

OTHER PRIMAL EMOTIONS & HEALING THE SOMATIC IMPRINT OF TOXIC SHAME

# Reflection: 'Researching Your Resources' from Lab 1

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"The antidote for trauma is to create new experiences in the body that contradict helplessness and collapse."

**Peter Levine** 



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Here's an example of working with an emotion, or quality of human experience, which is not anger-
based, but it can lead to accessing
*My personal share and epiphany exploring the quality and emotion of horror.
Back To Anger and Healthy Aggression
We can't always conjure up anger (or any other stored up emotion) in a kind of way.
We must the tools, self-knowledge, and educational resources we are building.
Then, and get out of the way so the healing and the return of our self (that authentic self) can show up.
The Power of Other Primal Emotions That Connect with Anger
Enter
<ul> <li>From the point of view of evolution and survival the primary function of disgust is to get rid of, or away from, a substance.</li> </ul>
• For any living creature this could be a poison, a food that's gone bad, anything environmental
that is not for us and could make us sick.
• It can also be a environment (social, parental, peer, caregivers, teachers, etc.) that does not accept you (or rejects you) and your natural self, plus all its biological, creative,

emotional, and sensory experiences and expressions.



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# WE NEED DISGUST TO WARN US THAT SOMETHING IS TOXIC, BUT WHAT IF WE CAN'T GET AWAY FROM THE TOXICITY?

Enter shame, specifically shame.						
The two kinds of shame, healthy and toxic, are felt in the experience.						
Example: "Don't Touch That!"						
The variety is imprinted when connection, love, and secure attachment are						
present, along with the demand or disciplinary action. (My cutting bread example.)						
The variety can be imprinted via the tone of the voice from the other, the						
ridiculing, the violent behaviour, and/or any other abusive actions that invoke a sense of fear						
a need to protect, and/or shutdown.						
The (emotional quality) of disgust is very similar to the affect of						
When we are able to powerfully express our anger, we our life force energy!						
This can lead to the of self-protective responses (stored procedural memories)						
that would have wanted to happen to protect us from the toxicity (the abuse, the person, etc.) but						
did not.						

#### **QUOTE**

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"(...) for example, if you were never allowed to express anger in your family, your anger becomes an alienated part of yourself. You experience toxic shame when you feel angry. This part of you must be disowned or severed. There is no way to get rid of your emotional power of anger. Anger is self-preserving and self-protective energy. Without this energy you become a doormat and a people-pleaser. As your feelings, needs, and drives are bound by toxic shame, more and more of you is



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alienated (....) when shame has been completely internalized, nothing about you is okay. You have the sense of being a failure. There is no way you can share your inner self because you are an object of contempt to yourself. When you are contemptible to yourself, you are no longer in you. To feel shame is to feel exposed in a diminished way. When you're an object to yourself, you turn your eyes inward, watching and scrutinizing every minute detail of behavior. This internal critical observation is excruciating. It generates a tormenting self-consciousness that (Kaufman) describes as "creating a binding and paralyzing effect upon the self." This paralyzing internal monitoring causes withdrawal, passivity, and inaction."

Healing The Shame That Binds You. 1988. John Bradshaw.



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An Important	Note on (	Guilt		
The experience of guilt is	more	John Brads	shaw terms guilt,	shame.
		QUOTE		
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"The rules and limits chi internalized and become conscience, and conscience."	me an inner void	ce that guides and		is the guardian of
Не	aling The Shame	e That Binds You. 1	1988. John Bradshaw.	
Dissolving The	-		•	pective
Disgust is a	emotio	on to healing toxic	c shame.	
When a person car     of t	•	ality and feeling of	f disgust, they start to	heal the
	thy social engag		(shutdown, p	
			and bring more energy s, other somatic praction	
• and can stay	t	o the present mo	ment, alongside more	accurate

• We start to move out of these imprints and \_\_\_\_\_\_.



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# Before we end today - let's move a little <sup>1</sup>

- 1. Play with the movements of expansion and contraction (micro to the macro)
- 2. Exploring "me" and "you" (self and non-self)

Personal Notes:

