



An Stiúirthóireacht um Ardchaighdeán
agus Sábháilteacht Othar
Oifig an Phríomhoifigh Cliniciúil

National Quality and
Patient Safety Directorate
Office of the Chief Clinical Officer



Centre for Innovative Human Systems

PEOPLE
PROCESS
PERFORMANCE



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Building a Just Culture in Healthcare:

a HSE Dialogue

Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin

23rd May 2023



Building a Just Culture in Healthcare: *a HSE Dialogue*

Session 3

Current Research, initiatives and moving forward.



Chair: Dr John Fitzsimons, Consultant at
CHI, Temple St and Clinical Director for
QI, NQPSD HSE

Building a Just Culture in Healthcare: *a HSE Dialogue*

Building a Safe & Just Culture: Lessons from other sectors

**Professor Sam Cromie Director of the Centre for Innovative
Human Systems in Trinity College Dublin**

**Professor Marie Ward, Human Factors researcher at St
James's Hospital and Adjunct Assistant Professor at the
Centre for Innovative Human Systems, Trinity College Dublin**





Building a Safe & Just Culture: Lessons from other sectors

What contributes to a good Safety Culture?



Aircraft Maintenance Spoiler Incident & Investigation

Influence of the customer
on the investigation process
Double standard in the
focus of the investigation
Double standard in the work
Problems with task
performance
Blame culture



Contributions to human factors from three case studies in aircraft maintenance

OPEN ACCESS

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File Type:
PDF

Item Type:
thesis

Date:
2006

Citation:

Marie Ward, 'Contributions to human factors from three case studies in aircraft maintenance', [thesis], Trinity College (Dublin, Ireland). School of Psychology, 2006, pp 386

Download Item:



Ward TCD THESIS 8546 Contributions to.pdf (PDF) 286.9Mb

Functional System

Let's 'Get Serious Now'

Understanding functional system

..takes massive investment

Safety as property of all of the system (clinical, operational) – need to understand system

All make mistakes, all even possibly wilfully violate procedures – desire to be helpful, to navigate the system, work around the red tape

Best staff....WIPIDO

Inefficiencies anywhere in the system will impact safety issues and vice versa



Ergonomics

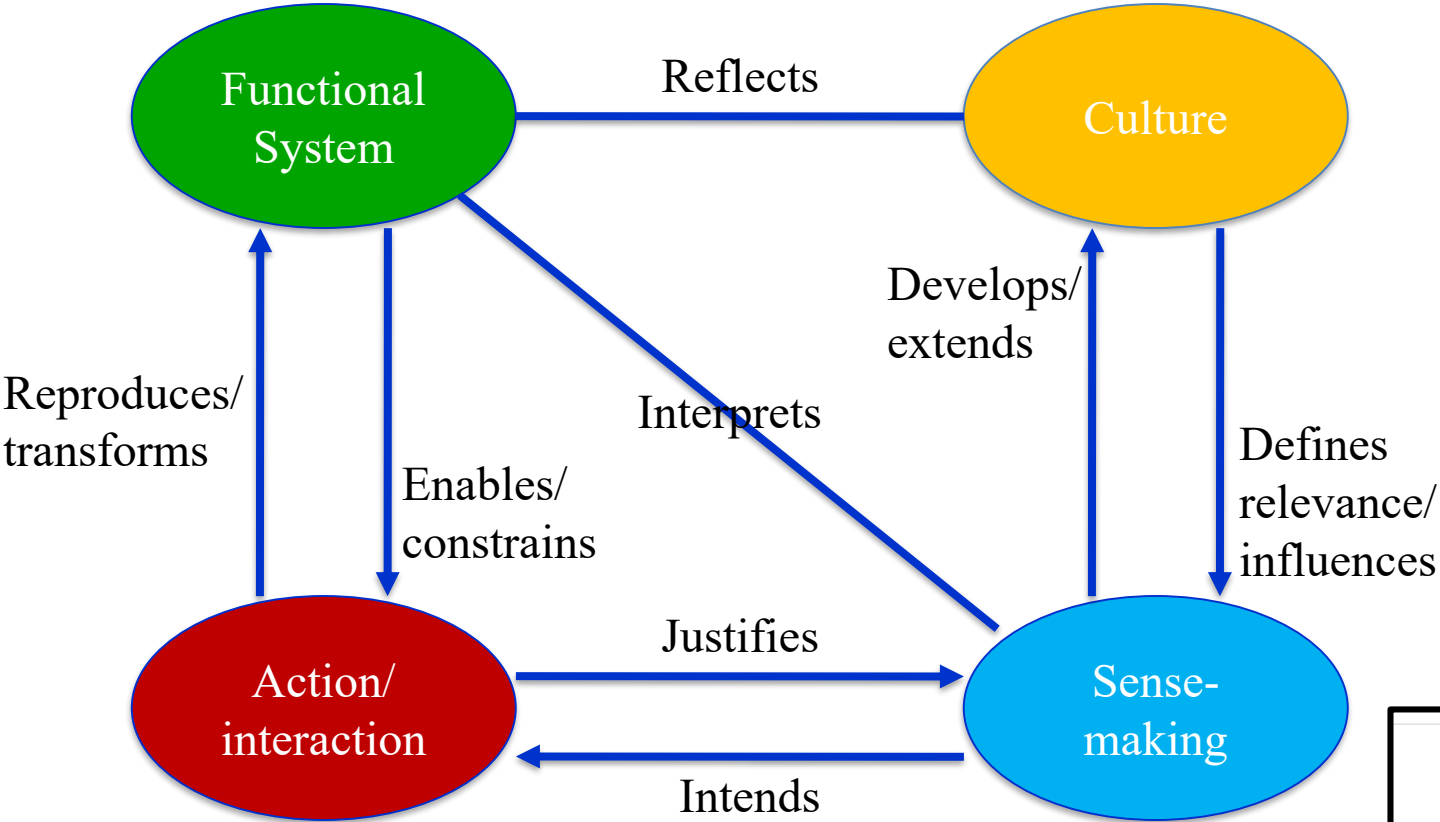
Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:
<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/terg20>

A performance improvement case study in aircraft maintenance and its implications for hazard identification

Marie Ward^a, Nick McDonald^a, Rabea Morrison^a, Des Gaynor^a & Tony Nugent^a

^a HILAS Project, Aerospace Psychology Research Group, School of Psychology, Trinity College Dublin, Republic of Ireland

Culture as one part of our system



> [Int J Environ Res Public Health](https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19031246). 2022 Jan 22;19(3):1246. doi: 10.3390/ijerph19031246.

A Case Study of a Whole System Approach to Improvement in an Acute Hospital Setting

Marie E Ward ¹, Ailish Daly ², Martin McNamara ³, Suzanne Garvey ², Sean Paul Teeling ^{3 4}

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 35162269 PMID: PMC8835196 DOI: [10.3390/ijerph19031246](https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19031246)

[Free PMC article](#)

Different dialogues are needed

LEGAL SYSTEM & REGULATORS

EU Occurrence Reporting Legislation 2015 requires aviation organisations to adopt and maintain a proactive Just Culture to facilitate the collection of key safety data & information



MEDIA

CEO Danish Air Traffic Controllers
National TV 2000

“...it is essential that the press understand why the system does not immediately search for people to blame, but instead searches for the underlying cause” Eurocontrol, 2008

EATM
European Air Traffic Management

Just Culture Guidance Material for
Interfacing with the Media

Edition 1.0

PATIENTS & CARERS, PUBLIC Understanding of Human Factors (HF) Citizens Assembly on HF in healthcare?

