

**Cases on a cliff's edge:  
Hold on or let go?**

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**INTERFLOW: Adaptive Strategies for Collaborative Divorce & Co-mediation**

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Training and consultation to optimize outcomes in conflict resolution. Collaborative divorce & co-mediation—local and long distance.

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**Outline**

- Existential question:  
To be or not to be
- Strategies and practical steps:  
To avoid this make or break

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**Outline**


- At the outset
- Extraordinary effort
- Late game dynamics
- Termination
- Professionals affect clients;  
Clients affect professionals
- Tendencies
- Techniques
- Problematic issues for professionals

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**At the outset**

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**Questionable case?  
Team up?  
No question!**




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Ethics of taking questionable case  
→ may prevent harmful litigation



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Strong team hangs tough,  
Weak team collapses?




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Preserving the collaborative  
–for attorneys  
–for neutrals



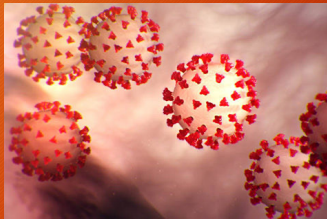
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Professional missteps that  
unnecessarily jeopardize case



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The COVID factor



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The question of  
extraordinary effort

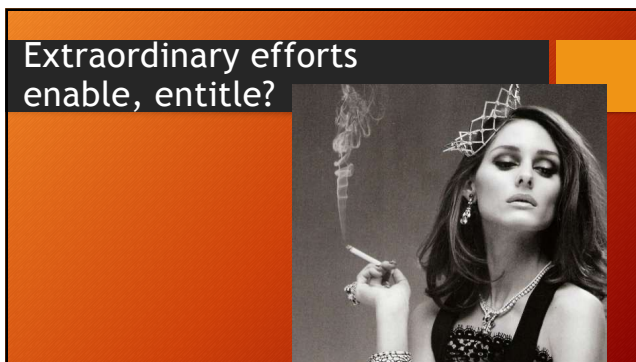
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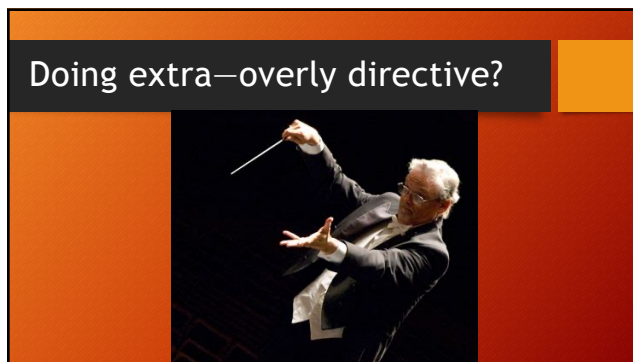
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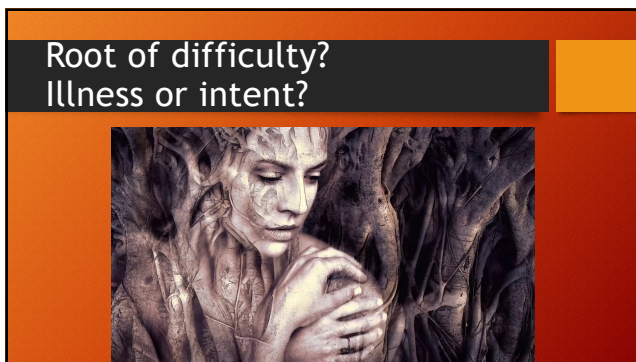
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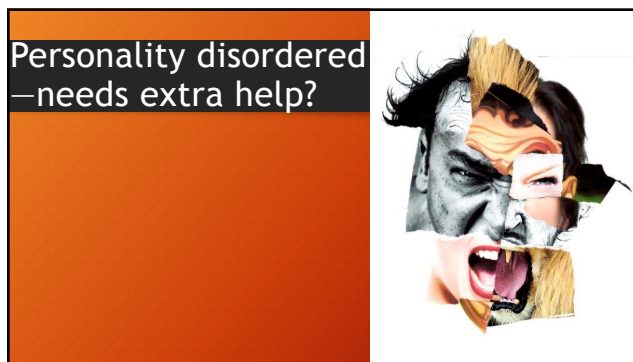
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Professionals responsible to work harder if take a harder case?



