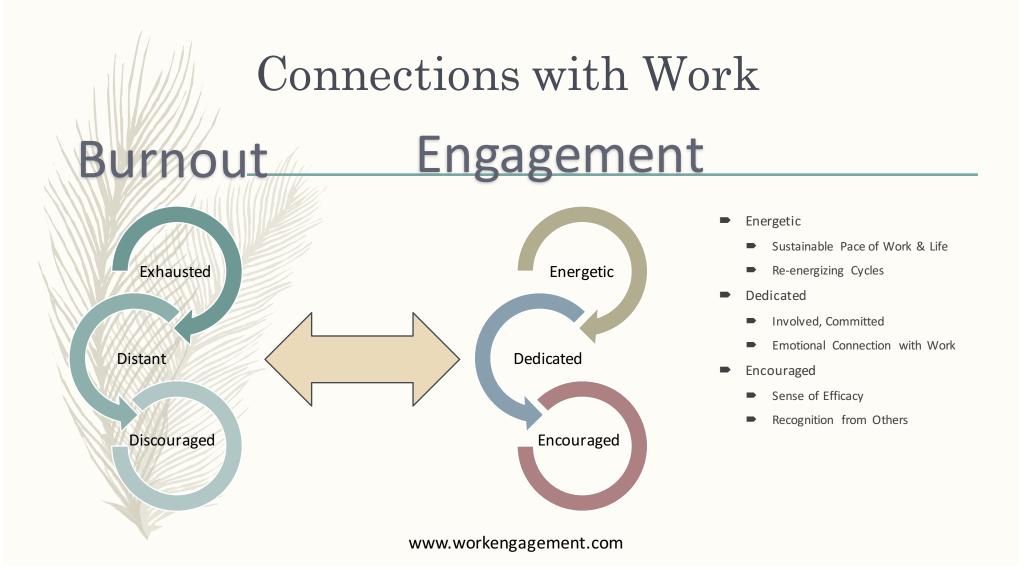


Improving Civility Contributes to Well-Being at Work

Michael P. Leiter, PhD Acadia University



Preventing & Alleviating Burnout

Realigning Imbalances

- Reduce Illegitimate Demands
- Enhance Resources
- Enhance Resiliency & Recovery

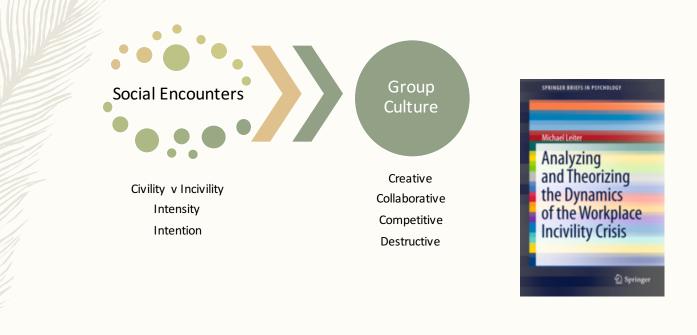
Overcoming Frustrations

- Belonging
- Autonomy
- Mastery

Dynamics: Workplace Community Problems

- Social Mistreatment
 - Bullying
 - Abuse
 - Aggression
- Poor Workplace Culture
 - Incivility
 - Disrespect
 - Low Contact

Dynamics: Develop a Social Culture



Dynamics: Frustration of Core Motives

- Frustration
 - Belonging: Inclusive Workplace Community
 - Autonomy: Trust & Confidence to Take Initiative
 - Mastery: Appreciation and Recognition
- Burnout
 - Exhaustion: Emotional, Practical Costs of Discord
 - **Cynicism**: Frustration of Belonging, Autonomy
 - Inefficacy: Frustration Mastery, Autonomy



The Downside of Social Encounters

- Relationships Consume Energy
- Emotional Impact of Unpleasant Encounters
 - Immediate
 - Delayed Rumination
 - Disrupting Recovery
- Burdens of Leadership or Collegiality
 - Time Demands
 - Demands on Emotional Intelligence, Social Skills
 - Illegitimate Social Demands



