# Heart Coherence: Living from a Place of Wholeness and Resilience

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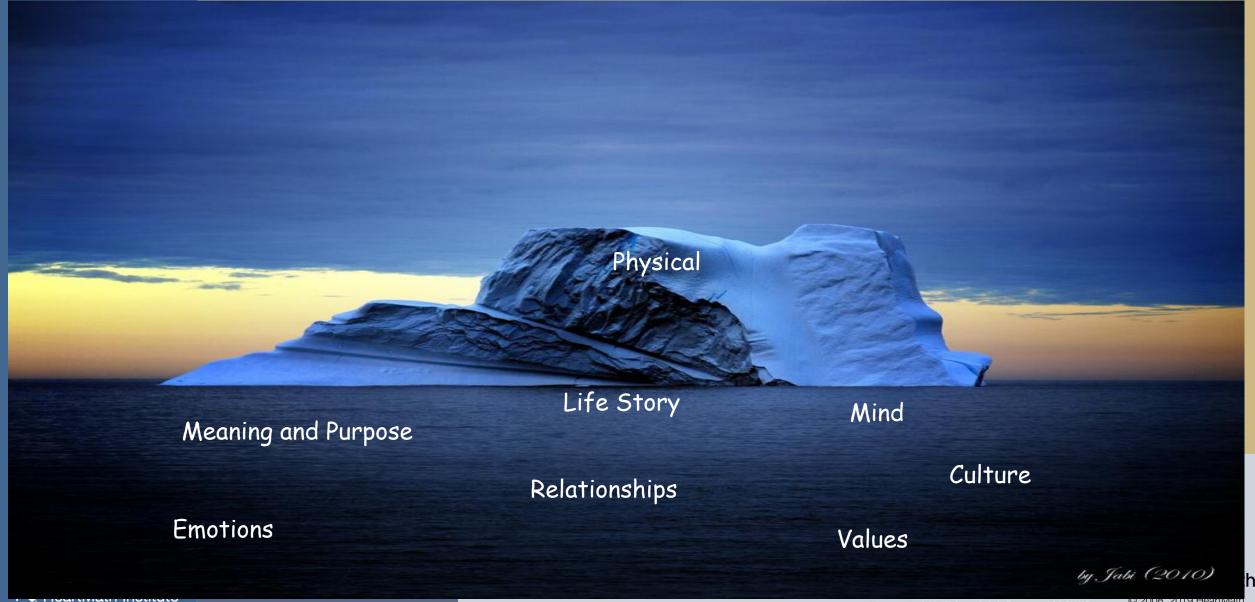
The Biology of the Human Condition: The issues are in the tissues. Moving from automatic Threat to Thrive.