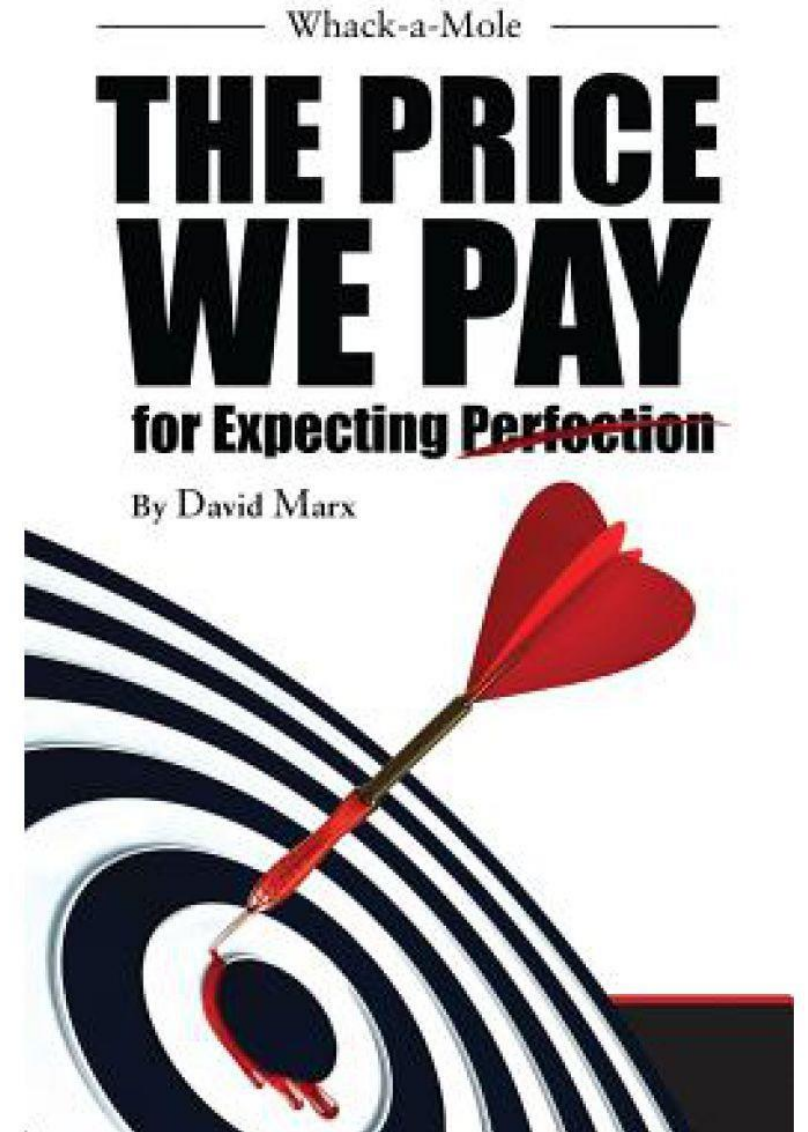


A Commitment to Learn and to Change

‘We are all fallible human beings, susceptible to human error and behavioural drift. As your employer, we must design systems around you in recognition of that fallibility. When errors do occur, you must raise your hand to allow the organization to learn’. (David Marx, 2009)

Importance of designing systems to support people

If staff do report mistakes, the organisation must act on those and commit to constantly changing and improving the system



Being in Right Relationship

Justice might be the greatest, most complete, virtue because it guides individuals in "*their relations to their neighbour*" (Aristotle)

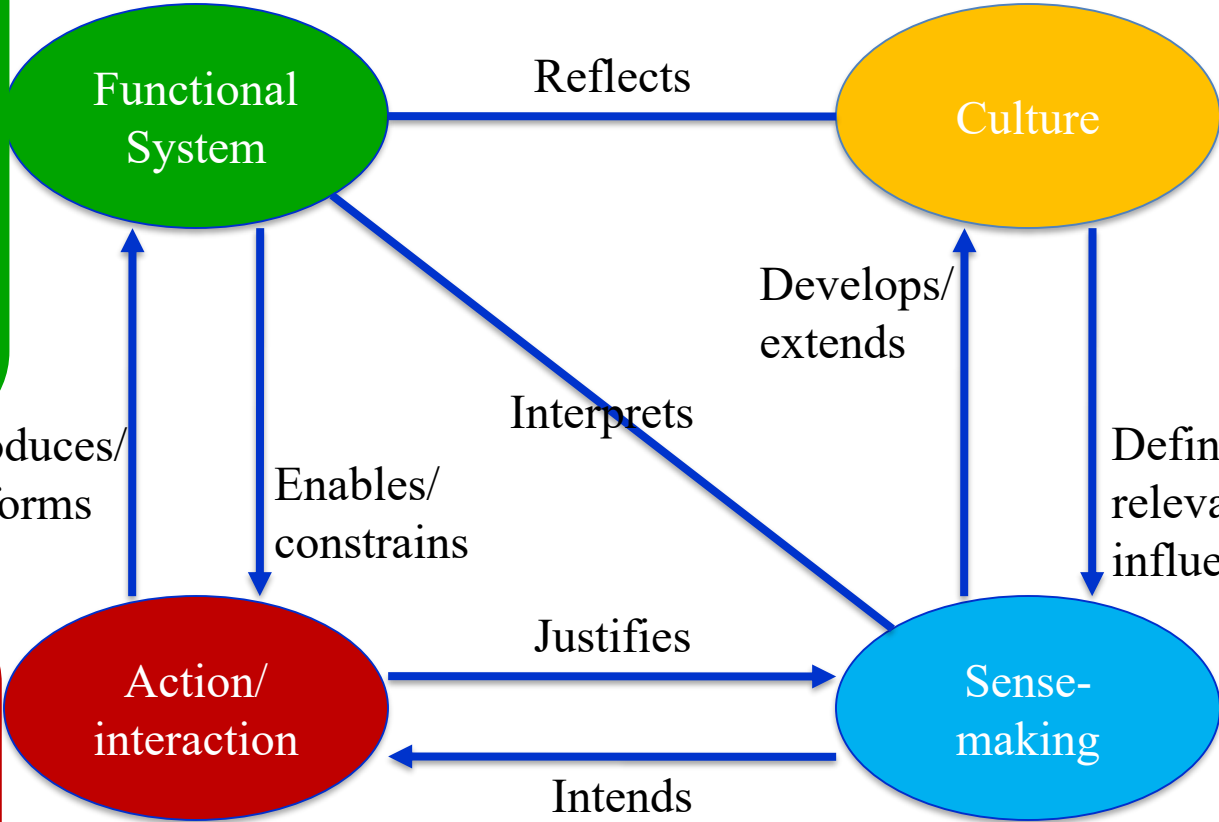
Justice for the individual is incomplete without comprehending what is justice for the community of individuals who are related to the issue. This is justice as right relationship.

What would it take for us as organisations, as individuals to be in right relationship with each other?



