



# IDENTIFY YOUR EMOTIONAL TRIGGERS

Explore and identify the triggers that activate you





It only takes a situation, an interaction, a person's energy, a word, a tone of voice, a stance, or how a person looks and you can have emotions triggered in you.

Triggers are external happenings that occur, that have meaning to you emotionally. The external happening connects to, activates, and surfaces emotions within you in the form of an internal reaction. What can also surface with the emotions you feel, are thoughts, energy, and physiological and physical processing.

The following list of emotional triggers is examples of external happenings that trigger emotions.

The list is intended to support you to expand your awareness of the different types of triggers. As well as to prompt your processing, so that you become conscious of the types of triggers that you experience.

Being aware of the different types of triggers will assist you to identify and recognize when you experience a trigger, more easily and effectively. This awareness will support you to be more proactive in being able to manage how you work with the processing that the trigger surfaces within you.

#### **EXPLORATION ACTIVITY - EXPLORE YOUR EMOTIONAL TRIGGERS**

- 1. Page 4 to 8 Read through the types of triggers and identify the ones you experience by indicating this in the box next to the trigger (a key question to ask yourself is "what happens externally that leaves me feeling emotional?")
- 2. Page 9 to 11 The triggers you identify you are impacted by, identify under that type, what the specific trigger is that you experience
- 3. Then identify why the trigger is impacting you and your emotions.

www.imakeadifferenceimad.com Melinda Cates

The triggers of your emotions that you will explore are:

#### **ANOTHER PERSON**

What they do or do not do, what they say or do not say, how they approach things and why that surfaces emotions within you.

NOTE: You do not have to know the person, to be triggered by them.

### Consider:

- Consider the people you experience being triggered by and what it is about them that triggers you
- Consider whether you are triggered when you interact with them, when they are interacting with others, and when you are not interacting with them but are around them
- Consider their habits, mannerisms, and every aspect of them

#### THE ENVIRONMENT AND SITUATION

Where you are, what it is like, who is there, the time you are there and why you are there.

#### Consider:

 Personal and professional environments and situations that trigger emotions for you and what it is about the environment and situation.

#### OTHER TRIGGERS

Other aspects of life that you are exposed to and experience, that trigger and surface emotions in you.

#### Consider:

 Any other trigger you have experienced that does not fit under the first two types of triggers.

## A PERSON'S:

- Pohavior		
<ul><li>Behavior</li><li>What they say and</li></ul>	how they	
speak		
• The way their hair i	is	
<ul> <li>The look in their ey</li> </ul>	es	
<ul> <li>The clothes they w</li> </ul>	ear <u> </u>	
• Their energy		
The way they sit		
<ul><li>The way they stand</li><li>Their values and be</li></ul>		
<ul> <li>Their values and be</li> <li>The speed of their</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>The speed of their</li> <li>The depth they go</li> </ul>		
processing		
<ul> <li>Their integrity</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Their intentions</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Their levels of self-responsibility</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Fulfillment of responsibilities</li> </ul>	
	Their level of understanding	
	Their level of awareness     Their emotional state	
<ul><li>Their emotional state</li><li>Their emotional expression</li></ul>		
	Their ability to communicate	
	Their level of commitment	
	<ul> <li>Their level of resilience</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Their strength</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Their receptivity and openness</li> </ul>	
	Their consideration of others	
	Their culture  Their relievieure	
	<ul> <li>Their religion</li> </ul>	

## A PERSON:

	<ul> <li>THEIR BEHAVIOR</li> <li>What is done</li> <li>What is not done</li> <li>What they do with their hands</li> <li>Their approach</li> <li>Their speed of movement</li> <li>Their slowness of movement</li> <li>How touchy they are</li> <li>How physical they are</li> </ul>			
WHAT THEY SAY  The statements they make  The words they use  The tone of their voice  The pitch of their voice  Their speed of speech  Their accent  Their responses				
	<ul> <li>THEIR APPROACH</li> <li>Judgments they make</li> <li>Expectations they have</li> <li>Blaming they do</li> <li>Excuses they make</li> <li>Denial they are in</li> <li>Justifications they make</li> <li>Not taking responsibility for themselves or their contribution</li> </ul>			

