

GENTS SA
MY TRIBE



every man
a spiritual father

every boy
a beloved son

Symptoms of our Time

Faith

- 60-80% of young people do not continue in faith beyond adolescence. Closer to 80% for boys.
- Since World War 2, church attendance has dropped from 60% to 7% in Australia. Half of these are migrants since 1970
- Only 39% of church attendees are male
- Only 15% who walk away from faith in early years return later in life



Symptoms of our Time

Self Destruction

- 93% of people in jail are male
- 75% of suicides are male and the biggest killer of Australian teen males
- The 2nd biggest killer of teen males is autocide (car). Teen males die 6:1 to females



Symptoms of our Time

Mental Health

- Diagnosis and medicating for depression, anxiety, and ADHD is sky rocketing
- Only 5-8% of those prescribed anti-depressives need* them. But the current medical model of 'fixing' people wrongfully dominates mental health
- Nearly 100% of boys are exposed to porn and addictions are increasing



Symptoms of the Time

Belonging and Purpose

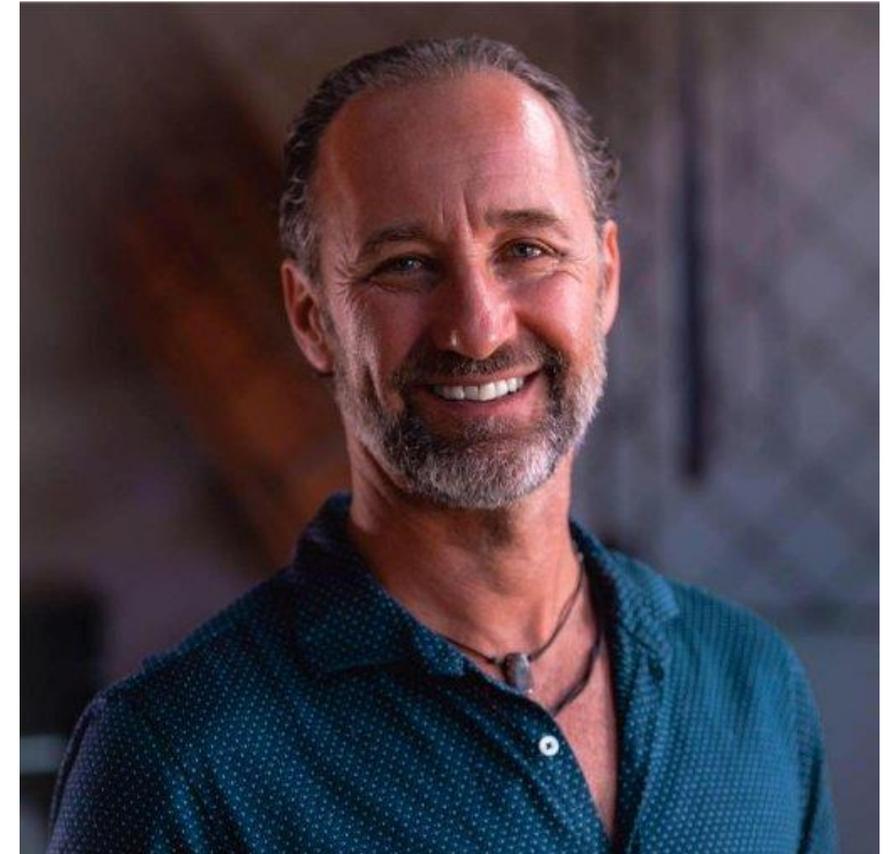
- 39% of people today have no close friends. 40 years ago the average person had 5 close friends
- Young people who feel they have meaning and purpose in life has dropped from 70-30% in last 40 years

The System is Broken

Click image to hear Arne's story

ARNE RUBENSTEIN – Former Family GP

“When I looked into all known western medical options to avert the Well-being plunge of young people, and found nothing, that’s when I knew my medical career was over...I couldn’t keep handing out anti-depressives. ‘Chemical imbalance’ is not the problem.”

