





 Socio-political Challenges in the Mediterranean Region: Implications for NCD Prevention and Control, December 3-4, 2014, Beirut, Lebanon

### **Professor Tanja Pless-Mulloli**

### Preparing for the healing of war-trauma in Syria: Thoughts from a psychotherapy, public health and auto-biographical standpoint

**Professor Tanja Pless-Mulloli** 









\* The three standpoints towards trauma: autobiography, public health, psychotherapy
\*The UNHCR and WHO positions
\*What do they mean for Syrian refugees in 2014?
\*Challenges

\*Domains requiring coordinated and integrated effort







# Auto-biographical standpoint: Born 1955, Lueneburg, Germany



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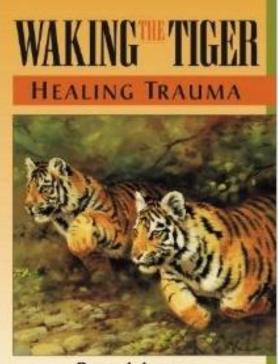








\* The psychotherapy standpoint 1/4: The human animal's instinctual capacity to heal



PETER A. LEVINE

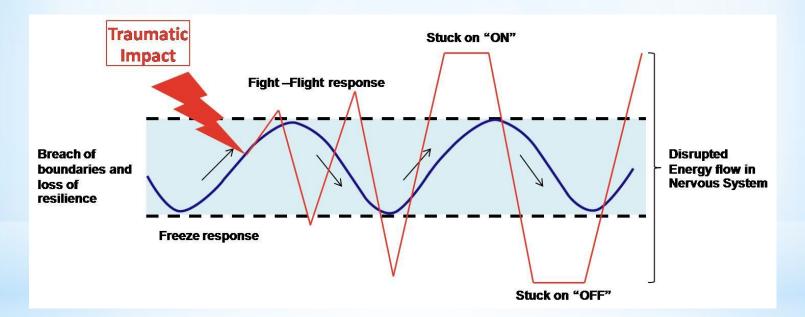
"Much of the violence that plagues humanity is a direct or indirect result of unresolved trauma that is acted out in repeated unsuccessful attempts to re-establish a sense of empowerment." Peter Levine in: Waking the tiger, healing trauma, the innate capacity to transform overwhelming experiences, 1997







# \* The psychotherapy standpoint 2/4: The universality of human response to trauma: Fight, flight, freeze









# \* The psychotherapy standpoint 3/4: Universality of human suffering and emotion





### Gilgamesh mourns Enkidu







# \* The psychotherapy standpoint 4/4: Universality of human attachment

ALLER D	MODEL OF SELF (Dependence)	
	Positive (Low)	Negative (High)
Positive (Low)	Secure	Preoccupied
MODEL OF OTHER (Avoidance)		
Negative (High)	Dismissing	Fearful







# \* The public health standpoint: Burden of disease from mental health

#### The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

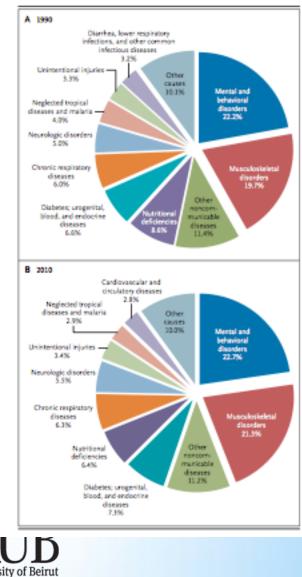
#### **REVIEW ARTICLE**

### Mental Health and the Global Agenda

Anne E. Becker, M.D., Ph.D., and Arthur Kleinman, M.D.

HEN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) EUROPEAN MINIsterial Conference on Mental Health endorsed the statement "No health without mental health" in 2005,<sup>1</sup> it spoke to the intrinsic — and indispensable — role of mental health care in health care writ large. Yet mental health has long been treated in ways that reflect the opposite of that sentiment. This historical divide — in practice and in policy — between physical health and mental

### NEJM 2013;369:66-73

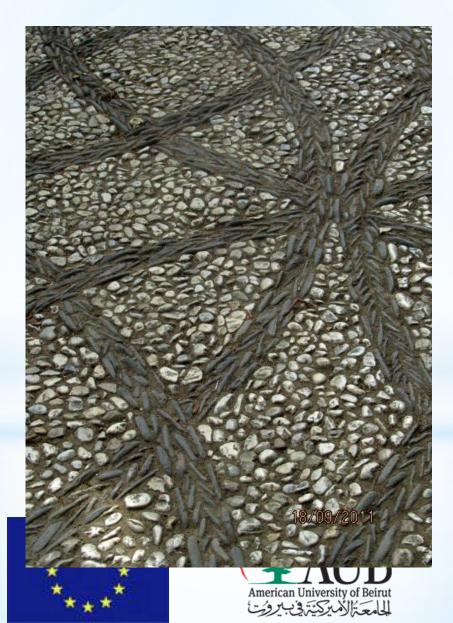








\* The integrating standpoint: Cultural embeddedness of trauma healing





# \* The public health standpoint: UNHCR assessment December 2013





ASSESSMENT OF

#### MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES IN LEBANON

by Rabih El Chammay, MD Wissam Kheir, Hala Alaouie

> DECEMBER 2013 BEIRUT, LEBANON

### Four levels of service:

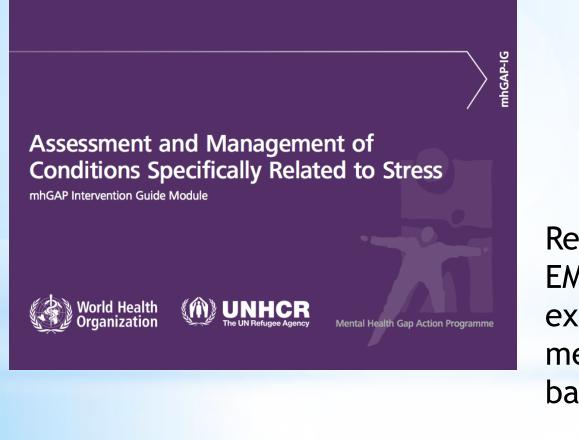
- 1. Basic needs and security
- 2. Strengthening community and family support
- 3. Focused non specialised psychosocial support
- 4. Specialised or clinical services







# \* The public health standpoint: WHO/UNHCR Mental Health Gap Action Plan





Recommending CBT, EMDR, breathing exercise and medication as evidence based treatments only







### \* Example of trauma healing using art therapy and creativity













# \* Suggestions for coordinated and integrated effort









