# GRIEF & LOSS: WE ALL EXPERIENCE IT, BUT DO WE KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH IT?

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#### GRIEF AND LOSS

NOUN [grēf] deep sorrow, especially that caused by a loss

- Grief is a complex emotion due to loss
- Loss can include losing someone we love, something we care deeply about, and aspects of who we are.



We are all on different ships during this storm experiencing a very different journey.

Look beyond what is seen at first glance.

#### GRIEF AND LOSS – HOW IT MIGHT FEEL

#### UPS AND DOWNS OF GRIEF



### RIDE OUT THE WAVES



#### GRIEF AND LOSS THROUGH THE ADOLESCENCE LENS

- They may not have had a lot of experiences dealing with loss
- This may the first time they experience these emotions
- This may be the first loss they've had to endure
- This can lead to an existential crisis

# DON'TS: "TIME WILL HEAL"

- Intention
  - Give reassurance
  - Acknowledge pain and ability to find relief
  - Convey hope
- Impact
  - Falsely assumes an end to the grief experience
  - It minimizes the pain in that simply time is the remedy

#### DON'TS: YOU NEED TO FIND CLOSURE

- Intention
  - Provide a goal to work toward
  - Provide a solution and an end
- Impact
  - Assume that one can achieve a satisfactory end
  - Assume linear journey

### DON'TS: YOU NEED TO JUST CRY IT OUT

- Intention
  - Provide a goal to work toward
  - Provide a solution and an end
- Impact
  - Assume that emotion is an one time release
  - Assume right way to grieve
  - Assume linear journey

#### HOW TO HELP: KEEP NORMALCY

- Structure and routine can help
- Rituals can be grounding
- Important to have a sense of control and predictability

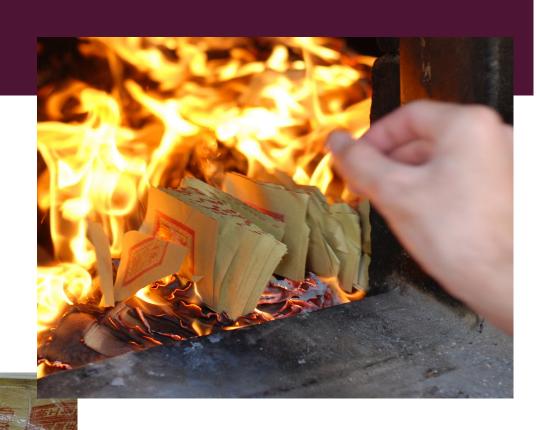
#### HOW TO HELP: ALLOW SOCIAL SUPPORT

- Power of peer support is great at this stage of life
- Facilitate social connections can help and show you care & understand

#### HEALING THROUGH CONNECTING

- Writing down memories
- Talking/praying to the deceased
- Celebration of life
- Creating a "new normal"





### DO THE NEXT RIGHT (BEST) THING





# HOW ARE YOU DOING?

#### THANK YOU!

## **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

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