

Welcome to

# Parenting Traumatized Infants and Toddlers: Myths vs. Facts for 0-5

***Crianza de bebés y niños pequeños traumatizados: Mitos versus hechos en niños de 0 a 5 años*** (Interpretación al español comenzará pronto)

THE TRAINING WILL BEGIN SHORTLY! WHILE YOU'RE WAITING...

 **Icebreaker Question**  
(answer in the chat)

What song feels like summer to you?



**Survey & Certificate of Completion**

Available following the training.

CEUs available for LCSWs, LMFTs, LPCCs, and LEPs

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SCAN TO LEARN MORE



# SPANISH INTERPRETATION AVAILABLE!

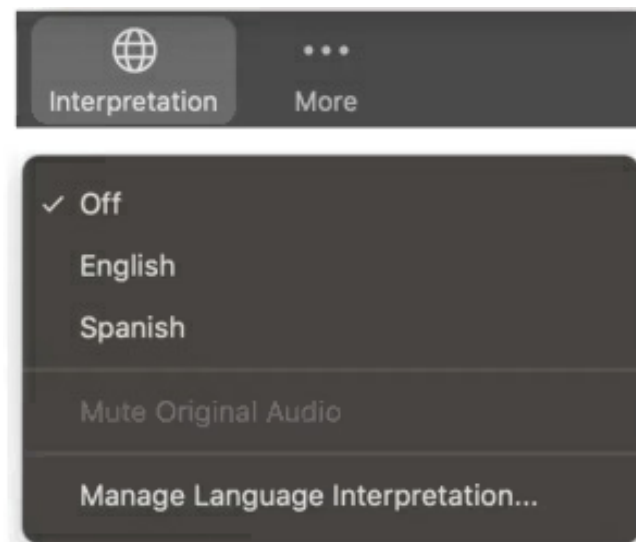
## INTERPRETACIÓN AL ESPAÑOL DISPONIBLE!

Today's training will be in both English and Spanish.

*La capacitación de hoy será en español y inglés.*

Click the "Interpretation" icon in your toolbar; select "Spanish."

*Seleccione el ícono "Interpretation" de las opciones al debajo de su pantalla. Elige la opción "Spanish."*





# UPCOMING TRAININGS

*mark your calendars!*

Visit [caltrin.org](https://caltrin.org) to view and register for upcoming webinars or workshops



**August 19** | Protective Factor of the Month:  
Parental Resilience



**September 5** | Science of Social Support



**September 11** | Protecting Your Peace: Supporting  
Well-Being & Resilience During Turbulent Times



**September 16** | Protective Factor of the Month:  
Social Connections



**September 17** | Setting & Maintaining Healthy  
Boundaries



**September 23** | Beyond Orientation: Designing  
Onboarding that Connects, Inspires, and Builds  
Culture

# Before We Begin...

## DURING



Access your notetaking slides now! The link can be found in the chat.



Review interactive features for today's session. Locate the controls on the toolbar at the bottom of your screen.



This presentation is being recorded.



External AI assistants are not allowed in CalTrin trainings due to California privacy laws.

## AFTER



Complete the survey to receive your Certificate of Attendance. CEUs available for LCSWs, LMFTs, LPCCs, and LEPs.



A follow-up email will be sent to all participants within two days.