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Late-Game

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Late-game fear, unresolved loss



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Cumulative fatigue



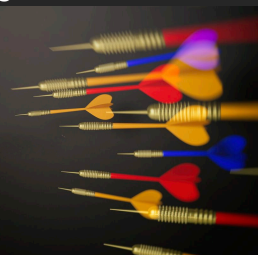
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Late-game reactivation – trauma history




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Late-game reactivation – micro-aggressions




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Late-game,  
the big ball  
of everything  
mushed  
together  
reappears



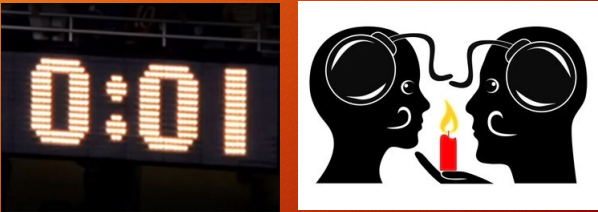
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The drama of the final rounds—  
what's real, what's exaggerated?



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Late game posturing, positioning,  
brinksmanship




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Emergency measures to save  
the case may skyrocket costs



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Many last pushes—what is  
(or should be) the very last?

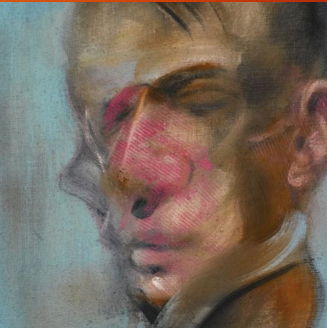


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Termination

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Client terminates from depression, depletion, distortion—intervene?




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The question of potential harm to client if continue, if don't




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Team split about—  
—Do extra?  
—Keep going?




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It takes  
2 to marry,  
1 to divorce;  
how many  
team members  
to end the case?  
—just 1?




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We've done all we can do,  
the rest is up to you

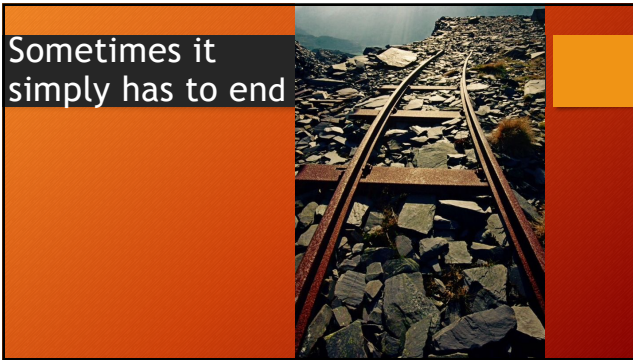


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A bridge too far?



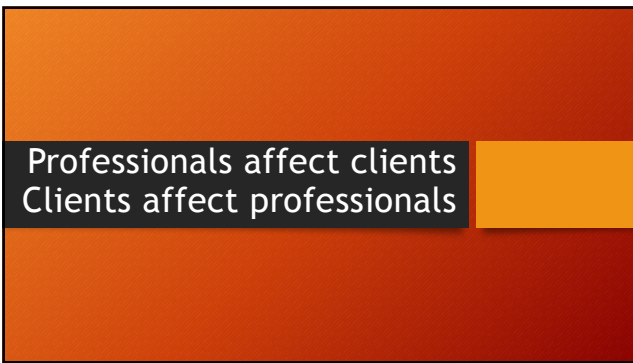
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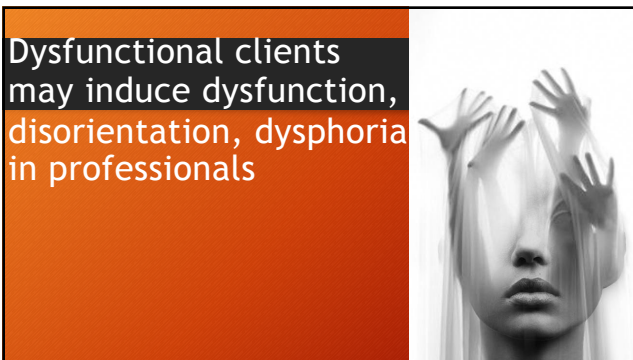
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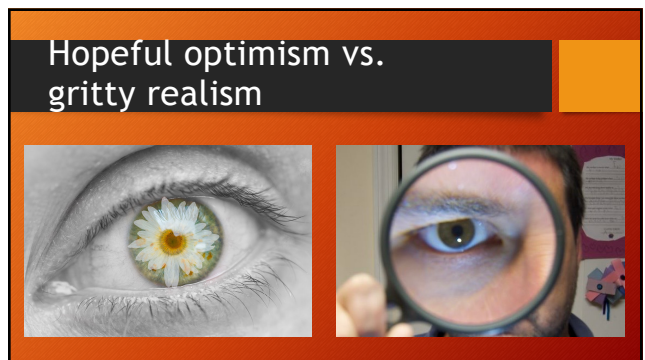
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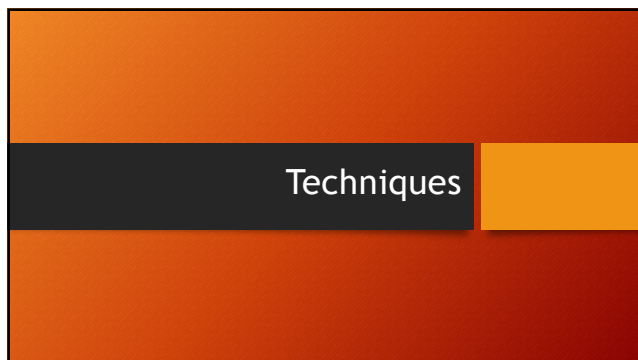


