# Social Styles and Effective Performance

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#### Goals

- Define Social Styles
- Become aware of both our own styles and others'
- Apply Style Information to:
  - Improve interpersonal communication
  - Develop strong team dynamics
  - Create a collegial working environment



# What Is A Social Style?

- Observable Behaviors Patterns of Behaviors
  - Only refers to surface behaviors
  - What "IS" versus why, cause, or motivation of behavior
- Based on OTHERS' impressions, not self impressions

# The Social Style Profile

Less responsive

(Controls)

Less assertive (Asks)

Analytical (thinking oriented)

> Amiable (relationship)

oriented)

Driving

(action oriented)

(intuition oriented)

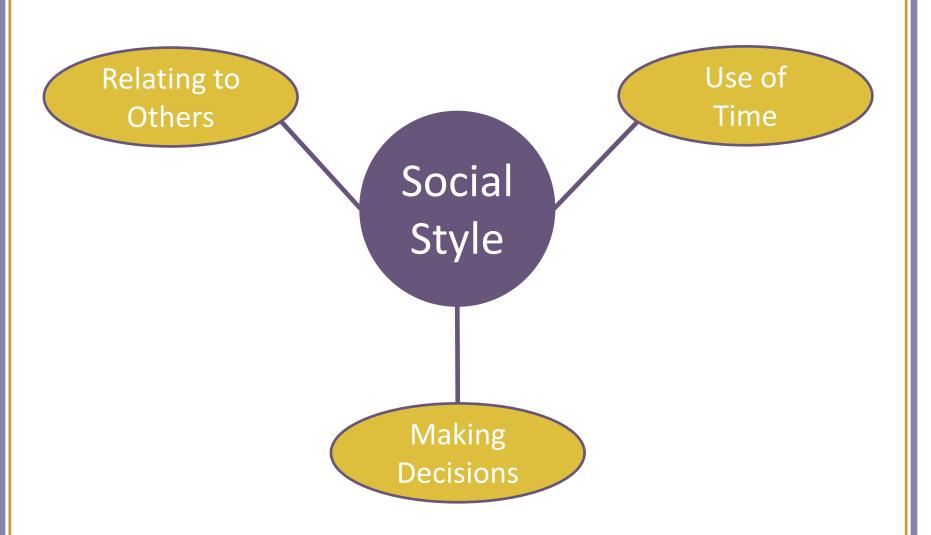
More responsive

(Emotes)

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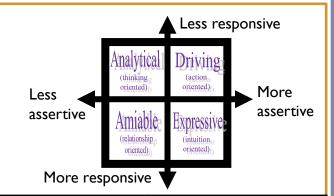
More assertive (Tells)

# **How Social Styles Manifest**



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# Behavior Typical of Each Style



	Analytical	Driving	Amiable	Expressive
Reaction	Slow	Swift	Unhurried	Rapid
Max Effort to	Organize	Control	Relate	Involve
Min Concern for	Relationship	Concern in Relationships	Effecting Change	Routine
Timeframe	Historical	Present	Present	Future
Action	Cautious	Direct	Supportive	Impulsive
Tends to Reject	Involvement	Inaction	Conflict	Isolation

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# **Style Descriptions**

DRIVER	EXPRESSIVE	AMIABLE	ANALYTIC
Action-	Motivating	Patient	Diplomatic
oriented	Enthusiastic	Sympathetic	Accurate
Decisive	Gregarious	Supportive	Fact finder
Problem-solver	Emotional	Stable	Logical
Competitive	Influential	Trusting	Analytical
Independent	Charming	Organized	Sensitive
Assertive	Confident	Team person	Orderly
Demanding	Dramatic	Loyal	Disciplined
WANTS:	WANTS:	WANTS:	WANTS:
Challenges	Social Recognition	Security	Details
Power	To be with people	Appreciation	Perfection

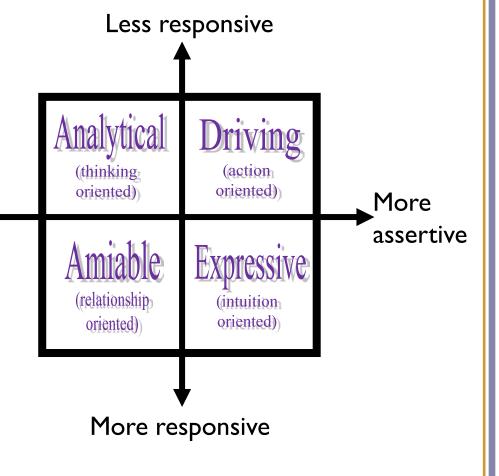
# Four Corners: What social style are you?