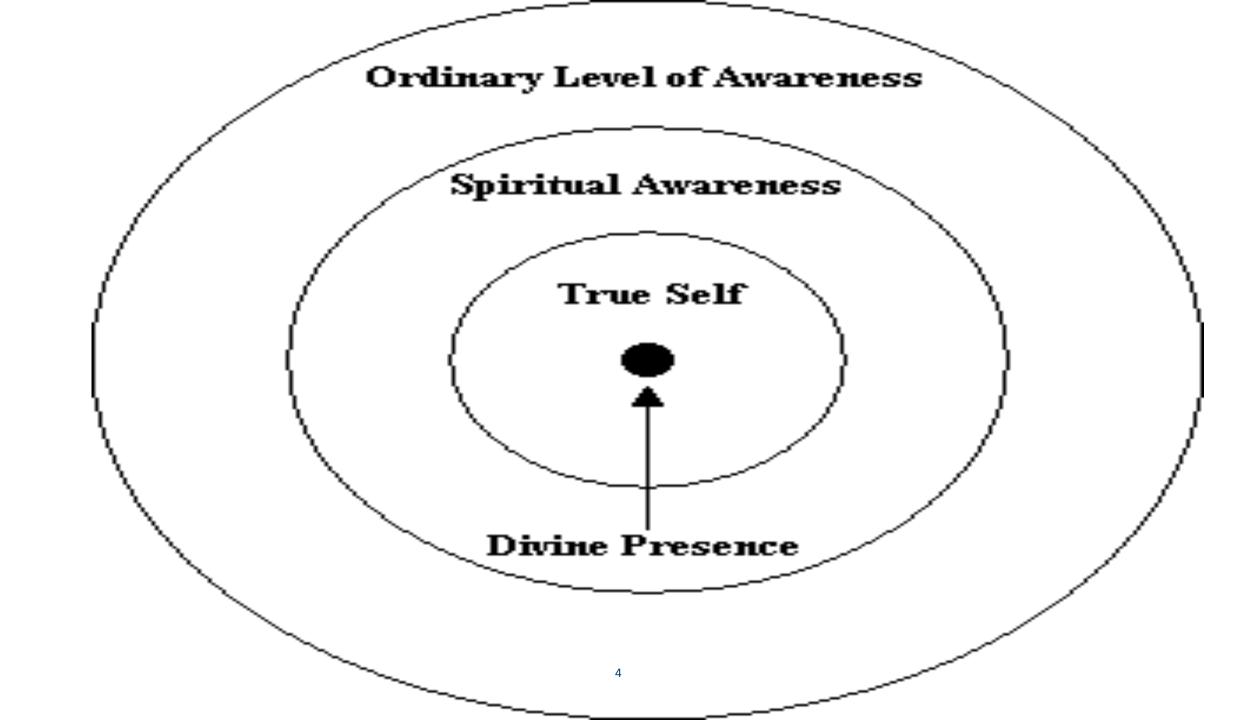
The Neuroscience of the Human Conditions: The biology of belief. Our perception of our environment creates automatic Threat or Thrive

Awakening Consciousness: Rewiring to Insight and Intuition for love, compassion, and oneness

Internalization, Integration and Transformation to Wholeness: Living the gifts and fruits of the Spirit

