

PSYCHOLOGICAL RECOVERY PROGRAM "UKRAINIAN CIRCLE"

Ukrainian Psychology Center THE SOUL

Module 3. Confidence and Strength

Date: July 3-9, 2023

We are very grateful for the support of our partners:





PSYCHOLOGICAL RECOVERY PROGRAMME "THE UKRAINIAN CIRCLE"

Contains of 9 modules:

Module 1 - Feelings and Emotions (June 19-25)

Module 2 - Body (June 26 - July 2)

Module 3 - Confidence and Strength (July 3-9)

Module 4 - Love and Relationships (July 10-16)

Module 5 - Freedom and Responsibility (July 17-23)

Module 6 - Home (July 24-30)

Module 7 - Money and Wellbeing (July 31 - August 6)

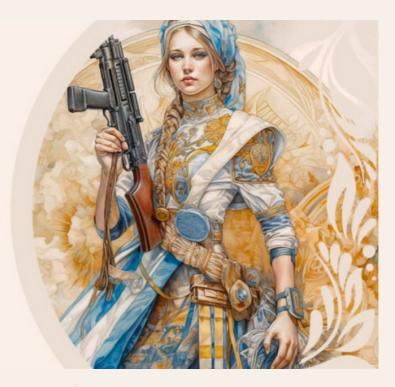
Module 8 - Unity and Togetherness (August 7-13)

Module 9 - Future (August 14-19)



Українське коло Модуль 3 Сила та впевненість

Де криється наша сила? Як бути більш впевненим? Як будувати внутрішні опори?





WEEK 3

Module 3 - Confidence and Strength (July 3-9)

People registered for the Programme - 206
Participants invited to the Telegram channel - 206
Hosts of Module 3 - Oleksandra Shymanova and Mariya
Vynnytska

Goals of the module:

- To discover one's own strength and sense of confidence, despite the difficult war-time conditions.
- To direct one's efforts towards constructive goals: life development and creation of something useful for oneself and others.
- To master practices for supporting self-esteem that will help in this difficult time

Module materials:

- 1. Confidence and Strength / theory video 32 min
- 2. Writing practice questions to explore one's strength and aggression (Mariya Vynnytska)
- 3.A survey among the participants on Telegram to understand their level of confidence in various areas or lack thereof
- 4. Zoom meeting with the psychologists and answering questions (Maria and Oleksandra) 1 hour 32 minutes.



1. Video + Text version. Confidence and strength



- Confidence, strength, and aggression are essential for our fulfilment in life. For there are only two powerful forces in this world: the power of life and the power of death.
- Strength and aggression are a sign that we are alive.
- Our strength can manifest itself
 in different ways: for example, a
 man's strength is a masculine,
 militant, aggressive power to
 make changes or a woman's
 strength is the ability to stay
 strong with her tenderness, to give
 birth and raise children, and to
 express her creativity. There is also
 strength in just being yourself and
 taking your time.



- Strength and confidence require AGGRESSION. It refers to the ability to take steps in the desired direction.
- Strength grows and develops when we use it, make decisions and take action.



 Knowing that you already have the strength from the moment you are born can be a resource for rebuilding your confidence.
 You need to be in touch with it, know how to use and direct it properly. You need to make your strength a proper tool in your life.



- The energy of aggression has 2 sides: the energy of destroying something/someone, or constructive energy aimed at creating something new. The main thing is to approach this with wisdom, to understand when to use these manifestations for the benefit of yourself and others. An adult person is one who knows how to regulate and use their AGGRESSION and STRENGTH. Aggression is also associated with sexuality, the energy of Libido.
- SUBLIMATION is the creative use of aggressive power and sexual energy. Sublimation helps us channel natural aggression into creativity or any other useful social purpose.
- There are many constructive
 ways to use your strength and
 aggression: work activities,
 hobbies, physical labour, cleaning
 the house, cooking. It is important
 to find your own way of working
 out your strength for the benefit
 of yourself and others.







2. Practical activities:

1. Writing practice - questions to explore one's strength and aggression - (Mariya Vynnytska)

This practice will help participants to explore themselves and clarify their relationship with strength and aggression:

- Where do you feel confident?
- Where do you lack confidence?
- Choose an area where you want to build confidence and strength.
- Do simple steps to take every day or every week





2. Telegram surveys to help participants understand their level of confidence or lack thereof:

Poll 1: How do you manifest insecurity and self-doubt?

The three highest percentages:

51% - I am constantly anxious and afraid of making mistakes

41% - I feel powerless to change anything in my life

38% - I always punish myself internally for what happened in the past

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Якув	ас проявляється невпевненість у собі?
Анон	имный опрос
41%	Мені важко приймати рішення, я постійно сумніваюсь
51%	Я постійно тривожусь і боюсь помилитися
	Я завжди караю себе внутрішньо за те, що сталося в минулому
	Я не знаю що мені підходить, а що - ні (від одежі, їжі до пюдей та роботи)
32%	Я почуваюсь некомфортно серед людей та в колективі
35%	Я вважаю себе гіршою за інших і це мене пригнічує
696	Я впевнена, що в мене нічого не вийде
41%	Я відчуваю безсилля змінити щось у своєму житті
696	Свій варіант (напишіть у коментарях)

Survey 2: In what area do you feel most insecure and lacking confidence?

The three highest percentages:

74% - work and fulfilment

48% - own desires and goals

In each case,

25% - relationships with husband and children

48% Власні бажання та цілі 25% Відносини з дитиною 25% Сімейні та близькі стосунки з чоловіком 11% Відносини з друзями та родичами 74% Робота та реалізація 20% Місце та умови проживання 22% Зовнішній вигляд 0% Свій варіант (напишіть у коментарях)

В якій сфері ви найбільше відчуваєте себе невпевненою?

Survey 3: Which area is a source of confidence for you?

The three highest percentages:

35% - appearance

29% - own desires and goals

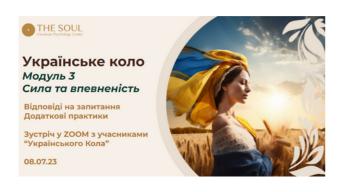
29% - relationship with a partner

Яка сфера для вас є джерелом впевненості? (Пояснення: це не означає, що у вас в цій сфері все супер (коча може бути і так), це означає, що ви не боїтесь проблем в цій сфері, готові шукати дієві способи та дієте без зайвих страхів та переживань) Анонимный опрос 29% Власні бажання та цілі 21% Відносини з дитиною 29% Сімейні та близькі стосунки з чоловіком 24% Відносини з друзями та родичами 29% Робота та реалізація 27% Місце та умови проживання 35% Зовнішній вигляд ○ ○ Свій варіант (напишіть у коментарях) *

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3. Meeting with the psychologists in Zoom and answering questions The meeting took place at 11:00 on Saturday 08.07.23 (Hosted by Mariya Vynnytska and Oleksandra Shymanova)



It consisted of 2 parts:

- 1. Answering questions and reviewing surveys.
- 2. Practical activities:

Watching a short video to help participants reflect on their level of confidence.





"Peacock" practice by psychotherapist Dr Katie Eastman, USA

This practice helped participants to feel their confidence, strength and inner beauty.

3. The basic practice "The Book of My Life"

has expanded the sense of self-value, as well as respect for their life experience and a sense of empowerment despite the war.





Screenshots of the Zoom meeting Q&A + Practices on Module 3



Practical exercise: Questions to explore your strength and aggression.

Participants' comments:

"I now have more energy, lately I have been more withdrawn and wanted to be by myself more, but I used to love dancing and being the centre of attention of my friends. And I also developed an acceptance of people as they are, without judgment."

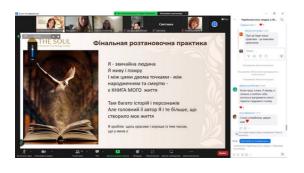


The "Peacock" practice by psychotherapist Dr Katie Eastman, USA

Participants' comments:

"The energy has increased, it's extravagant, but it's cool and I want to keep watching."

"The beauty and power of individuality. This is who I am, and I'm great."



"The Book of My Life" therapeutical practice

I am just a person

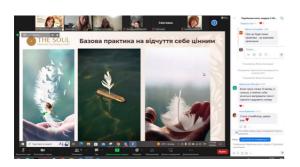
I live and I die

And between these two points - between birth and death - there is the BOOK of MY life

There are many stories and characters in it

There is the past, the present, and the coming future The main author of this book is Me and the greater powers that created my life

I will do something beautiful and good with the time I have



Therapeutic practice for feeling valued

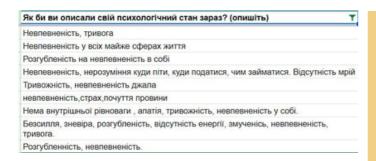
Participants' comments:

"When I hear the words 'I can do it, I'm strong, I love myself', I want to straighten my shoulders and lift my head up in pride"



The topic of the module "Confidence and Strength" proved to be very relevant for the participants

Many people wrote about the lack of confidence and inner strength caused by the war in their applications to the Programme (this is part of the analysis of the registration form that all participants filled out):



Як би ви описали свій психологічний стан зараз? (опишіть) Гойдалка, від хорошого і наповненого настрою, до повного безсилля Сум, невизначеність Розгубленість на невпевненість в собі Невпевненість, нерозуміння куди піти, куди податися, чим займатися. Відсутність мрій Важка депресія, апатія, розчарування від життя і від себе То вверх, то вниз. Пью заспокійлив Пригнічений, відчуття себе не на своєму місці, туга за домівкою Втрата орієнтирів куди рухатися ,відсутність мотивації займатись своєю професійною Тривожні думки. Не маю віри ні в себе, ні в майбутнє. Страх. Часом апатія. Не розумію для чого займаюсь тим, чим наразі займаюсь (що роблю в Бельгії, навіщо вчу мову, що буле далі). Страх того, що час минає, що в мене його і так не багато, що я його витрачаю в нікуди. Розгубленість, депресивність Тривожний, розгублений, часто з відчуттям безсилля. Лють Виснаження Труднощі з сном та ізоляція Збільшена тривожність за себе, і свою сім'ю Втома безсилля элість Сумно, аж за край

Як би ви описали свій психологічний стан зараз? (опишіть)

Гойдалка, від хорошого і наповненого настрою, до повного безсилля .

Тривожний, розгублений, часто з відчуттям безсилля

Втома, безсилля, злість

Апатія, безсилля, розчарування, сум

Безсилля

Безсилля, эневіра, розгубленість, відсутність енергії, змученісь, невпевненість, тривога.

How would describe your emotional/ psychological state?

Summary:

- · Insecurity, anxiety
- · Uncertainty in almost all areas of life
- · Confusion and self-doubt
- Uncertainty, not knowing where to go and what to do.
- · Lack of dreams
- · Anxiety, insecurity
- · Insecurity, fear, guilt
- Lack of inner harmony, apathy, anxiety, selfdoubt.
- · Powerlessness and uncertainty about the future
- Powerlessness, despondency, confusion, lack of energy, fatigue, uncertainty, anxiety.
- · Confusion, uncertainty.
- Mood swings, from a good and full mood to complete powerlessness.
- · Sadness, uncertainty
- Stressed out
- Severe depression, apathy, disappointment with life and myself
- Mood swings up and down.
- · I take sedatives.
- · Depression, feeling out of place, homesickness
- Loss of direction, lack of motivation to engage in professional activities, depression
- · Confusion, depression
- Anxious, confused, often with a sense of powerlessness.
- Rage
- Exhaustion
- · Difficulty sleeping and feeling isolated



This diagram shows how relevant the topic of "insecurity and powerlessness" is for Ukrainians today.

It is an extract from the registration form for the Programme, where you can see that the issue of insecurity and powerlessness covers more than 40% of the problems.



Two highlighted areas show the highest percentages (red and light blue):

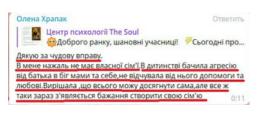
23.9 % - Disturbances in mental stability (lack of self-confidence, self-doubt, loss of inner strength, feeling small and helpless, self-criticism, etc.)

18.8% - Mental conditions (apathy, powerlessness, depression, lack of interest in life, outbursts of anger, irritability, anxiety, excessive control, etc.)



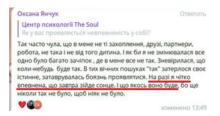
Feedback from participants of the Ukrainian Circle project:

- The therapeutic effect that participants experience during the practices is highlighted in red; the translation on the right is of these parts of the text;
- The untranslated part of the text is reflections, thoughts, written notes of their experiences, which also has a therapeutic effect and is confidential information;
- Over the course of the programme, participants acquire a greater depth of reflection, the ability to understand their own experiences, and "unpack" traumatic experiences from themselves, while gaining a resourceful vitality.



"Thank you for the great exercise.

Unfortunately, I don't have a family of my own. When I was a child, I experienced my father's aggression toward my mother and me, and I did not feel any help or love from him. I decided that I could achieve everything on my own, however, now I have a desire to create my own family"



"At the moment, I'm pretty sure that the sun will rise tomorrow, and that things will work out somehow."



"I direct my thoughts where I need them to go (to work, to joy). Thoughts are scattered, full of negative pessimism, and I put them back together again and direct them where they need to go. Thinking straight is key to my life today."



"Thank you for your work! For me this chat is a treasure! Wonderful techniques! I cannot single out any one of them, because each one carries knowledge and power for life! Especially I was impressed with the idea that it doesn't matter how things were and why they were that way; that now I CAN and I WILL! Love, support and take care of myself! I recognise this as a skill, and I feel that these words give me strength, confidence, and inner support."





"I am grateful for the warmth, kindness, light and help I receive from other people, and I try to share this with others, i.e. I am in a "circle of support and sharing"



"Thank you for being here! Thank you for putting all things in their place so accurately. I am grateful for your support and explanation of the impossibility of always overestimating results and the discomfort of accepting the sometimes undesirable present.

The practices are great!

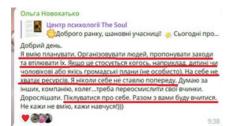
I came to the conclusion: one should be proud of one's individuality! Spread it to the audience)))"



"What an awesome video! It's like being on a trampoline myself))) Better to try it than to regret not doing it. Thank you!"



"Thank you for this survey. These questions are very helpful to understand ourselves better"



"I am good at planning: organising people, proposing activities and implementing them. As long as it concerns someone else, for example, my child or husband, or some community plans (not personal ones). I lack resources for myself. I never put myself first. I have to take care of myself. I will be learning together with you"

