## MORDS MATER

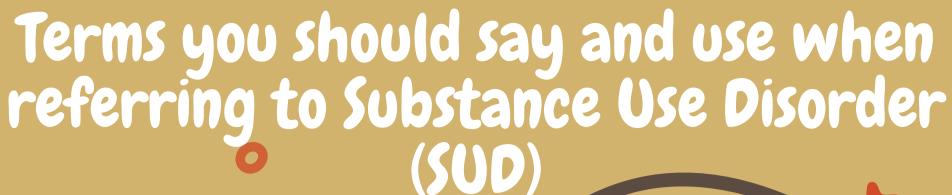
### WHAT IS STIGMA?

Stigma is a discrimination against an identifiable group, place or nation.

### STIGMA & SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD)

Stigma against people with SUD may stem from misinformed beliefs that addiction is a moral failing rather than a preventable and curable disease from which people can recover and lead healthy and successful lives.

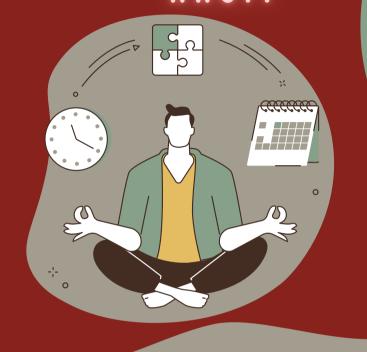








## INSTEAD OF HABIT



HABIT INACCURATELY
IMPLIES THAT A PERSON IS
CHOOSING TO USE
SUBSTANCES OR CAN CHOOSE
TO STOP.

THE WORD "HABIT" MAY UNDERMINE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE DISEASE.

# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER OR DRUG ADDICTION





INSTEAD OF
ABUSE
(FOR ILLICIT DRUGS)







THE TERM "ABUSE" WAS

FOUND TO HAVE A HIGH

ASSOCIATION WITH NEGATIVE

JUDGEMENTS AND

PUNISHMENT.



# INSTEAD OF ABUSE (FOR PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS)



LEGITIMATE USE OF
PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS
IS LIMITED TO THEIR USE AS
PRESCRIBED BY THE PERSON
TO WHOM THEY ARE
PRESCRIBED. CONSUMPTION
OUTSIDE THESE PARAMETERS
IS MISUSE.





# INSTEAD OF DIRTY (FOR TOXICOLOGY SCREENING RESULTS)

JSE TESTING POSITIVE



USE CLINICALLY ACCURATE,

NON-STIGMATIZING

TERMINOLOGY THE SAME

WAY IT WOULD BE USED

FOR OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS.

USING THE TERM "DIRTY" MAY DECREASE A PERSON'S SENSE OF HOPE AND SELF-

EFFICACY FOR CHANGE.



# INSTEAD OF DIRTY (FOR NONTOXICOLOGY PURPOSES)

# PERSON WHO USES DRUGS



NON-STIGMATIZING

TERMINOLOGY THE SAME

WAY IT WOULD BE USED

FOR OTHER MEDICAL CONDITIONS.

USING THE TERM "DIRTY" MAY DECREASE A PERSON'S SENSE OF HOPE AND SELF-EFFICACY FOR CHANGE.



# INSTEAD OF CLEAN (FOR TOXICOLOGY SCREENING RESULTS)



USE CLINICALLY ACCURATE,

NON-STIGMATIZING

TERMINOLOGY THE SAME WAY IT

WOULD BE USED FOR OTHER

MEDICAL CONDITIONS. SET AN EXAMPLE WITH YOUR OWN

LANGUAGE WHEN INTERACTING WITH OTHERS WHO MIGHT

USE STIGMATIZING SLANG. USE OF SUCH TERMS MAY

EVOKE NEGATIVE AND PUNITIVE IMPLICIT

COGNITIONS.

### USE TESTING NEGATIVE



# INSTEAD OF CLEAN (FOR NONTOXICOLOGY PURPOSES)



USE CLINICALLY ACCURATE,

NON-STIGMATIZING

TERMINOLOGY THE SAME WAY IT

WOULD BE USED FOR OTHER

MEDICAL CONDITIONS. SET AN EXAMPLE WITH YOUR OWN

LANGUAGE WHEN INTERACTING WITH OTHERS WHO MIGHT

USE STIGMATIZING SLANG. USE OF SUCH TERMS MAY

EVOKE NEGATIVE AND PUNITIVE IMPLICIT

COGNITIONS.

### USE

- BEING IN REMISSION OR RECOVERY
- ABSTINENT FROM DRUGS
- NOT DRINKING OR TAKING
   DRUGS
- NOT CURRENTLY OR ACTIVELY USING DRUGS



## INSTEAD OF ADDICTED BABY



BABIES CANNOT BE BORN
WITH ADDICTION BECAUSE
ADDICTION IS A BEHAVIORAL
DISORDER - THEY ARE SIMPLY

### USE

- BABY BORN TO MOTHER
   WHO USED DRUGS WHILE
   PREGNANT
- BABY WITH SIGNS OF WITHDRAWAL FORM PRENATAL DRUG EXPOSURE
- BABY WITH NEONATAL
   OPIOID
   WITHDRAWAL/NEONATAL
   ABSTINENCE SYNDROME
- NEWBORN EXPOSED
  TO SUBSTANCES

BORN MANIFESTING WITHDRAWAL SYNDROME. USE

CLINICALLY ACCURATE, NON STIGMATIZING TERMINOLOGY THE

SAME WAY IT WOULD BE USED FOR OTHER MEDICAL

CONDITIONS. USING PERSON-FIRST LANGUAGE

CAN REDUCE STIGMA.

### INSTEAD OF

OPIOID SUBSTITUTION
REPLACEMENT THERAPY
OR
MEDICATION-ASSISTED
TREATMENT (MAT)

IT IS A MISCONCEPTION THAT
MEDICATIONS MERELY
"SUBSTITUTE" ONE DRUG
OR "ONE ADDICTION" FOR
ANOTHER. THE TERM MAT

### USE

- OPIOID AGONIST THERAPY
- PHARMACOTHERAPY
- ADDICTION MEDICATION
- MEDICATION FOR A SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER
- MEDICATION FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER (MOUD)



IMPLIES THAT MEDICATION SHOULD HAVE A
SUPPLEMENTAL OR TEMPORARY ROLE IN TREATMENT.
USING "MOUD" ALIGNS WITH THE WAY OTHER
PSYCHIATRIC MEDICATIONS ARE UNDERSTOOD,

AS CRITICAL TOOLS THAT ARE CENTRAL TO A PATIENT'S TREATMENT PLAN.



## MORDS MATER

#### WHY CHANGE YOUR LANGUAGE?

It reduces discrimination toward people with SUD and can make them more likely to seek help.

#### PERSON-FIRST//// LANGUAGE

Person-first language maintains the integrity of individuals as whole human.

beings—by removing language that equates people to their condition or has negative connotations.

For example, "person with a substance fuse disorder" has a neutral tone and distinguishes the person from their

diagnosis

All information was gathered from "Words Matter - Terms to Use and Avoid When Talking About Addiction" published by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) on Nov 29, 2021