## Whole Person: 90% Under the Surface





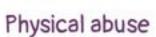
## The Healthy Minds Framework

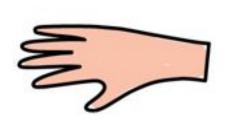


#### Abuse

#### Neglect



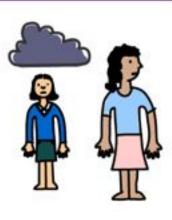




Sexual abuse



Verbal abuse



Emotional neglect



Physical neglect

#### Growing up in a household where:



There are adults with alcohol and drug problems



There are adults with mental health problems



There is domestic violence

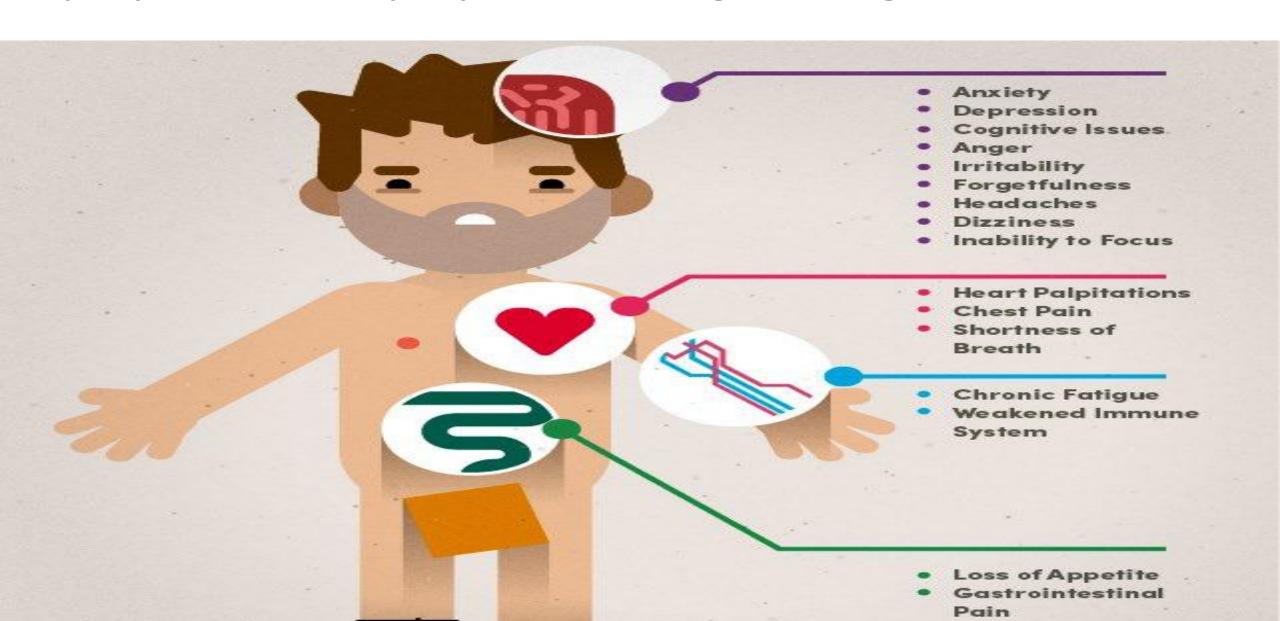


There are adults who have spent time in prison



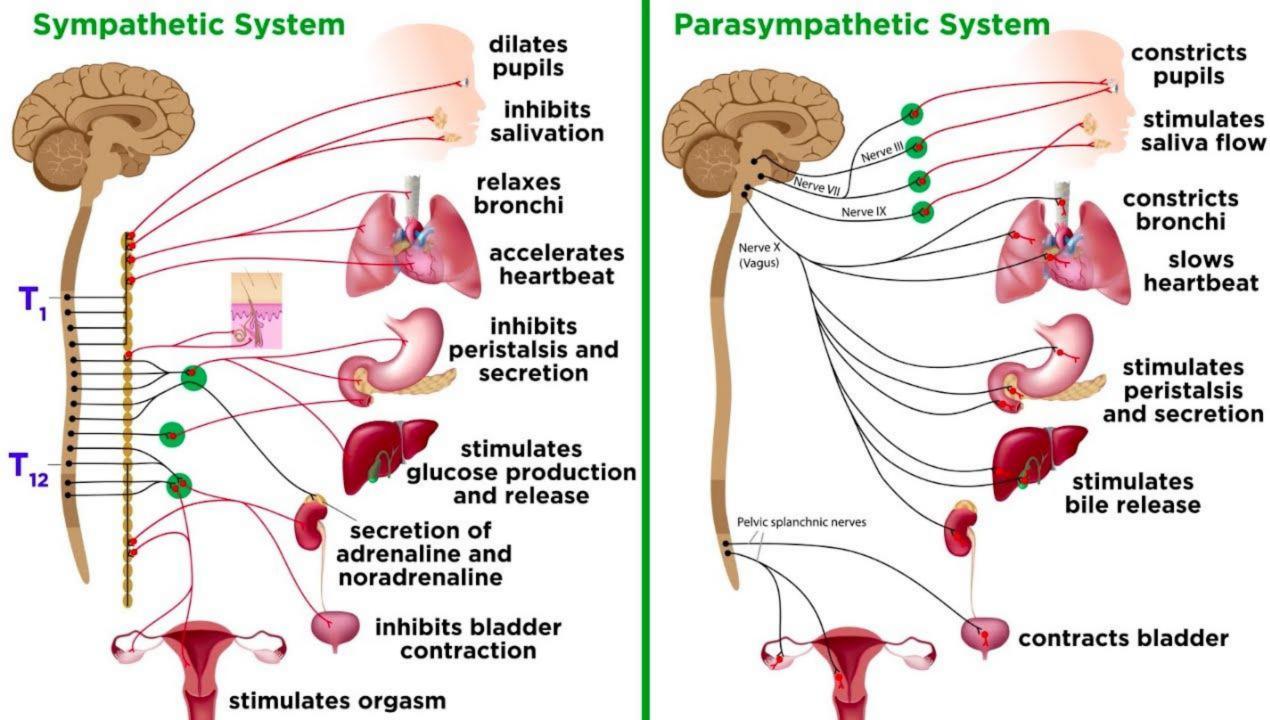
Parents have separated

## Symptoms of Sympathetic Fight, FLight, Freeze



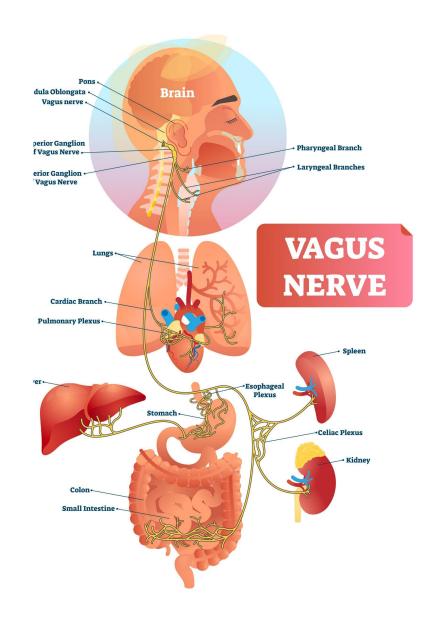


**Cortisol - The Stress Hormone** 



#### • SAFETY IN ME SIMS

- Nerve of Compassion and Connection
- Wired for Innate Basis Goodness
