









# MAXIM CONSULTING GROUP

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# AGENDA

- Evaluate the emotional challenges that prevent successful negotiations
- Discuss the steps necessary to achieve collaborative outcomes in negotiations
- Define the communication skills necessary to deescalate conflict
- Show the difference between compromise and collaboration



### COMMUNICATION GONE WRONG







# WHY ARE NEGOTIATIONS SO DIFFICULT?





### WHY NEGOTIATIONS FAIL

- Lack of Adequate Preparation
- Lack of Trust Did Not Build Rapport
- Motivation of the Other Party was Misread or Lacking
- Emotional Involvement or Conflicting Personalities
- Fear of Leaving Something on the Table
- Lack of Leverage to Move the Transaction Along



## WHY NEGOTIATIONS FAIL

- Real Issues Were Not Communicated or Understood
- Decision Makers Not at the Table
- Wrong Approach or Tactics were Transparent
- Deal is No Longer a "Good" Deal
- Lack of Ground Rules
- Lack of Documented Confirmation



### BARRIERS TO PROBLEM SOLVING

- Failure to recognize the problem not sure what the problem is
- Conceiving the problem too narrowly, not sure what is happening
- Making a hasty choice, not sure what you want
- Failure to consider the feasibility of the solution
- Failure to consider all the consequences, not enough resources
- Failure to know how to communicate what is possible
- Failure to define what YOU did that was responsible for your success
- Attitudes like complacency, ridiculing others ideas, lack of accountability, dysfunctions, fear of change, lack of trust and doubts



#### EMOTIONAL INVOLVEMENT

- Ego
- Loyalty
- Status
- Greed

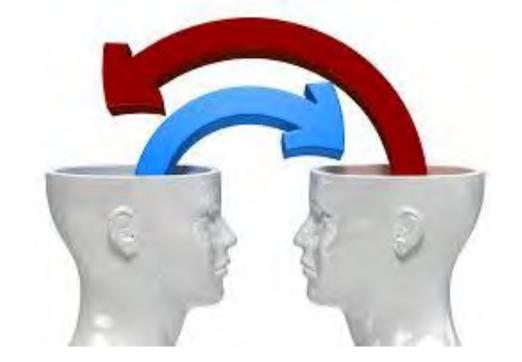




#### NEGOTIATIONS 101

- "Back and forth communication to reach agreement when some interests are shared and some interests are opposed."
- Roger Fisher & William Ury, <u>Getting to Yes</u>

Negotiation is HUMAN INTERACTION





# FOUR STEPS FOR SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS

- 1. Preparation
- 2. Information Exchange
- 3. Proposing & Concessions
- 4. Commitment



# KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

How do we treat people with a:

- High D (dominance)
- High I (influence)
- High S (steadiness)
- High C (conscientiousness)



#### PREPARATION

- Know your BATNA
  - Best Alternative To a Negotiated Agreement

- Frame the first 3 minutes of the conversation
  - Prepare for it before the call/meeting and use the time to de-escalate the issue



### INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Most people do not listen with the intent to understand.

They listen with the intent to reply.



# PROPOSING AND CONCESSIONS

- Define your minimum requirements
- Listen
- Keep track of the issues requiring discussion
- Assert your needs constructively
- Commit to a solution that works for both parties
- Save the hardest issues for last
- Start reasonably and concede slowly
- Don't be trapped by emotions



#### EMOTIONS HAPPEN

- Don't try to stop them
- Don't try to control them
- Dealing directly with emotions is too hard

The KEY:



Breathe



#### COMMITMENT

- Concentrate on what you are agreeing to.
- Is there flexibility should demand or market changes occur?
- Are you confident they will keep their word?
- Are they confident that you will keep yours?



TRUST = SUCCESS



#### CONFLICT IS:

- Unavoidable
- Disruptive and destructive
- Necessary to work through in order to complete the negotiation process
- Able to affect outcomes
- Leadership
- Climate
- Policies



### CONFLICTIS:

A gap between expectations and reality





### TURNING CONFLICT INTO SUCCESS

Be prepared to answer:

- Who?
- What?
- How?

Be informed and understand the reasoning

Why or why not?

Be positive about the desired outcome

If you don't believe in it, why would anyone else?



