

Reflective Listening The Power of Silence

Douglas E. Noll

"You talk when you cease to be at peace with your thoughts, and when you can no longer dwell in the solitude of your heart"

Khahlil Gibran



Types of Silence

- Pause
- Absence of talk
- Not speaking
- Eloquent silence
- Poignant silence
- Angry or stern silence
- Empathic silence





The Underestimated Strategy

The Roles of Silence

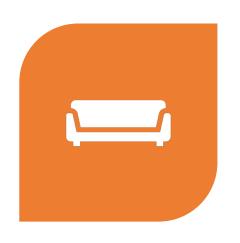
- Reflective Listening
- Enhancing Understanding
- Encouraging Reflection
- Creating Space
- Slowing Down
- Managing Difficult Conversations



Why Silence Is Overlooked

- Fear of Awkwardness
- Pressure to "Fill" Gaps
- Misconceptions about Reflective Listening

Overcoming Fear



SIT IN YOUR OWN SILENCE



BUILD EMOTIONAL SELF-AWARENESS



LISTEN TO EMOTIONS, NOT WORDS



Reflective Listening and Silence

- Silence allows full expression without interruption
- Provides space for deeper understanding
- Encourages the other to share more
- Provides the experience of "Listening Another Into Existence"



- Allows emotional processing
- Prevents emotional reactivity
- Promotes empathy
- Allows for emotional selfregulation

Using Silence

- Be mindful of your speaking pace
- Use open-ended questions (TED)
- Use silence as a tool for reflection and decisionmaking





CONCLUSION AND Q&A

- Recap
- The Way Forward
- Questions
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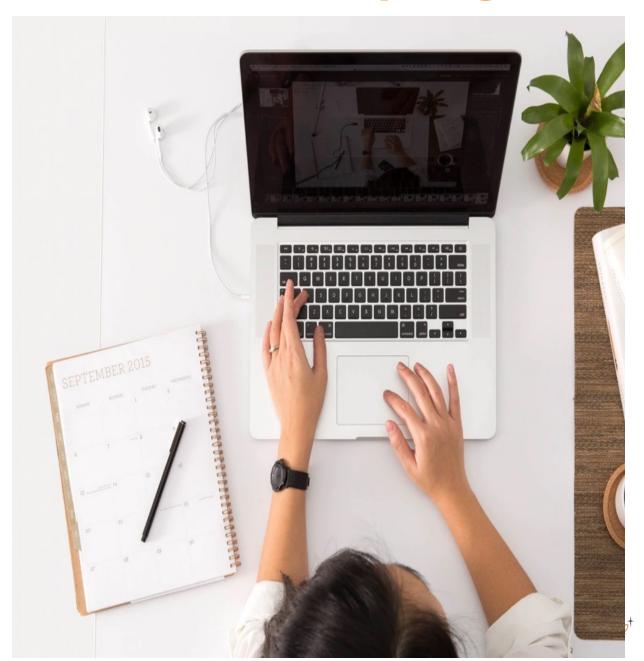
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EAP Benefit Spotlight



The Roles of Silence

Creating Space

Be genuine and authentic

Managing
Difficult
Conversations

Time to reflect

Reflective Listening

Listen another person into existence



Slowing Down

Control difficult conversations

Encouraging Reflection

Time to process emotion

Enhancing Understanding

Just sit with it