- Reset Parasympathetic to Thrive for Rest, Digest, Repair, Socially Engage
- DANGER IN ME DIMS
- Sympathetic to Threat for Fight Flight Freeze



### How The Vagus Nerve Affects Organ Systems

#### Heart

Decreases heart rate, vascular tone.

#### Liver

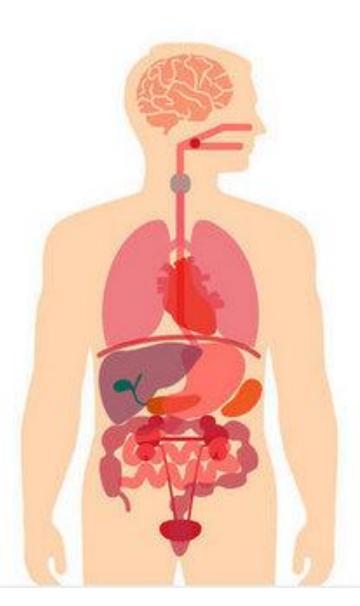
Regulates insulin secretion and glucos homeostasis in the liver.

#### Gut

Increases gastric juices, gut motility, stomach acidity.

#### Inflammation

Suppresses inflammation via the cholinergic anti-inflammatory pathway



#### Brain

Helps keep anxiety and depression at bay. Opposes the sympathetic response to stress.

#### Mouth

Taste information is sent via three cranial nerves, one of which is the vagus nerve. The vagus nerve is needed for the gag reflex, swallowing, and coughing.

#### **Blood Vessels**

Decreases vascular tone, lowering blood pressure.

