



# Disclosure in an Agency Setting



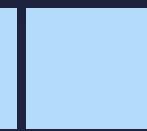
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# Our Journey Today

- Explore clients experiences around disclosure
- Benefits and challenges to disclosure
- Styles of disclosure
- Disclosure for women and MSM
- Personal trust model
- Questions, confusions, and concerns



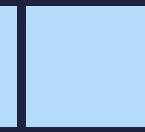
Shame

Guilt

Disclosure

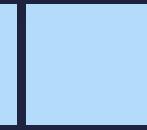
Fear

Rejection



# Shame

- I should have known better
- People will look at me differently
- I am sick



# Guilt

- I should have known better
- I am now damaged
- I can pass this disease to others
- I will let down the people who depend on me

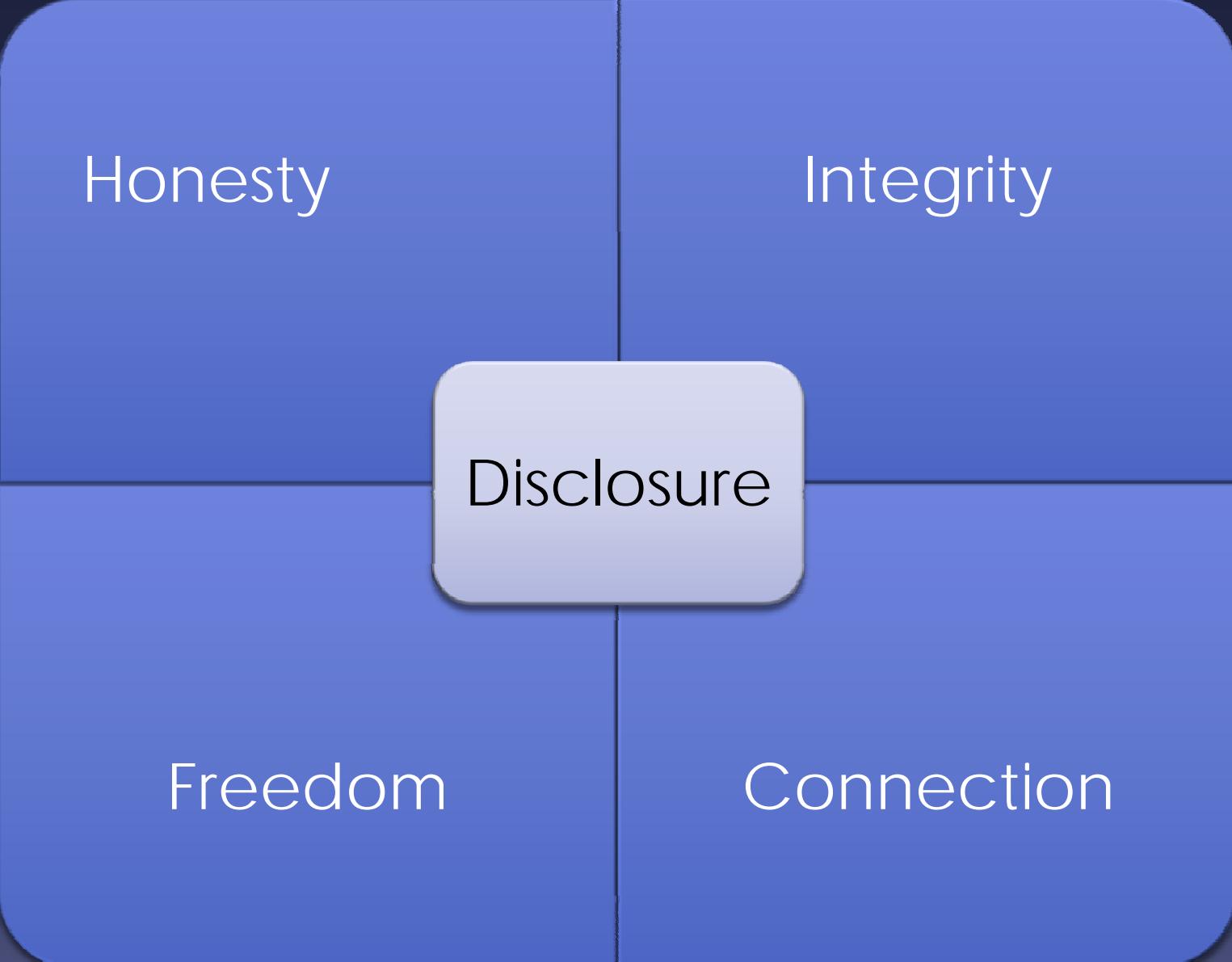
# Fear

- I will be discriminated against
- I don't know who to trust
- If I disclose I will lose my:
  - Job
  - Friends
  - Family
  - Spiritual home
  - Community



# Rejection

- My family will turn away from me
- No one will want to date me
- I am damaged goods



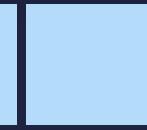
Honesty

Integrity

Disclosure

Freedom

Connection



# Benefits of Disclosure

- Improved psychological well being
- Access to resources
- Physical support
- Emotional support
- Lessen the stigma of HIV/AIDS
- Reassurance of ones value
- Worthiness of being loved



# Challenges to Disclosure

- Stigma
- Rejection
- Legal ramifications
- Loss of privacy



# Styles of Disclosure

- Tell and Kiss
- Kiss and Tell
- Sex and Tell
- Forced
- Explosive



# Tell and Kiss

- Disclosing almost immediately
- + Less emotional attachment in anticipation of possible rejection
- - Larger number of people are made aware of HIV status



# Kiss and Tell

- Wait to disclose after a few dates
- + Maintains privacy, no need to disclose to every date
- - "Why didn't you tell me" reaction



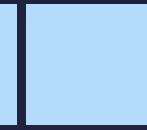
# Sex and Tell

- Not sharing HIV status until after a sexual encounter
- + Avoiding possible rejection and emotional connection
- - High Risk
  - Danger to others
  - Damages trust
  - Potential violence during disclosure



# Forced/Outed

- Information released by trusted source
- Accidental disclosure
- Revenge disclosure
- Situational disclosure



# Explosive

- Can not hold on to secret any longer
- Risk of holding secret bigger than risk of disclosing
- Emotional stress and anxiety



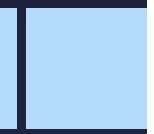
# Disclosure for Women

- Outside the norm of the HIV/AIDS story
- Limited resources
- Questioning of morality
- Family and child bearing repercussions



# Disclosure for MSM

- Do not identify as gay
- Sex is on the DL
- Perceived large scale repercussions
- Less willing to access resources





# Personal Trust Model

- We all have things that we disclose
- Strength of relationship influences depth of disclosure



Intimate  
Relationships

Closer  
Friends

Social  
Connections

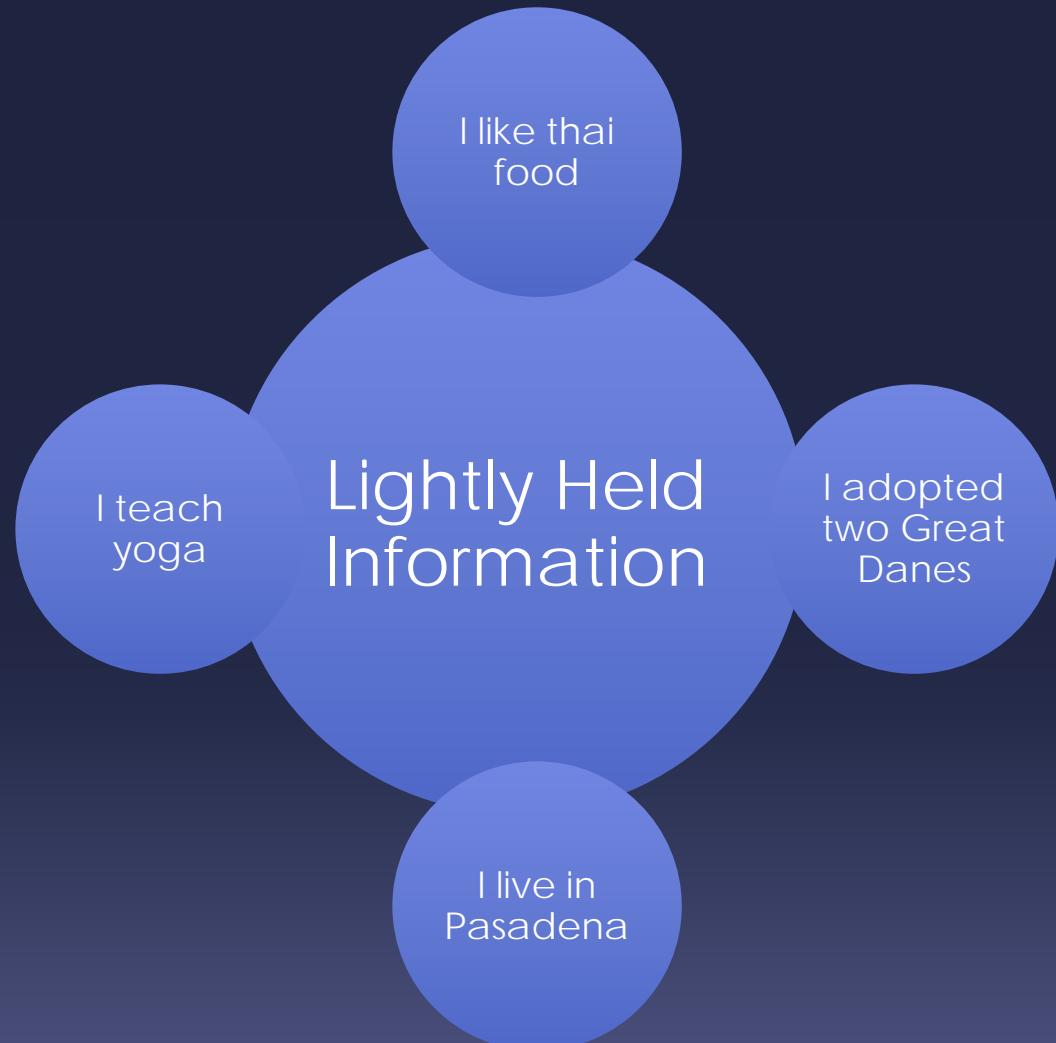
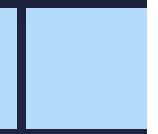