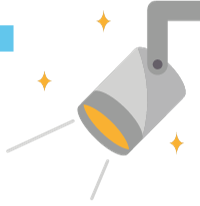


# **Parenting Traumatized Infants and Toddlers: Myths vs. Facts for 0-5**

**Presented by Michael Gomez, PhD**



# Speaker SPOTLIGHT

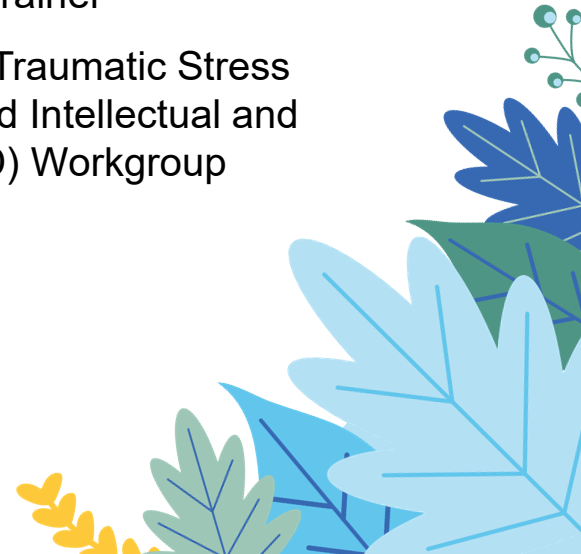


**Michael Gomez, PhD**

Psychologist

- Specializes in Trauma-Focused CBT, treatment of adolescents with problematic sexual behaviors (PSB), PCIT, TARGET, and assessment of autism spectrum disorders
- TF-CBT & CE-CERT National Trainer
- Co-chair for the National Child Traumatic Stress Network's (NCTSN) Trauma and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Workgroup

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# Parenting Traumatized Infants and Toddlers: Myths vs. Facts in 0-5

Michael Gomez, Ph.D.

Nationally Certified TF-CBT Trainer

National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) Former  
Steering Committee Member

NCTSN Trauma and IDD Workgroup Founding Member

Nationally Certified CE-CERT Trainer

Licensed Psychologist

KU Snyder Book Collecting Contest, Graduate Division  
Silver Medal 2009

# Objectives

At the end of the presentation, trainees will:

1. Learn how trauma impacts behavioral, emotional, cognitive and developmental functioning for children ages 0-5
2. Understand what it means to actually be "trauma informed" for this age range
3. Gain concrete tools and resources for this age range that can be shared with caregivers.



# “Normal” child development

- LOT of information from the American Academy of Pediatrics (e.g., specific motor milestones)
  - Ex: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/Pages/default.aspx>
- Here is the easiest heuristic
  - Very young children (e.g., toddlers and Pre-K)
    - $A + B = ME!!!!$
  - Young elementary to late elementary children (but 100% can see it in toddlers and Pre-K sometimes)
    - $A + B = C$
  - Tweens and Teens
    - $A + B = Y$

# A + B = Me!!! (“Egocentric”)

- ANY event will be interpreted as being CAUSED by the CHILD, him/herself
  - This is NOT just traumatic or stressful events
- Ex: Colleagues 4 year old son, during a hail storm, ran to the door and shouted “Stop it God!!!!”
- You do not have to “argue” them out of this; you can’t
  - Remember their analytic skills are not fully developed yet
- You just have to be PRESENT and COMFORTING
  - This is basic attachment theory
  - Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) PRIDE skills are built around helping children in distress who are in this specific stage

# A + B = C (“Concrete”)

- ANY event will be interpreted as being CAUSED by the most proximal thing
  - Ex: Mom and dad are fighting because of my potty accident (because that’s what they most recently talked about).
  - They’re in the “Correlation = Causation” phase
- You might be able to logic them out of this but you have to give REALLY concrete data
  - Easiest way: Just tell them (and keep repeating it)
  - Repetition is a big big factor here
- YOU being calm and direct is also a big factor
  - When we teach private parts, we say the anatomically correct terms
  - Good rule of thumb: If you’re going past 10 words you have lost them. Short, sweet, to the point

# A + B = Y (“Abstract”)

- NOW events can be interpreted beyond “me” or beyond the concrete
- But . . .
  - They are not great at this out the gate
  - A teen (even a sharp one) is kind of like a 15 year old who is driving a Maserati
    - WWWAY TOO MUCH horsepower and they haven’t figured out how to use it yet
    - So you’re gonna get “wrecks.” Be patient. Use these as teachable moments
- Essentially their frontal lobe is still “cooking”
- Frontal lobe is where all our “Executive Functioning” is
- Work with them, still repeat things, but you have a few more options now

# Common Myths I Hear

- Children 5 or younger . . .
  - Can't engage in treatment
  - ONLY respond to behavioral modification
  - ONLY respond to play therapy
  - Require highly specialized training to work with
  - Do not have a high enough IQ/Cognitive functioning to do EBP's
  - Can't do CBT (or any EBT) because they don't have thoughts

# Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder DSM-V

## CHILDREN 6 AND UNDER, ONE OR MORE OF C OR D

### "B" Intrusion Symptoms

- Recurrent/Involuntary/intrusive thoughts/images
- Dissociative reactions/ Flashbacks
- Recurrent distressing dreams (in kids don't need trauma content)
- Trauma re-enactment play (kids)
- Distress to cues (internal external)

1 or more of these

### "C" Avoidance

- Avoid memories, thoughts/feelings of event (internal reminders)
- Avoid (or try to) people/places objects/situations (external reminders)

1 or both of these

### "D" Negative Cognitions or Mood

- Inability to remember aspects of trauma
- Persistent /exaggerated neg. beliefs of self, etc.
- Distorted thoughts re: cause or outcomes
- Persistent negative emotional state
- Diminished activities interests
- Detached/estranged
- Can't experience Positive emotions

2 or more of these

### "E" Arousal & Reactivity

- Irritable or angry outbursts
- Reckless / Self-destructive
- Hypervigilance
- Exaggerated Startle Response
- Problems concentrating
- Sleep disturbance

2 or more of these

# Developmental Trauma Disorder

## "A" Exposure

- Direct experiencing or witnessing (so typical A criterion)
- Significant disruption of protective caregiver (from separation or impairment)
- Emotional Abuse

Chronic – Lasts, at least, over a year

## "B" Affective/Physio Dysregulation

- Inability to modulate, tolerate, recover from extreme affect states
- Disturbance in regulation of body functions
- Diminished awareness or dissociation
- Impaired capacity to describe emotions or bodily states

2 or more of these

## "C" Attn/Behav Dysregulation

- Preoccupation with threat or impaired capacity to perceive threat
- Impaired capacity for self protection (e.g., extreme risk taking)
- Maladaptive self-soothing (e.g., rocking)
- Habitual (intentional or automatic) or reactive self-harm
- Inability to initiate or sustain goal directed behaviors

3 or more of these

## "D" Self/Relation Dysregulation

- Intense preoccupation with safety of CG, or difficulty tolerating reunion after separation
- Persistent negative sense of self (e.g., worthlessness)
- Extreme and persistent difficulty in close relationships
- Reactive physical or verbal aggression
- Inappropriate attempts to get intimate contact (e.g., PSB's)
- Difficulty with empathy (too much or too little)

2 or more of these

Plus at least 1 sx in 2 of 3 PTSD B, C, D areas (DSM IV)

# What exactly does “trauma informed care” mean???

- It means not asking one question but asking two questions.
- ~~Question NOT to ask: “What’s wrong with you?”~~
- First question to ask: “What happened to you?”
- Second question to ask: “What were you supposed to get that you didn’t?”
- Traumatic Stress is the “Great Imitator” – Cassandra Kiesel
- [www.rememberingtrauma.org](http://www.rememberingtrauma.org)

# Child Trauma Treatment

- Recommended components for ALL Evidence Based Trauma Treatments:
  - Assessment (symptom and data driven)
  - Psychoeducation
  - Stress management techniques
  - Direct exploration of the trauma
  - Exploring/correcting inaccurate attributions
  - ***With kids → INCLUSION OF CAREGIVERS***
- With kids → Parent Management Training (PMT)
- These also have a specific time range (NOT open ended)

# 3 Effective Treatments for Traumatized 0-5 year olds

There are more than 3, but this gives you a good idea of the common themes

# Caregivers are the solution, not the problem

- 3 types of problems
  1. Strep throat
  2. Stage 4 lymphoma
  3. Diabetes
- 3 barriers for caregivers
  1. “Knowledge” Gap
    - ESPECIALLY “Wood vs. Grease” fires
  2. “Energy” Gap (2 flavors)
  3. Cognitive Distortions
    - Mary McKay calls them “perceptual barriers”

# PCIT

It's not “the symptoms go down and I like them more;” it's “I like them more and the symptoms go down”

# PCIT – Parent Child Interaction Therapy ([www.pcit.org](http://www.pcit.org))

- 2 phase model, about 15ish sessions give or take
- Phase 1 – Child Directed
  - Attention is to behavior as oxygen is to fire
- Phase 2 – Parent Directed
  - Limit setting
- Average session time is 15 sessions
- Multiple RCT's showing significant reduction in externalizing behaviors in kids 2 to 8
  - SPECIFIC DATA this works with neurodiverse kids (e.g., ASD)
- Multiple Treatment Outcome studies demonstrating efficacy on physically abusive caregivers and neglectful caregivers
- Works not by “changing the child” but by altering the REACTIVITY the caregiver has in the interaction

# PCIT – Child Directed Interaction (CDI)

- DO Skills
  - Praise (labeled) 10
  - Reflect 10
  - Imitate
  - Describe 10
  - Enthusiasm
- DON'T Skills (2 total)
  - No commands
  - No questions
  - No negative comments

THIS is where  
the payoff is  
Ex: PC-CARE

# It's not fun when no one's paying attention

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oT2R8pTpcoo>

# CPP

Learn “The Language of Play”

# CPP (Child Parent Psychotherapy)


- What is it?
  - Dr. Vanderzee can tell you:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syDQP7yg5Zo>
- Like PCIT, “speak through the language of play” (this is their easiest way to communicate)
  - Parents learn to “speak play”
  - CPP treats this like learning to speak Spanish
- “Speaking play” has the specific goal of metabolizing traumatic stress
  - For BOTH parent and child
    - And because it focuses on BOTH parent and child it has an added benefit of drawing a line in the sand for intergenerational trauma

# CPP Cont.

- It was originally created with the problem scenario of domestic violence
  - But is a solid EBT for 0-5 traumatic stress of many types
- Added benefit of being super easy to incorporate cultural, spiritual, ethnic, etc diversity
  - Ex: Therapist can switch out the “standard toys” with toys that are more reflective of that child’s family/culture
- Can be up to a solid year of therapy (e.g., 50 sessions)
  - But keep in mind they are often dealing with generations of trauma
- <https://childparentpsychotherapy.com/about/>

# TF-CBT

“Young kids can’t think!” . . . (Dude, have you ever MET a young kid???)



You wanna see what CBT looks like  
for a 2-year-old kid???

# Best CBT for a 2-year-old EVER

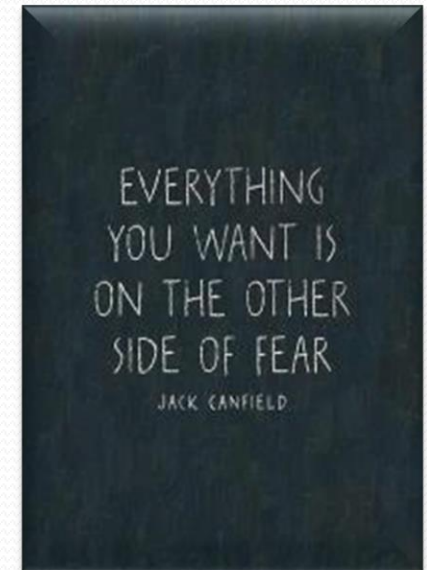
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkZe1v17UeM&list=LL&index=36>

# CBT is actually EASIER for very young kids

- Proof: Dr. Gomez believed in Santa Claus until he was 13

# Trauma-Focused CBT

- Targets:
  - PTSD, depression, anxiety, and behavioral symptoms secondary to trauma
- Over 20 RCT's and over 80 peer reviewed studies
- TF-CBT treats:
  - Children ages 3-18
  - All types of traumas and settings
  - ORIGINALLY, this was a 3-6 y.o. model
- The original name for TF-CBT was "PTSD Treatment for Sexually Abused Preschoolers and Their Non-Offending Caregivers"
  - Doesn't exactly roll off the tongue



Over 80% of children in TF-CBT show significant PTSD symptom improvement within 12 to 16 weekly 60- to 90- minute sessions.

### Child Outcomes

- Reduced PTSD symptoms
- Reduced depression
- Reduced feelings of shame
- Reduced behavior problems

### Parent Outcomes

- Reduced depression
- Reduced emotional distress
- Reduced PTSD symptoms
- Enhanced ability to support their children

# Standard Model - TF-CBT Treatment

Approx  
8-16  
sessions

Gradual Exposure

Parenting Skills

Psychoeducation  
Relaxation  
Affective Modulation  
Cognitive Coping

Stabilization and  
Coping Skills Development

Trauma Narrative  
and Processing

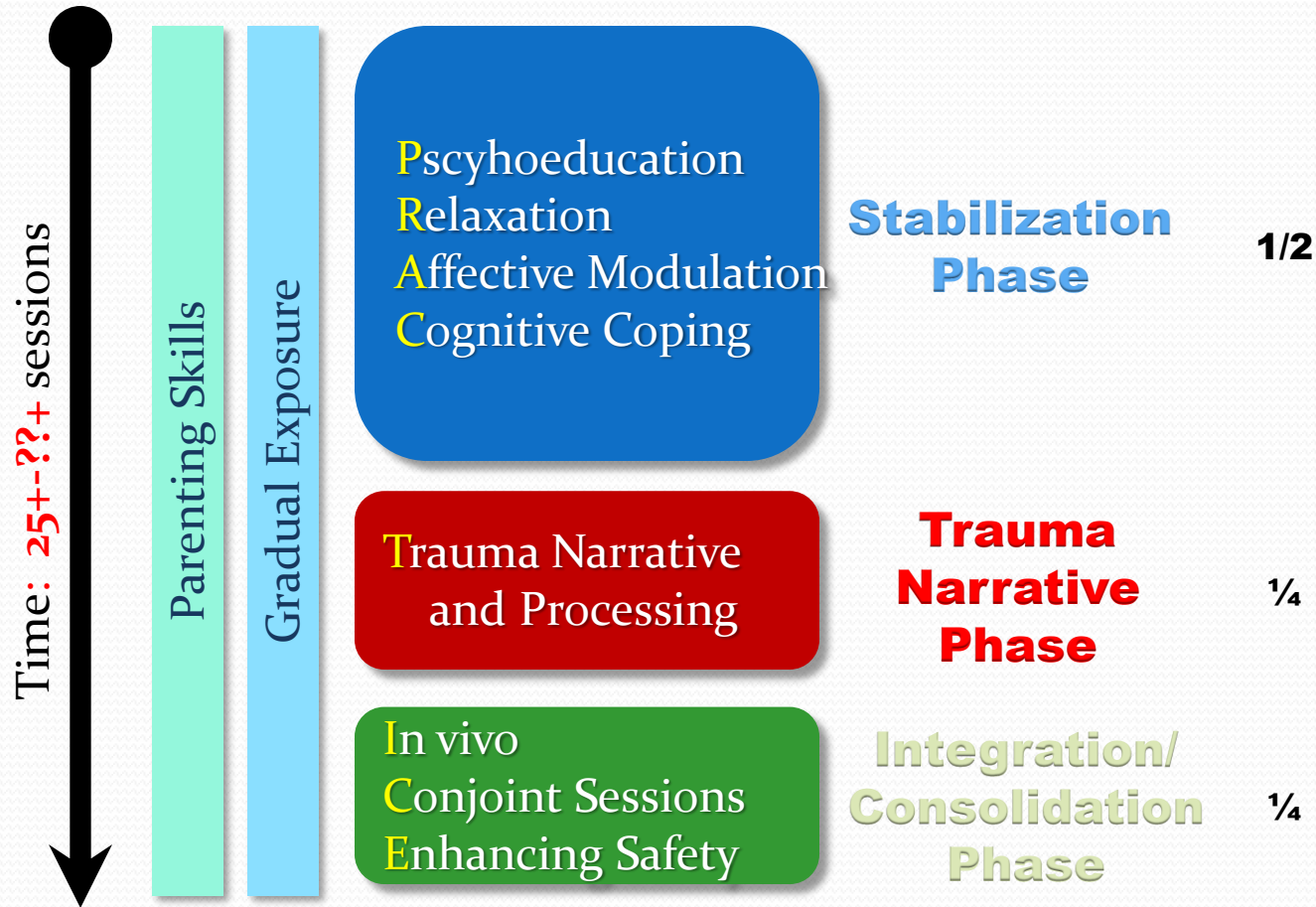
Reduction of distress to  
trauma memories and  
correction of problematic  
trauma-related beliefs

In vivo  
Desensitization  
Conjoint Sessions  
Enhancing Safety

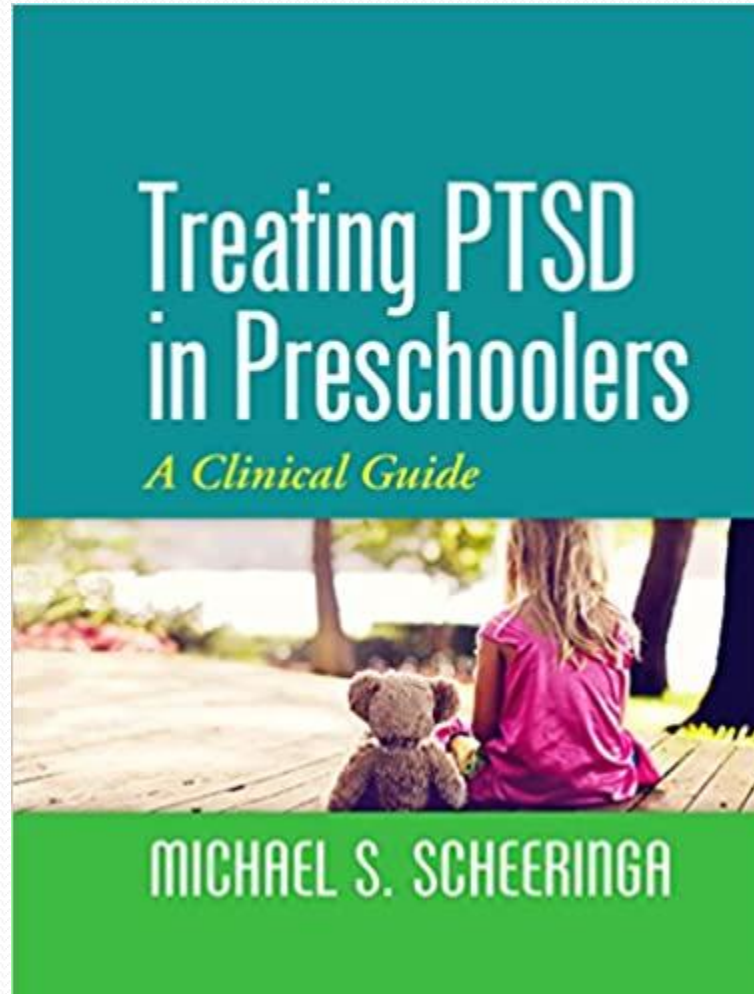
Integration,  
Skills Consolidation,  
Safety Planning