## **Vagus Nerve:**

Information Superhighway

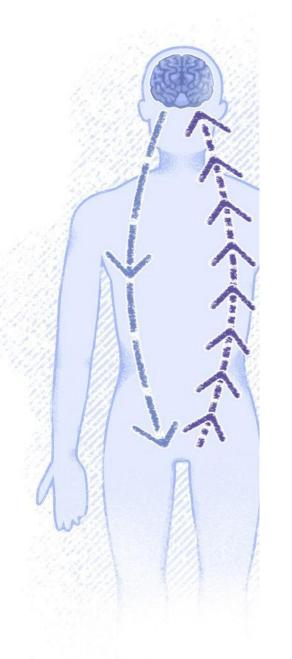
**DID YOU KNOW?** 

80%

of the vagus nerve fibers communicate from the body to the brain

20%

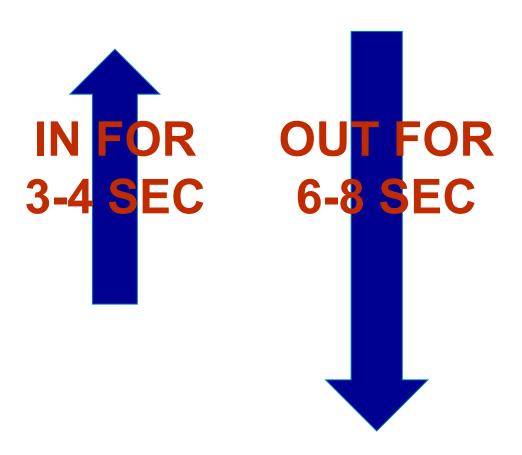
communicate from the brain to the body



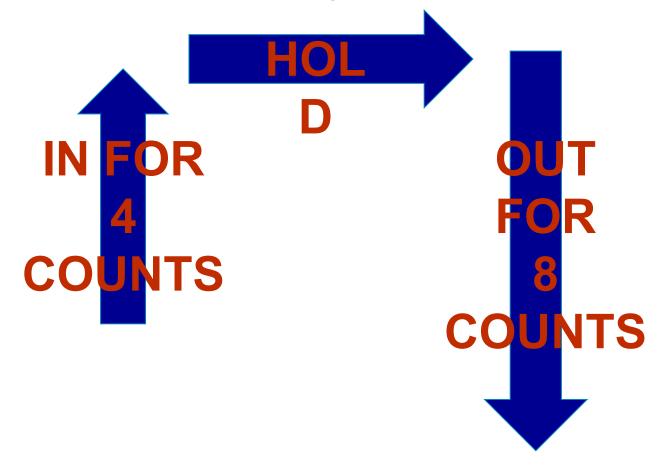
## **Bioplasticity**

Bidirectional
 Flow of Energy
 and Information
 from body to
 brain and brain
 to body

## 1:2 Ratio Breath 6 Breaths per Minute



# 4-7-8 Breath 3 Breaths per Minute





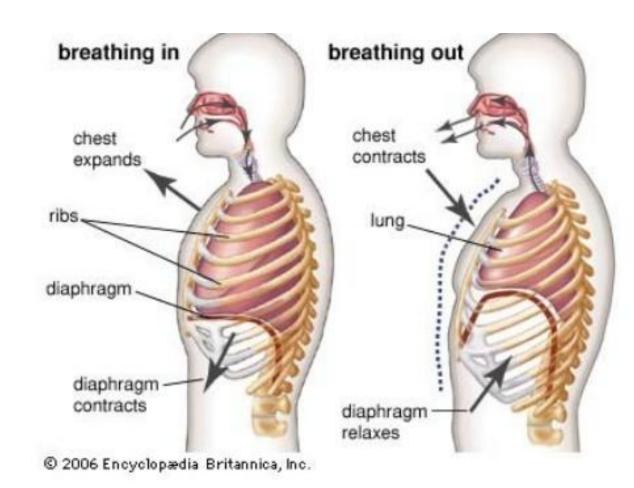




## Diaphragmatic Breathing:

## **Breathing Slower and Lower**

- Deep breathing from the abdomen
- Lowers SNS arousal
- Easily learned
- Effective during acute pain flares and stress
- Can add supportive touch





## Heart-Focused Breathing™

An Intelligent Energy Self-Regulation Technique

- Heart-Focused Breathing is a powerful and effective tool for self-regulation.
- It's the first step in shifting to a more coherent state – you are alert and calm at the same time.
- It can help you maintain your composure in challenging situations.