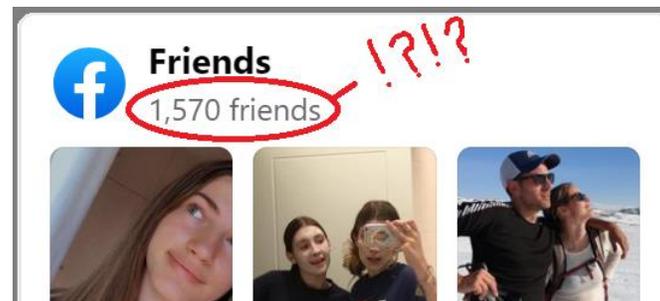
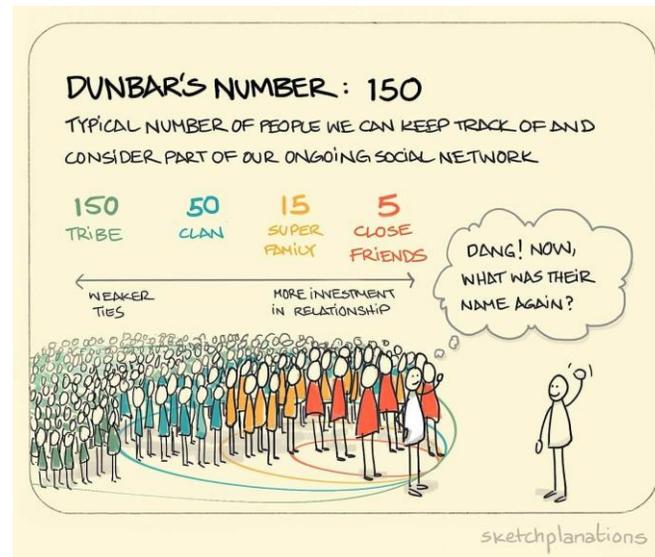


The System is Broken

“Don’t be you. Be we. Be us”

Dunbar’s Number

"this limit is a direct function of relative [neocortex](#) size, and that this in turn limits group size [...] the limit imposed by neocortical processing capacity is simply on the number of individuals with whom a stable inter-personal relationship can be maintained"



Click image to hear Hari's Ted Talk

We... have become the first humans ever to dismantle our tribes. As a result, we have been left alone on a savanna we do not understand, puzzled by our own sadness.



Johann Hari
Lost Connections

The Cause of a Broken System

World Vision changed its strategy of transforming communities in the 90s.

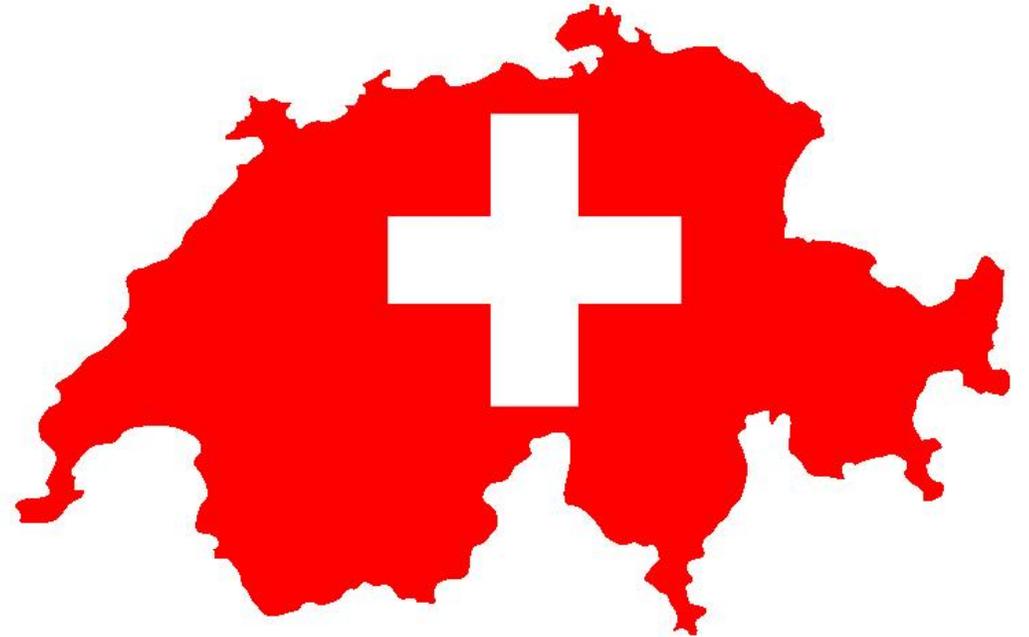
“We discovered that to transform a broken community we had to get the money into the hands of the mothers and women. Putting money into the hands of men made the problem worse.” – Tim Costello



Addressing the System not Symptoms

What's at
the heart of
the system
that is
working?

