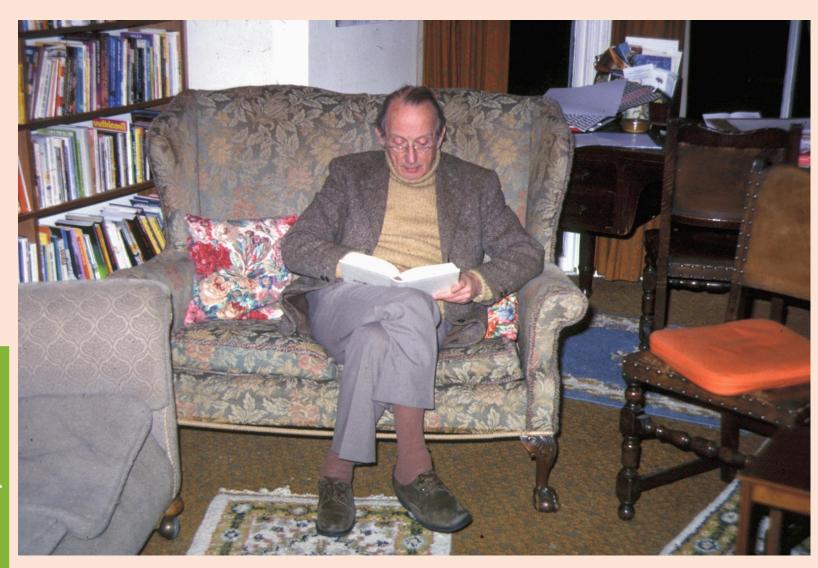




Introduction to In Womb and Birth Trauma for Counsellors

with Dr Chris & Pauline Andrew

## Dr Frank Lake, 1914-1982

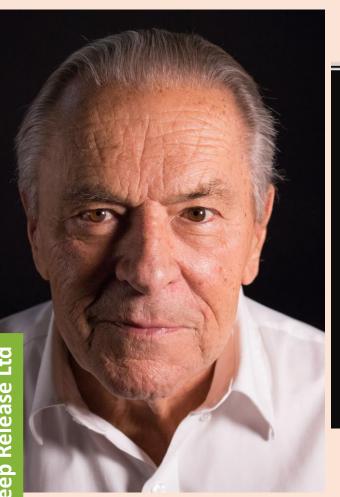




Tight Corners in pastoral counselling Frank Lake



## Stanislav Grof, b.1931

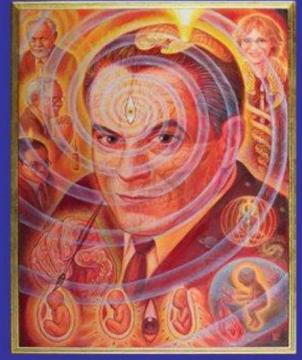


LSD is a catalyst or amplifier of mental processes. If properly used it could become something like the microscope or telescope of psychiatry.

— Stanislav Grof —

#### NB: Current use of Pcilocybin

### Healing Our Deepest Wounds The Holotropic Paradigm Shift



#### STANISLAV GROF

## Arthur Janov, 1924-2017

Keeping feelings inside eventually will take its toll on one's health. Repression is a constant force that wears the system down, resulting in, possibly, a shorter life span.

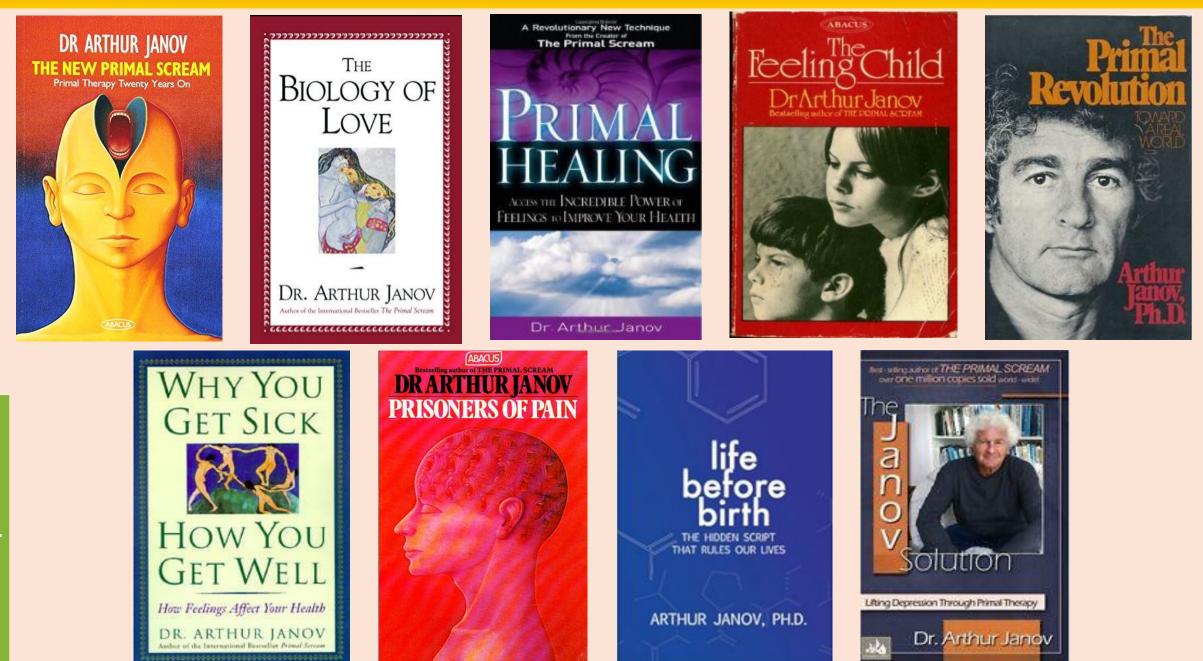
Arthur Janov

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"Once the great pain of the prototype – the near-death experience around birth – has been relived many, many times, the preoccupation with death... is... gone." Dr Arthur Janov, Why You Get Sick, How You Get Well



## Arthur Janov, 1924-2017



## The Association for Pre- and Perinatal Psychology & Health

## APPPAH IS BIRTH PSYCHOLOGY

Association for Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health

All are invited

-to participate in our classes, workshops or events

-to become a member of APPPAH



## Imagine a World...

Where all babies feel welcome, seen and nurtured beginning in the womb.

Where all pregnant women feel fully supported throughout pregnancy, birth and the postpartum time.

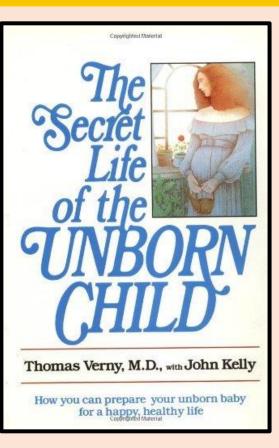
Where all support members of the birth process are educated about the impact of pregnancy and birth throughout our lives.