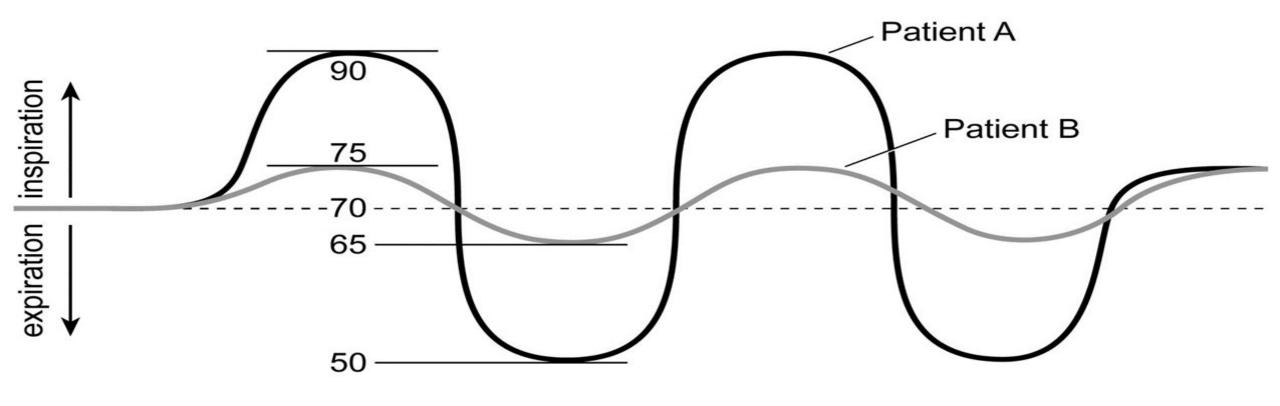


## **Heart-Brain Communication**

- The heart has its own complex nervous system: the "heart brain."
- The heart sends far more information to the brain than the brain sends to the heart.
- Patterns in the neural signals from the heart especially affect the brain centers involved in perception, emotional experience and self-regulation.



## **Heart Rate Variability**



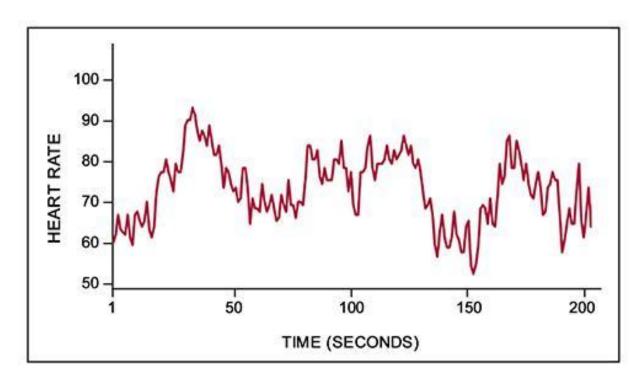
Heart-rate variability for Patient A = 90-50 = 40Heart-rate variability for Patient B = 75-65 = 10

GOAL: To \( \bar{1}\) heart-rate variability by slowing breathing rate to 6 breaths/min.