### DE-ESCALATING ANGER

Seven Steps To Success:

- 1. Listen
- 2. Offer
- 3. Wait
- 4. Look
- 5. Incline/Nod
- 6. Express
- 7. Solve



#### LISTENING

- We cannot promote a positive resolution until the person FEELS that they have been listened to.
- Listen thoroughly and effectively until you understand the problem from THEIR point of view.
  ONLY then do you have the information you need to respond.

Listening Learning



#### OFFER

- Offer reflective comments such as, "I can see that you are angry (or frustrated)," which displays that you are not only listening to their words, but their level of urgency.
- Allow them to blow off steam. This will reduce the anger that they are feeling and projecting toward you afterwards.





#### WAIT

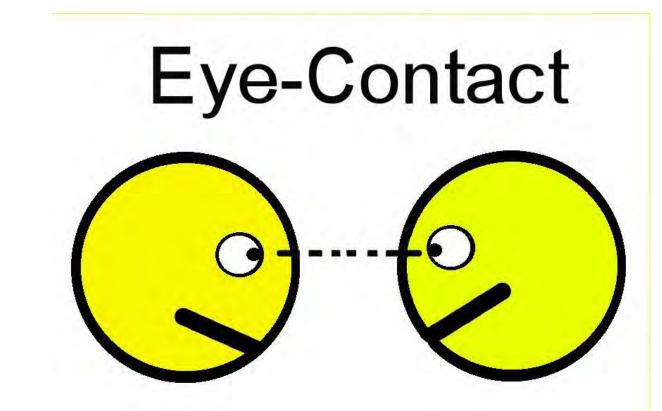
- DO NOT fill voids with words. Allow them time to reset and continue their thoughts without your interruption or input.
- Count down from 10 before you speak to ensure they are ready to listen.





#### 

- Eye contact is important, but context is key. NO blank stares, NO piercing glares. NO rolling eyes
- Keep expression neutral, smile only if appropriate.
- Facial expressions are key





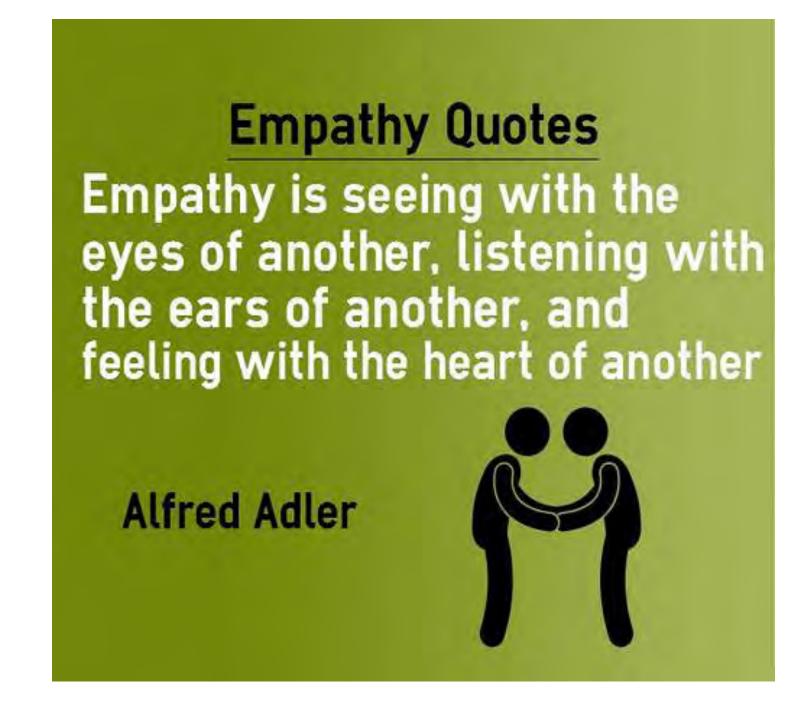
#### INCLINE OR NOD

- Inclining the head presents a non threatening posture.
- Nodding displays interest in what they are saying



### EXPRESS

- Express a desire to understand and be empathetic
- · "I can appreciate why you felt that way."