You can help make this happen!

https://birthpsychology.com/

## **Thomas Verney and William Emerson**





**Emerson Seminars** 

**Pioneering Infant Trauma Treatment Since 1965** 



## **Deep Release Weekends (1994 - )**



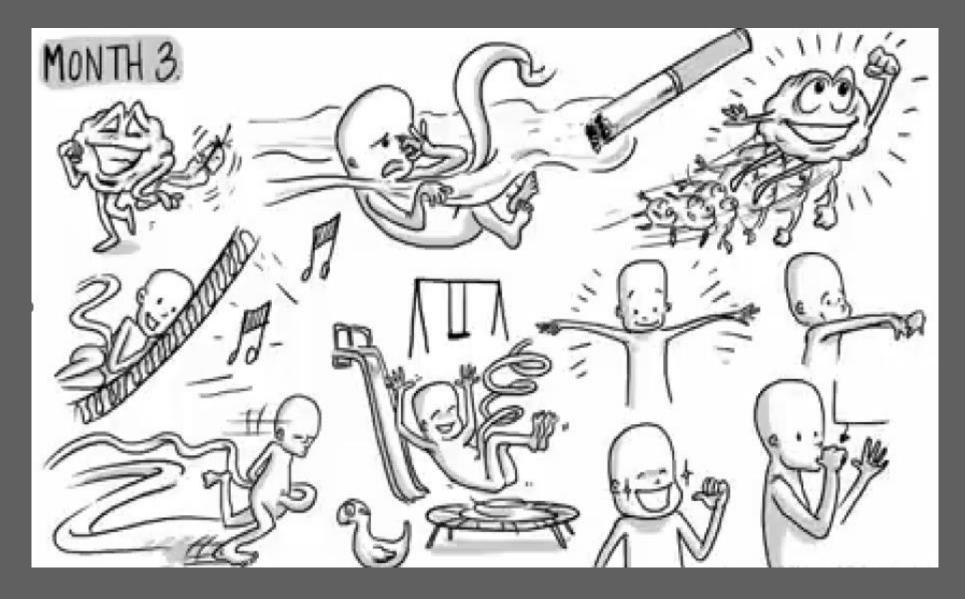
#### THE FIRST 1,000 DAYS

THE FIRST 1000 DAYS OF LIFE: A CRITIAL PERIOD FOR SHAPING OUR EMOTIONAL SELVES AND SOCIAL BRAINS

**ALLAN N. SCHORE** 

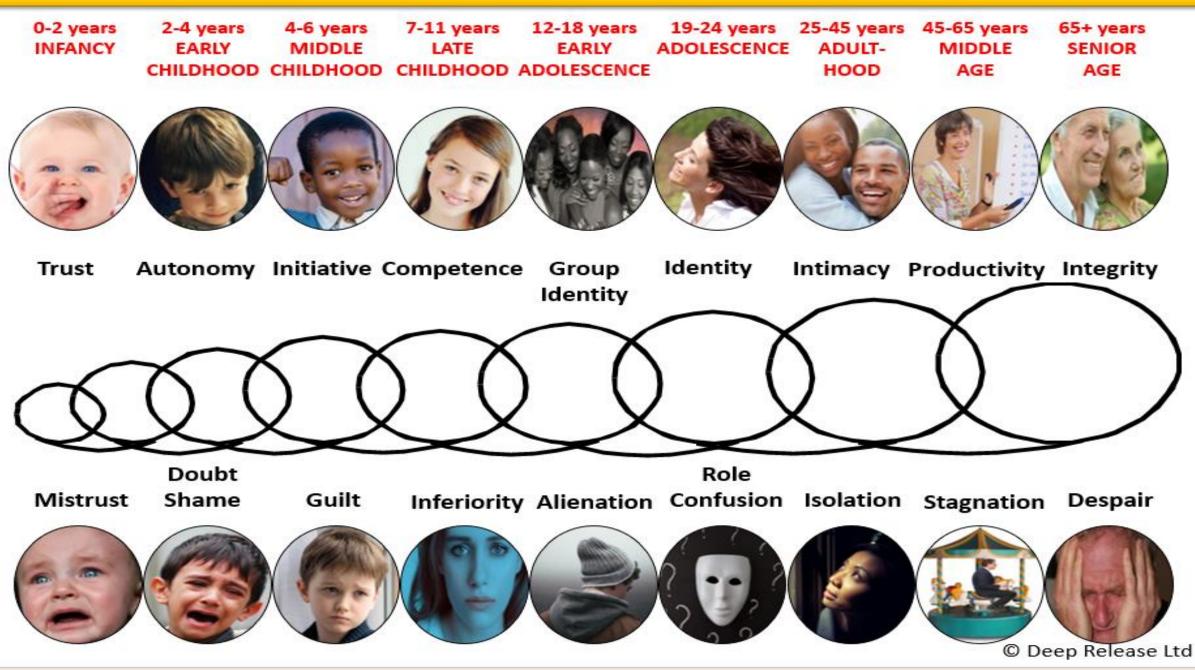
24<sup>th</sup> John Bowlby Memorial Conference – "Shame Matters" September 2018

"What you can't see" – Bessel van der Kolk "Developmental trauma occurs between the moment of conception, and **before** the onset of conscious verbal thought at age two or three. That's actually a very long time for a foetus and an infant." https://www.pacesconnection.com/blog/developmental-trauma-what-you-can-t-see