Culture is one part of our system

Understanding how processes come together;
Designing systems from safety perspective;
Understanding formal & normal; learning from Excellence/WWW;
High Reliability Organisation



Understanding Safety Culture; Psychological Safety; Just Culture; Speaking up for Safety; Respect/Kindness/Civility; Transparency; Person-centred Culture; Shared Decision Making; Belonging

How we interact with each other - Team working, Simulation, Communication; How we interact with tools and technology, EPR; How we understand and measure our performance

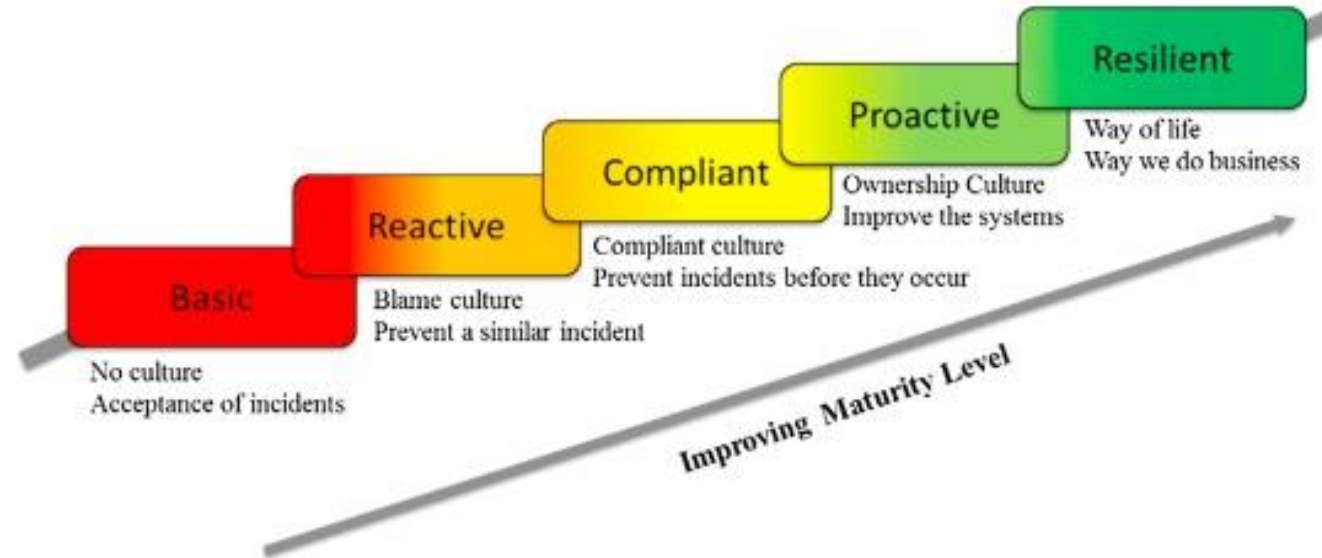
How we make sense of our world/work; Checklists - Risks & Benefits; Situational Awareness; Decision Making; Safety Huddles; From Data to Wisdom; Training and Education

Remember: Safety Culture in a journey

“Never start with the idea of changing culture. Always start with the issue the organisation faces...ask whether the culture aids or hinders the issue?”

Always think of culture as your source of strength – it is the residue of your past successes. Even if some elements of your culture look dysfunctional...others continue to be strengths.”

Edgar H. Schein (2009)



Safety Culture Maturity Model
Fleming et al., 1999



Just Culture and the shifting line in the sand



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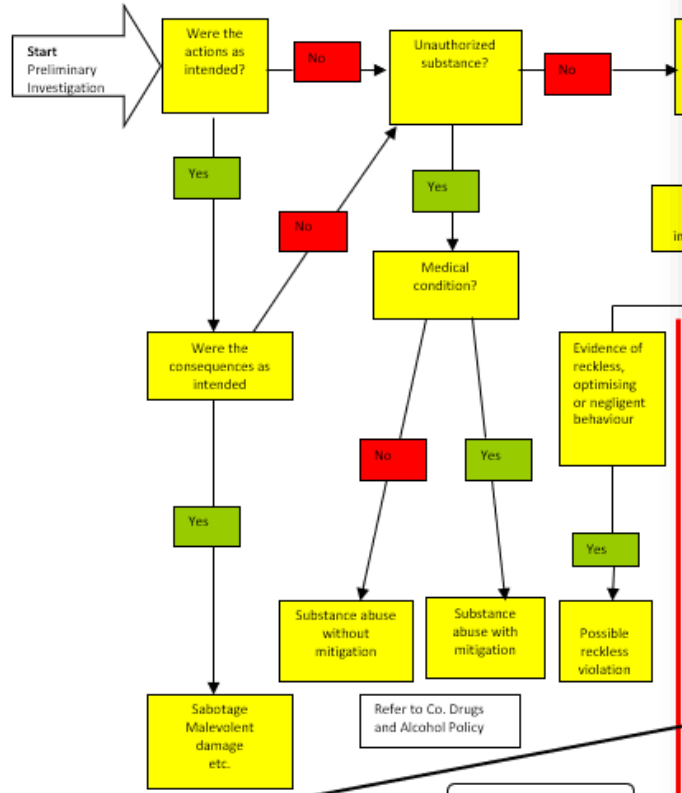
**To blame or not to blame,
that is the question...**

**Who should we blame,
when and why?**

How do we blame them?

**What discipline is
appropriate?**

The Decision Tree Solution



* Knowingly means knew operating procedures exist but ignored/chose not to comply with them.

- Safe Operating procedures are:
- Standard practices
 - Company policy and procedures
 - Maintenance manual procedures

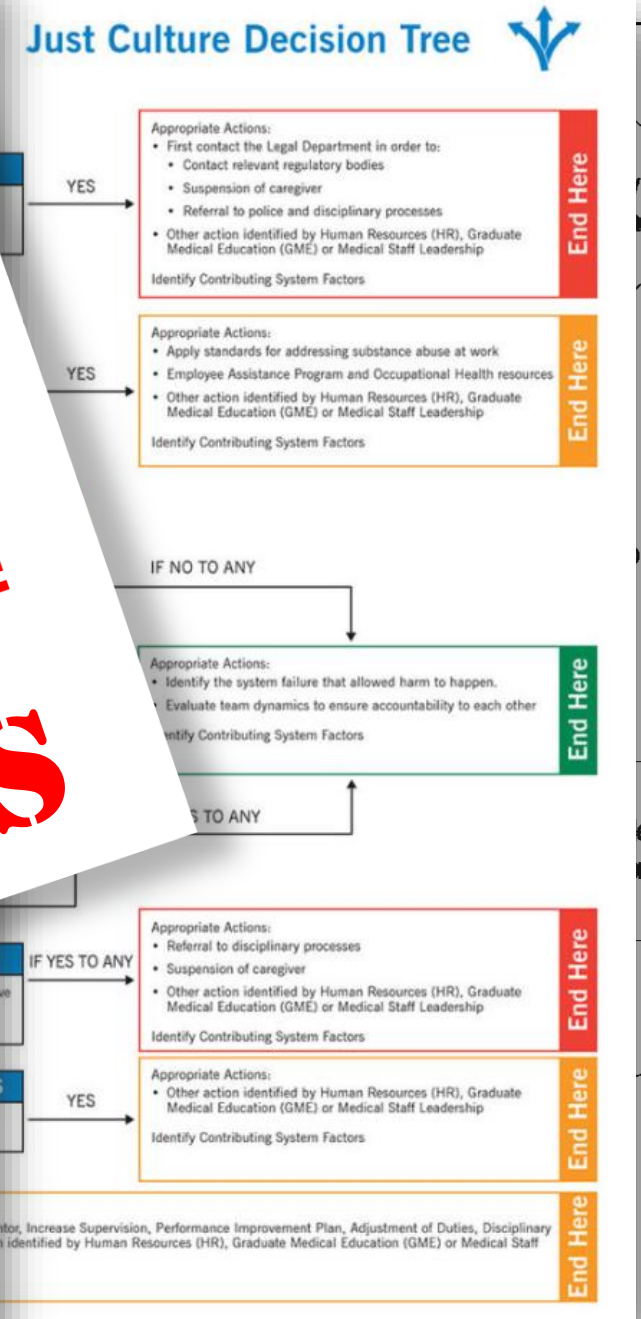
Culpability

© Baines Simmons Ltd 2005

Original source: Prof. James Reason, this version with permission of QANTAS Airlines Limited, c



FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY FAIRNESS





The shifting line in the sand

The assumption is that it is possible to **consistently**, and with reasonable **objectivity**, analyse an incident and **determine culpability**.

“The problem is guidance that suggests that a just culture only needs to “clearly draw” a line between culpable and blameless behavior.

Its problem lies in the false assumption that acceptable or unacceptable behavior form stable categories with immutable features that are independent of context, language or interpretation”.