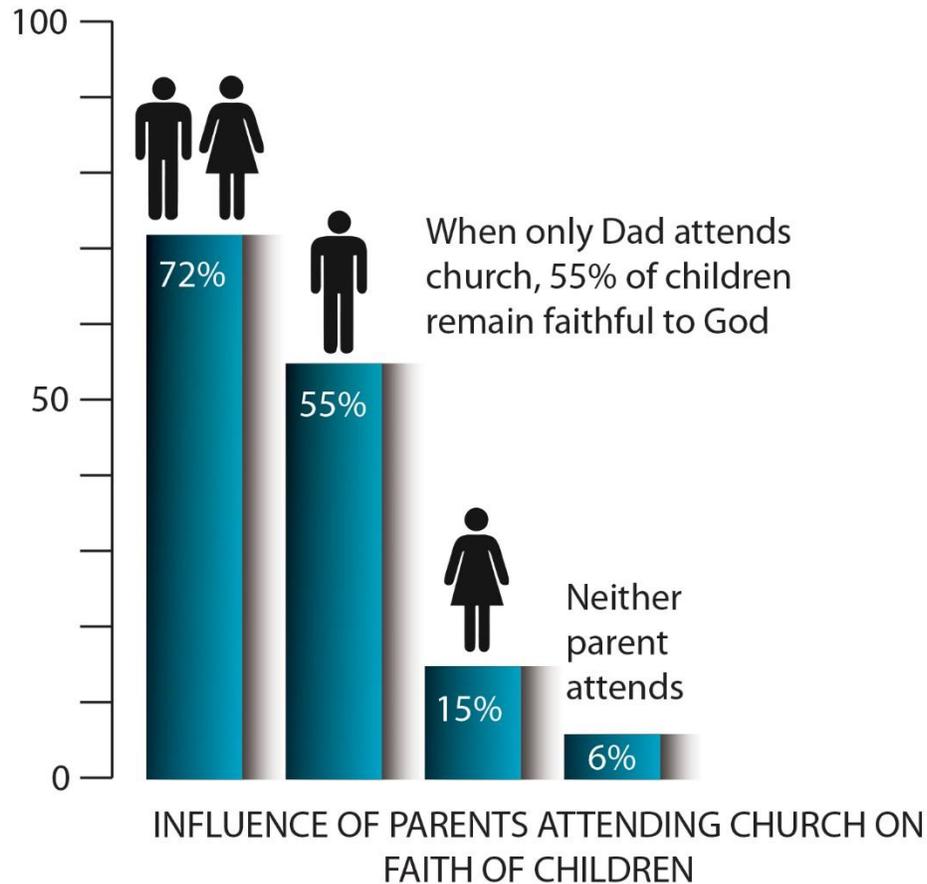
...if the father attended church regularly, and the mother was non-practising, then 44% of their children became regular church-goers. But if the mother attended regularly, and the father was non-practising, then only two per cent of their children became regular church attenders.



**A statistical report from Switzerland in 2000
“The Demographic Characteristics of the
Linguistic and Religious Groups in Switzerland,”**



Addressing the System not Symptoms



Robert & Deborah Bruce, "Becoming Spiritual Soulmates With Your Child" 1996

A mother's role will always remain primary in terms of intimacy, care, and nurture...[but] when a child begins to move into that period of differentiation from home and engagement with the world 'out there,' he (and she) looks increasingly to the father for his role model.

