

# PERMISSION TO FEEL

UNLOCKING THE POWER OF EMOTIONS  
TO ACHIEVE OPTIMUM WELL-BEING AND SUCCESS

MARC A. BRACKETT, PH.D.

DIRECTOR, YALE CENTER FOR EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
PROFESSOR, YALE CHILD STUDY CENTER

@marcbrackett @YaleEmotion

#PermissionToFeel

[www.marcbrackett.com](http://www.marcbrackett.com) [www.ojjiflab.com](http://www.ojjiflab.com)



## Welcome

*"No one cares how much you know,  
until they know how much you care."*

THEODORE ROOSEVELT



## The WHY we're here

**Why Emotional Intelligence?  
Why *Permission To Feel*?**



## The Mental Health Case

- Anxiety disorders are the most common mental illness in the U.S.
- Depression is the leading cause of disability worldwide
- Suicide rate in the U.S. increased 28 percent from 1999 to 2016
- Between 21% and 73% of middle and high school students report being bullied each year.
- Hate crime incidents reported to the ADL doubled each year between 2015 to 2017.



## The Equity Case

- *Poverty*: 70%+ students in NYC public schools live in poverty
- *Trauma*: 45% of children in the U.S. have experienced at least 1 Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE). 1 in 10 children have 3 or more
- *Bias/Expulsion*: 59% of black male students and 42% of Hispanic male students have been suspended or expelled in the past year compared to 26% of white male students
- *Educator stress/burnout*: About 50% of educators report high daily stress.

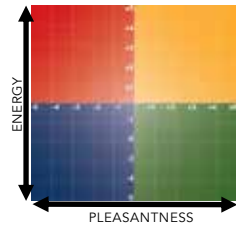


## The Business Case

- Results from the study *The Class of 2030 and Life-Ready Learning* – conducted in collaboration with Microsoft and McKinsey & Company's Education Practice
  - 30-40% of jobs require SEL skills
  - Only 42% of employers believe new graduates are adequately prepared for the workforce, especially with SEL skills



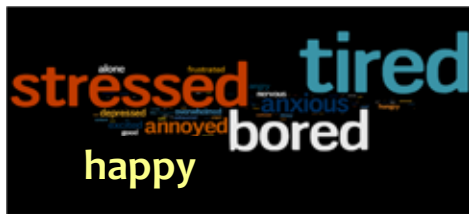
## The Self-Awareness Case



## Work is an Emotional Rollercoaster



## How High School Students Feel



## How Educators Feel



## How College Students Feel



## How People in the Workplace Feel



### How We Feel is Out of Balance



Our students, educators, and workforce are spending 70-80% of their days in the RED and BLUE

While the goal is not to be YELLOW and GREEN all of the time, we need greater balance!

RULER<sup>®</sup> Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

### How People Hope to Feel



RULER<sup>®</sup> Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

### Emotions Matter

ATTENTION, MEMORY, AND LEARNING  
DECISION MAKING  
RELATIONSHIP QUALITY  
PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH  
PERFORMANCE AND CREATIVITY

RULER<sup>®</sup> Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

### The WHY we're here

*Are you an Emotion Scientist  
or an Emotion Judge?*

RULER<sup>®</sup> Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

### Are you an Emotion Scientist or Judge?

#### Emotion Scientist

- Is curious about emotions
- Is in learner mode
- Is reflective and inquisitive about feelings
- Is open to exploring emotion regulation strategies
- Has a "growth mindset" around developing emotion skills

#### Emotion Judge

- Is critical
- Is generally in knower mode
- Generally "tells" people how they feel; Ignores feelings
- Generally is closed (emotionally)
- Has a "fixed mindset" around developing emotion skills

RULER<sup>®</sup> Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

### The WHY we're here

*What are the underlying skills of those people who use their emotions wisely?*

RULER<sup>®</sup> Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

## Emotional Intelligence

- R**ecognizing emotions in self and others  
**U**nderstanding the causes and consequences of emotions  
**L**abeling emotions accurately  
**E**xpressing emotions  
**R**egulating emotions effectively

Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

## Unhelpful Emotion Regulation Strategies

*"I remove my feelings before entering school"*  
*"I put my feelings in a box"*

- Negative self-talk
- Venting and complaining
- Avoidance
- Denial
- Suppression
- Ignoring the emotion or problem
- Wishful thinking
- Rumination and worry
- Blaming oneself or others
- Procrastination
- Psychological manipulation
- Yelling or screaming
- Physical aggression
- Poor habits (eating, sleep, exercise)
- Abusing substances

Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

## The Big 7

- Mindful breathing
- Sleep
- Nutrition
- Exercise
- Building and maintaining positive relationships
- Positive self-talk, reappraisal, and problem-solving
- Doing things that you enjoy (hobbies/entertainment) and that are meaningful to you

