

"Family Paradigm in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry"

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- Mosche Wulff's patient was a small girl aged 1 ½ , whose parents tried to teach her control over her miction and defecation.
- The child was unable to meet their expectations.
- She became sad and fearful of being abandoned by her parents.
- Her fear increased in the dark or when the child heard unknown sounds such as knocking at the door.
- The girl continuously asked whether she was good and begged not to be abandoned by her parents.
 - Elizabeth Young-Brueh 1988

Why did the child react by emotional symptoms?

- The child reacted to this situation by the appearance of imaginings and fantasies about reactions of her parents to lack of success in learning control over physiological functions
- In the child's fantasies non-fulfilment of parents' expectations was linked with the threat of loss of love and punishment in the form of abandonment.



The Difference Between Women & Men

<http://netisbeautiful.com/how-men-and-women-see-themselves/>

- How we experience relations with other family members?

- Why did parents decide to teach the child to control physiological functions at the age of 1^{1/2}?

Behaviour in relation to a child can be the result of:

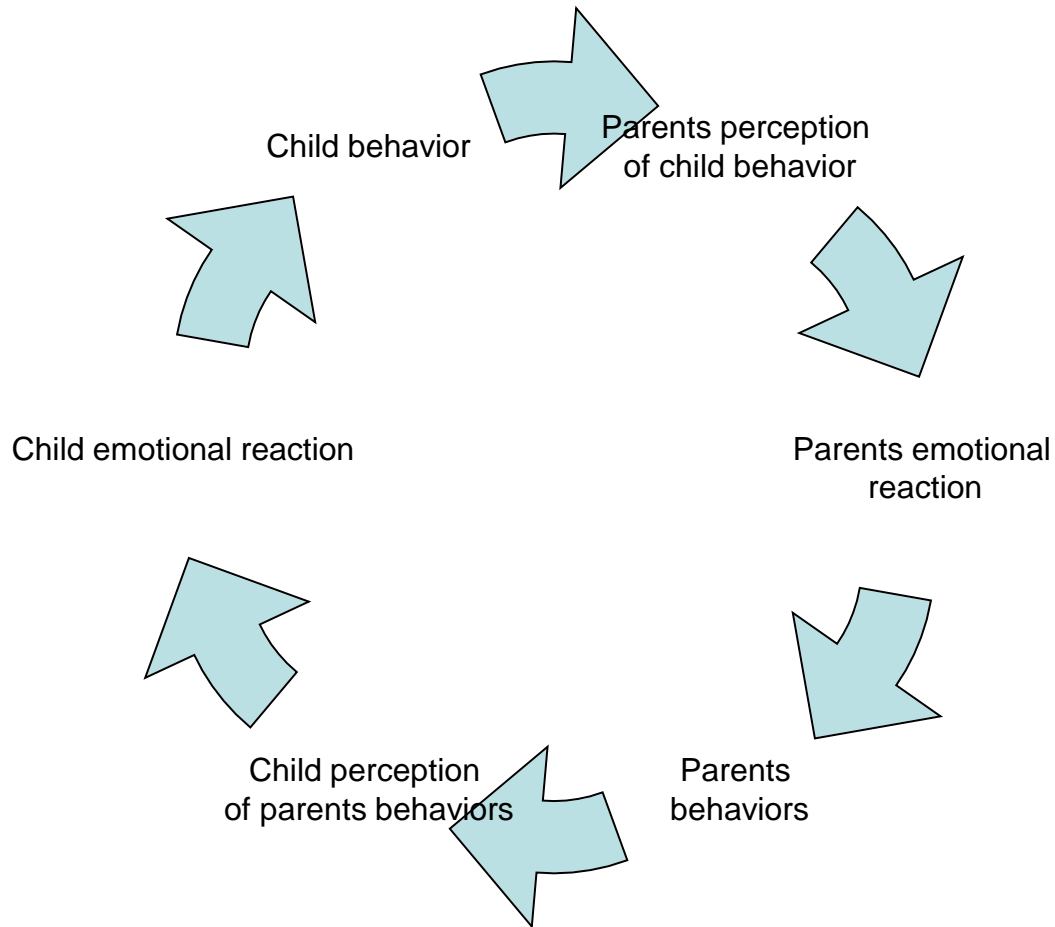
- simple repetition of behaviours that have been experienced in childhood in relations with their own parents;
- result of an attempt to repair, to treat one's child in a way that is fundamentally different from one's own experiences;
- expression of acquired family myths and convictions.

