

SAFE SPORT:

PARENTS
PERSPECTIVE



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ITP Sport and Recreation





Prevent



Protect



Perform

Agenda

1. My Why
2. Overall Safe Sport Landscape
3. The Grey Zone of Safe Sport
4. Pyramid of Harm (The progression of maltreatment)
5. Forms of Maltreatment
6. Coaching Gen Z



My 'Why'



Safe Sport Defined

Creating a healthy, positive, safe training and competitive sport environment that by its cultural nature is free of maltreatment and abuse

Forms of maltreatment (as defined in the Universal Code of Conduct):

- Bullying
- Hazing
- Neglect
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Psychological abuse
- Discrimination

Black and White aspects of Safe Sport:

- ✓ Background checks and safeguarding hiring measures
- ✓ Training and education
- ✓ Policies and Codes of Conduct
- ✓ Case management and investigations





Safe Sport Mandates at Each Level:

NSO:

- Currently required as member to complete Safe Sport training, follow the Universal Code of Conduct for Maltreatment in Sport, and use independent complaint management

PTSO:

- Only certain provinces have mandates from the provincial government level
- Some PTSOs receive programming, requirements, and support

Universities:

- Nothing mandated

Clubs:

- Some mandated by PTSOs, most have nothing formal.

The 'Grey Zone'