## **Emotions and Heart Rhythms**

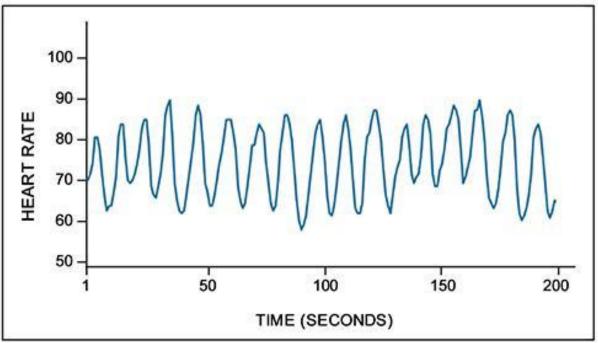
Incoherence

frustration, irritation, impatience, worry



Coherence

appreciation, calm, patience, confidence



Inhibits brain function – impairs performance

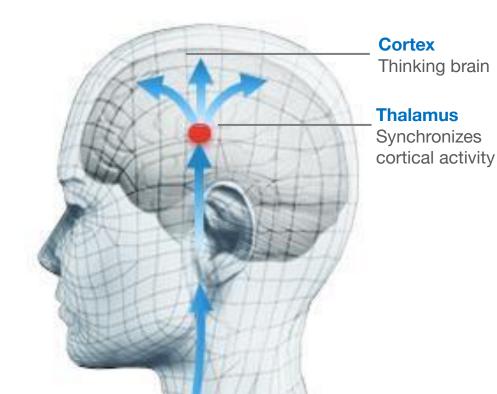
Facilitates brain function – promotes optimal performance



## Heart Rhythms

Affect Physical and Mental Performance

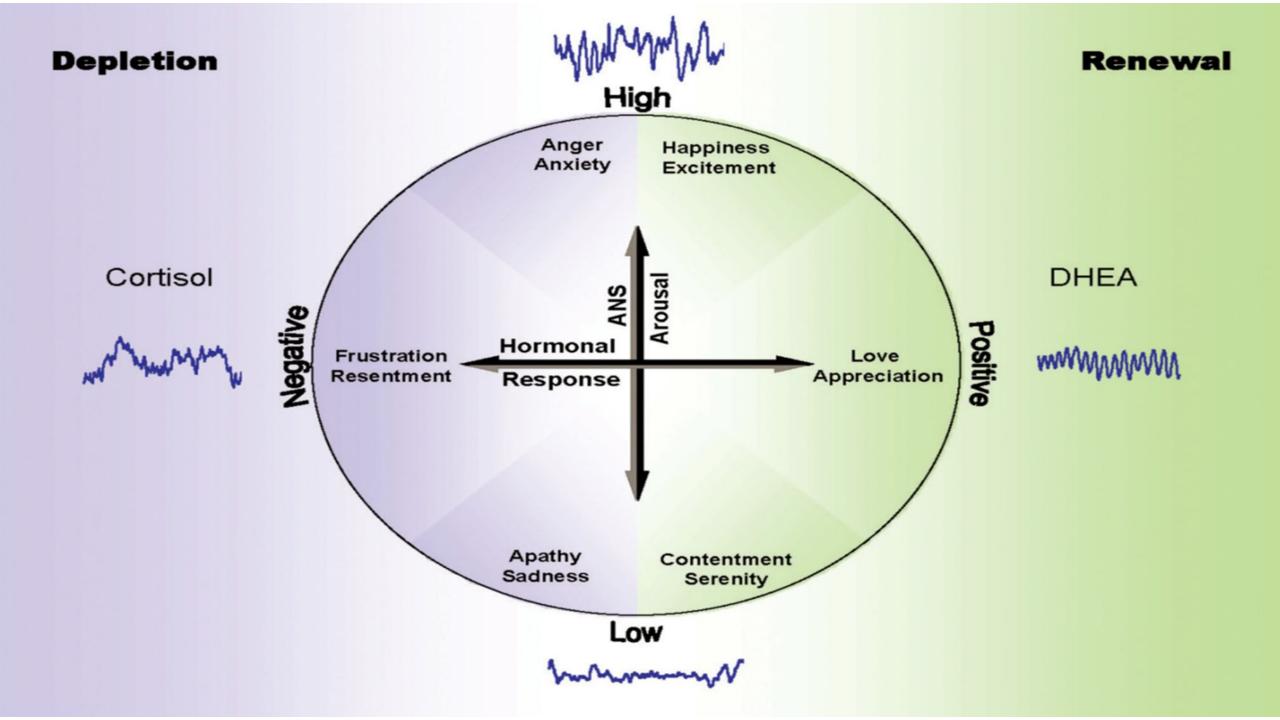
Heart rhythms directly affect brain centers involved in foresight, decision-making, social awareness, and our ability to self-regulate.



