



Crossing the River

A metaphor for change

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Using metaphors to support change

Western theory - identity and change :

Anthropology

Geertz, van Gennep, Bateson ..

Ethnology

Philosophy

Foucault

Social psychology

Gergen

Narrative theory

Bruner

First Nations

Relational identity, knowledges

Bagele Chilisa

Shawn Wilson

Aileen Moreton-Robinson

Lived Experience



The slide features a decorative header and footer. The header is a horizontal strip showing a blue sky with white clouds and green trees. The footer is a horizontal strip showing a blue sky with white clouds and green trees, which is a vertical reflection of the header image.

The known & familiar

The slide features a decorative header and footer. The header is a horizontal strip showing a blue sky with white clouds and green trees. The footer is a horizontal strip showing a blue sky with white clouds and green trees, which is a vertical reflection of the header image.

The known & familiar

The unknown and unfamiliar

The slide features a decorative header and footer. The header shows a blue sky with white clouds and green trees. The footer shows a reflection of the same scene in water.

The known & familiar

‘Betwixt and Between’

The unknown and unfamiliar



The known & familiar

‘Betwixt and Between’

The unknown and unfamiliar

..... Separation

Liminal

.....

Re-incorporation





The known & familiar

‘Betwixt and Between’

The unknown and unfamiliar

..... *Separation*

Liminal

.....

Re-incorporation



On the river-bank

Being respectfully curious about:

*What is important to you in your
life?*

*What would you like to leave
behind? Move away from?*

Why now?

What will you miss?





The other side

*Would you like to tell me about
that life ...*

Hopes, Dreams?

More of?

See yourself doing?

People you will be closer to?

Who else will be involved?





The crossing

What will it be like?

What might get in the way?

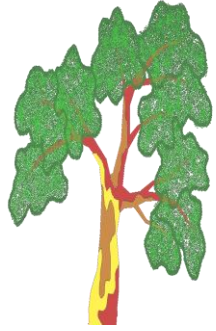
How could you describe that?

What will support you?

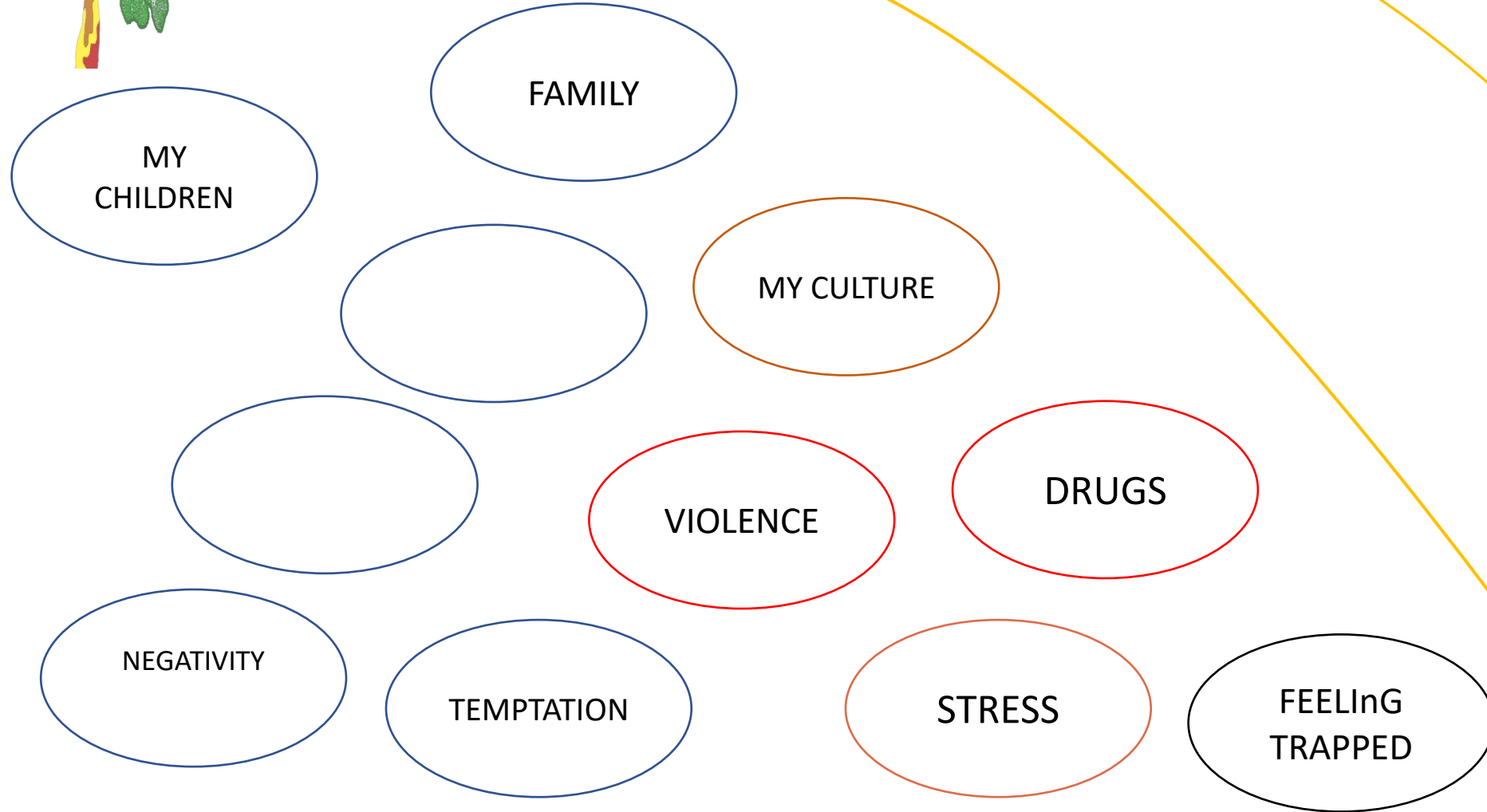
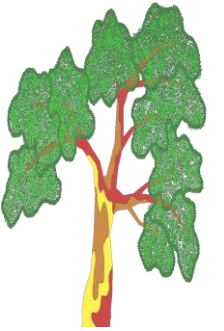
What might I need to put in place ?