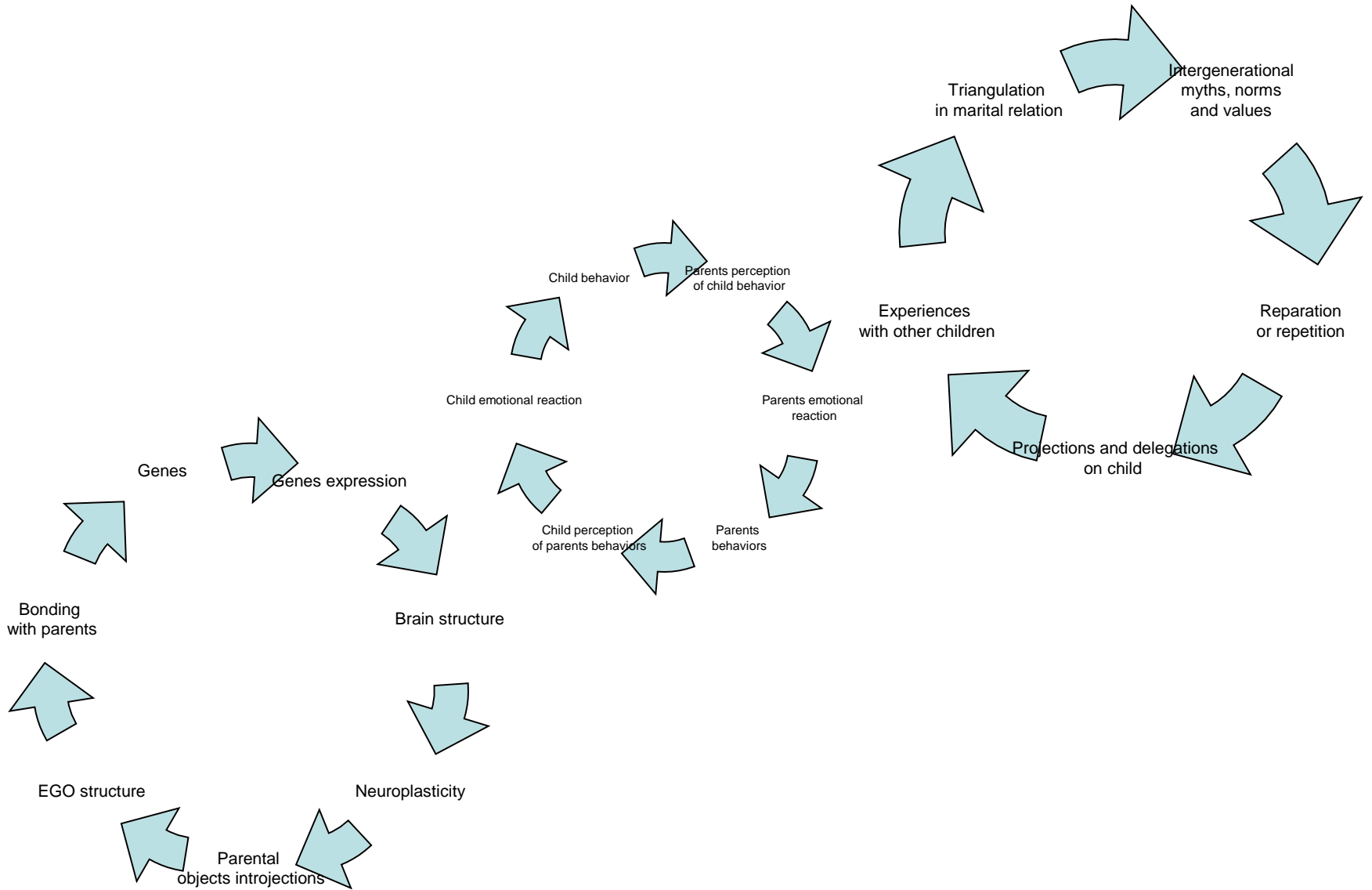
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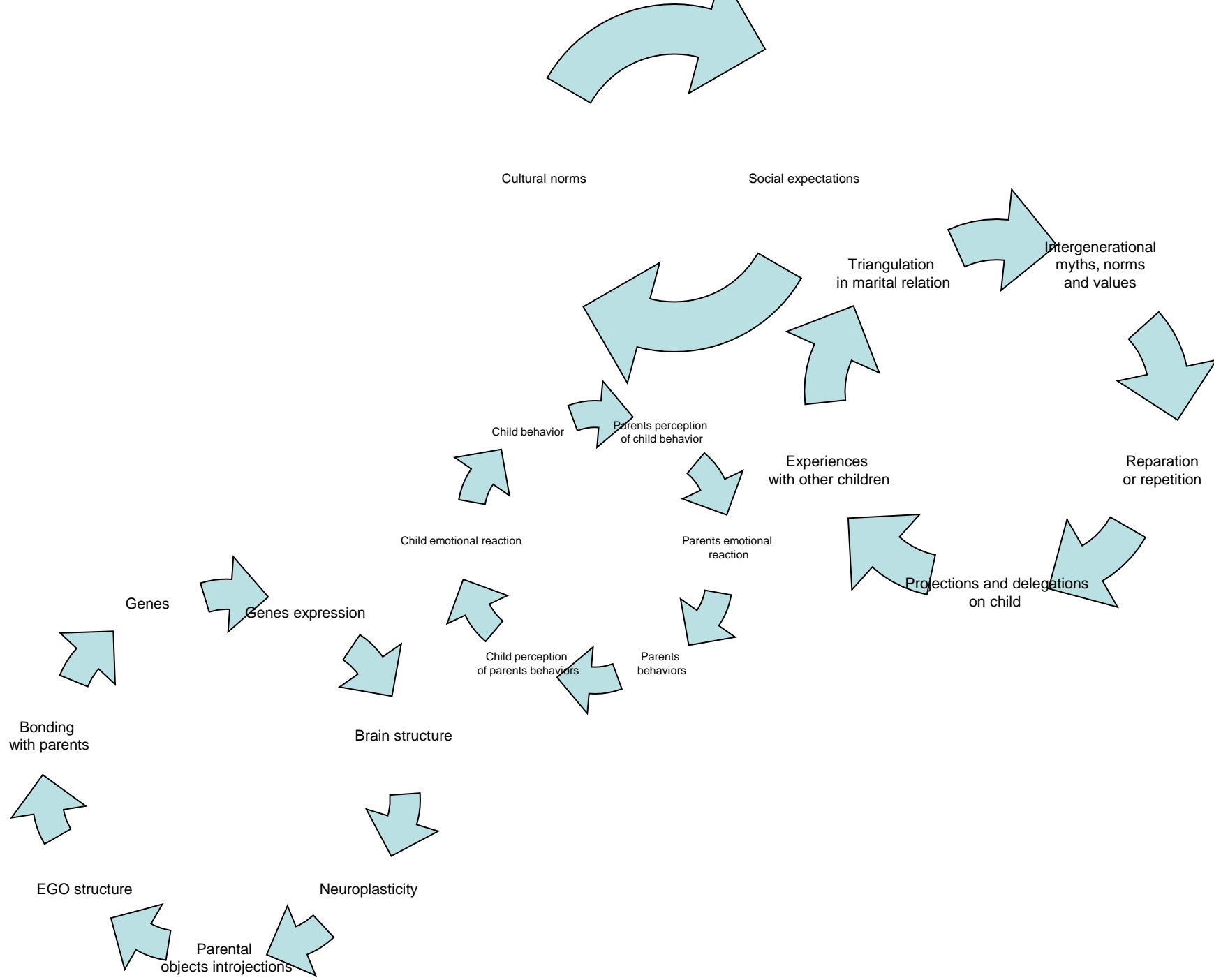
- projection or delegation onto a child of defined features or behaviours;
- triangulation of the child in marital relations, where expectations in relation to the child are a significant element of the partner relationship;
- expectations in relation to the child that are a result of experiences with its siblings.

