

# The X Factor:

The role of the teacher to  
motivate and engage the learner



Louisiana Governor's Conference  
April 28, 2011

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# Primary Sources

Silver, Harvey S. & M. Perini.  
(2010). The 8 C's of  
Engagement: How learning  
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increase student commitment  
to learning.  
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LaVoie, Richard. (2007). The  
Motivation Breakthrough: 6  
secrets to turning on the tuned  
out child.



# Understanding Engagement Theory

## What is Engagement?

- If students were more engaged, they would . . . (what behaviors would students participate in if they were more engaged in learning?)

# Engagement Theory

What is the definition of engagement?

- Engagement is Commitment -  
in this case a Commitment to Learning



# Engagement Theory

Small group activity: Using our definition for engagement (a commitment to learning), create a rubric identifying what engagement would look like in the classroom.

## Rubric Headings:

- Deep Engagement
- Engagement
- Active compliance
- Passive compliance
- Periodic compliance
- Resistance



# Understanding the Value of Engagement

- If we were to consistently achieve an acceptable level of engagement, what would you predict would be the value added to our classrooms?

# Engagement Theory

What is the VALUE of Engagement?

- Gains in student achievement
- Improvement in student behavior

If we do not design lessons and units that will strengthen students' commitment to learn - can't expect them to take active or in-depth approach to learning. Learning would be superficial.

Silver and Perini, 2010, On Excellence in Teaching



# Increasing Engagement in the Classroom

- If there is anything that we wish to change in a child [student], we should first examine it and see whether it is not something that could be better changed in ourselves [teachers, systems].

Carl Jung

# Motivational Theory

Teachers are responsible for motivating students in the classroom.



# Motivational Theory

Nothing motivates  
the majority of youth in  
detention, corrections, and  
alternative  
educational settings.



# Motivational Theory

Motivation comes and goes.



# Motivational Theory

A well-implemented reward program motivates students to learn.



# Motivational Theory

Competition is a great motivator.



# Motivational Theory

Punishment is a great motivator.



# Motivating Classroom

- Creativity
- Community
- Clarity
- Coaching
- Conferencing
- Control



# Community

- I am the decisive element in my classroom. It is my personal approach that creates the climate. It is my daily mood that makes the weather.



