

*Spaghetti Junction: The Intersections  
of Anger Management, AOD Abuse  
and Domestic Violence*

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Airplane Story

- Journey to assist ailing mother
- Big rude passenger to right
- Small really rude passenger on my head
- What would you do.....

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- **Burns Brady's Vision**
- **Presentation's goals and expectation**
- **Understanding the complexity of the problem**
- **Some of the pitfalls and pratfalls**

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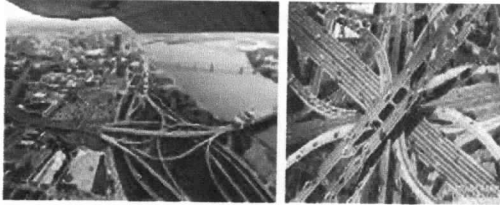
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### SPAGHETTI JUNCTIONS

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### Beard Story

- Glen Lee Beard age 36
- Referred for DVOT
- Co-occurring alcohol problem
- Dual focus group
- Good participation
- Got together at a night club.....

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### Glen Lee Beard

- *"I started yelling at her, man...I just lost it, man. Next thing I know, man, I walked back to my car, man, and I told her, I love you. I love you...I was just shooting."*
- Went and shot both teenage girls.
- One week later he plead guilty and received 150 years in prison.

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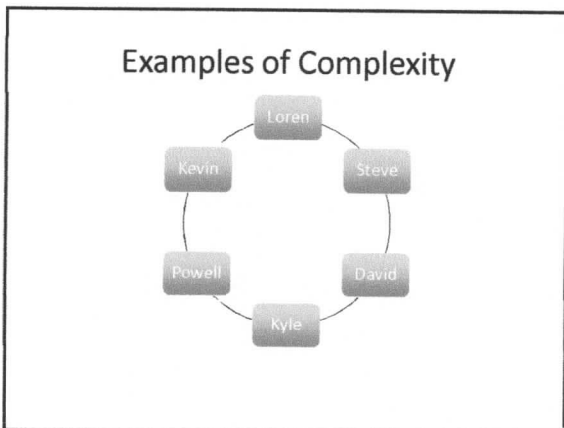
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### Powell

- 57 year old Caucasian male
- Heavy drinker for 10+ years
- Sober for 20
- Per his report, drank 3 beers and attacked wife and child with machete.
- Living upstairs in the same house as wife and child live.
- Blames all of his actions on the alcohol

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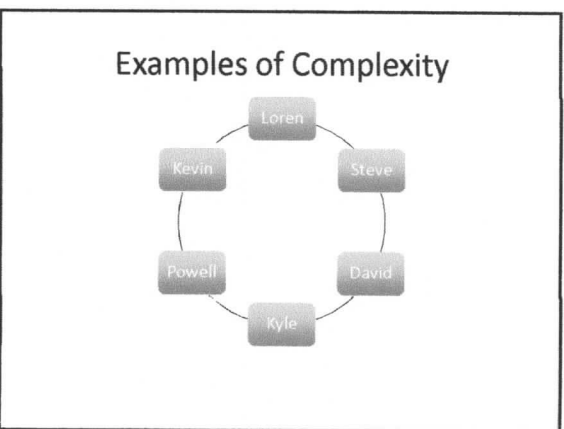
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### Steve

- 45 year old male
- Married 18 years
- No history of any violence
- Gets drunk at summer festival with wife
- Claims he is assaulted by stranger
- Met up with wife near car, feels threatened by an unknown assailant and lashes out.
- Severely assaults wife.