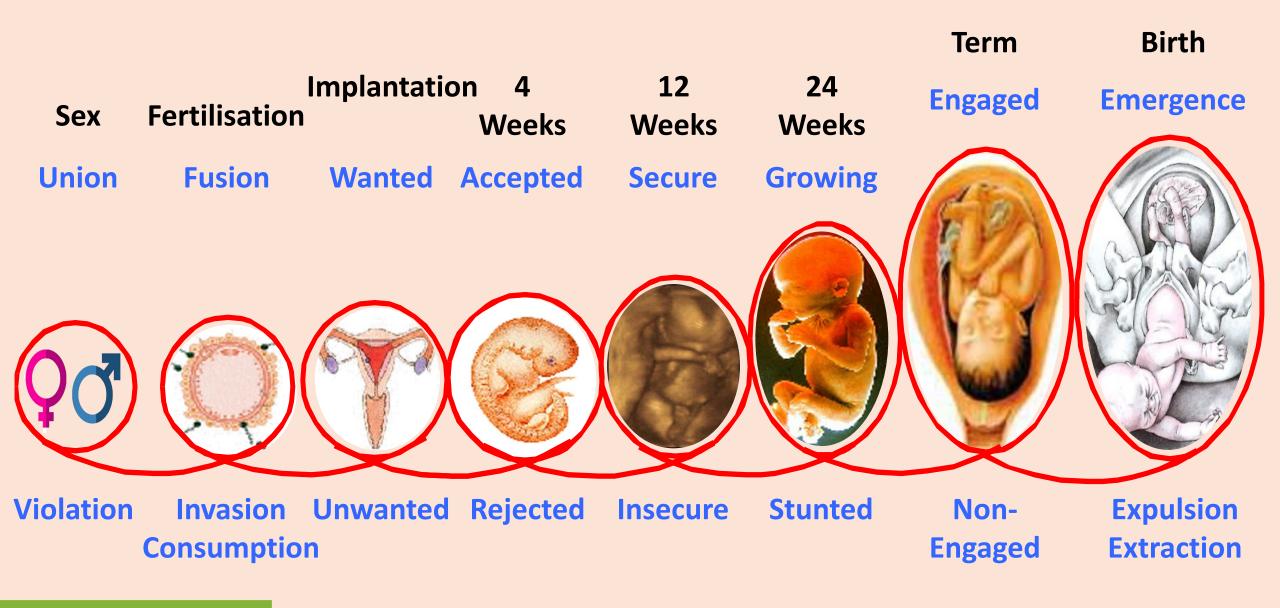


https://youtu.be/UA-Tk9qlG9A

### **Erikson's Life Stages (Expanded)**



#### **Womb Cycles**



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## Share in Buddy Groups

Share your responses and experiences, as much as feels safe

**15 minutes** 







## The Conception to Birth Journey

+ as an Meditation

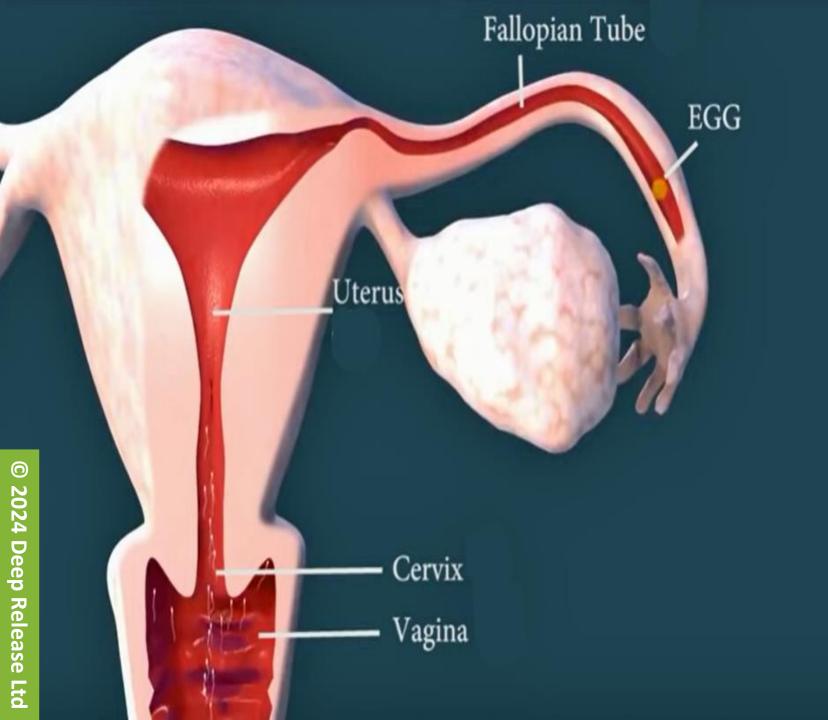


## You begin life as an egg.

You were made while your mother was growing inside her own mother's womb.

This is your mother's DNA. You are completely surrounded by her, totally dependent on her for life and health.

> The egg is the largest cell in the human body.



At ovulation, the egg is released, drops out of the ovary, and begins its journey, hopefully to meet the sperm.



Your parents come together... to make love? to make a baby?

Each sperm contains an entirely unique selection of his genetic material.

The sperm is the smallest cell in the human body

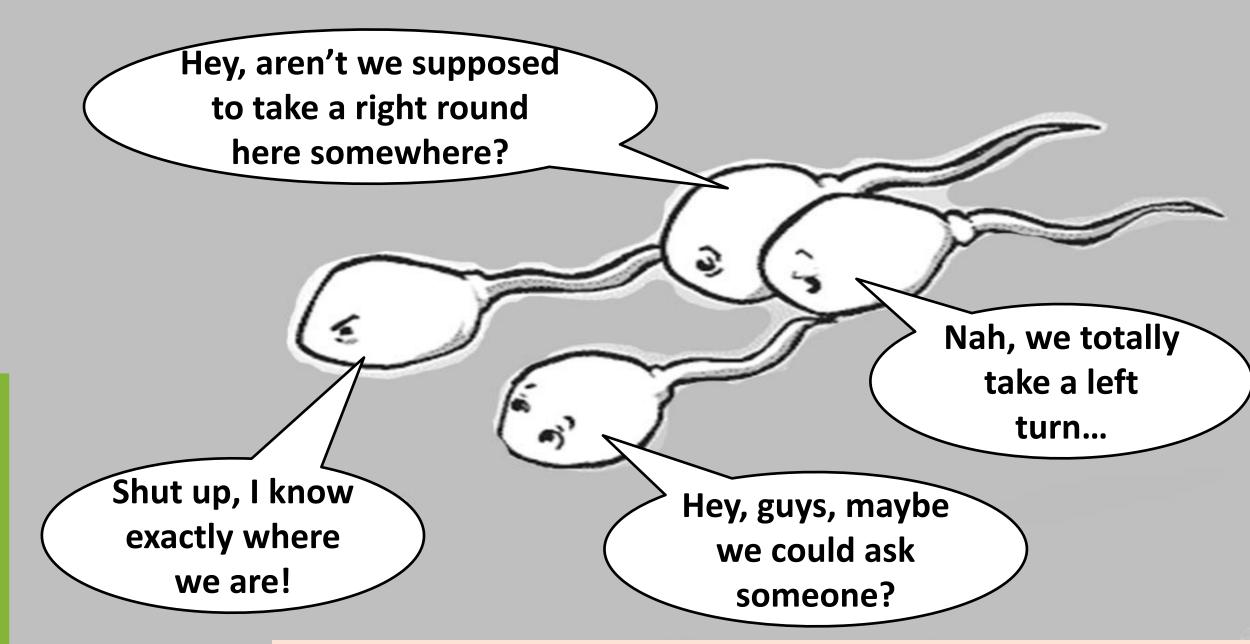
One of these sperm will fuse with the egg and become part of you.

## The Sperm's journey to get to the Egg



Although male ejaculates typically contain vast numbers of sperms, surprisingly few usually get anywhere near the egg. Their journey is arduous and lengthy, like an obstacle course!