## A PERSON:

<ul> <li>THEIR APPROACH</li> <li>Not showing their</li> <li>Not owning their e</li> <li>Their reactions</li> <li>The persona they p</li> <li>Shutting down</li> <li>Distancing</li> <li>Controlling</li> <li>Nagging</li> </ul>	motions		
	<ul><li>The ques</li><li>Withhold</li><li>Not answ</li><li>Their liste</li><li>Not follow</li></ul>	g themselves tions they ask ling vering ening ability wing up	
THEIR APPROACH (ad you are aware of)	ld any additio	onal ones	

## THE ENVIRONMENT AND SITUATION:

<ul> <li>THE ENVIRONMENT/</li> <li>The location</li> <li>The setting</li> <li>The temperature</li> <li>The lighting</li> <li>The space</li> <li>The airflow</li> <li>The layout</li> <li>The energy of the</li> </ul>				
	<ul> <li>THE ENVIROR</li> <li>Time of da</li> <li>Accessibili</li> <li>Noise</li> <li>Quiet</li> <li>Amenities</li> <li>Comfort</li> <li>Your famil</li> <li>Who is the</li> <li>Who is not</li> </ul>	y ty to the en iarity with t ere	nvironment	
<ul> <li>THE ENVIRONMENT/</li> <li>Nature of the relationship of the number of period of the formality of the the formality of the purpose for your extinctions involved the formal of time in and environment.</li> </ul>	tionships ople involved ne situation ou being there			



OTHER TRIGGERS:			
	<ul> <li>OTHER TRIGGERS</li> <li>An animal</li> <li>A song</li> <li>A movie</li> <li>A book</li> <li>A picture</li> <li>Tone of an email</li> <li>A sound</li> <li>A gift</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>OTHER TRIGGERS</li> <li>Time of year</li> <li>Anniversary</li> <li>A smell</li> <li>A touch</li> <li>A taste</li> <li>A particular food</li> <li>A particular drink</li> <li>An object</li> <li>A color</li> </ul>			
	OTHER TRIGGERS(add a you are aware of)	'ny additional ones	

The first step in working with emotional triggers is to identify what they are and why you react to them.

The triggers you identified in the above list that surface emotions in you, identify what the specific trigger is and why it is a trigger of your emotions

THE TYPE OF TRIGGER	THE SPECIFIC TRIGGER	WHY IT IS A TRIGGER
EG: Time of year	My birthday	I went without during my birthdays
EG: Word and tone	Being called Melinda in a formal tone	They are either angry and or distant to me
EG: A particular food	Shortbread, coleslaw	My Nana used to make them and I miss her



The first step in working with emotional triggers is to identify what they are and why you react to them.

The triggers you identified in the above list that surface emotions in you, identify what the specific trigger is and why it is a trigger of your emotions

THE TYPE OF TRIGGER	THE SPECIFIC TRIGGER	WHY IT IS A TRIGGER

The first step in working with emotional triggers is to identify what they are and why you react to them.

The triggers you identified in the above list that surface emotions in you, identify what the specific trigger is and why it is a trigger of your emotions

THE TYPE OF TRIGGER	THE SPECIFIC TRIGGER	WHY IT IS A TRIGGER



Hi there I am Melinda

Mefinda

I wanted to acknowledge you for wanting to explore emotional triggers because emotions can be painful, scary, and overwhelming to work with.

I know from personal experience, managing emotional triggers and the emotional reactions that come with the trigger takes a lot of awareness, self-responsibility, strength, determination and unravelling.

One of the fundamental steps to healing and releasing the hold triggers have had over you and your emotions, is becoming aware of them, and understanding why they trigger you and you have taken this step.

Please take a moment to acknowledge yourself for having done so.



Email me your questions

melinda@globallymad.com