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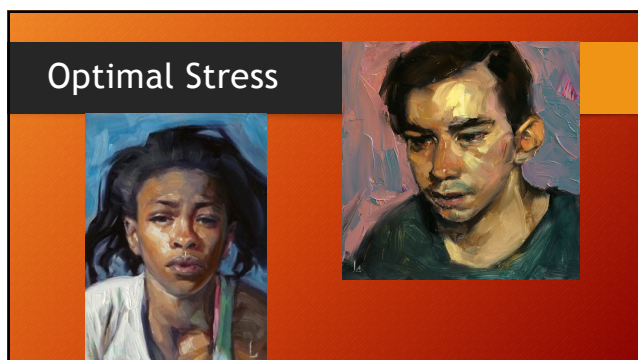




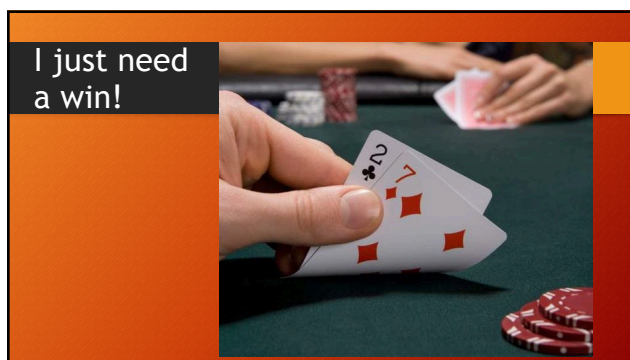
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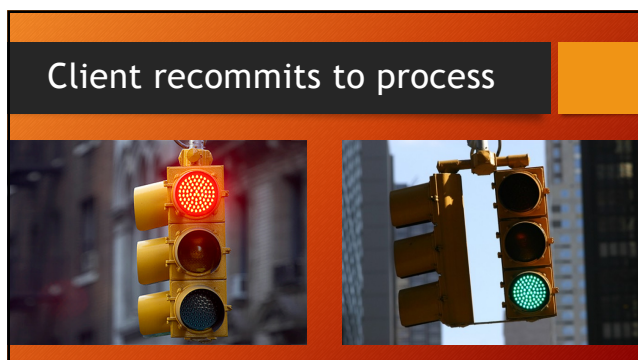
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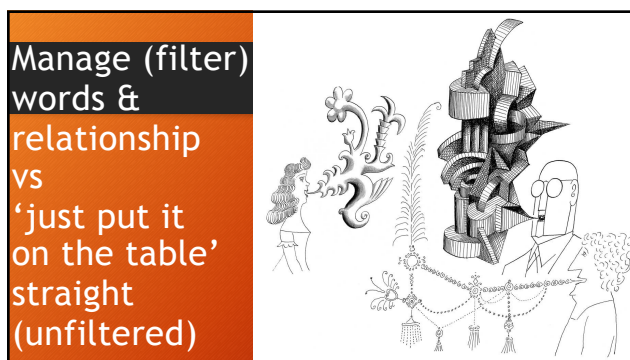
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Simplify tough legal, financial, parenting issues



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In mental health, 'marching orders' vs 'possible for client'



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Connect to client's therapist if injuring the collaborative process



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Problematic issues for professionals

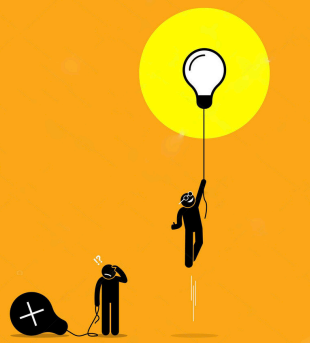
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Attorney may wish to end if not a good-enough deal




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Professional failure if ends



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Taking too much time & energy,  
have other cases to get to




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At end of retainer  
Must wait for payment




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Seems like too much effort,  
& for an outcome not assured



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Professionals frustrated by unreasonable client, wn loss of control



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Summary

*The*  
**TAKEAWAY**

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