

BODY LANGUAGE – BEYOND WORDS





Objectives

- Understand the importance of body language
- Learn what body parts send what sort of messages
- Awareness and practice

What is Non-Verbal Communication?

- Communicating without words
- Dictates up to 65% of conversation
- "Tells" Reveals true feelings
- Everything must be considered in context
 - i.e. Licking your lips
- Posture / Stance
- Gestures
- Facial Expression
- Clothing, Jewelry, Hairstyle, Tattoos



LEGS AND FEET

- "Dancing Feet" Bouncing or wiggling feet
 - Excited about something positive?
 - Impatient or bored?
 - Nervous or stressed?
- Direction of Feet
 - People speak toe to toe
 - Point our feet toward things we like, away from things we don't
- Leg Crossing
 - Toward the person we favor
- "Splayed" Feet (Further Apart, Larger Stance)
 - Can indicate defensiveness, marking territory
- Intention Movements
 - o i.e. putting both hands on knees signals "I'm ready to go"



TORSO

- Lean instinctively move away from things that make us uncomfortable
- Shoulder Shrug indicates uncertainty
- "The Turtle" Shoulders move up towards ears, neck disappears can indicate guilt, discomfort, upset



ARMS

- Behind Back The "Regal" Stance Used to keep one's distance
- On Hips, Fingers Forward Territorial display, establish dominance
- On Hips, Fists Sign of defiance, disrespect
- On Hips, Fingers Backward More friendly, less authoritarian





FACE

- Eyes, Lips
- Micro Expressions
- Can use facial cues to read emotions



What Have You Learned?

- The body can reveal a great deal about disposition
- Watch closely for non-verbal cues in interactions
- Remember to consider context before jumping to conclusions
- Use knowledge of body language to clarify, ask questions, and communicate more clearly



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Questions & Answer

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Please complete a training evaluation!



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Thank you!

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