### SOLVE

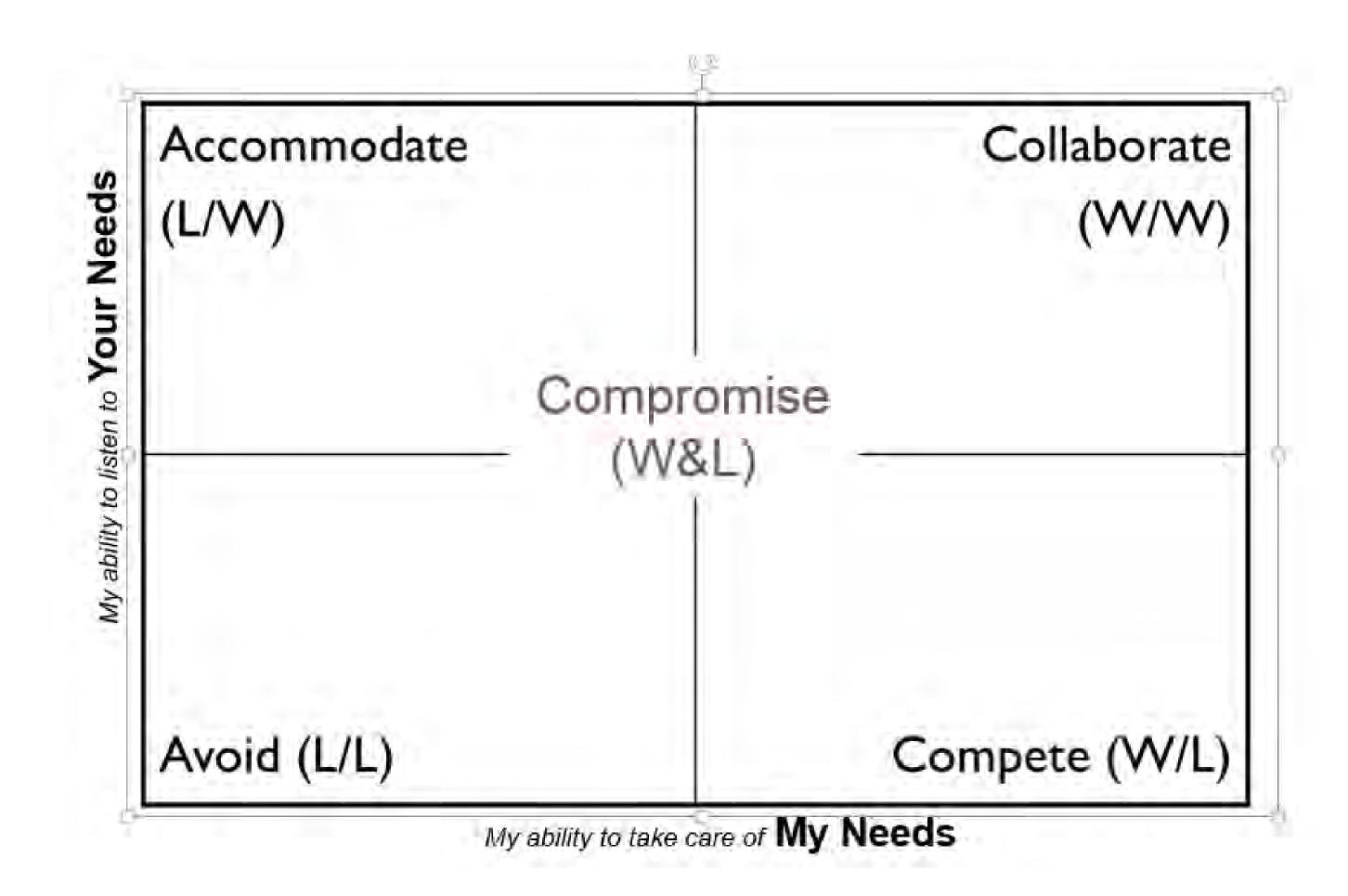
 Only after the de-escalation techniques have been completed can you begin the solution building process.







## COMPROMISE VERSUS COLLABORATION





#### CONCLUSIONS

- We cannot be successful without each other
- Successful conflict resolution leads to a climate where resolution and collaboration can occur
- Negotiations is human interaction and being prepared is the key to success
- Decision making must be in alignment with core values, with consequences objectively evaluated



# QUESTIONS?









#### **THANK YOU**

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