(Dekker, 2009 p.179)

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Safety Science

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ssci



Just culture's “line in the sand” is a shifting one; an empirical investigation of culpability determination

Sam Cromie*, Franziska Bott

Centre for Innovative Human Systems, School of Psychology, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland



An online survey asked 3136 aviation maintenance personnel from one company to judge the appropriate level of discipline in three incident scenarios. Five pieces of “mitigating” contextual information were subsequently presented per scenario and the participants given the opportunity to re-assess their response.

Scenario 3

George is a junior technician He carried out a task using an unapproved tool The part was damaged because the wrong tool was used. This cost the company \$200,000

What level of discipline is appropriate for George?

No Discipline	Verbal Warning	Written Warning	Final Written Warning	Dismissal
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Safety Science 86 (2016) 258–272



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Safety Science

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ssci

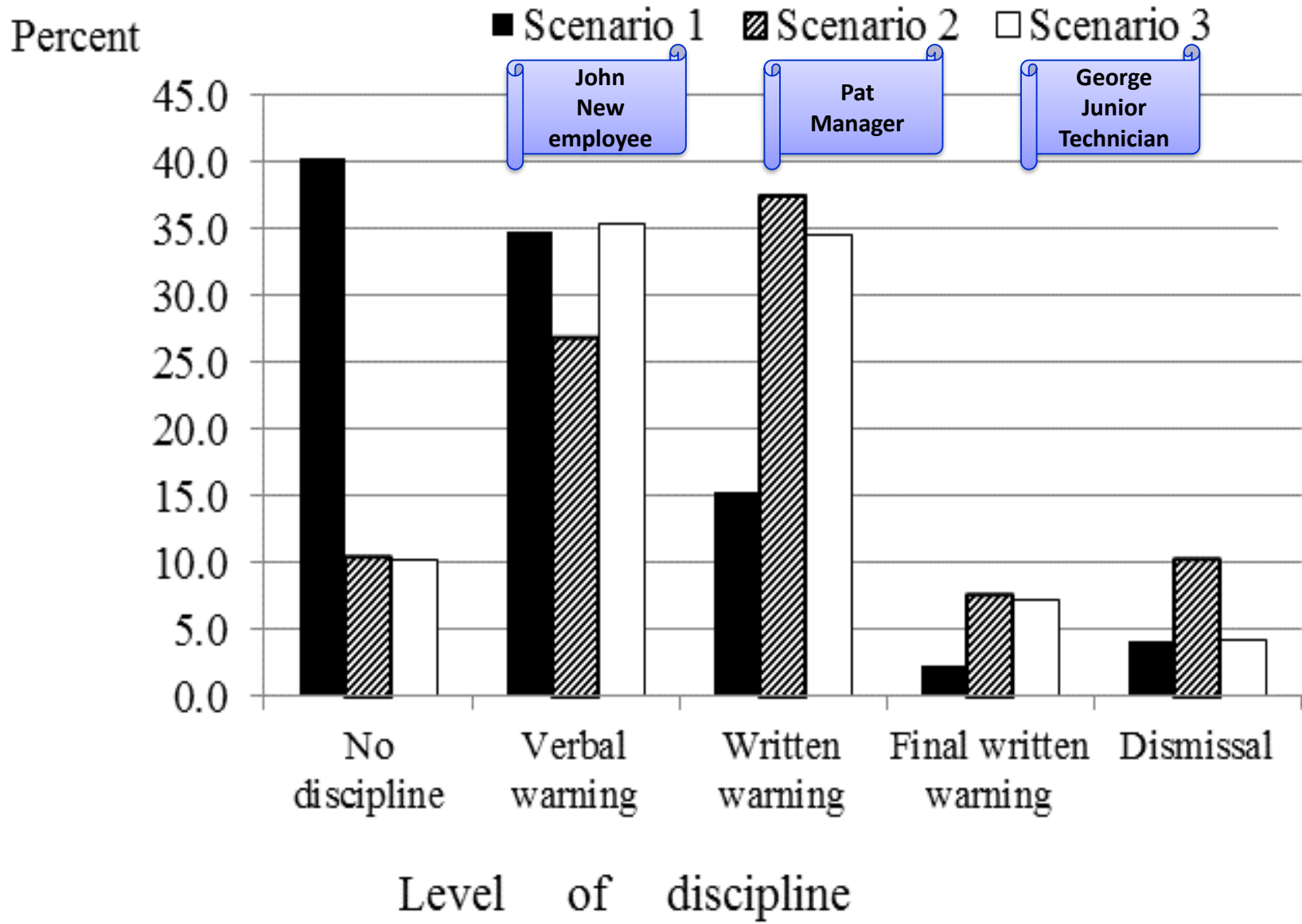


Just culture's "line in the sand" is a shifting one; an empirical investigation of culpability determination

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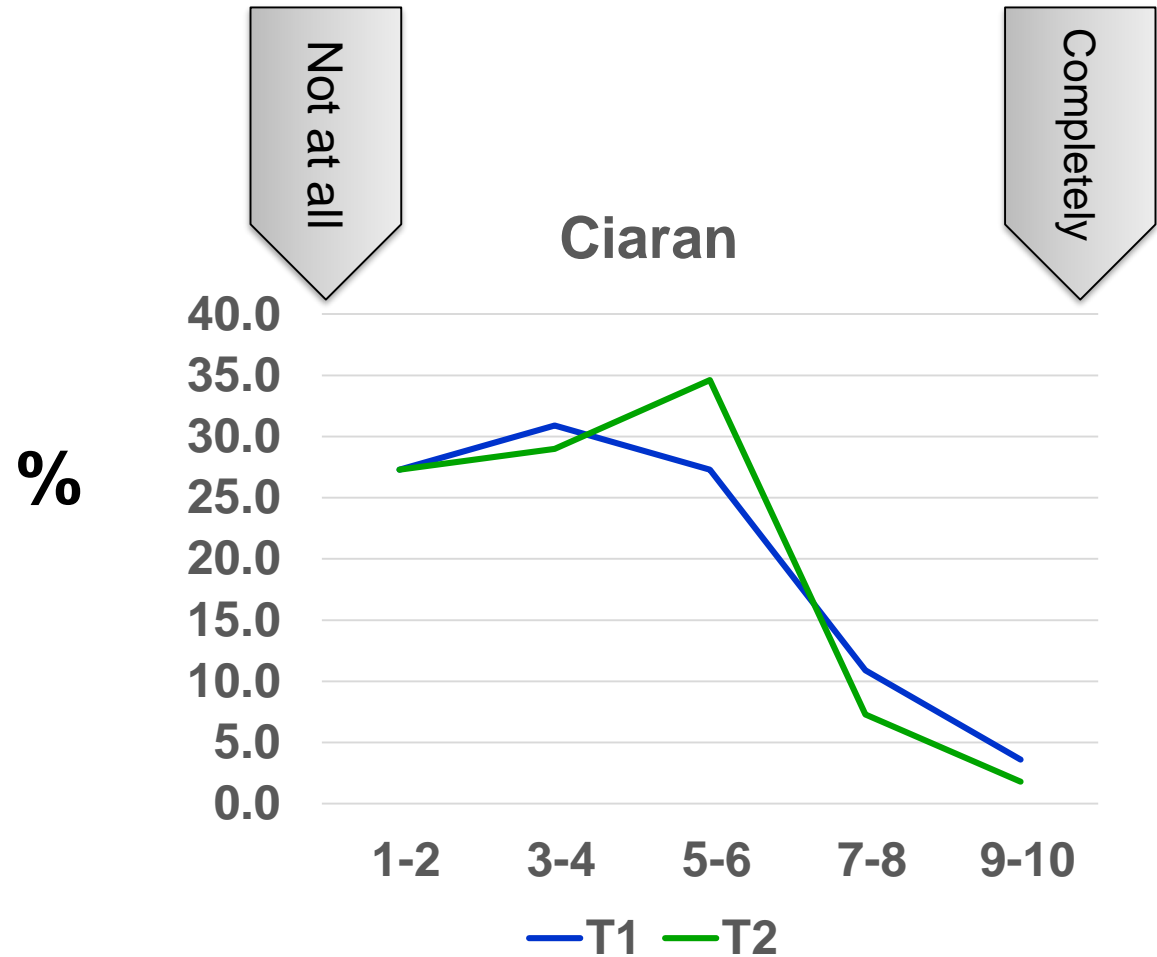
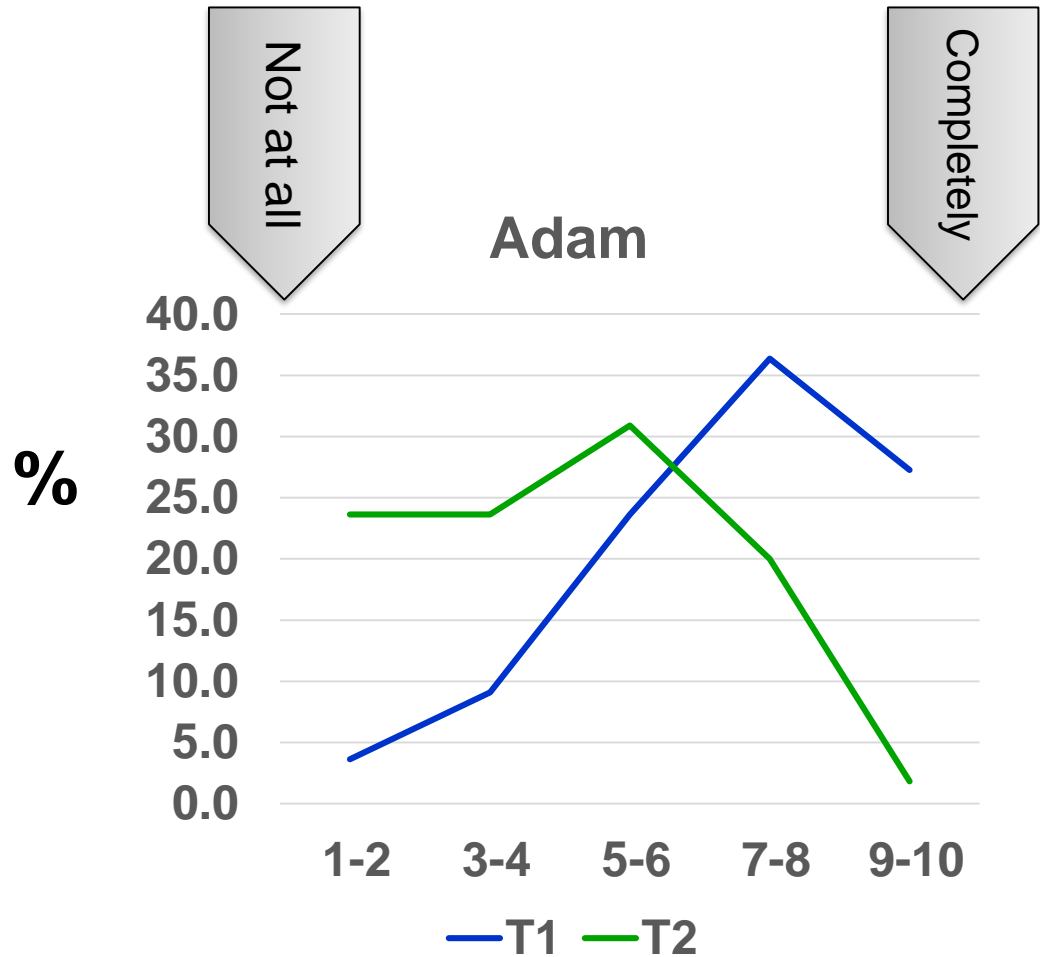
School of Psychology, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland





**LARGE
INDIVIDUAL
VARIABILITY**

How much are Adam / Ciaran to blame?



Scenario 3

George is a junior technician He carried out a task using an unapproved tool The part was damaged because the wrong tool was used. This cost the company \$200,000

1. The correct tool is expensive and only one was kept in stock
2. The correct tool was being used in another unit and the wait to get the tool would have been one hour
3. George has seen his more senior colleagues frequently using the unapproved tool
4. The last words he heard from his manager before he went to a safety board meeting were “that task better be done when I get back”
5. That morning George got a letter from his Doctor to say that he needed to go for further tests on a small lump on his head

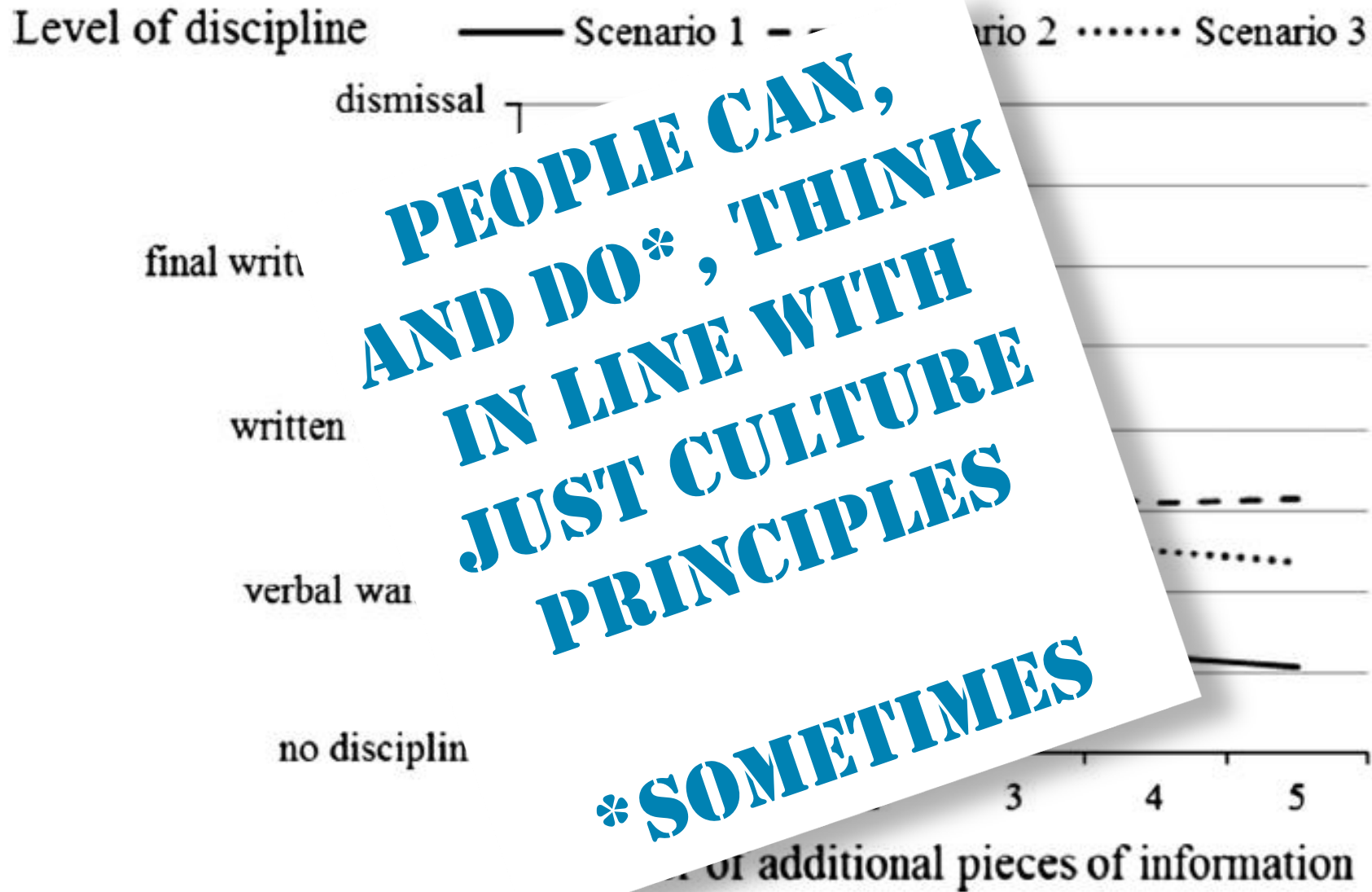


Fig. 2. Mean level of discipline proposed after additional pieces of information across scenarios.

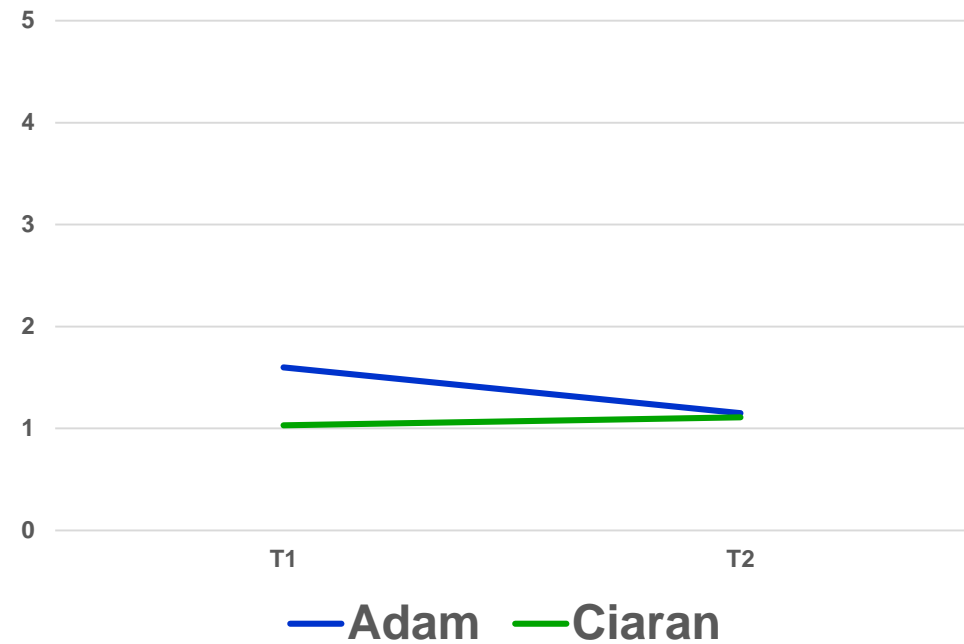
Adam v Ciaran



Blame T1 v T2



Discipline T1 v T2



Less Punitive



More Punitive



**VARIABILITY
ACROSS SITES,
STAFF ROLE &
DURATION**

Site A

Site B

C

Site E

Site F

Europe

North America

Longer in the company

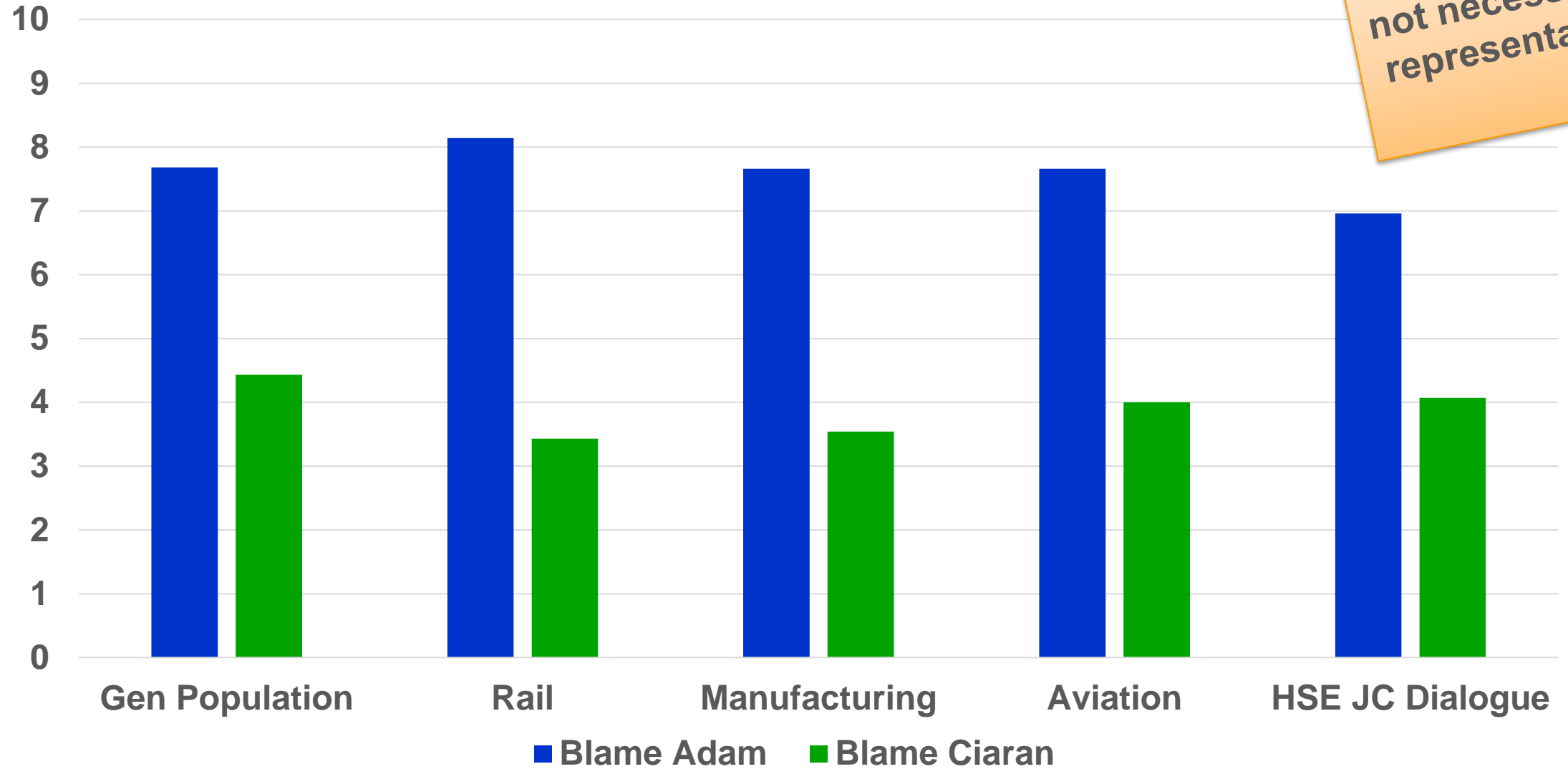
Shorter in the company

Management

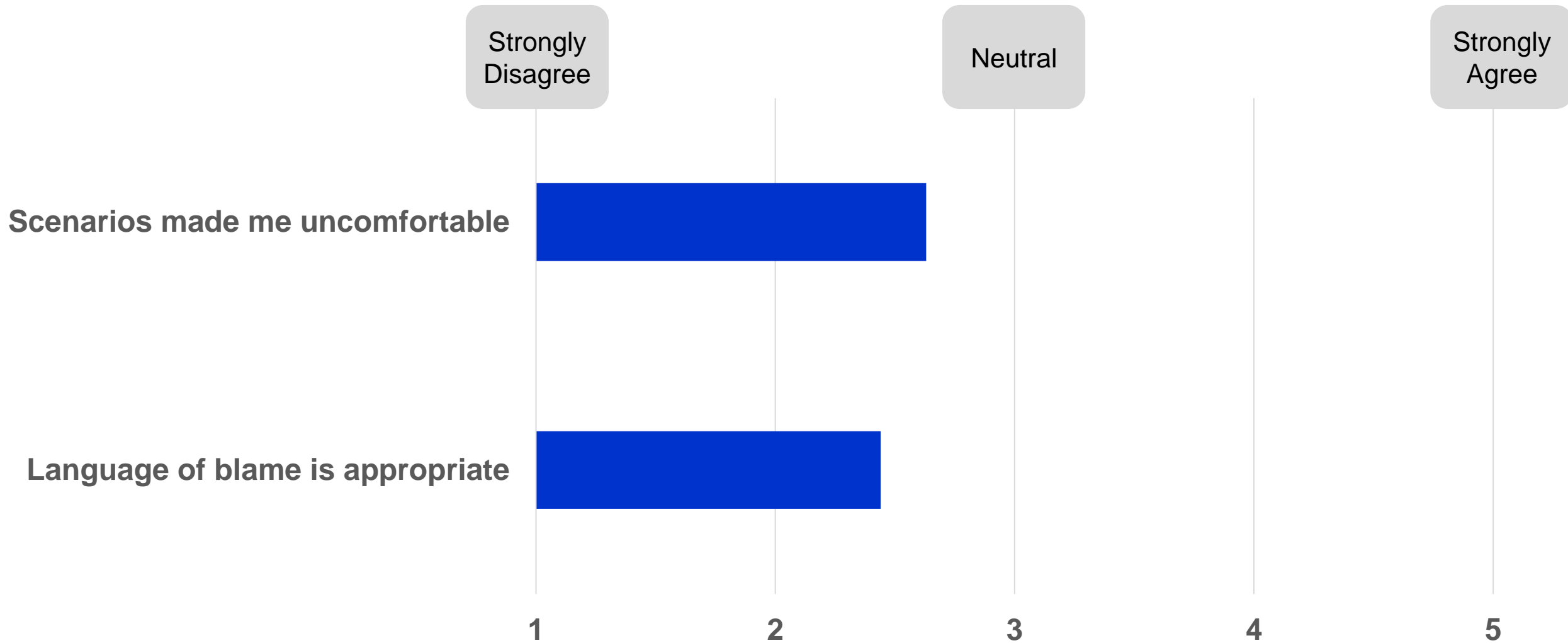
Operational Staff

Comparisons

Note: Samples not necessarily representative



How did you feel about the scenarios?



Blame



Fairness





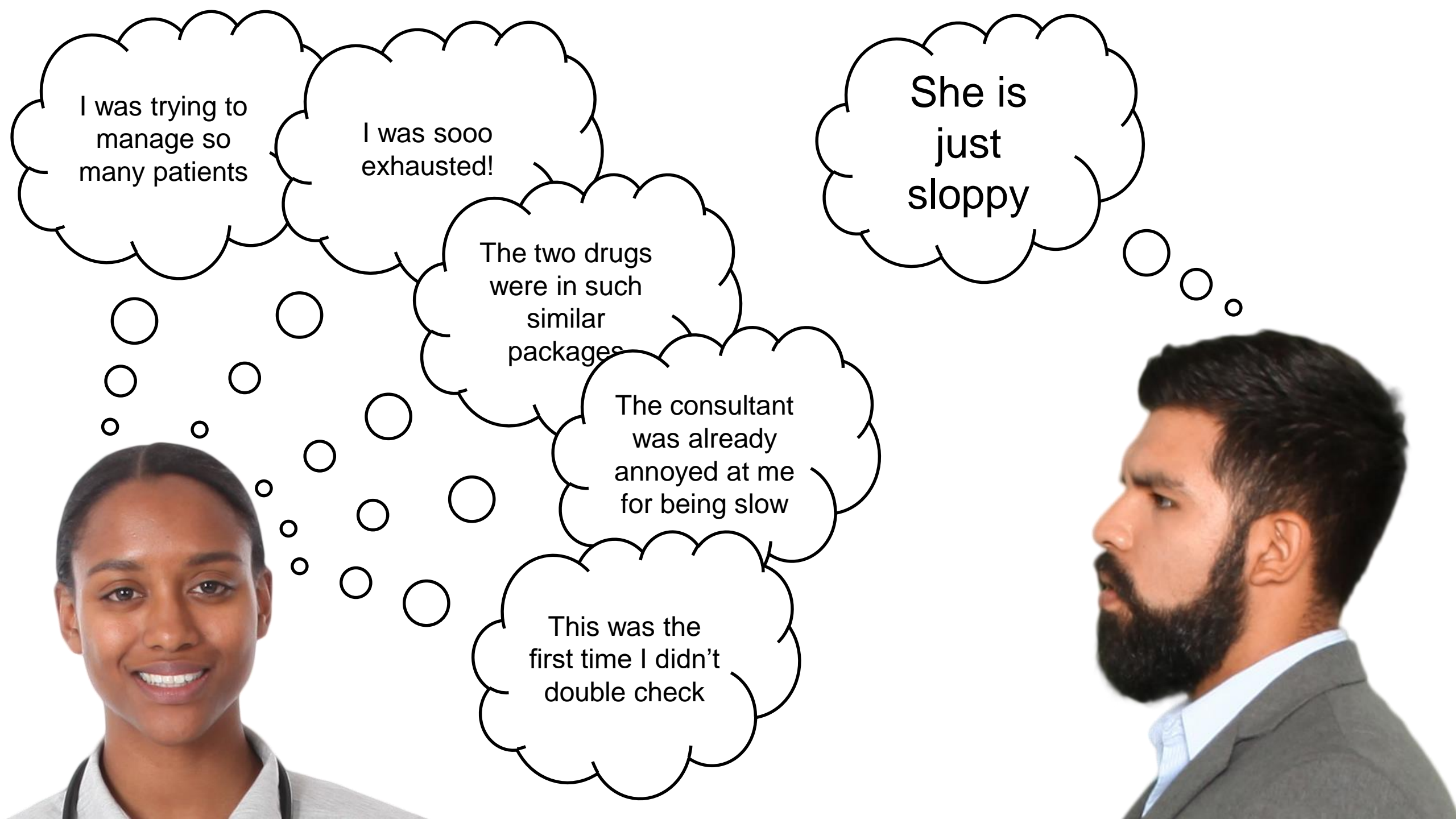
Knee-jerk response

Limited investigation

Simplistic Thinking

Group Think

Fundamental Attribution Error



I was trying to manage so many patients

I was sooo exhausted!

The two drugs were in such similar packages

The consultant was already annoyed at me for being slow

This was the first time I didn't double check

She is just sloppy

Fairness



Considered response

Thorough investigation

Sophisticated Systems Thinking

“In their shoes” exercise

Principled decision making

Restoration mentality

Incivility

Incivility

Shared responsibility for success and failure



Kindness the norm

Blame

High power distance

Individualistic

Time and space

Always rushing

Fairness

Bullies unchallenged

Always-on



Competitiveness

Collaborative decision making

Humility

Improvement mentality

Shared responsibility

Key question:

Leaving aside the just / restorative culture infrastructure, does your organisation push you towards fairness or blame?