Athletes' micro-environment mentality

Complexity of coach/ athlete relationships

Cultural conditioning and sport cultural legacies

Realistic application of the Rule of 2

Hiring "the guy" with their "values" not yours

Governance risks like sole discretionary decision-making

Normalization of behaviours

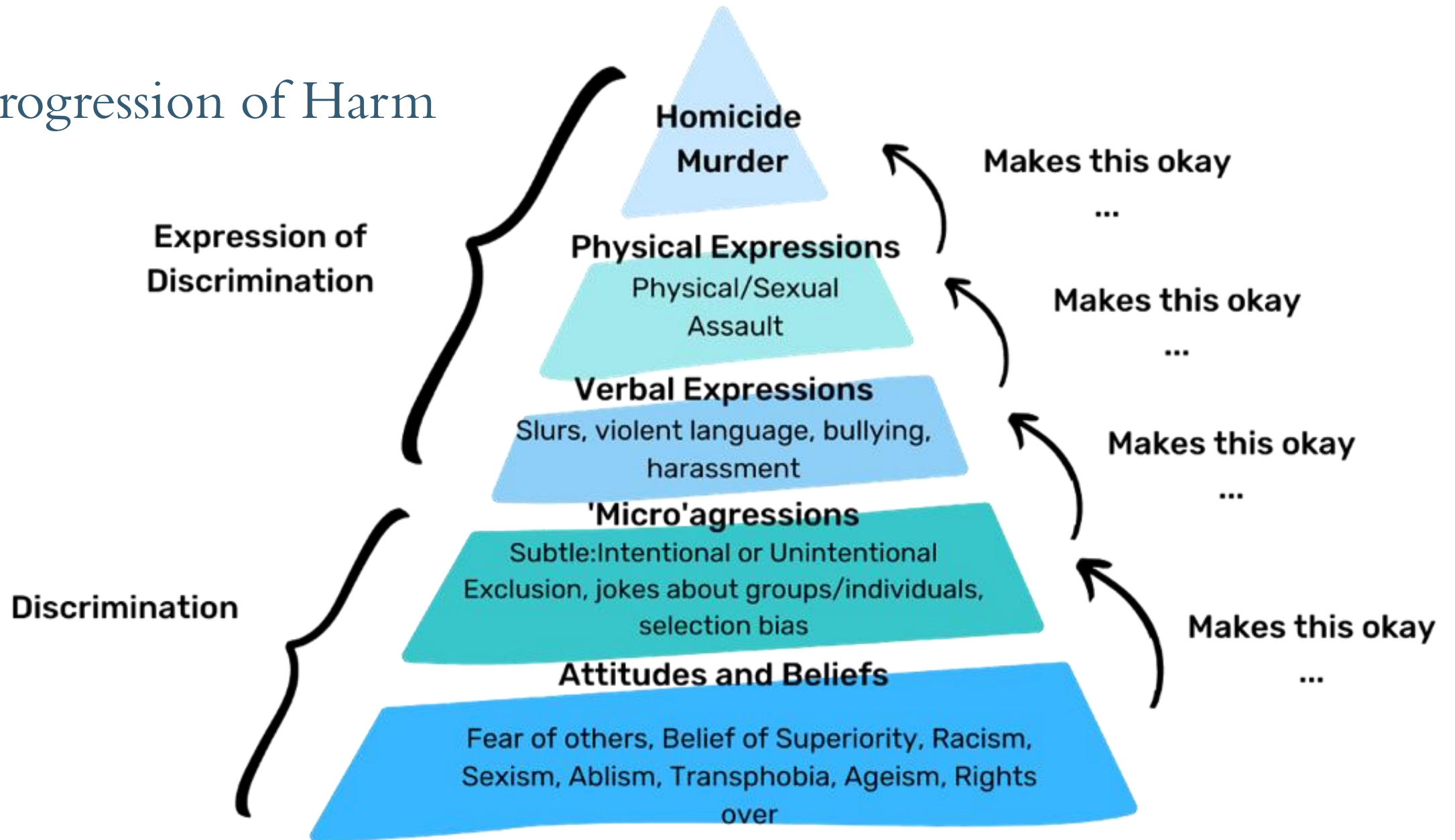
Toxic culture and lack of culture

Legacy of an abuser

Lack of trust in reporting: Fear of reprisal, ostracization

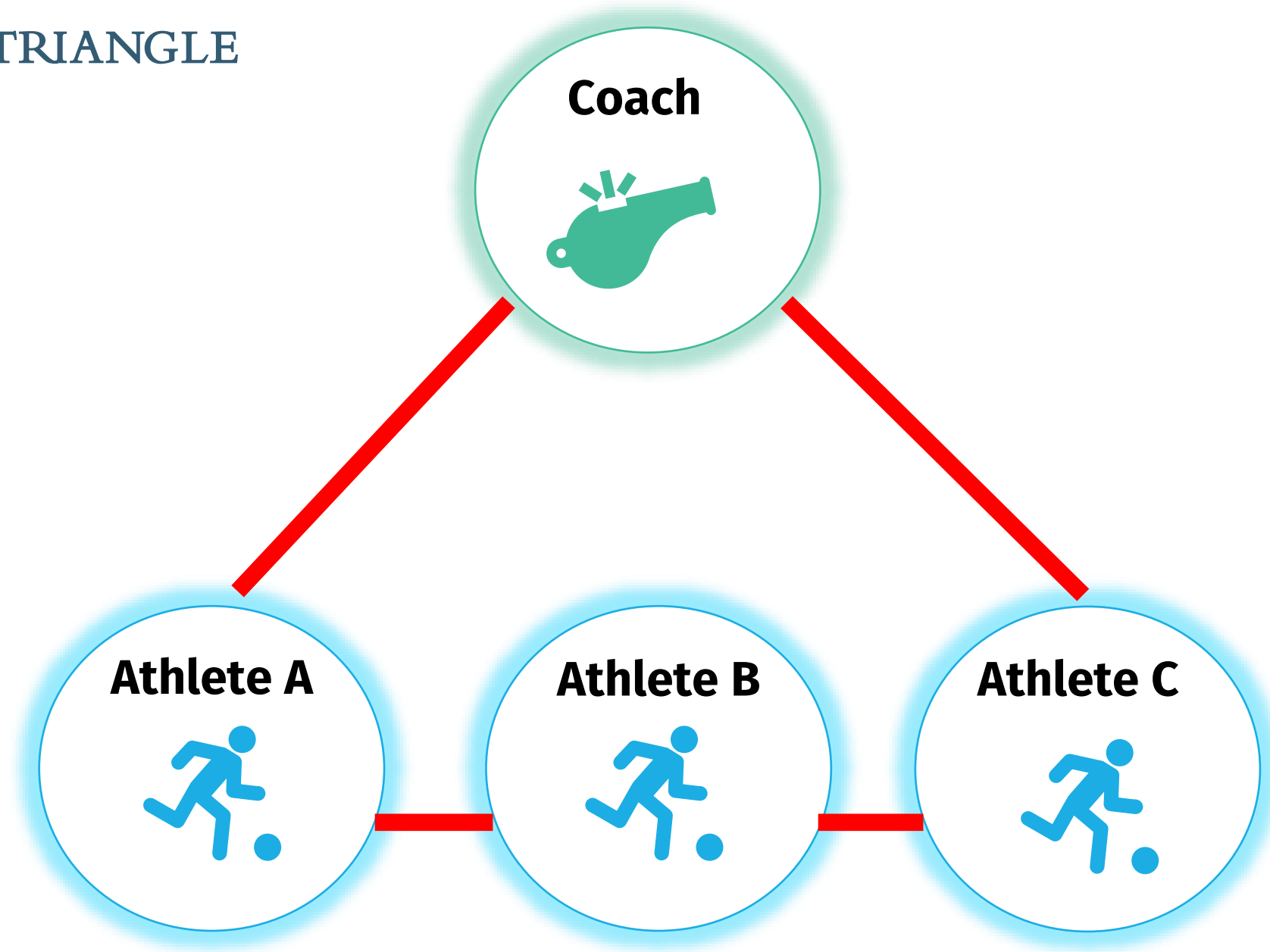
Fear of false complaints- weaponization

Progression of Harm

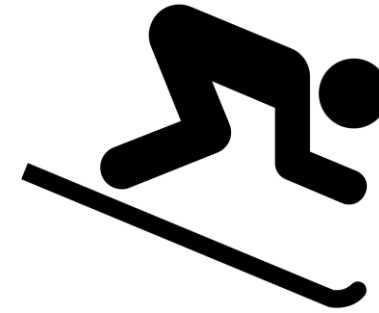


THE TOXIC TRIANGLE

- Favouritism leads to athletes being jockeyed off one another.
- Reduced team bond.
- Personal Bond can lead to jealousy and inappropriate feelings.
- Toxic environment of silos.
- Bullying, Harassment.



Your Responsibility as a Parent



- Understand the policies and codes of conduct of the Club.
- Know that maltreatment is a progression.
- What are the processes and pathways for complaints?
- Respect the leadership and autonomy of the position of the coach.
- Be in the conversation with your child(ren).
- Respect the parent code of conduct and other policies.
- Protect your children by empowering them.

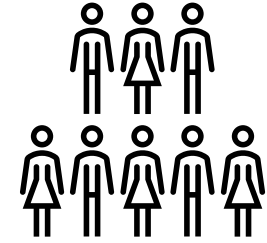
Coaching Gen Z

Top 4 sport relative traits:

Athletes Gen Z:

1997- 2012
(Currently 12- 25)

- Truth seeking: Need to be enrolled
- Community and connection online over off.
- Digitally share their lives, their secrets, their trauma
- Empathy – based leadership: pull towards friendship over authority.
- Expectations of diversity, equity and inclusivity.



- Parents could be helicopter or lawn mower or both so boundaries must be set early and often.
- They will expect your language and approach to be inclusive and respectful of ALL communities.
- They will want to be your friend; it is your job to set the trusted authority figure boundary.
- They will overshare their personal lives to you and through social media (do not follow them).
- They respond overwhelmingly to positive reinforcement over negative. (94%)
- Do not consistently use the best as an example or the worst: Condition for bullying.
- Watch out for hazing as they can create their own 'peer' rules (ie kangaroo court).
- Be mindful of your social channels and what you share including innuendos about parents overinvolvement in sport.
- Body positivity and inclusivity is critical.
- They will confuse favouritism and shortened playing time with neglect.

THANK YOU!

“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.”

Maya Angelou



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