## Another reason many sperm don't make it to the egg...



## Egg surrounded by sperm

otograph by David M. Phillips



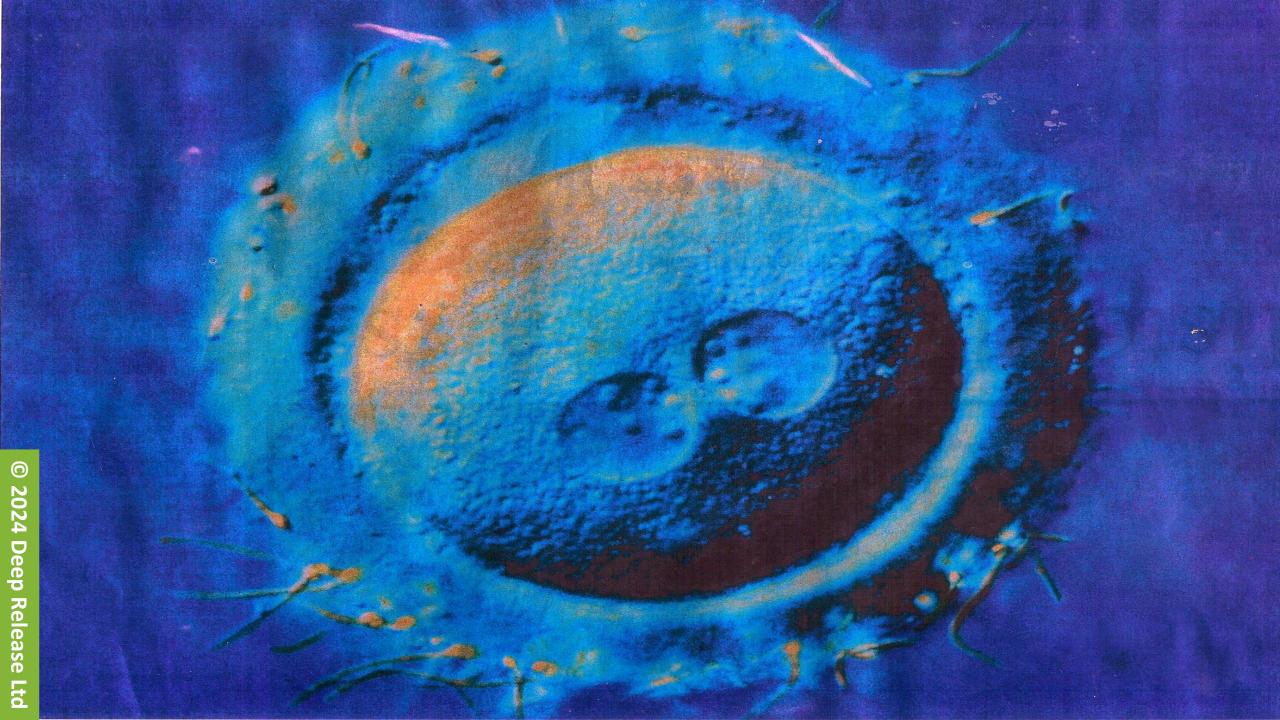
This is the moment of fertilisation.

This is the moment your mother and father's genetic material combine to make you.

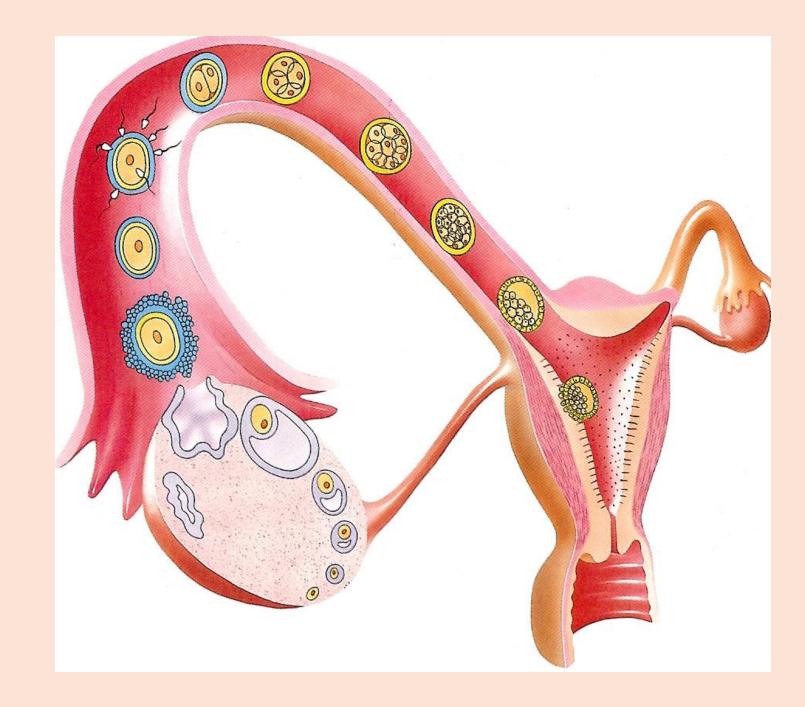
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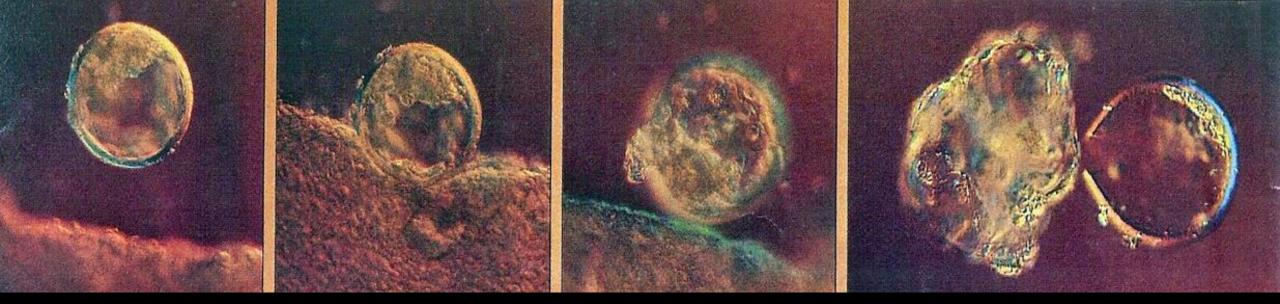
## At the moment they unite, there is a microscopic flash of light.

## You have arrived.









You continue your journey down the fallopian tube, cells dividing as you go, until you become like a ball, with cells on the outside and a hollow interior.

It takes about 5 days to travel to the uterus and find a place to implant. You bounce around, seeking to find the right place.

You burrow into the rich, fertile lining of your mother's womb, which will be your home until you are born.

> You are smaller than a grain of salt.

Your eye colour has already been decided and how tall you are likely to grow.

An embryo

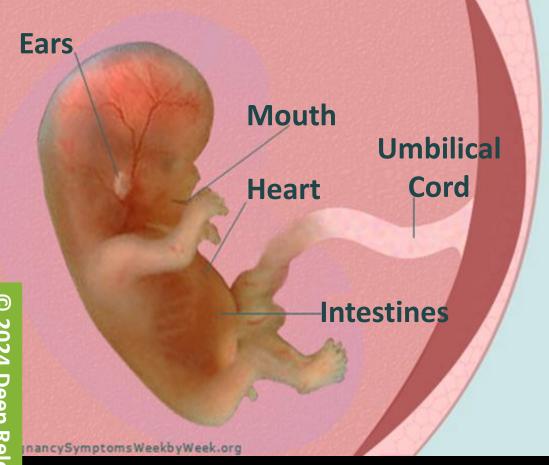
burrowed into the

ng of the uterus

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# At around 4 weeks, your mother will discover she is pregnant.



Your body takes shape. Your lungs, stomach and digestive system are forming... your kidneys, liver and gall bladder... your pancreas, spine and reproductive tract. You have your own fingernails and fingerprints. You can wrinkle your forehead and frown. Your teeth buds have formed.

You are 12 weeks old and about 5½ cm long. You are floating around in the amniotic fluid, connected to your mother by the umbilical cord. You are aware of sound.

## **Development in the Womb: 15 weeks**





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Photo of baby Samuel Armas's hand reaching out from the his mother's womb at 21 weeks during foetal surgery. Michael Clancy, snapped the photo after seeing the baby's hand jut out of the hole in the womb made by the surgeons:

"During a spina bifida corrective procedure, Samuel thrusts his tiny hand out of the surgical opening of his mother's uterus. As the doctor lifts his hand, Samuel reacts to the touch and squeezes the doctor's finger. As if testing for strength, the doctor shakes the tiny fist. Samuel held firm."





**Comments and Questions** to Hannah Lamont-Lawal





## **Development in the Womb: The Survival Mind**

- The Survival Mind is the most well-organised during the first three months in the womb
- Events at this stage are laid down very deeply in the foetal system
  - "first line level"
- Experiences of raw pain
- Memory of events and imprinted pain is at its least accessible
- There is no language to help us understand it - this level can only be reached on its own terms



## **Development in the Womb: The Feeling Mind**

- The Feeling Mind develops later in the womb
- Events are laid down at an emotional "second line" level
- Raw pain is given an emotional overlay
- After birth the infant develops attachment to their parents and relatives and is able to feel emotional suffering as well as physical discomfort and hurt



## **Development in the Womb: The Thinking Mind**

- The 'third line' level laid down by 6 months gestational age and growing progressively in complexity into adolescence
- Abilities to reason and cope with logic, then with philosophical ideas, are a function of brain maturation
- Conscious recognition of pain



### **Brain Development**



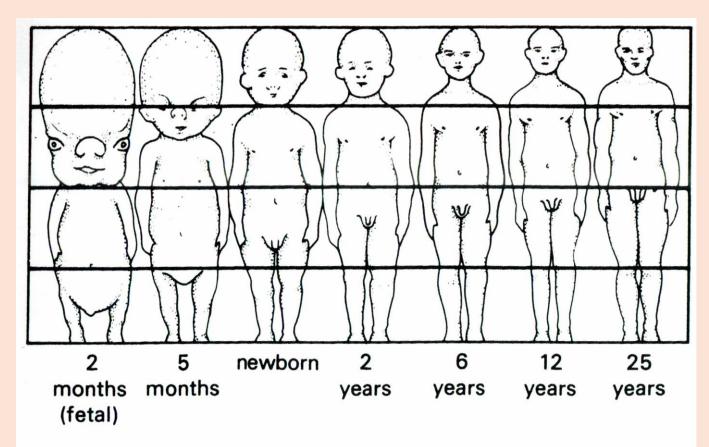


Figure 5 Relative sizes of the brain and body at different ages.

Frank Lake's Classification of Responses Increasing degrees of pain due to unmet intrauterine and perinatal needs

#### LEVEL 1 : IDEAL

At best, needs are totally satisfied Pain-free interaction between the foetus/baby and the environment to which it relates



### **Frank Lake's Classification of Responses**

### LEVEL 2 : COPING Not all needs are met, but conditions are bearable. The basically secure self can cope.



### **Frank Lake's Classification of Responses**

LEVEL 3 : OPPOSITION The degree of pain cannot be tolerated without some splitting off. Unwelcome sensations are separated from the accompanying emotions and the memory deals with them by the process of Repression. The foetus can no longer trust its supporting environment without protest



### **Frank Lake's Classification of Responses**

### LEVEL 4 : TRANSMARGINAL

Lake adopted Pavlov's concept of *Transmarginal Stress*. Pain is now overwhelming and responses are paradoxical. The self turns against itself, willing its own destruction and death. Nothing gives pleasure and ultimately a protective process of cortical inhibition gives way to apathy









# Comments and Questions



### **Pregnancy and Birth Trauma**



 Research conducted by the pioneers of pre- and perinatal psychology suggests that an overwhelming amount of physical conditions and behavioural disorders are the direct result of traumatic experiences during pregnancy and complications during delivery.

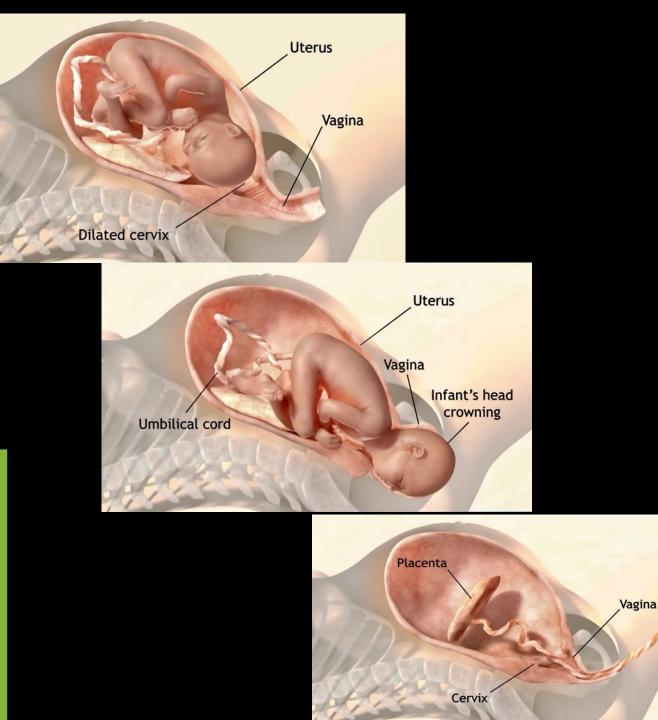
### **REJECTION IN THE WOMB**

If the foetus feels rejected in the womb then it might well reject the mother when it is born. There is more likelihood of problems in the pregnancy and birth.

Feeding and bonding is more difficult if the child felt rejected or there was strong ambivalence in the mother.

The baby may literally turn away from the mother and refuse to feed, but may attach well to another love-giving figure.





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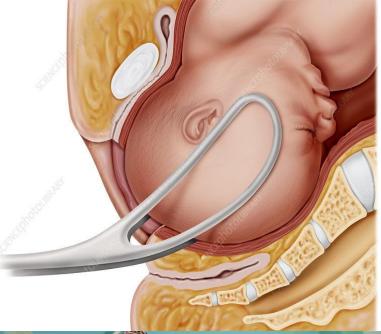
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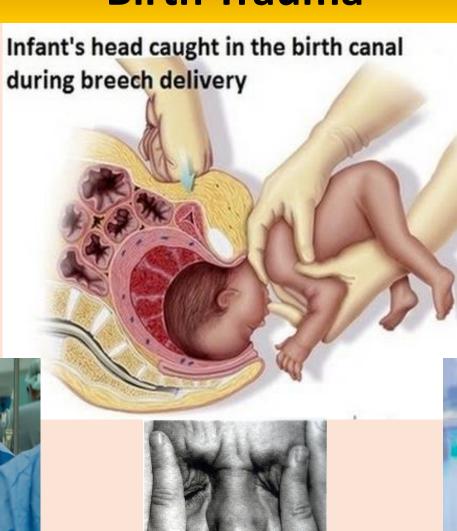
As you are born, do you flow out naturally and easily, working in harmony with your mother?