Robbie Low, "The Truth About Men & Church"

The Culture of Fatherhood

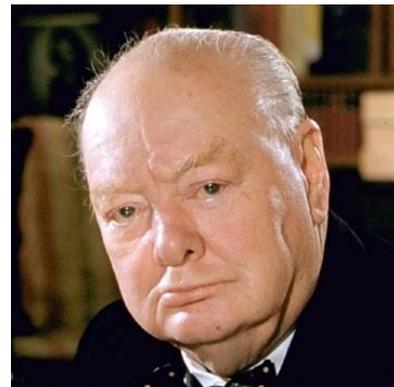
When the system was broken, God started with fathers

“See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their sons, and the hearts of the sons to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.”
(Malachi 4:5-6)

Faith is Not Being Passed On

*“One of the signs of a great society is the **diligence** with which it passes culture from one generation to the next. This culture is the embodiment of everything the people of that society hold dear; its religious faith, its heroes. When one generation no longer esteems its own heritage and fails to pass the torch to its children, it is saying in essence that the very foundational principles and experiences that make the society what it is are no longer valid. This leaves that generation without any sense of definition or direction, making them vulnerable to the dictum, 'A people without a heritage are easily persuaded.' What is required when this happens and the society has lost its way is for leaders to arise who have not forgotten the discarded legacy and who love it with all their hearts. They can then become the voice of that lost generation, wooing an errant generation back to the faith of their fathers, back to the ancient foundations and bedrock values.”*

Winston Churchill's example and legacy “Never Give In” – Stephen Mansfield



META Father – From HERO to heroes

A father can change a home environment, but it takes a community of fathers to improve a broken system or to role model sufficiently beyond aged 12.

“The number one factor enabling kids to rise is how many father figures there are generally in the community, more so than just a father in the home” .



Roland G Fryer Jr
Professor of Economics
Harvard University

META Father – From hero to **HEROES**

Jesus' Bar Mitzvah (aged 12)

“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

(Luke 2: 40-51)



The Fatherhood Four

If fatherhood is the role of guidance up and into the stage of Vocation, then the following four are the key activities that enabled successful fathering:



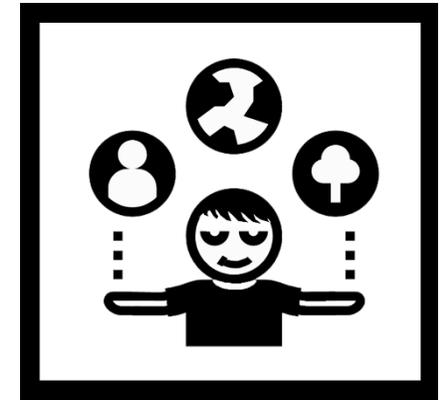
**COMPELLING
STORY-TELLING**



**ADVENTURE
&
CHALLENGE**



**NURTURE CLOSE
RELATIONSHIP**



**TEACHING
RESPONSIBILITY**

The Four Key Activities – Compelling Story Telling

- MATERIALISM -

Who benefits from this narrative?



CLICK



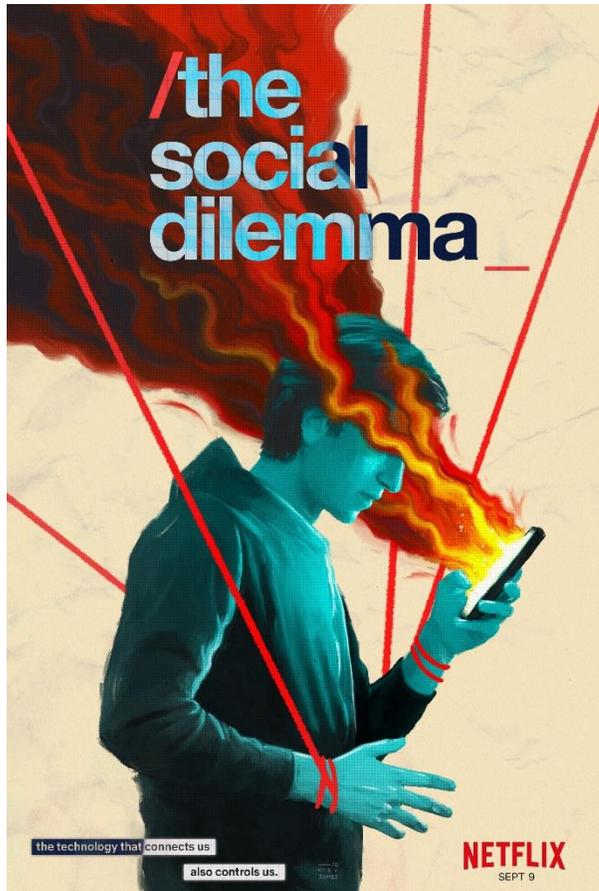
Intermittent
Reward
Schedule



16-24-year-olds spend a median of **3 hours a day** on social media (2020)