**Incoherence** inhibits brain function

**Coherence** facilitates brain function





## Why we 'flip our lid' or 'lose it'

- In the hand model of the brain, your fingers and thumb open and close in response to your internal body signals and your interpretation of the world around you.
- Bodily stress and distress, anxiety and fear make the fingers and thumb open up.
- Bodily safety, contentment and calm make the fingers and thumb close again.



## THE WINDOW OF TOLERANCE

Zone of

Hyperarousal

Fight/Flight (sympathetic nervous system activated)

Anxiety, anger, impulsivity, reactivity, threatened

· Can't effectively connect with others

Window of Tolerance



- Present, engaged, alert (ventral vagal)
- Access to creativity and problem solving
- . Connected Safe & Social

Zone of Hypoarousal

- Freeze (dorsal vagal)
- · Numb, shut down, protective path of last resort
- . Disconnected from self and others, can't act

#### **HYPERAROUSAL**

Use mindfulness, grounding, Breath work

Overreactive, unclear thought, Emotionally distressed

Can't calm down

#### WINDOW OF TOLERANCE

The body is in its optimal state, Can access both reason and emotion, Mentally engaged

**Shutting Down** 

Depressed, lethargic, numb, unmotivated

Use mindfulness, breath work, physical activity

HYPOAROUSAL

## Did you know?



The human heart's magnetic field can be measured several feet away from the body.



In fetal development, the heart forms and starts beating before the brain begins to develop.



Positive
emotions
create
physiological
benefits in
your body.

Negative emotions can create nervous system chaos, but positive emotions do the opposite.

Positive
emotions can
increase the
brain's ability to
make good
decisions.

You can boost your immune system by focusing on positive emotions.



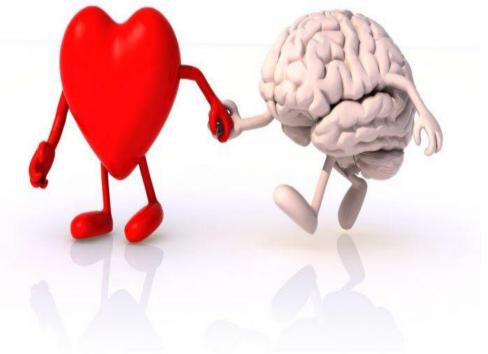
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## Heart Focused Breathing and Heart Coherence







## **Domains of Resilience**

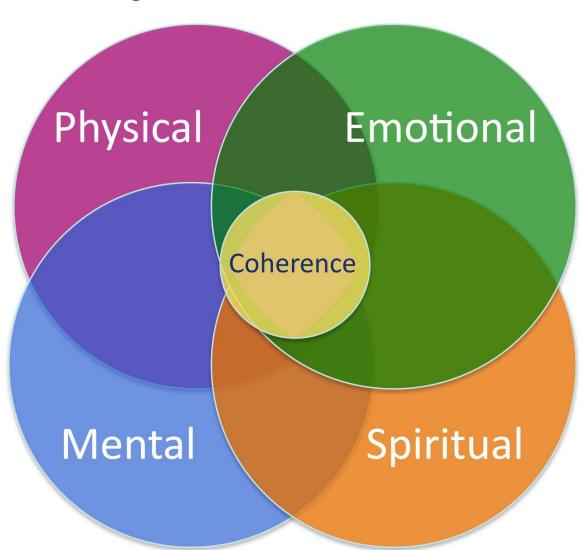
Resilience from Resilience Advantage®

#### Physical flexibility

- Endurance
- Strength

#### Mental flexibility

- Attention span
- Ability to focus
- Incorporate multiple points of view



#### **Emotional flexibility**

- Positive outlook
- Self-regulation

#### Spiritual flexibility

- Commitment to values
- Tolerance of others' values and beliefs