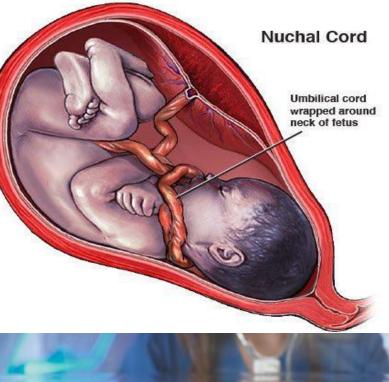
Or are there difficulties, body memories that can stay with you at a profound organismic level...

### **Birth Trauma**



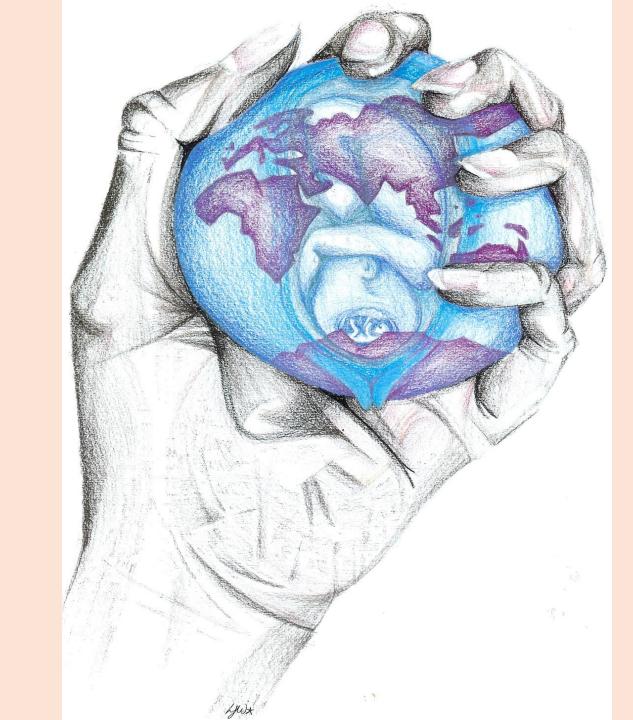


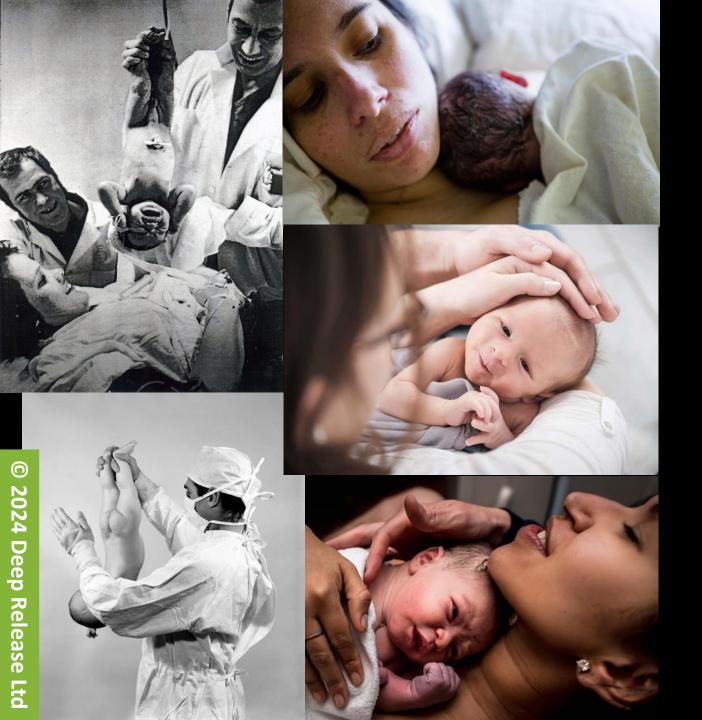












How do you come into this strange new world?

Is there a warm welcome of delight – are you placed into your mother's loving arms?

Or is it different....



Is there a warm welcome for you from your wider family?

Have they prepared for your coming? Is there joy in your arrival?