 What do you like best about your style?

 How is your leadership impacted by your social style?

Less

assertive





# **Style Inventory: THE DRIVER**

#### Listening

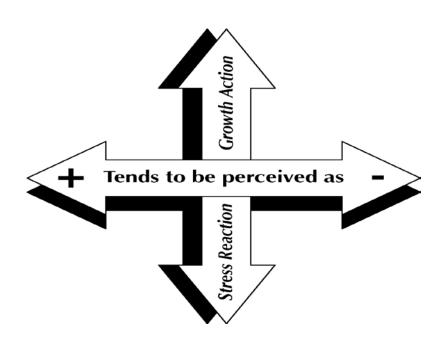
Strong-willed

Independent

**Practical** 

**Decisive** 

**Efficient** 



Pushy

Severe

Tough

**Dominating** 

Harsh

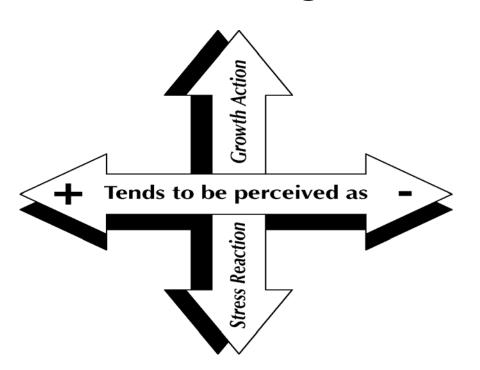
**Autocratic Power** 



### **Style Inventory: THE EXPRESSIVE**

#### Checking

Ambitious
Stimulating
Enthusiastic
Dramatic
Friendly



Manipulative
Excitable
Undisciplined
Reacting
Egotistical

**Personal Attack** 



# **Style Inventory: THE ANALYTIC**

#### **Declaration**

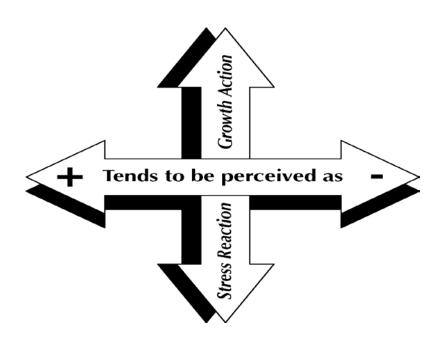
**Diplomatic** 

**Analytical** 

Exacting

Orderly

Logical



Indecisive

**Picky** 

Critical

Moralistic

Stuffy

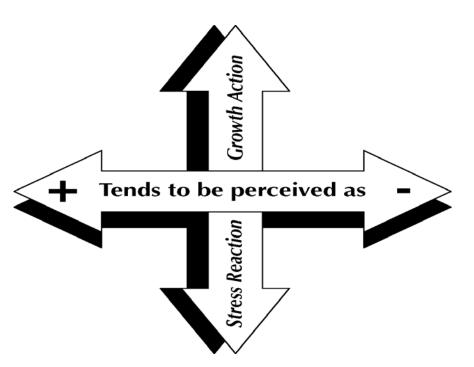
**Avoidance** 



# **Style Inventory: THE AMIABLE**

#### **Initiation**

Supportive
Respectful
Willing
Dependable
Agreeable



Conforming

**Unsure** 

Pliable

Dependent

**Awkward** 

**Compliance** 

# IDing others' styles: Behavioral Clues to Assertiveness

Verbal Clues

Less responsive

Speech:

- Slower pace
- Fewer statements
- Softer volume

Less assertive

- Relaxed/Cupped hands
- Leans back while talking
- Indirect eye contact

Speech:

- Faster pace
- More statements
- Louder volume

More assertive

- Pointing hands at others
- Leans forward to make a point
- Direct eye contact

Nonverbal Clues More responsive

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# IDing others' styles: Behavioral Clues to Responsiveness