Core personal  
information

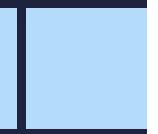
Intimate  
information

Lightly held  
information

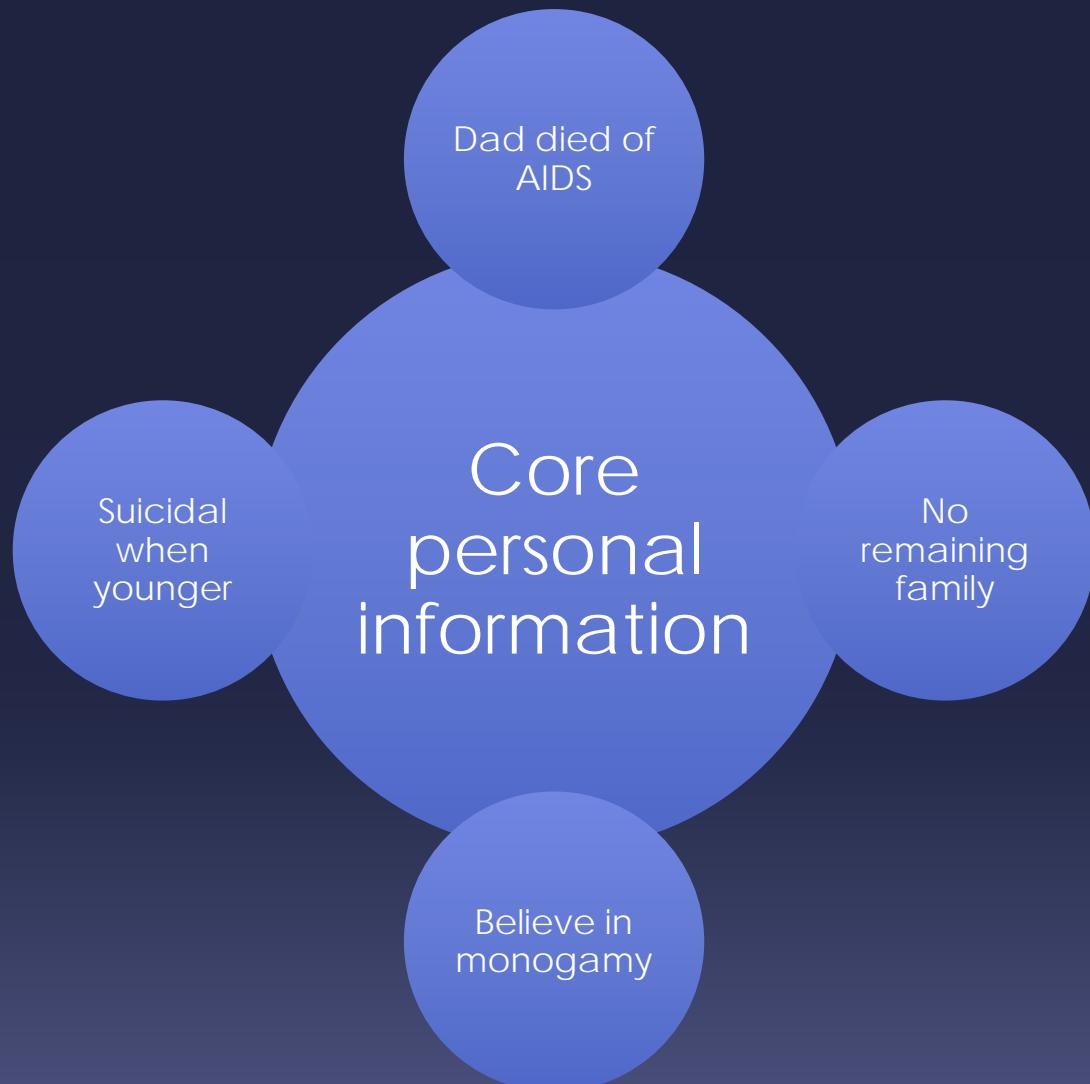
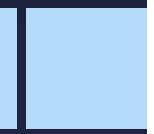
# Social Connections



# Closer Friends



# Intimate relationships



# Open Forum





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