### YOU MADE IT THROUGH!



### **Secure Attachment: The Search for Connection**



### **Multiples in the Womb**

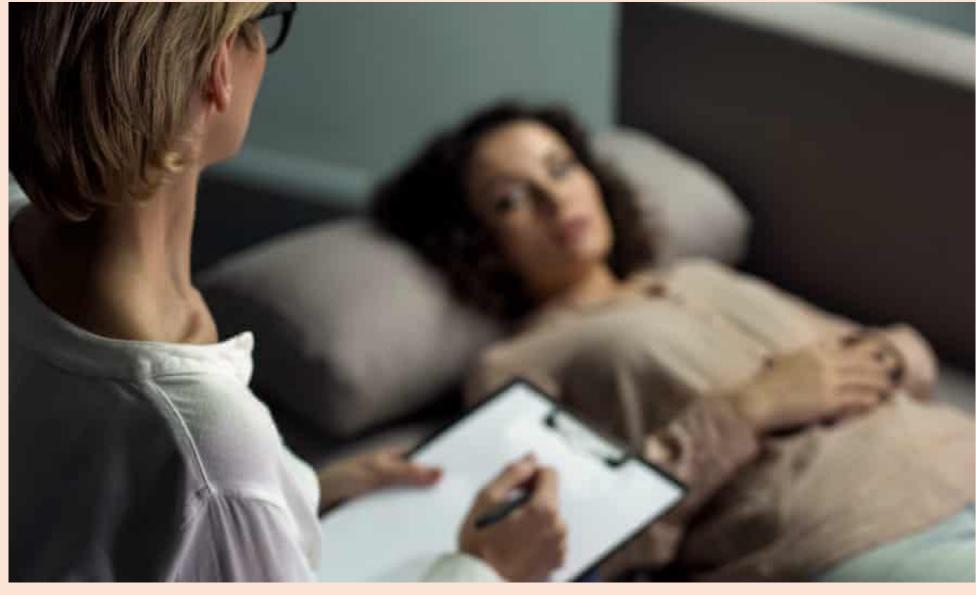




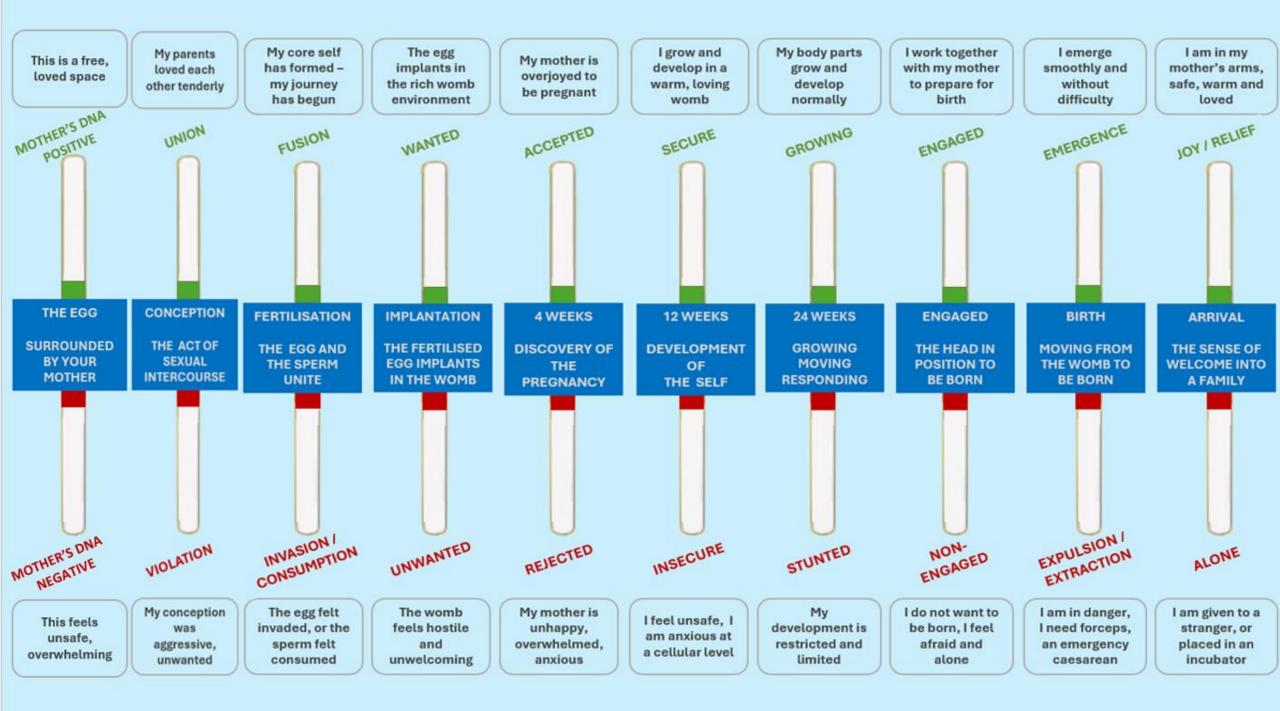
**Comments and Questions** to Hannah Lamont-Lawal



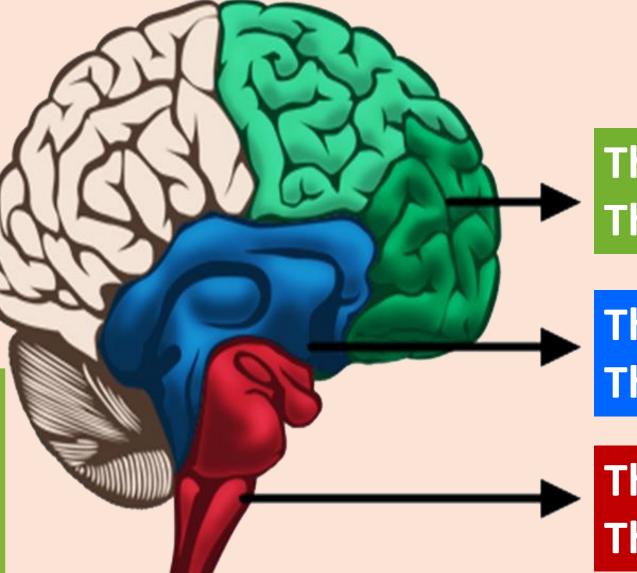




## The Therapy



### **Simple Brain Anatomy**



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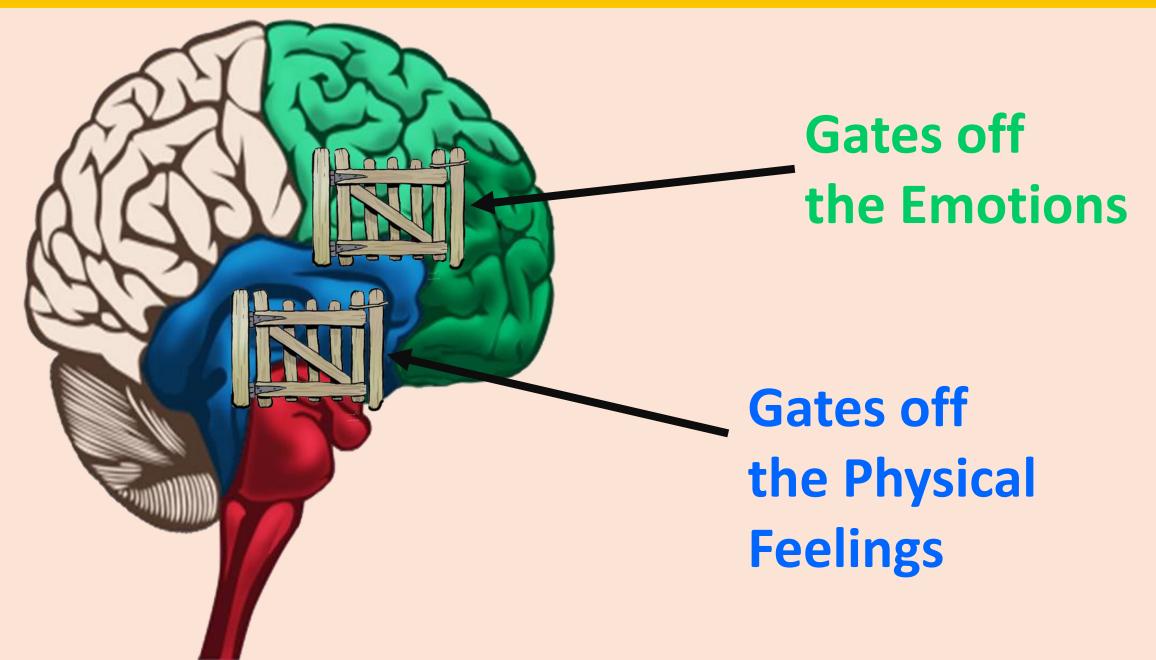
### The Cognitive / Thinking Brain The Prefrontal Cortex

The Emotional Brain The Limbic System / Amygdala

The Survival Brain The Hind Brain

Adapted from Sarah Tuckett

### **Primal Gating**



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The Brabant Staircase in the Vatican in Rome

### **Brainwaves**

#### **Memories stacked emotionally**

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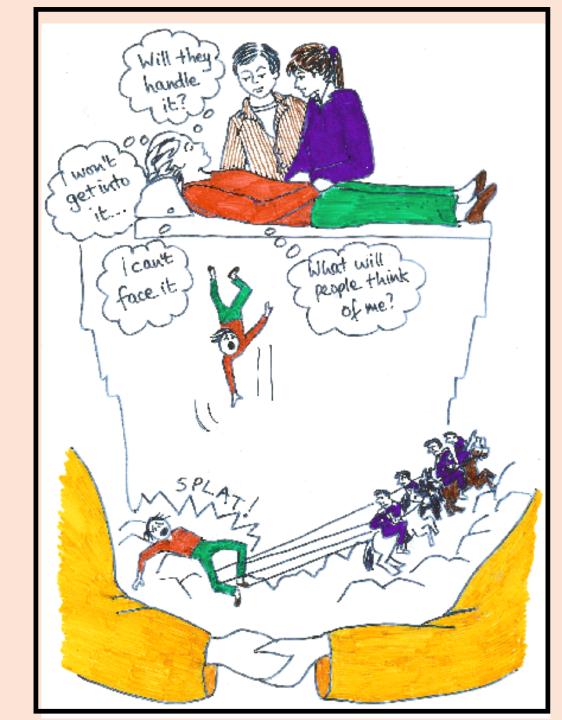
Ltd