## TF-CBT Pacing – NOT Neurotypical & Trauma

Used with  
permission  
of Dr. Daniel  
Hoover and  
Dr. Peter  
D'Amico




# What does it nuts and bolts look like?




# We're gonna take a field trip to Oklahoma

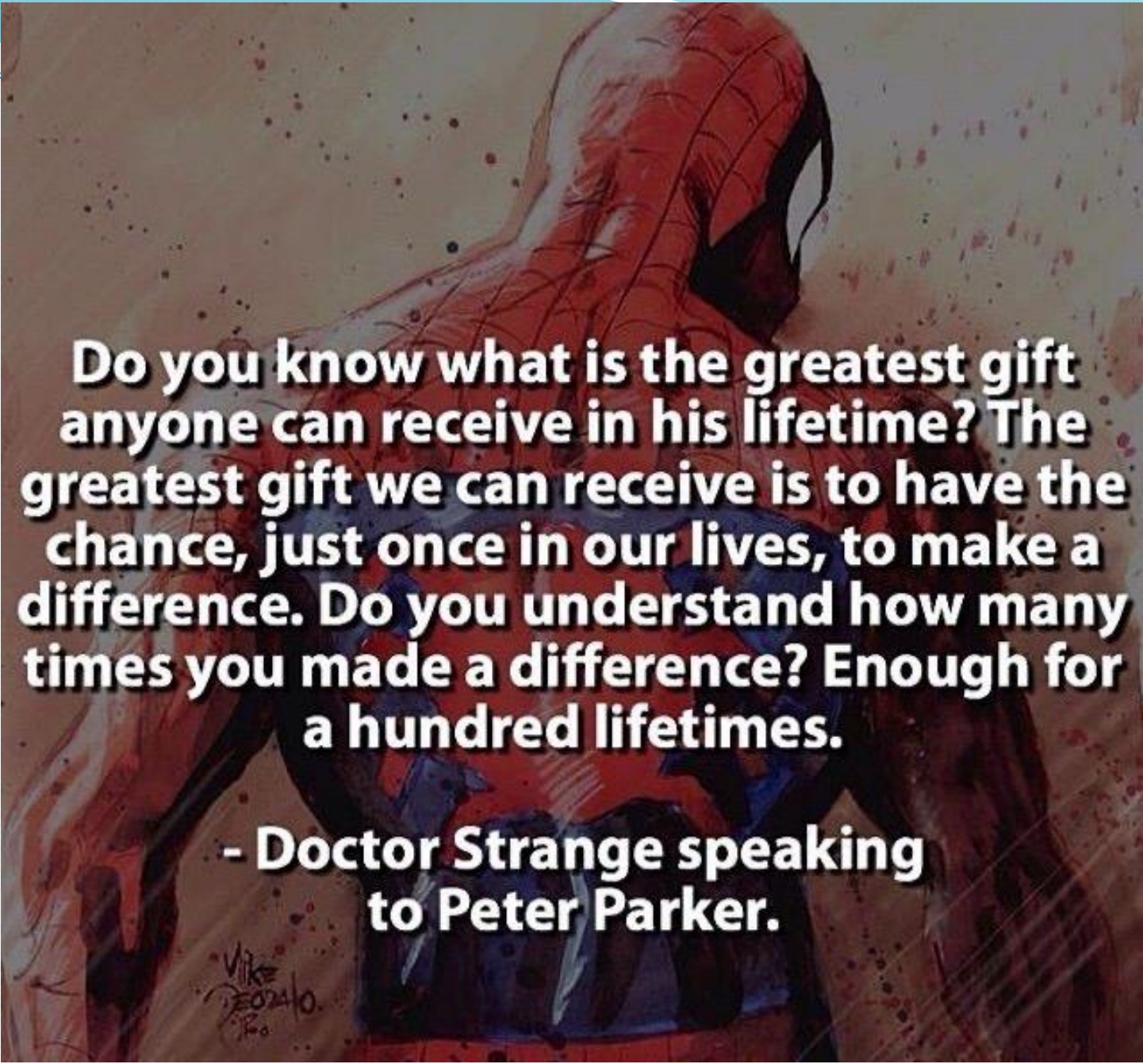
- I PROMISE it'll be more fun than it sounds right now



“Kids show stress, but they also show resilience.” – Dr. Joy Osofsky



# Dr. Gomez's Philosophy of Therapy & Your most powerful “therapy tool”



**Do you know what is the greatest gift anyone can receive in his lifetime? The greatest gift we can receive is to have the chance, just once in our lives, to make a difference. Do you understand how many times you made a difference? Enough for a hundred lifetimes.**

**- Doctor Strange speaking to Peter Parker.**



**HOZON**

April 3 at 4:54 AM

What's your ZOMBIE Killing name?

## YOUR ZOMBIE KILLING NAME

### FIRST NAME INITIAL

A- KING  
B- THE WIZARD  
C- SHADOW  
D- CRACK  
E- DOUBLE  
F- THE DARK  
G- THE BLACK  
H- ATOMIC  
I- THE BRUTAL  
J- STORM  
K- PHANTOM  
L- THE BIG  
M- THE MAD  
N- DOCTOR  
O- GIANT  
P- PISTOL  
Q- MASTER  
R- CAPTAIN  
S- GENERAL  
T- CHEF  
U- HACK  
V- LORD  
W- SUPER  
X- INCREDIBLE  
Y- THE RED  
Z- PROFESSOR

### LAST NAME INITIAL

A- KILLER  
B- BLADE  
C- KNIGHT  
D- KILL  
E- CLOWN  
F- NINJA  
G- DOUBLE TAP  
H- SLICE  
I- DEVIL  
J- CRAZY  
K- FREAK  
L- DADDY  
M- KNIFE  
N- SLAYER  
O- BEAR CLAW  
P- RAZOR  
Q- BULLET  
R- DEATH  
S- MACHETTE  
T- BULLET  
U- DICE  
V- GHOST  
W- BEAST  
X- KONG  
Y- SILENT  
Z- EVIL

**WWW.HOZONMOVIE.COM**

1 Like 8 Comments



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# THANK YOU!

**Michael Gomez, Ph.D.**

[drmichaelgomezebt@gmail.com](mailto:drmichaelgomezebt@gmail.com)



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# Thanks for joining us!

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