The Four Key Activities – Compelling Story Telling



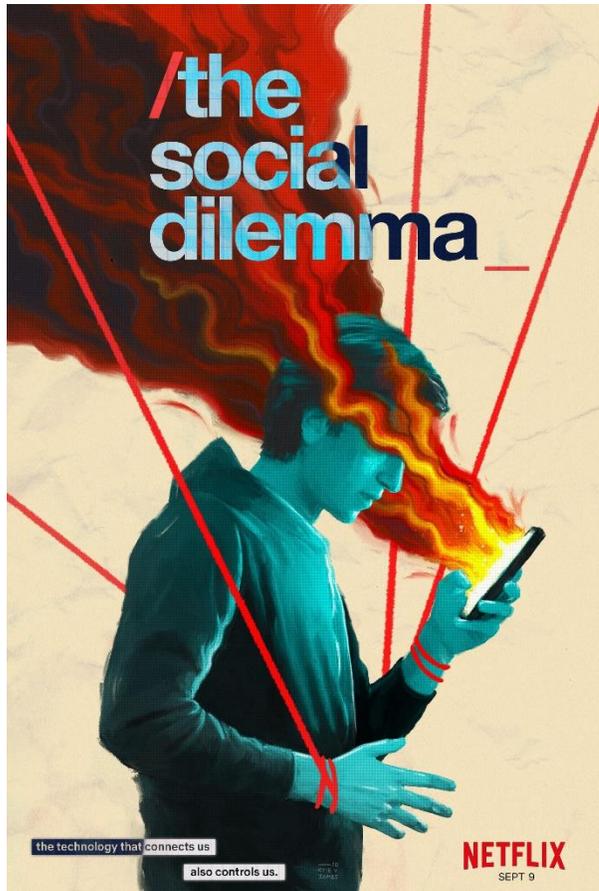
“Social platforms are designed to give Intermittent Reward Schedules...We’ve created a world where online connection is primary. The very meaning of connection is manipulation. We just want to work out how to psychologically manipulate you as quickly as possible so we can then give you back that dopamine hit.”



Chamath Palihapitiya
Former Senior Exec of Facebook



The Four Key Activities – Compelling Story Telling

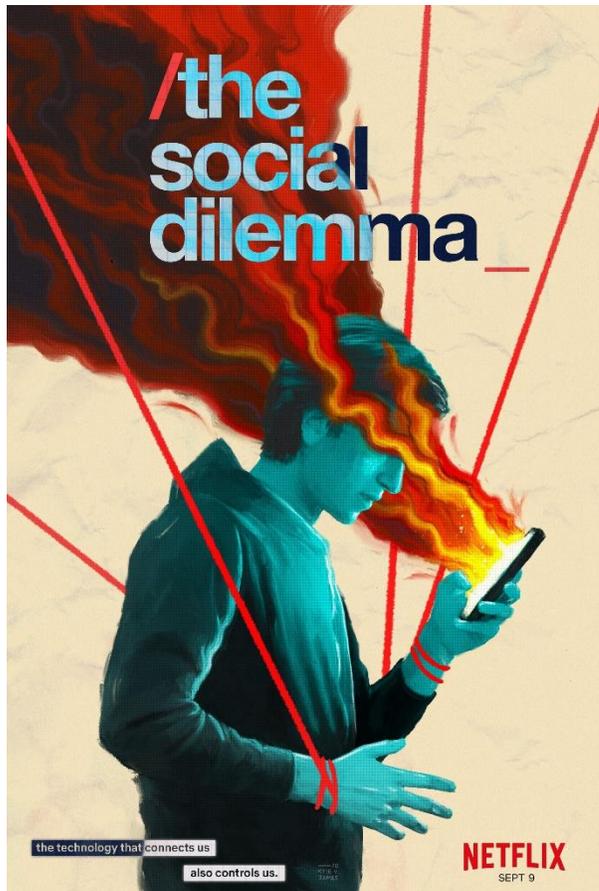


“The digital engineers of social media understood this, but we did it anyway. We want to make people addicted...”