**Verbal Clues** 

Less responsive

Nonverbal Clues

- Vocal emotions: monotone
- Speech subject:Tasks
- Facts/Data

Less assertive

- Vocal emotions: inflections
- Speech subject:People
- Opinions/Stories

Analytical

Driving

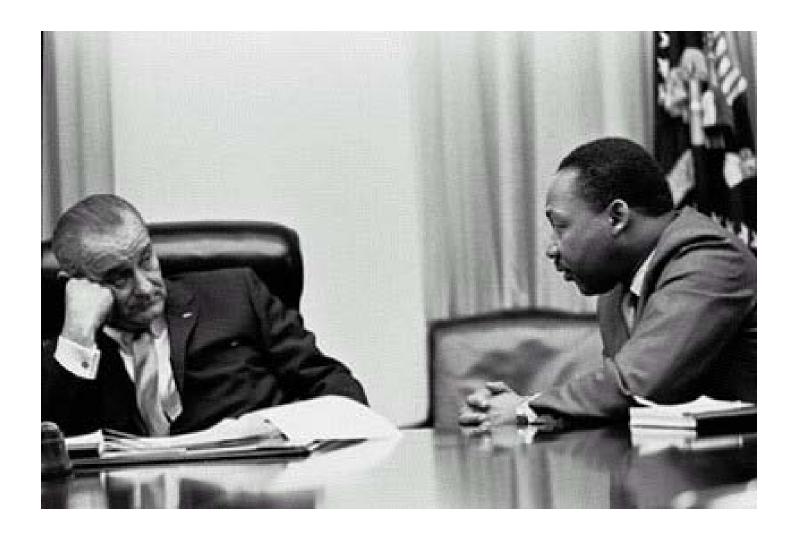
- Closed hands
- Rigid body posture
- Controlled facial expression

More assertive

- Amiable
- Expressive
- Open palms
- Casual body posture
- Animated facial expressions

More responsive

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#### Which is Best?

- Good leaders in ALL styles
- No style is right or wrong, better or worse
- Non judgmental
- No one has a pure style

# Four Corners: What social style are you in tension with?

Less responsive What do you find challenging about this (action (thinking oriented) oriented) More Less particular assertive assertive social style? (relationship (intuition oriented) oriented)

More responsive

### **Conflict**

Achieve

Accepted

**Personal Priority** 

Less responsive

Analytical Driving (action oriented)

Amalytical Driving (action oriented)

More responsive Expressive (intuition oriented)

More responsive

	Analytical	Driving	Amiable	Expressive
Achievement Behavior	(1) Works carefully and alone	(1) Works quickly and alone	(2) Works slowly and with team	(2) Works quickly and with others
Acceptance Behavior	(2) Impresses others with precision and knowledge	(2) Impresses others with individual effort	(1) Gets along as integral member of group	(1) Gets along as exciting member of group



# **Reducing and Resolving Conflict**

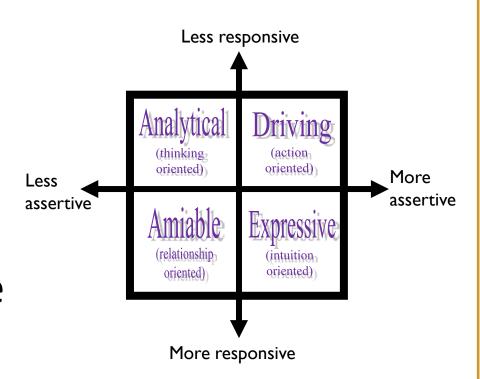
 Key to resolution: develop sensitivity to and tolerance for the behavior preferences of others, regardless of style

Flexing/Versatility as appropriate



# **Growth Actions by Style**

- Driver: Listen
- Expressive: Check
- Amiable: Initiate
- Analytical: Declare



# **Flexing**

- Get in sync with others
- Not manipulation of conformity
- Changes to your own behavior
  - Adjust few key behaviors
  - Adjust only at key times
- Improves relationships
- Versatility

**4 Step Flexing Process** 1. Identify 2. Plan 3. Implement 4. Evaluate University of Washington Center for Institutional Change

#### When to Flex?

• Don't "Flex" all the time

Use flex when something important is at stake

When the other person is under stress

Get off on the right foot

# Flexing: Case Studies

 Case One: Tension between Driver and Amiable

 Case Two: Tension between Expressive and Analytic



### Recap

- Style only one facet of personality
- No simple solutions
- Nevertheless, understanding style can be useful
  - Objective viewing of social situations
  - Increases tolerance
  - Reduces defensiveness
  - Lessens critical judgments



#### **Final Comments**

- Power dynamics
- Replicating ourselves
- Reducing bias
- Balance
- 3 keys to good relationships
  - Respect
  - Fairness
  - Honesty