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A Gathering for BIPOC in Public Media

This space is for **us**.



PASSIVE

- Difficulty asserting one's self
- Unable to express needs, opinions and feelings
- Allow grievances to mount until they "blow up"
- Difficulty dealing with underlying issues resulting in continued passiveness

PASSIVE-AGGRESIVE

- Passive on the surface but exhibit anger in an indirect way
 - Subtly undermine the object (person or thing; real or imagined) of their resentment
 - Usually feel powerless or stuck; incapable of dealing with anger
 - Appears cooperative but uses subtle sabotage to frustrate others

AGGRESIVE

- Advocate firmly for one's self, at the expense of others' feelings or rights
- Use humiliation to control others
- Interrupt people
 frequently; do not listen
 well
- Use an intimidating tone or posture
- Often blame others rather than own up to their own transgressions

ASSERTIVE

- Exhibit confidence, care and respect when expressing one's needs, feelings, and opinions
- Use an upright posture and eye contact
- Speak in a controlled manner
- Value one's self; stands up for others

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The Four Basic Styles of Communication

Source: https://www.uky.edu/hr/sites/www.uky.edu.hr/files/wellness/images/Conf14_FourCommStyles.pdf

Authoritative vs. Domineering Tone

Authoritative: "Commanding and self-confident; likely to be respected and obeyed."

Domineering: "Asserting one's will over another in an arrogant way."



Identifying Aggressive Styles & Tones

Usually starts out subtly before becoming overtly aggressive...

When our comment or request is questioned and makes us second guess what we are seeing/experiencing.

"What are you talking about?" "I've never seen that!" "That would never happen here." "It's not *that* bad."

Keep us from questioning patterns of behavior.

"That's not the problem; *this* is the problem." "We are wasting time talking about this." "The problem will fix itself." "If you don't like it, you can leave."



Identifying Aggressive Styles & Tones

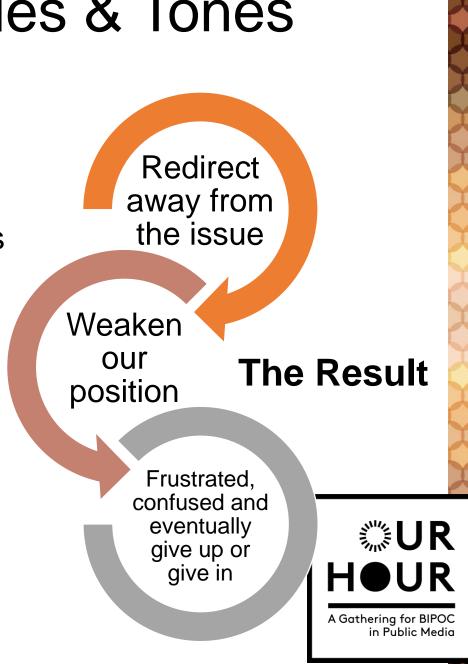
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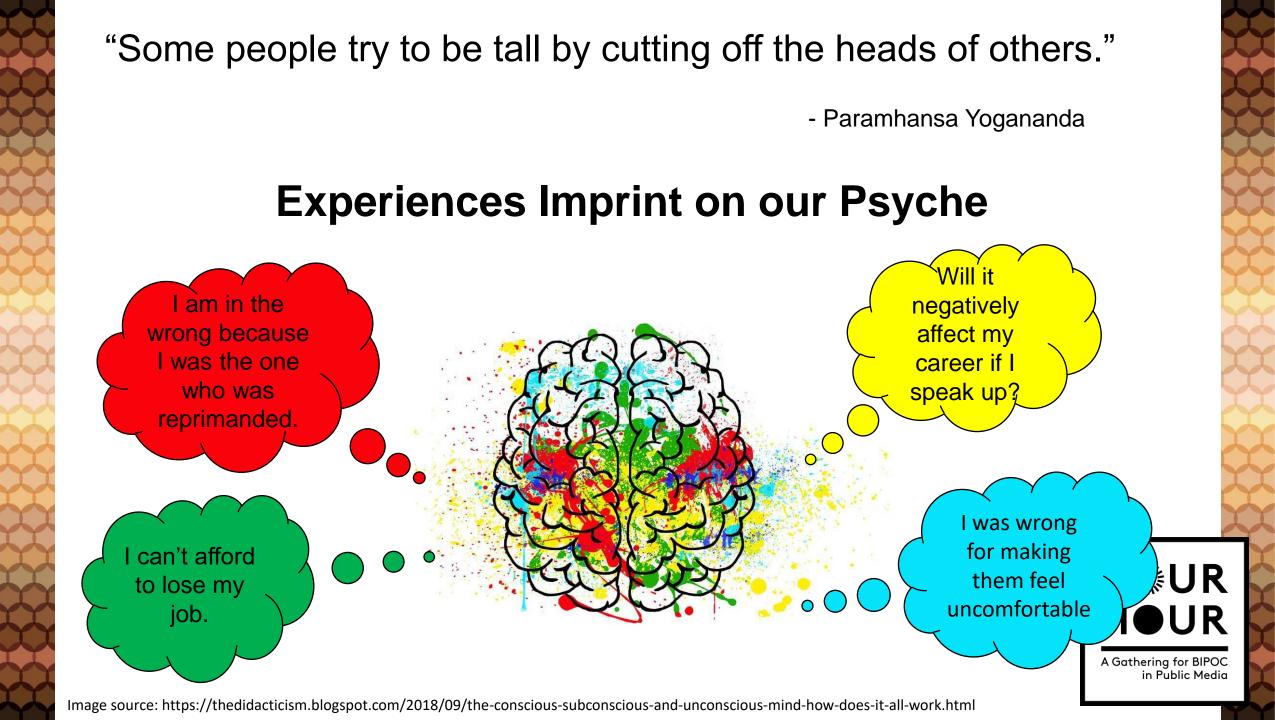
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How to prepare for, deflect and counteract these interactions