Even when I knew the tricks behind the curtain, I still couldn't control myself. I couldn't break it with will power or with brute force”



The Four Key Activities – Compelling Story Telling



“Social media has three main goals:

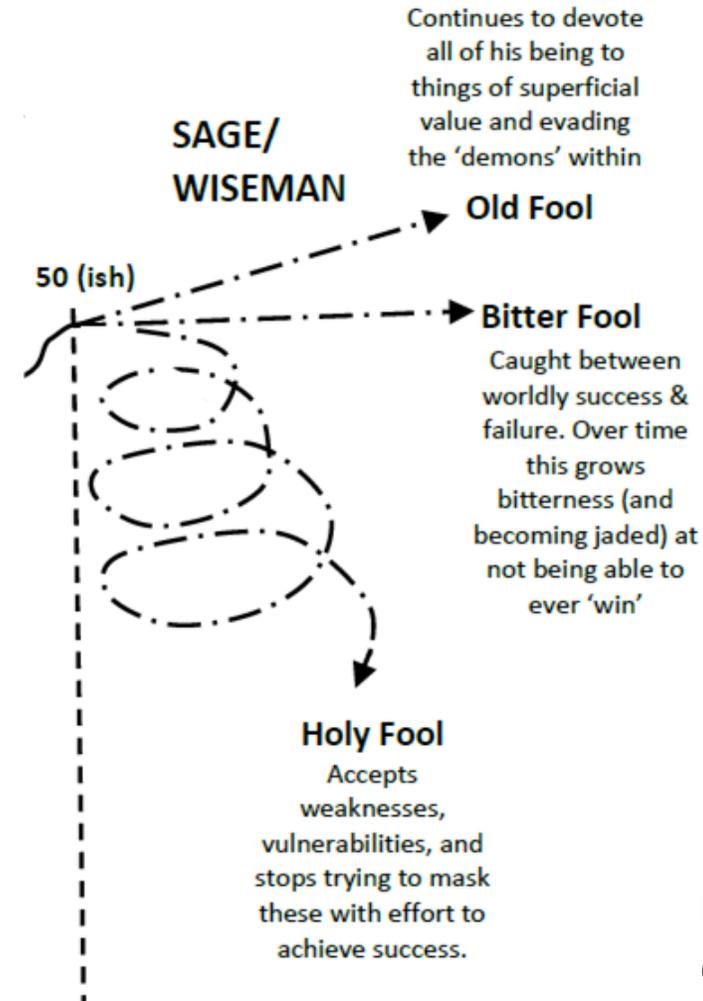
- 1. Maximise length of engagement*
- 2. Growth – likes, shares*
- 3. Get as much advertising viewing as possible*

We want to make people addicted”



The Four Key Activities – Compelling Story Telling

If we don't have compelling stories to tell our young people, **that we believe ourselves**, the materialist narrative will win out. It will win out and then in our 50s (mid-life check in point) when our soul demands to see value in all the hours, weeks, months, and years of our labour, and doesn't find it, we will self destruct.