- We used to think that psychopathology is something we possess or possessed us.
- Especially in children and adolescents psychopathology would be very strongly connected with family interactions and dynamics.

Systemic paradigm: circular versus linear thinking







Systems: socio-cultural believes or norms

- In XVIII and XIX century babies and toddlers of both sexes in America wore dresses until their parents were certain that their toilet-training was successful, at which time boys received their first identifiably male garb.

Richea's letter to Rebecca is in the Gratz Family Collection, Manuscript Collection No. 72, the American Philosophical Society (<http://rebeccagratz.blogspot.com/2009/12/boys-dresses-and-breeching.html>)



Cecilia Beaux's: *Les Derniers Jours d'Infance* (The Last Days of Infancy),

- By the nineteenth century, parents generally began toilet training in earnest in the earliest months of life, and their demands for cleanliness became so severe by the end of the century that the ideal child was described as one "who cannot bear to have any dirt on his body or dress or in his surrounding for even the briefest time."

FOUNDATIONS OF PSYCHOHISTORY by Lloyd Demause

- About 2,000 people across the country (US) have joined Internet groups and e-mail lists to learn more about the techniques of encouraging a baby - a child too young to walk or talk - to go in a toilet, a sink or a pot.
- Through a nonprofit group, Diaper Free Baby (www.diaperfreebaby.org), 77 local groups have formed in 35 states to encourage the practice. One author's how-to books on the subject have sold about 50,000 copies.

NYT;October 9, 2005

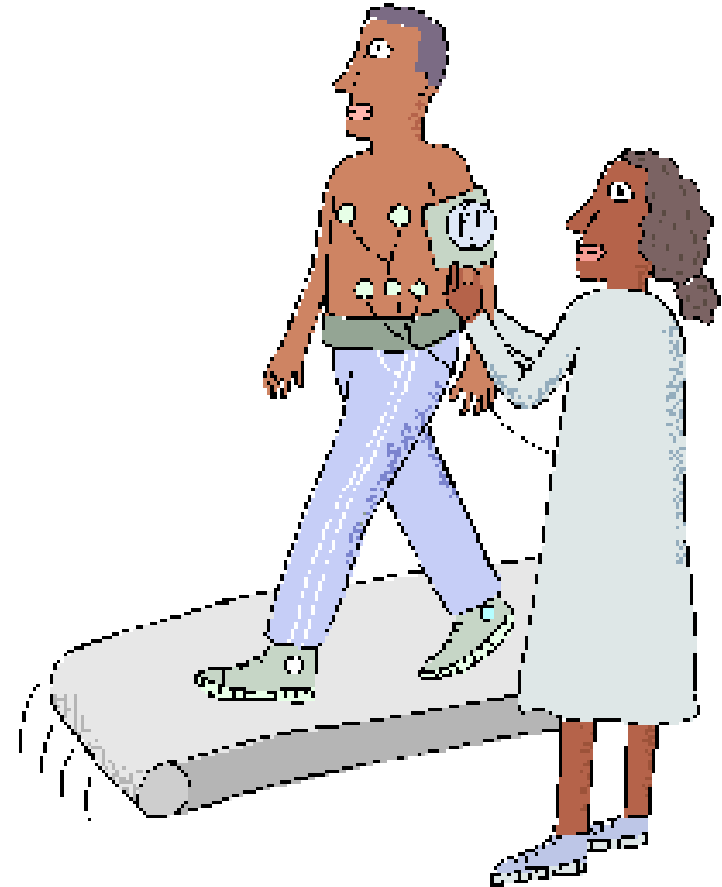
A Fast Track to Toilet Training for Those at the Crawling Stage