# Motivating Classroom

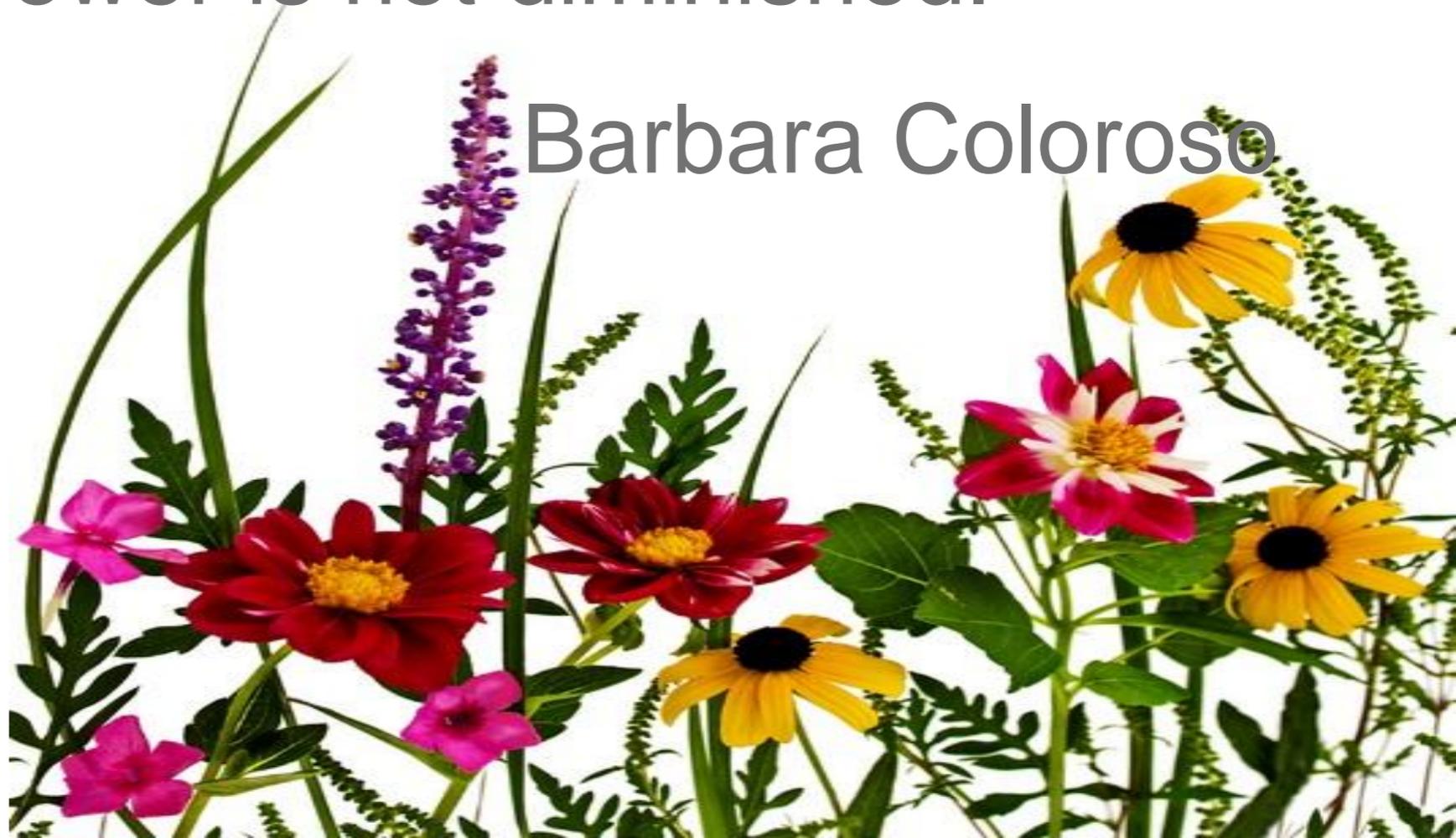
- Creativity
- Community
- Clarity
- Coaching
- Conferencing
- Control



# Control

- The beauty of empowering others is that your own power is not diminished.

Barbara Coloroso



# Motivating Classroom

- Relevance
- Control
- Balance of Support and Challenge
- Social Interaction
- Safety and Security



# Safety and Security

- Motivation cannot exist in an environment where students feel or fear embarrassment, humiliation, intimidation or isolation.



# Motivational Theory

As an adult you are inspired by the same motivators that inspired you as a child.