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Source: Keys to Handling Hostile & Confrontational People, Psychology Today

Be Aggressive Assertive

Verbal Cues

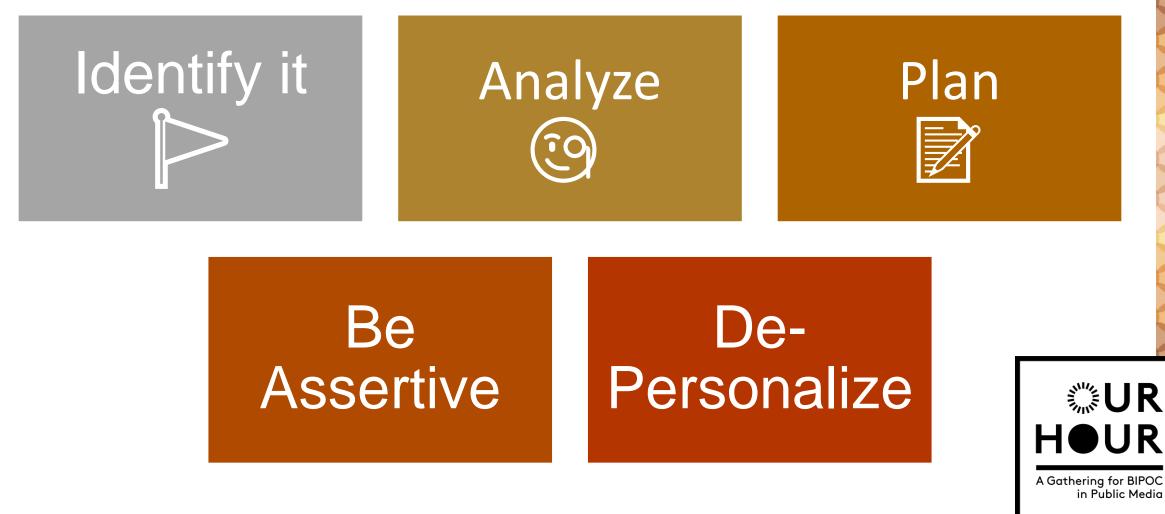
Describe the situation

- Articulate needs clearly and concisely
- Explicitly consider the other person's perspective yet re-assert your goals throughout the dialogue
- Work toward a mutually-agreed upon resolution

Non-Verbal Cues

- Straight spine exudes confidence
- Clear, composed and even tone of voice
- Chin up and unwavering eye-contact, especially when making or refusing requests
- Listen with precision

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Source: Keys to Handling Hostile & Confrontational People, <u>Psychology Today</u>