The Upside of Social Encounters

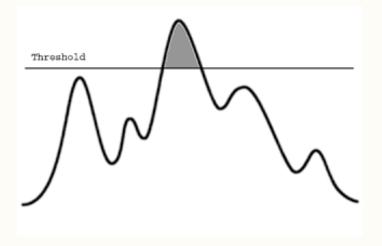
- Relationships Conserve and Generate Energy
- Fulfilling Core Motives
 - Belonging
 - Agency
 - Mastery
- Furthering Effectiveness
 - Shared Mission & Values: Bigger Impact
 - Practical Assistance
 - Increased Options, Flexibility



Thresholds for Behavior

- Granovetter: Threshold Model of Collective Behavior

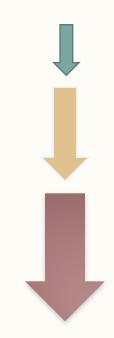
- Prime Model—Riots—Applied to Workgroup Incivility
- People Vary re Incivility Threshold
 - Low Self Management
 - History of Discord with Colleagues
 - Individual Mission
- Situations Vary in Incivility Elicitation
 - History of Civility Culture
 - Monitoring of Respectful Behavior
 - Reaction to Violations of Explicit Norms



Threshold Shift

Individual

- Instruction in Civility & Respect
- Increase Salience of Contingencies
- Workgroup
 - Strengthening Civility Culture
 - Reduce Threshold for Civility
 - Increase Threshold for Incivility

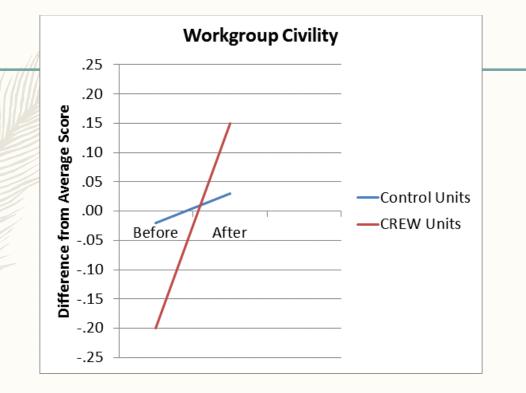


Impact of CREW: Civility, Respect, Engagement at Work

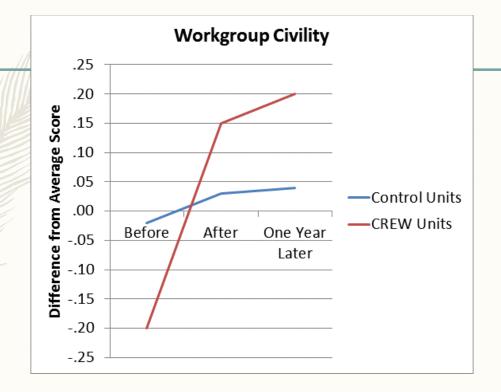
- Five Hospitals in Ontario and Nova Scotia
 - Wave 1: Eight CREW Groups (N=252)
 - Wave 2: Seven CREW Groups (N=226)
 - Control: 26 Units No CREW (N=874)
- Hypothesis:
 - Improvement for CREW
 - Steady for Control
 - And it stays that way

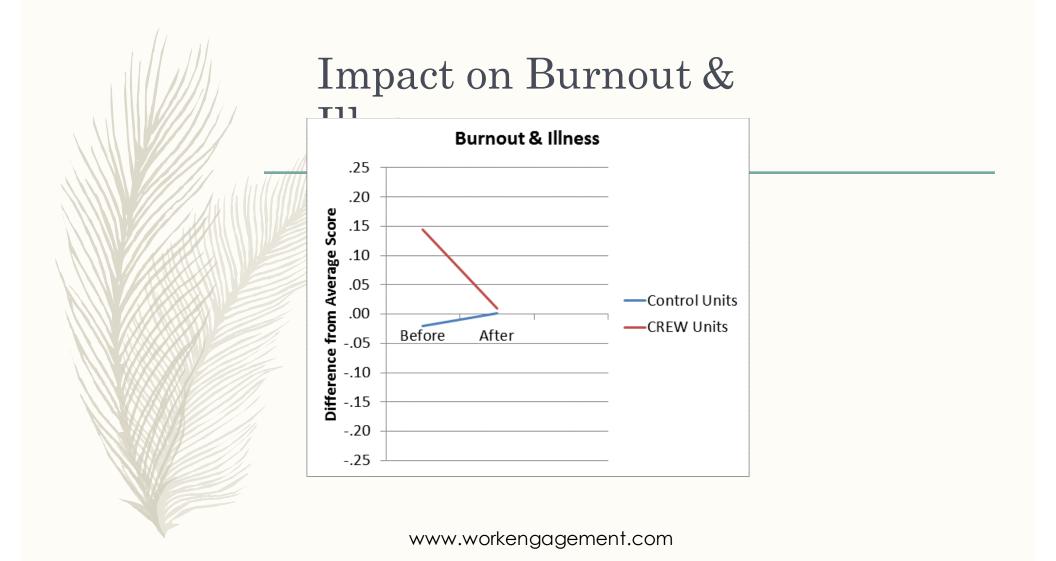
Leiter, M. P., Laschinger, H. K. S., Day, A., & Gilin-Oore, D. (2011). The impact of civility interventions on employee social behavior, distress, and attitudes. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 96, 1258-1274.
Leiter, M. P., Day, A., Laschinger, H. K. S., & Gilin-Oore, D. (2012). Getting better and staying better: Assessing civility, incivility, distress, and job attitudes one year after a civility intervention. *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, 17, 425-434.

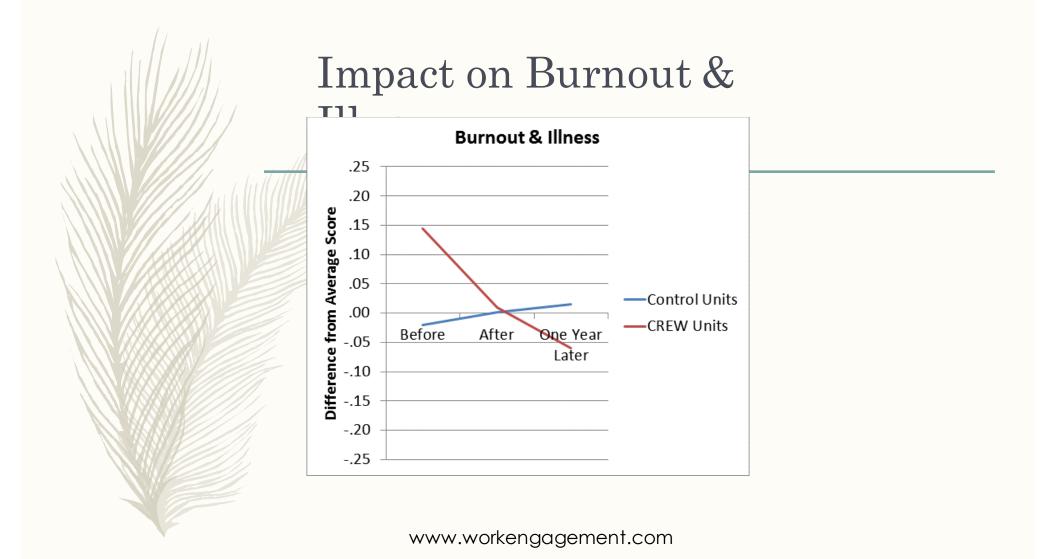
Impact on Civility



Impact on Civility







CREW: Active Ingredients

- Put Civility on the Agenda
- Problem Solving Format
 - Constructive Relationships as Primary Resource
 - Responsibility to Address Dysfunctional Relationships
- Group Process
 - Interactive Format: Sharing Concerns about Relationships
 - Role Plays and Structured Exercises
 - Resetting Thresholds for Civility and Incivility

Leiter, M. P., Laschinger, H. K. S., Day, A., & Gilin-Oore, D. (2011). The impact of civility interventions on employee social behavior, distress, and attitudes. Journal of Applied Psychology, 96, 1258-1274.

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Intervention Format

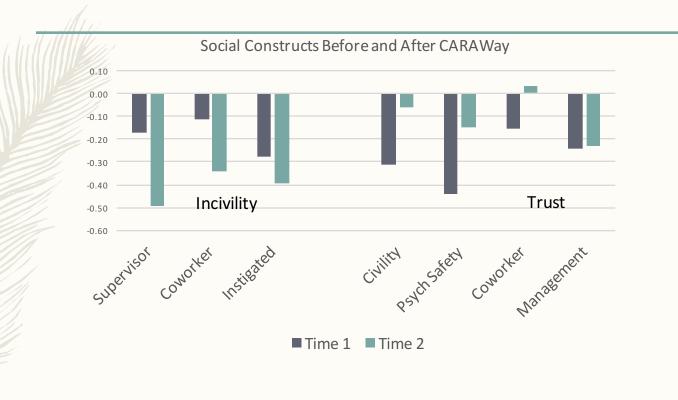
CREW

- Focus: Broad Group Process
- Group Format
 - 20-25 Weekly Meetings
 - 10-15 Member Groups
- Research Foundation
 - Improved Civility
 - Reduced Burnout

CARAWay

- Focus: Civility & Respect
- Group Format
 - 4- 6 Monthly Meetings
 - 10-40 Member Groups
- Encouraging Pilot

CARAWay Pilot 2016



4 As of Civility

- Acknowledgement: Saying or doing something that recognizes another person's presence. It could be as simple as smiling or wishing a good morning.
- Appreciation: Expressing thanks for another person's contribution or expressing admiration for the quality of that contribution.
- Acceptance: Explicitly or implicitly welcoming a person into your conversation, group, or project.
- Accommodation: Modifying your activities or space in ways that helps another person participate or to work more comfortably or effectively.

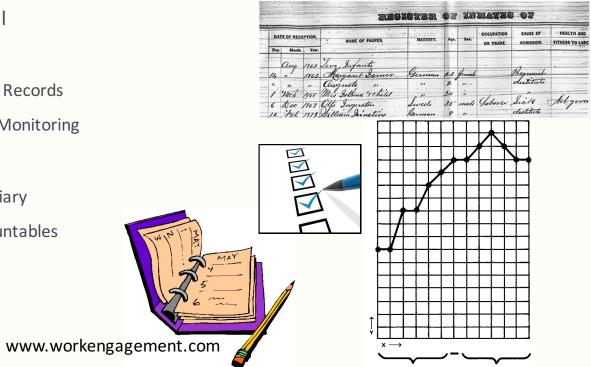
http://workengagement.com/caraway



Monitoring

- Organizational

- Surveys
- Institutional Records
- Workgroup Monitoring
- Personal
 - Keeping A Diary
 - Charting Countables



Individual Action

- First Step: Recruit an Ally
 - Emotional Support
 - Structuring Both Sides of an Interaction
- Maintaining Focus
 - Measurement
 - Baseline
 - Ongoing
 - Afterwards
 - Public Commitment

Sustaining Change

- Monitor, Analyze, Report
 - Surveys
 - Tracking
 - Sharing
 - Structures
 - Regular Agenda Items
 - Posters, Articles, Conversations
- Respond
 - Emphasize What's Working
 - Change What's Not Working



Conclusion

- Burnout = Imbalance and Frustration
- Community
 - Improving Civility Culture
 - Individual Thresholds
 - Group Facilitation of Behavior
- Action
 - Individual Tracking
 - Group Process Development
 - Systems for Sustaining Gains