#### **Body responses**



β α θ δ







- Stillness
- Silence
- Gentle reflection / echoing
- Holding
- Breathing
- Body work



- Closing eyes
- Lying down
- "Duvet work"





The Glory Window, Thanksgiving Square Chapel, Dallas

### Share in Buddy Groups

Share your responses and experiences, as much as feels safe

**15 minutes** 







# Comments and Questions



### Share in Buddy Groups

### Time to say goodbye



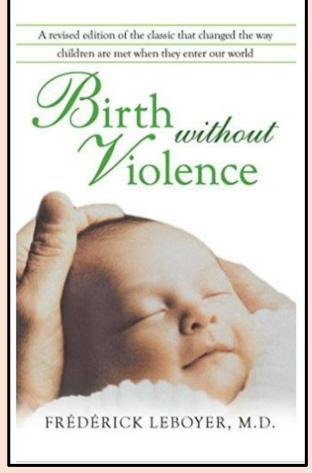


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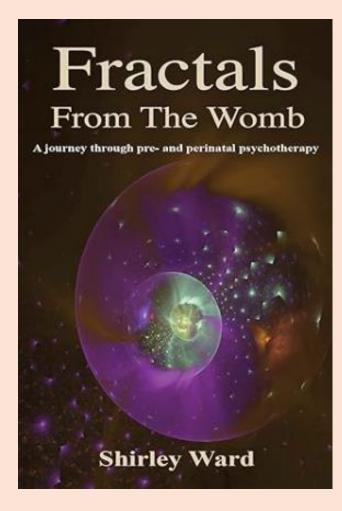


## Resources

PACT-RESOURCES.CO.UK ORIGINAL & CREATIVE COUNSELLING RESOURCES



World of Books – www.wob.com





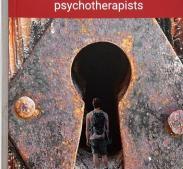




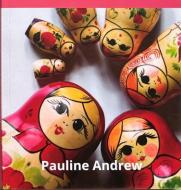


**Pauline Andrew** 

A Creative Guide to Working with Blocked Anger for counsellors and



A Creative Guide to Working with Nesting Dolls for counsellors and psychotherapists



regression
regression

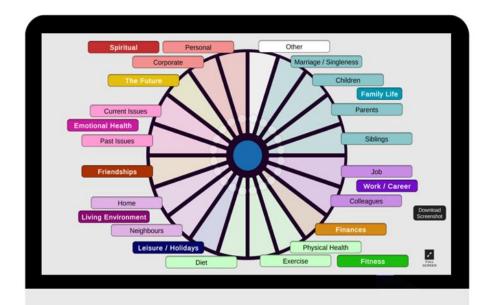
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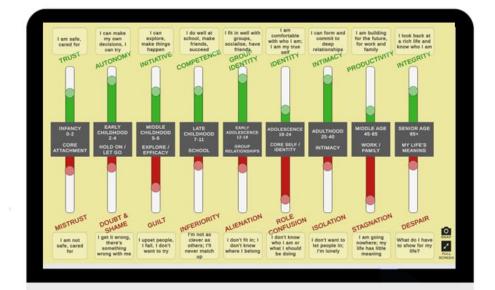
Roles Played in Families Extra Set A £11.50 each 3 for £32 (save £2.50 Also available on Kindle

**Pauline Andrew** 

### pact-resources.co.uk

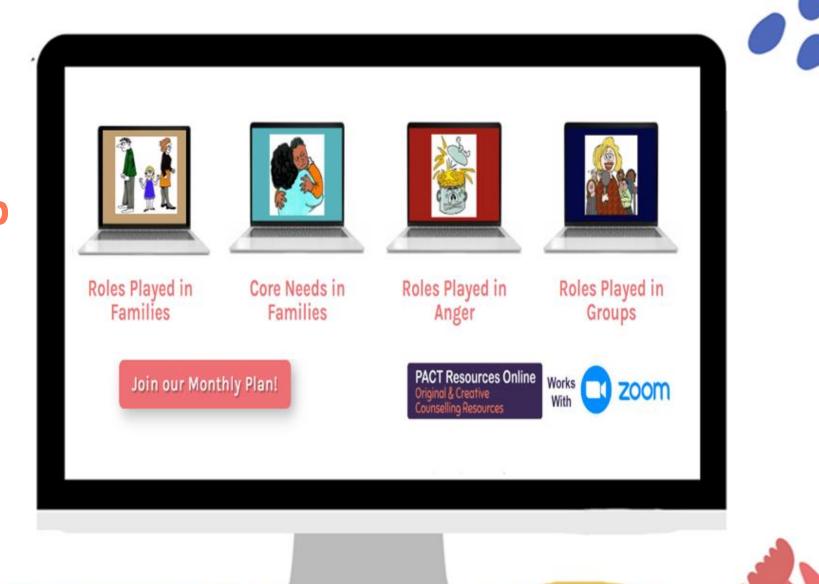
### The Wheel of Life and Erikson's Life Stages FREE Web Apps!





### pact-resources-online.co.uk

The 4 sets of cards are available as Web Apps by paid subscription. Other apps to follow!



### pact-resources-online.co.uk

The 'In-Out' Model web app is now including in your paid subscription!

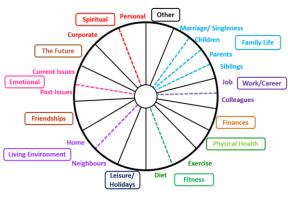
'Therapeutic Sandscapes' soon to follow!



### pact-resources-online.co.uk

### e-Resources







Working with Animal

**Figures Online Pack** 



Instant download

**Use PowerPoint** 

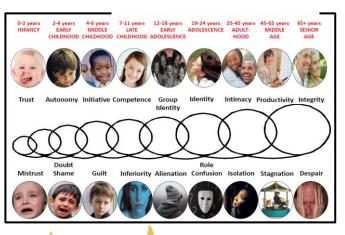
#### Web Apps in progress!



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£3.50



# **Missed a course?**

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### pact-resources.co.uk



Working Creatively with Nesting Dolls Tues 16<sup>th</sup> July 9.30am – 1.00pm Prices £10 (Bursary), £20 or £30 Catch up video link with all bookings £10 or £20: 7-day link £30: lifetime link



#### **2024 Annual Counsellors Conference**

Moor Hall,

Berkshire

Friday 27-Sunday 29 September 2024 Full board residential, en suite rooms



**Deep Release** Online Professional Training for Counsellors

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### Search on Facebook: 'Deep Release Ltd'

- A closed group for counsellors & trainee counsellors
- Please answer the joining questions!





### YouTube

### Search 'Pauline Andrew Creative Counselling'

- Lots of videos on working creatively
- Please subscribe!



#### Search 'Brain, Body & Beyond'

- Videos on Life, the Brain and Relationships
- Please subscribe!





# We need your feedback!



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