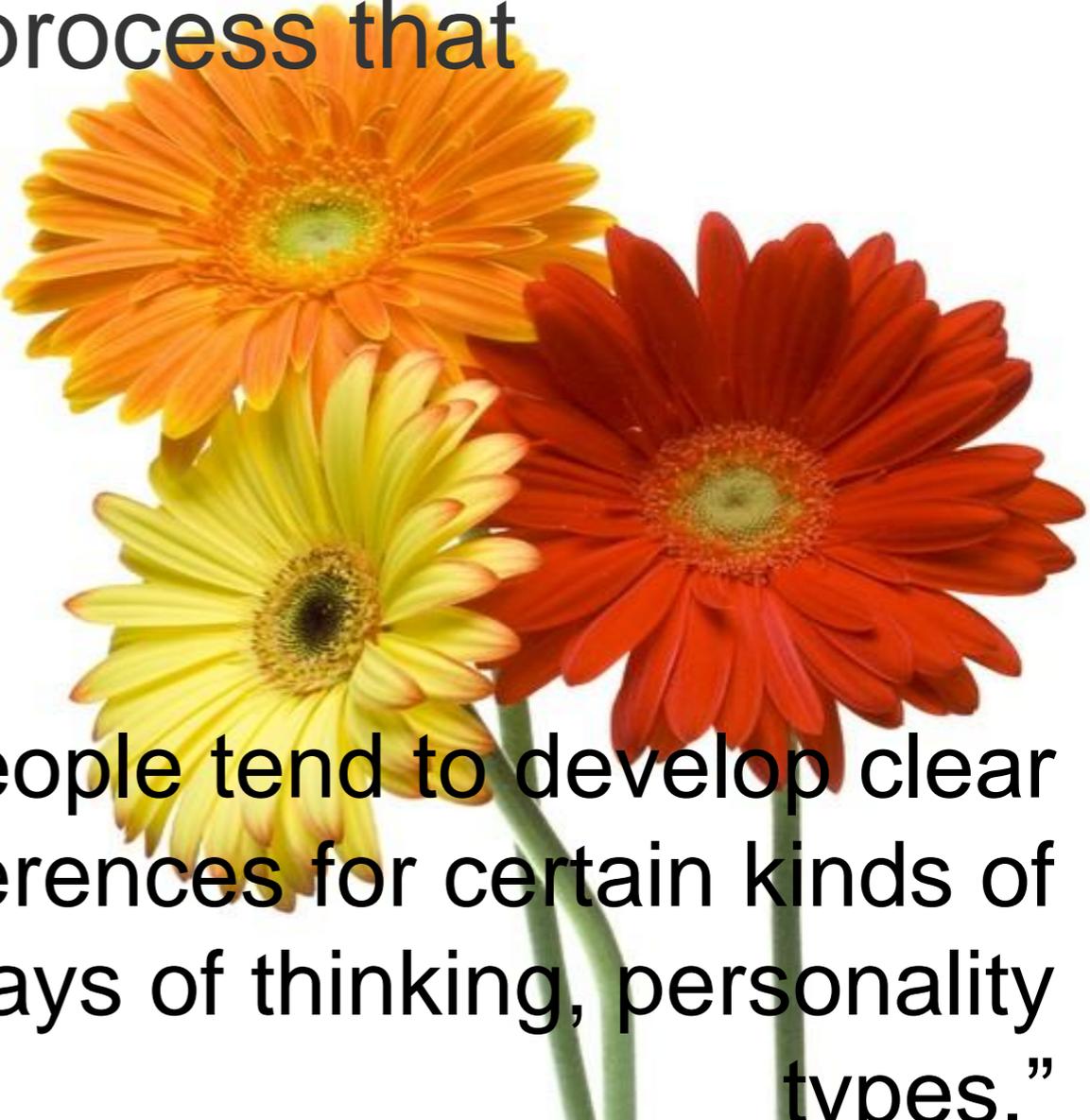
# Motivational Forces

1. Gregariousness
  2. Autonomy
  3. Status
  4. Inquisitiveness
  5. Aggression
  6. Power
  7. Recognition
  8. Affiliation
- 

# Learning Theory and Learning Styles

Learning is a two step process that includes:

- Perceiving
- Processing



“People tend to develop clear preferences for certain kinds of behaviors, ways of thinking, personality types.”

Silver and Perini, 2010, On Excellence in Teaching

# Learning Theory and Learning Styles

From the study of the processes involved in learning, you get the learning styles.

- Interpersonal Style (LTM #1)
- Mastery Style (LTM #2)
- Understanding Style (LTM #3)
- Self-expressive Style (LTM #4)

Silver, Strong, & Perini and Kolb & McCarthy



# Relationship between Learning Styles & Engagement



What drives the different learning styles to be motivated and engaged?

- Interpersonal Style - Relationships
- Mastery Style - Success
- Understanding Style - Logic
- Self-Expressive Style - Originality

# Reliable Motivators for each Learning Style

- Interpersonal Style
  - Cooperation & Connections
- Mastery Style
  - Competition & Challenge
- Understanding Style
  - Curiosity & Controversy
- Self-Expressive Style
  - Choice & Creativity



# Relationship between Instructional Design, Learning Styles & Engagement

“All highly engaging teachers in the study used a variety of instructional practices to address multiple learning styles which they coordinated into a well-thought out plan.”

Raphael, Pressley, & Mohan, (2008) Study of Engaging Teachers, Michigan State University