Do other images come to mind?





This side of the river...



The other side of the river...

PEACE

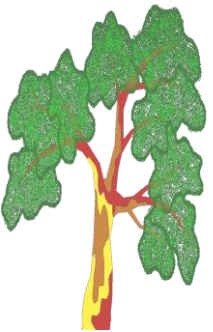
FAMILY

MY CHILDREN

COMMUNITY

WORK

SPORT



The crossing...

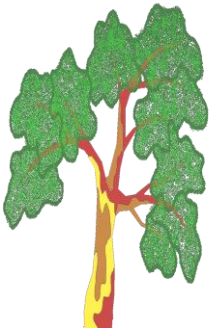
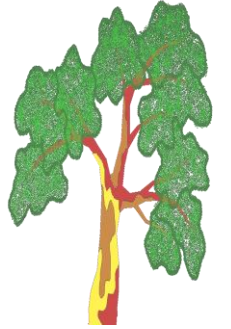
LONLEY

DRUG
ASSOCIATES
CROCOLDILE

STRAIGHT
FREINDS:
LIFE RAFTS

SPRITUALTIES

FAMILY



The slide features a decorative header and footer. The header shows a bright sky with scattered clouds and the tops of green trees. The footer shows a blue sky with clouds reflected in a body of water, with tree silhouettes visible along the edges.

In groups of two

One person talks about a change they have experienced, or are considering (make it a safe topic!)

One person experiments with 'river' questions

The slide features a decorative header and footer. The header shows a bright sky with clouds and tree silhouettes. The footer shows a blue sky with clouds reflected in water, with tree silhouettes on the sides.

Principles:

- Respectful curious
- Light and gentle
- Reflective
- Creative: change starts in the imagination



Feedback from one group of men:

This has helped me understand what I am going through ...


I've visualized the journey ...

It has helped me separate me from the situation – de-personalising it ...

It helps to get a clearer picture.. It is not just me- it is others as well - on a different journey, but the same themes

It's given me a holistic view of everything

I've created my own island .. I have cut off my old connections, phone numbers ... created an island where I can develop myself, for the next stage. I'm in my hut ... it is like a cocoon ...





THANK YOU !!!

Stay in touch

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Crossing the river: A metaphor for separation, liminality,
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