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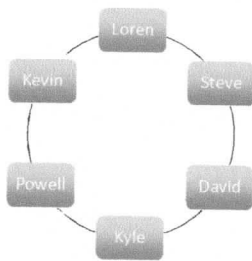
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### Examples of Complexity



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### Kyle

- 27 year old graduate student
- Social drinker
- Addicted to pain medication
- Girlfriend upset with usage/denial
- Combustible conflicts with mutual fighting
- Some of the fights involved infant child

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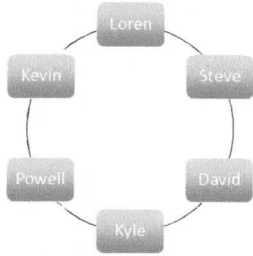
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### Examples of Complexity



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### David

- Referred by Board
- At initial interview describes himself as an "aggressive fucker"
- Extraordinarily smart
- Likes and pursues conflict
- Wants to prove he is right
- Exacerbated by alcohol

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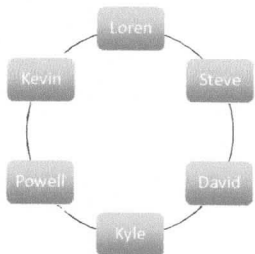
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### Examples of Complexity



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### Kevin

- 27 year old master carpenter
- Ex-wife left him due to violence
- Completely dependent on new girlfriend
- Pathologically jealous
- Rammed his head into van in a show of emotion
- Kidnapped and detained girlfriend against will
- Alcohol and marijuana abuse

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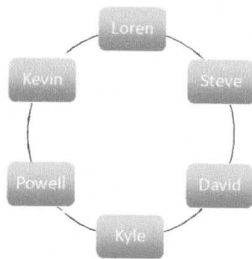
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### Examples of Complexity



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### Logan

- 38 year old male
- Polysubstance abuse history
- History of losing parental rights in neighboring state
- Sought treatment for substances on own
- Realized after becoming sober that he was just as angry and just as likely to be violent
- Stayed in treatment for 10 years...violence free

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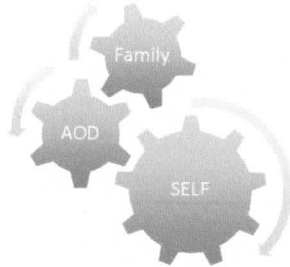
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### Complexity of issue



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### Roots of Violence

- New York Times-May 24, 1970
- Conrad Lorenz...aggression is innate, inevitable and even beneficial.
- David Hamburg... "aggressive behavior is learned, but it is very easy for the human species to learn it early in life"

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### CD and DV Similarities

- Both may be centered around power and control
- Both can have generational patterns
- Both involve denial and minimization
- Both can involve the isolation of the family
- Both can create the environment to promulgate secrets
- Both impact major themes of intimacy and trust
- Both may follow a cyclical pattern of incidents
- Both can be self reinforcing and mood altering

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Assessment

“Until we learn to ask the right questions, we will never discover the right answers, and until we have the right answers, we will never know the right actions required of us”

Judge Janice Wellington

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Leston Havens

“All natural life abounds in versions of the chameleon. Even the most primitive creatures find ways to hide themselves for survival. The reason is simple: predation is the first and most terrifying fact of life.....”

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Leston Havens

“One result is that human disguises against predators are highly developed. There are minds so skittish and protective that we compare them with small fish. They glide rapidly past us, quick to feel the movement of the water and changing color or shape at any hint of danger. A presence is almost impossible to secure-the elusive creature fears us. If we manage to catch and hold it, we may find it has altered its character to deceive.”

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**Carl Rogers**  
**“Qualities which facilitate learning”**

- Realness in the facilitator of learning
- Prizing, acceptance and trust
- Empathic understanding
- Human beings have a natural potentiality for learning
- Significant learning takes place when the subject material is perceived as having relevance for his own purposes

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**Carl Rogers**

- Learning which involves a change in self organization-in the perception of oneself- is threatening and tends to be resisted
- Those learnings which are threatening to the self are more easily perceived and assimilated when external threats are at a minimum
- Much significant learning is acquired through doing

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**Carl Rogers**

- The most socially useful learning in the modern world is the learning of the process of learning, a continuing openness to experience and incorporation into oneself of the process of change

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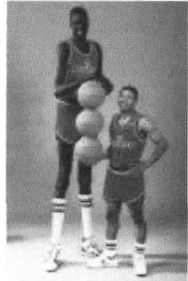
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One size doesn't fit all



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We need to....

- Not be angry
- Understand the dynamics
- Be honest, clear and consistent
- Ask the right questions
- Focus the interventions
- Have the knowledge that despite our best efforts...

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