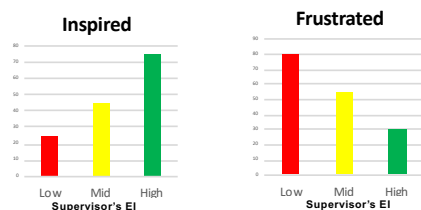
Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

## Emotional Intelligence Among Supervisors



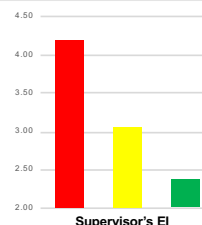
Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

## EI and Employee Emotions

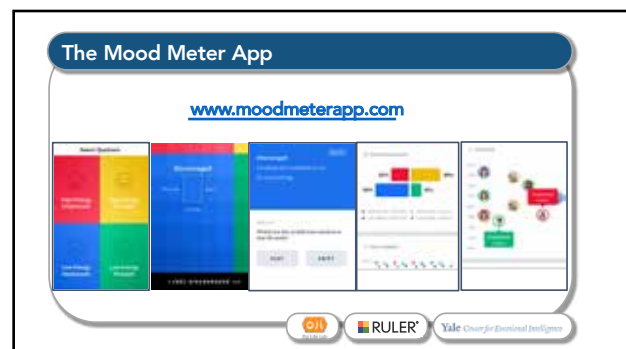
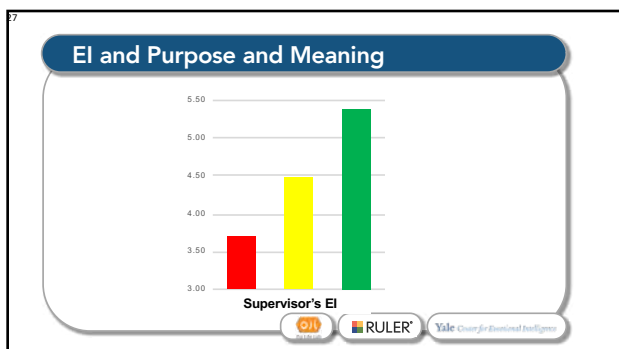
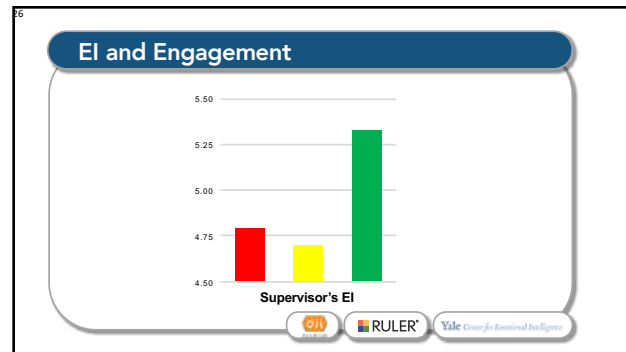
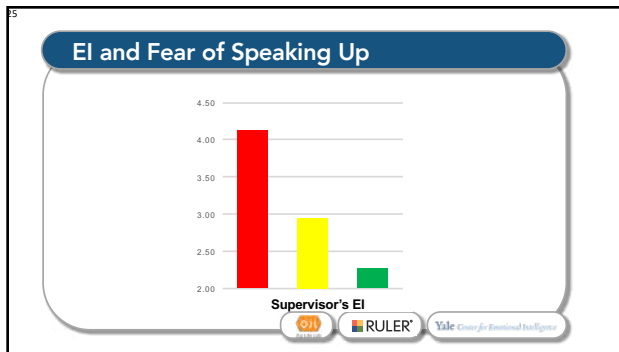


Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

## EI and Burnout



Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence



**39**

### El in the Workplace

**Emotion Life Lab**  
[www.ojllifelab.com](http://www.ojllifelab.com)

Critical emotional intelligence skills for business and life performance

Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

**40**

### Let's put it all together!

- Give yourself and those around you the *Permission To Feel*
- Know that emotions are information
- Be an emotion scientist not an emotion judge
- Appreciate that emotional intelligence is a real set of skills
- Acknowledge that it's never too early or late to cultivate EI
- Check-in regularly; monitor your strategies; know that this is life's work!
- With your commitment we can build healthier, and more equitable, innovative, and compassionate workplaces

Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

**It's time for an Emotion Revolution**



**Thank you!**

**Social media:** @marcbrackett @YaleEmotion  
**My assistant:** michelle.lugo@yale.edu  
**Websites:** ei.yale.edu; ruler.yale.edu  
**My website:** marcbrackett.com  
**App:** www.moodmeterapp.com  
**Business solutions:** [info@ojuifalab.com](mailto:info@ojuifalab.com)  
or visit [ojuifalab.com](http://ojuifalab.com)

   Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence