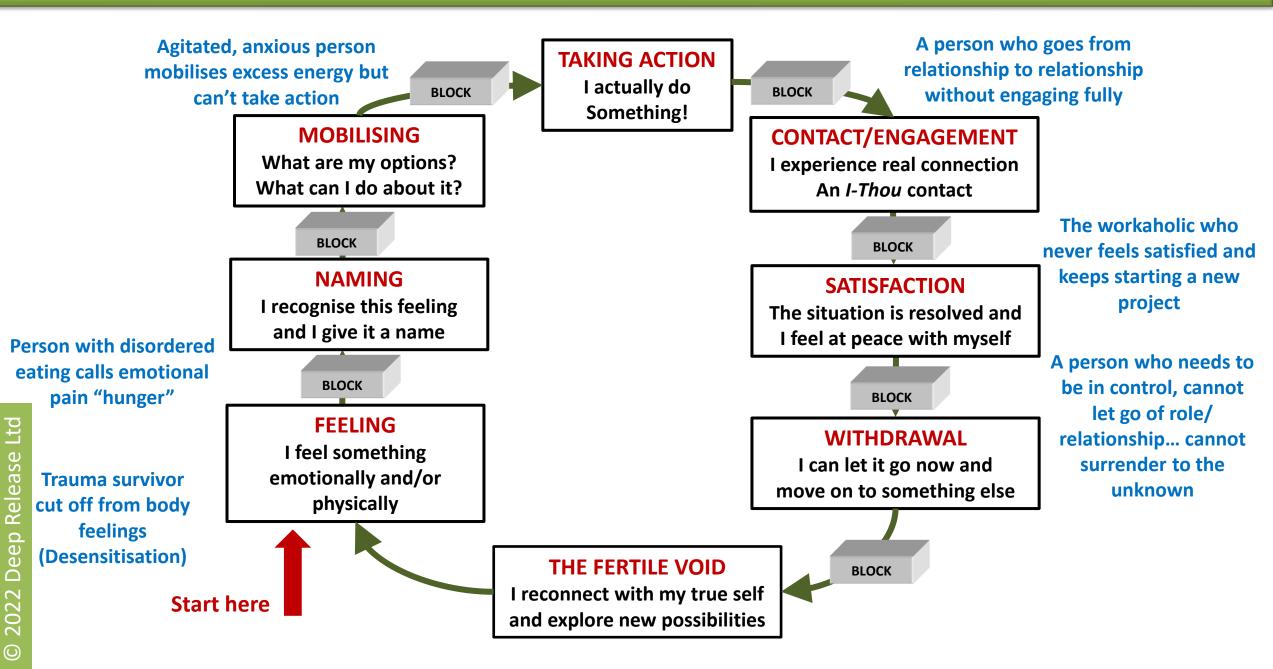
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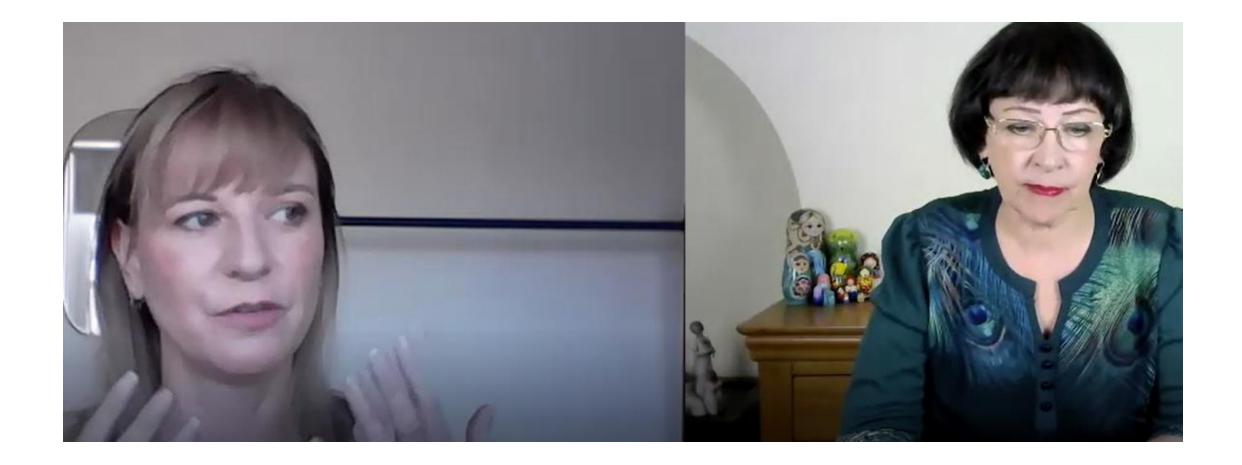
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#### THE GESTALT CYCLE OF AWARENESS



#### THE GESTALT CYCLE OF AWARENESS





### The Cycle of Awareness

with Katy Bodman



### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### **Pause for Reflection**

# Share in Buddy Groups Option 1 Practice

### Would you like to try working with the Cycle?

Choose a counsellor and a 'client' and have a go!

**15 minutes** 



### Share in Buddy Groups Option 2 Discussion

- 1. Share your thoughts on the Gestalt Cycle of Experience / Awareness.
- 2. Which parts do you relate to most? Where do you block?
- 3. How did you relate to Katy's experience?
- 4. Would you use this with your clients?

### **15 minutes**







# Comments/ Questions

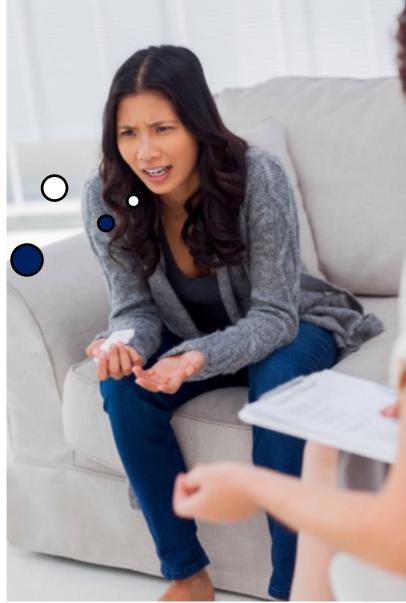
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#### THE EMPTY CHAIR



#### **THE EMPTY CHAIR : UNFINISHED BUSINESS**







# Healthy Ways of Experiencing Life

- Live in the 'now'
- Live in the 'here' of the immediate situation
- Accept yourself as you are
- See your environment and interact with it as it is, not as you wish it to be
- Be honest with yourself
- Express yourself in terms of what you want, think and feel, rather than manipulating yourself and others through rationalisations, expectations, judgements and distortions

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending. C.S. LEWIS

# Share in Buddy Groups Option 1 Practice

Would you like to try working with the Cycle?

Choose a counsellor and a 'client' and have a go!

15 minutes

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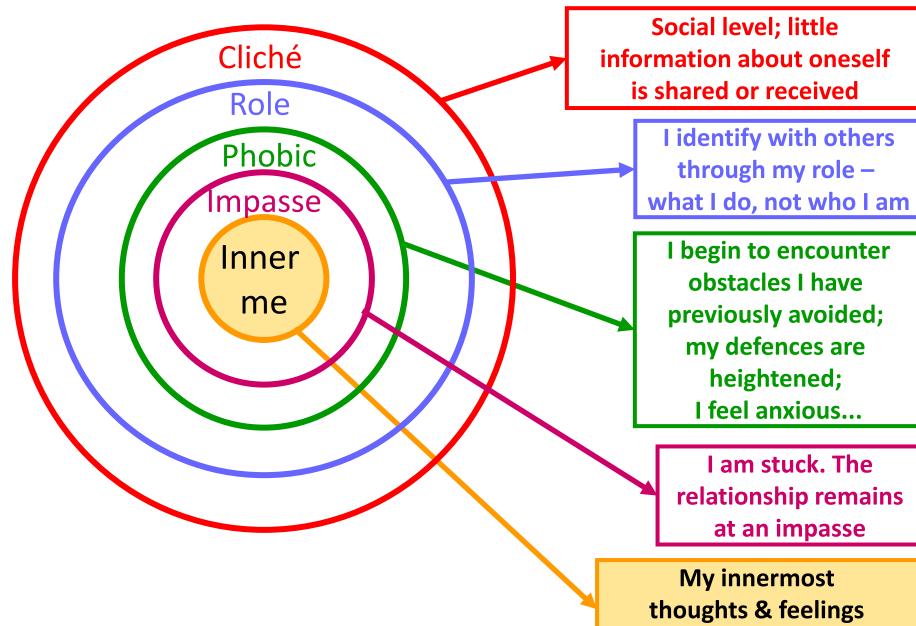
## Share in Buddy Groups Option 2 Discussion

- 1. Share your thoughts on the Gestalt Cycle of Experience / Awareness.
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## **15 minutes**



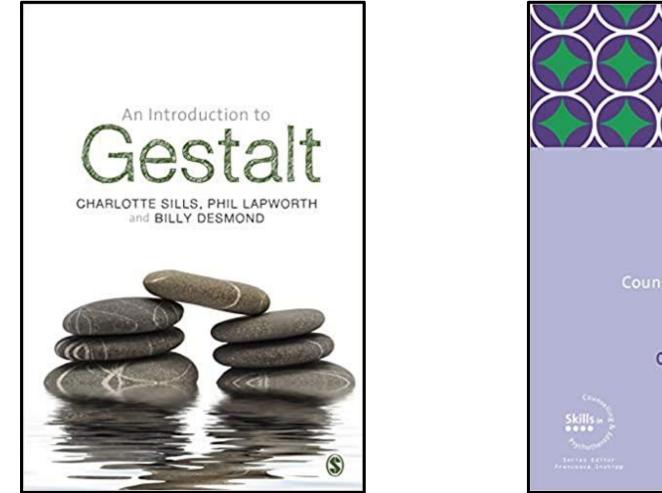
#### WHO AM I WITH YOU?

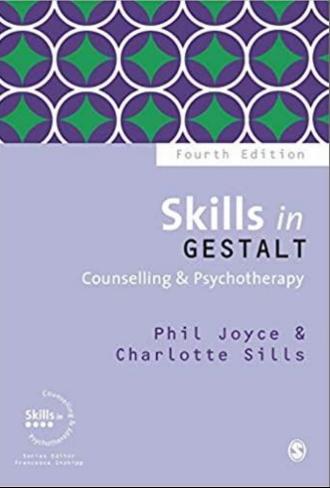


- the area I most often hide

# Resources

## What can I read?











Erikson's Life Stages



Wheel of Life



Working with Animal Figures Online Pack



Therapeutic Sandscapes™ Online Pack

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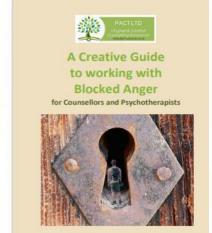
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