Richard Fay
Centre for Men

The Four Key Activities – Nurturing Close Relationship

The Four Feel Good Brain Chemicals



- **Oxytocin** - The trust hormone
- Dopamine
- Serotonin
- Endorphins

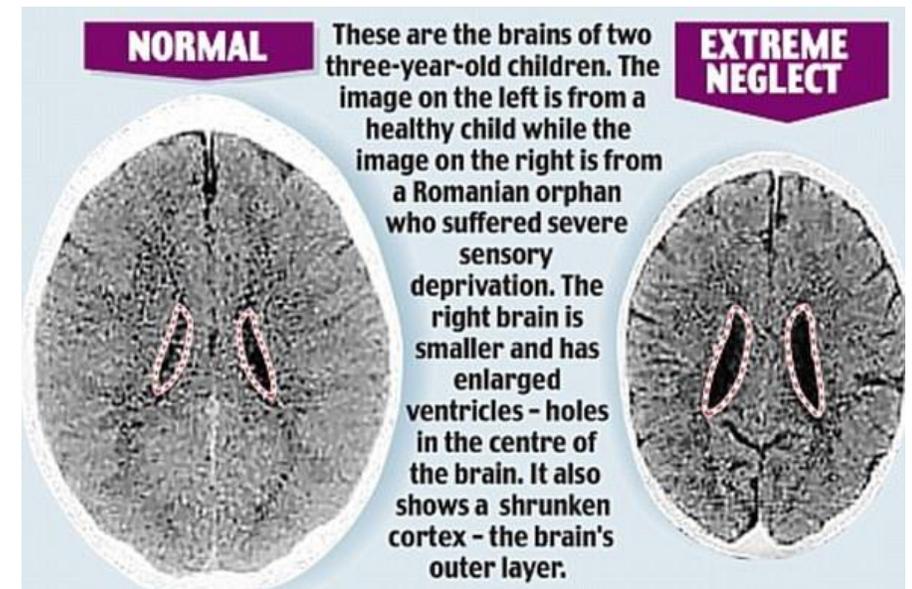
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Date	Transaction details	Debit	Credit	Balance*	
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28 Oct 20		-\$10.00		+\$2,085.01	
27 Oct 20		-\$125.00		+\$2,095.01	
26 Oct 20		-\$39.00		+\$2,220.01	
26 Oct 20			+\$29.18	+\$2,259.01	

The Four Key Activities – Nurturing Close Relationship



Children MUST feel safe, valued, and that you are trustable

- **Attachment 0-2 years** (half brain development in Romanian orphanages)
- You must actively engage your child in a developmentally appropriate way but also that can endure the disruption that happens when children move from one stage to another