By TINA KELLEY

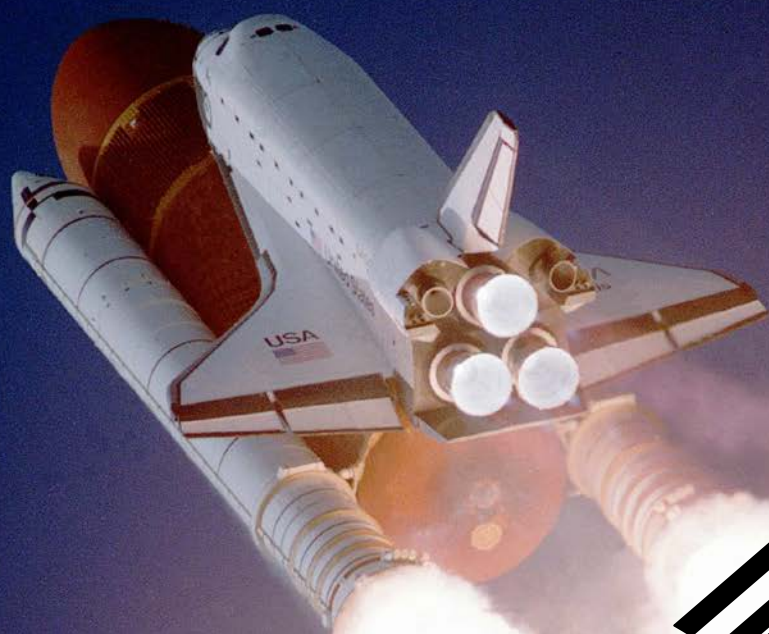
- Why did problems appear in this very moment of Moshe Wulff's patients life?

Homeostasis of family system

- Decision to resign from diapers was not creating the problems.
- It only showed that for some reasons it is difficult for family as a system to adapt to some challenges.



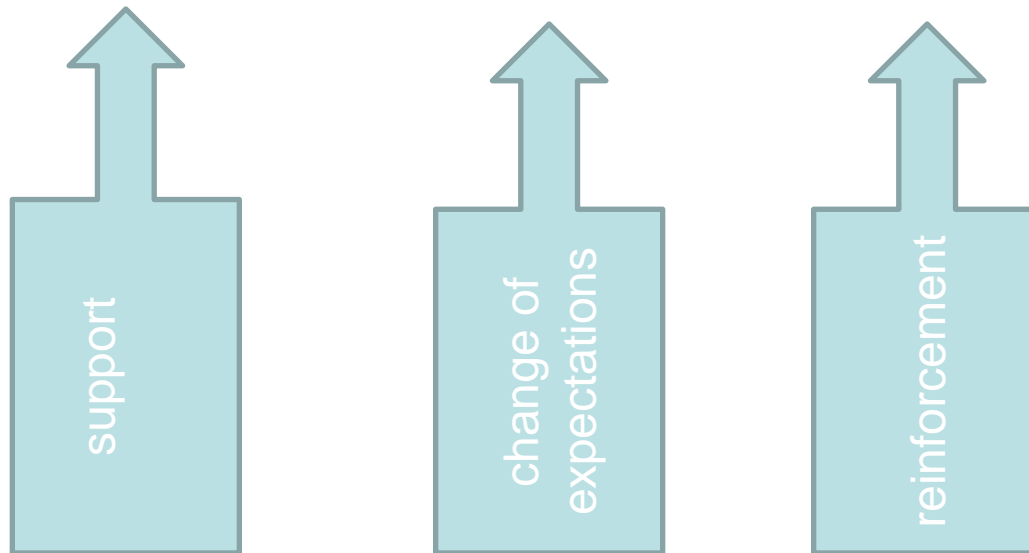
http://www.consumersresearchcncl.org/Healthcare/top-cardio/cardio_chapters.htm



You are stupid

I hate you

- When the parent's, on Mosche Wulff's advice, lowered their expectations and told their daughter that they loved her each time she soiled herself, the symptoms subsided.



Interventions in Family Therapy

- Support.
- Suggestions of changes in behaviours.
- Help in achieving greater knowledge of self, one's conditionings, limitations, and schemas of thinking and behaving.
- Help in a more realistic perception of attitudes and behaviours of other family members in the complexity of their conditionings.

