## Mindfulness Based Leadership

By Maria and Trent



#### Maria



- Fourth year psychology major with a minor in education
- Board of 5 organizations
- Davis Personal Growth Club Secretary
- Avid food lover

#### Trent



- Fourth year history major with an education minor
- Center for Leadership Learning Peer Leader
- Davis Personal Growth Club Vice-President
- Star Trek Club Treasurer

#### **Community Agreements**

- Listen to understand and not to reply/debate
- Be mindful of intent, caring for impact
- Use "I" statements
- One Mic
- Treat others as they would want to be treated
- Shared^2
- E.L.M.O. (Enough, let's move on)
- Bubbles! (Please explain or elaborate)



#### Introduce yourself!

- Name
- Pronouns
- Major
- Why are you here?

### What is Mindfulness?

#### **A Brief History of Mindfulness**

- Originates back to the teachings of the Buddha (late 6th century B.C.E.)
  - Meaning: paying attention to present experience and nonjudgmental
- Entered the United States mainstream during the transcendentalist period by Henry David Thoreau
- In 1979, Jon Kabat-Zinn founded the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) & sparked the modern mindfulness movement

#### **Misconceptions about Mindfulness**

- Mindfulness is passive
- Mindfulness can only be practiced with meditation
- Only religious people practice mindfulness
- It is limited to certain cultures
- To be mindful is to be be ethically neutral

Note: Give credit where credit is due! Acknowledge where mindfulness has its roots from.



#### **Application of Mindfulness**

- Religion
- Mental Health
- Physical Health
- Relationships
- Ecosystems
- Academics
- Community
- Workplace



# Me, Myself, and I

#### **Big Eight Social Identifiers**

- 1. Ability (Mental or Physical)
- 2. Age
- 3. Educational Background
- 4. Ethnicity
- 5. Gender
- 6. Race
- 7. Religion
- 8. Sexual Orientation

Are there more?





#### **Power Structures**

- Privilege
- Allyship
- Ability
- Resilience

Bystander to Ally					
Agent Byst Active Passive				Ally Active	
(1) Actively joins in the negative	(2) No response	(3) Educate oneself	(4) Interrupt the behavior	<sup>(5)</sup> Interrupt & educate	(6) Initiate an organized response





## How to be a mindful leader?

#### What does a mindful leader look like?

- Someone who is...
  - **C**onscious
  - Aware
  - **R**espectful
  - Intentional
  - Nurturing
  - **G**rounded



#### Ways to be a mindful leader

- Meditation
  - Take 5 minutes in your day to breathe, recollect, and think
- Perspective
  - $\circ$  Learn about the people around you
- Transparency
  - Being open with your approach
- Time
  - Being time conscious
- Reframe
  - Framing situation

- Being Present
  - Awake and attentive
- Tracking Behavior
  - Your mood, habits, and tendencies
- Accountability
  - Holding yourself accountable for the decisions you make
- Judgement
  - Giving open and honest feedback to yourself or receiving it from others

#### Why does it matter?









## Art Time!

#### Instructions

- 1. Roll the dice to determine color
- 2. Roll again for side of the paper
- 3. Roll again for shape you have to paint
- 4. Paint!
- 5. Repeat 5-6 times



#### Reflection

- How did this activity make you feel?
  - How did it feel being restrained by guidelines?
- What does your piece say about you?

Let's dig deeper...

- What role did the instructions have?
- Did you allow yourself to be open and creative?
- What do you think was the purpose of this activity?



# Bring your pieces together

#### Recap

- What is mindfulness?
- Who am I?
- What does it mean to be a mindful leader?
- Navigating my identity under institutional constrictions
- The bigger picture





# Amplifying Your Leadership

#### **Takeaways**

- Everyone has an impact whether that is positive or negative
- Your identity matters and so does the person next to you
- Navigating spaces can be difficult and it does take time to learn
- Learn to give healthy feedback to yourself
- Be mindful and be a **CARING** leader



# Questions?

## **Bye friends!**

Thank you all for coming!