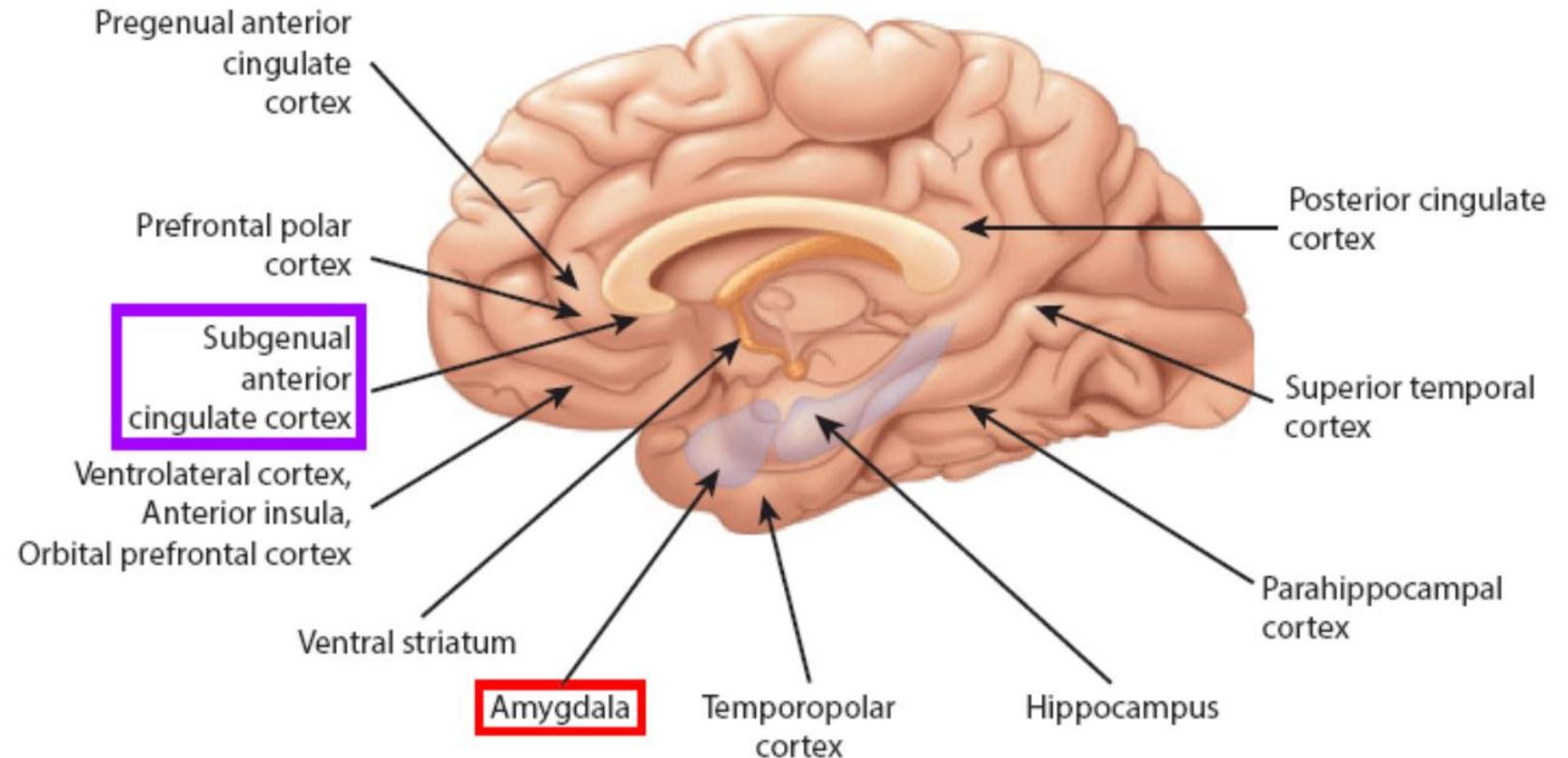


The Four Key Activities – Adventure & Challenge



Courage – Anxiety calibrator

When you choose to face a fear, your brain turns on genes, producing new proteins and structures in the S.A.C.C., **YOU GROW COURAGE!** Your brain can divert now from the amygdala (fight, flight, freeze) to take on challenge properly



The Four Key Activities – Teaching Responsibility



A lack of resources for nearly all of history meant that young people had to take on significant responsibility before they left home. Responsibility was role-modelled and coached. People learnt to parent before they became parents. Especially when families had more than 3 children.

MALES vs FEMALES – does it matter?

The Big 5 Personality Traits - OCEAN



Males and Females score the same in personality traits in general in:

- OPENNESS
- CONSCIENTIOUSNESS
- EXTRAVERSION

But different in:

- NEUROTICISM
- AGREEABLENESS



GENTS Ministry Mission

Partner churches to

help their community of men have a passionate heart and commitment towards their boys becoming great men through all key stages of boyhood (8-12yrs, 12-15 yrs, 16-18 yrs, 18-24 yrs)

Stage 1

- Form a core team of 3-4 men (minimum) to run a Gents SA Father and Sons Camp

Stage 2

- Continue a Band of Brothers operation to support the community of men engage daily, weekly, termly, and more with their boys

GENTS SA MINISTRY

CAMPING EXPERIENCES

GENTS CAMP SA Father & Sons



THIS IS A CAMP FOR FATHERS AND SONS. ITS STACKS OF FUN AND WEAVES TOGETHER THE FOUR KEY EXPERIENCES THAT HELP BOYS THRIVE:

- 1) COMPELLING STORY-TELLING
- 2) CHALLENGE & ADVENTURE
- 3) IMITATING RESPONSIBILITY
- 4) CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS

GENTS CAMP SA



A RITE OF PASSAGE CAMP FOR 18 YR OLDS, BUT ATTENDED BY MALES IN YEAR 7 UP TO 70+ YEARS OLD. THE CAMP FORGES AN EPIC CULTURE THAT TEEN BOYS THRIVE IN AND INTRODUCES PRIVILEGE AND RESPONSIBILITY IN INCREASING MEASURE AS THE CAMPERS SHOW THEY ARE READY FOR IT.

LIFETIME QUARTERLY WEEKLY DAILY ACTIVITIES

GENTS SA MY TRIBE



THIS MINISTRY IS IN EARLY DEVELOPMENT BUT WILL RESOURCE MEN AND FATHERS DO THE CYCLICAL THINGS THAT HELP PRIMARY, SECONDARY, AND TERTIARY AGED MALES TRACK TOWARDS GREAT MANHOOD. THIS INCLUDES DAILY AND WEEKLY ACTIVITIES IN THE HOME, WEEKLY AND TERMILY ACTIVITIES IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH, AND ONCE IN A LIFETIME EVENTS THAT MARK OUT SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES AND TRANSITIONS TO NEW STAGES OF LIFE.