Why might medical student empathy change throughout medical school? a systematic review and thematic synthesis of qualitative studies

Jeremy Howick^{1*}, Maya Dudko¹, Shi Nan Feng², Ahmed Abdirashid Ahmed¹, Namitha Alluri³, Keith Nockels⁴, Rachel Winter¹ and Richard Holland¹



Howick et al. BMC Medical Education (2023) 23:270
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12909-023-04165-9>

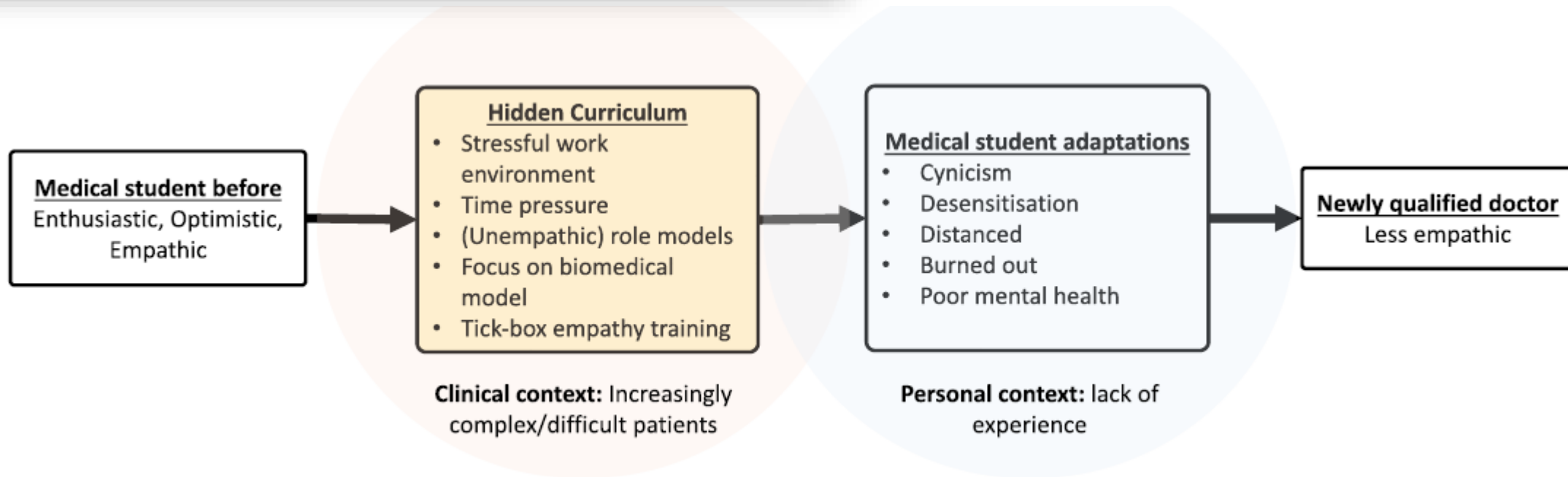


Fig. 2 Why empathy declines throughout medical school



Thank you!



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Building a Just Culture in Healthcare: *a HSE Dialogue*

We are not starting from scratch: current work in HSE to support a Just Culture

Ms Lorraine Schwanberg, Assistant National Director,

Dr Samantha Hughes
QPS Incident Management Team



Building a Just Culture in Healthcare: *a HSE Dialogue*

“No Passion so effectively robs the mind of all its powers of acting and reasoning as fear”

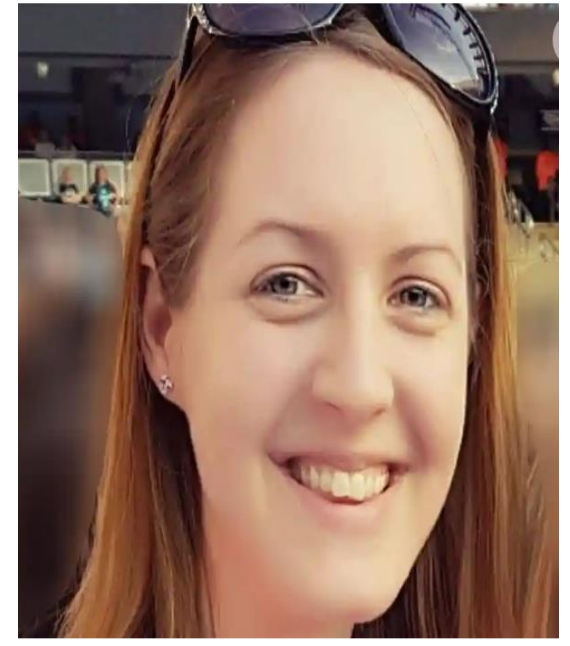
Edmund Blake, 1756



Psychological Safety .. A climate in which people are comfortable expressing and being themselves...When people have psychological safety at work, they feel comfortable sharing concerns and mistakes without fear or embarrassment or retribution. They are confident that they can speak up and won't be humiliated, ignored, or blamed. They know they can ask questions when they are unsure about something. They trust and respect their colleagues...mistakes are reported quickly so that prompt corrective action can be taken; seamless coordination is enabled, and potentially life changing ideas for innovation are shared.

The Fearless Organisation: Creating Psychological Safety in the Workplace for Learning, Innovation and Growth. Amy C. Edmondson, Harvard Business School





So what are we currently doing in the HSE to implement a Just Culture in our organisation?

- *Not starting from scratch – much work already underway*
- *Recognition that this is a journey - a never ending and dynamic journey*
- *Lots of innovation and creativity*
- *Increasing Patient and Service User involvement & partnership*
- *Acknowledgement that moving forward requires collaboration and coordination of all efforts, bravery and leadership*



From Poster Display:

- Implementation of a just and fair culture in St. John's Hospital by focusing on the systems approach within the Incident Management Framework
- Creation of a bespoke support programme for frontline workers affected by adverse events in ULHG.
- Development of a mechanism for direct engagement with service users and family members/carers in Galway/Roscommon Mental Health Services, Community Healthcare West.
- Enhancing the understanding and involvement of nurse practitioners in patient safety by clarifying patient safety concepts within everyday nursing practice (University of Limerick study).



From Poster Display:

- HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare: Development of a resource pack to assist the Staff Liaison Persons to provide practical assistance to staff affected by serious incidents.
- Wexford General Hospital: Implementation of education sessions and supports for staff involved in incidents
- Evidence to support the implementation of a treatment escalation plan in to the adult acute healthcare sector to improve experience and outcomes
- Exploring a Safety Culture and Just Culture in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in St. James's Hospital, Dublin
- Investigation in to midwives' personal conceptualisations of longevity and resilience, identify modifiable workplace factors, inform policy & practice to improve retention



NQPSD:

- Reconfiguration of the **National Quality and Patient Safety Directorate**. The goal of NQPSD is to work in partnership with HSE operations, patient representatives and other internal & external partners to improve patient safety and the quality of care.



NQPSD

- Patient Safety Strategy
- Incident Management Framework – systems approach/learning from NIMS
- Human Factors approach – education and support
- Just Culture
- Open Disclosure Support and Webinars
- Introducing Restorative Practice
- Prospectus of Education and Learning Programmes
- National Centre for Clinical Audit
- QPS Talktime
- Quality Improvement tools and support
- Common causes of harm
- Research (ICAARE)



Open Disclosure

- ❑ Ensure that the impact of patient safety incidents on patients/service users, their relevant person and staff is recognised and managed in a caring, supportive and compassionate manner.
- ❑ ASSIST ME resource on open disclosure website which includes contact lists of supports
- ❑ Employee Assistance Programme/Critical Incident Stress Management/Occupational Health Service



PartientSafetyTogether@hse.ie

Patient Safety Digest

Listing of recently published QPS journal articles & reports relevant to anyone with an interest in improving patient safety.



Patient Safety Together:
learning, sharing and improving



Patient & Staff Stories

Learning from the experience of Patients/Service Users & Staff through stories and videos



HSE National Patient Safety Alerts

High priority communications requiring services to take specific action(s) to strengthen patient safety



Patient Safety Supplements

Sharing relevant QPS information in a timely way for learning purposes

Q Patient Safety Community

National community hosted by 'Q' to enable staff working in QPS to share learning and to provide peer support and networking opportunities



Quality and Safety Signals

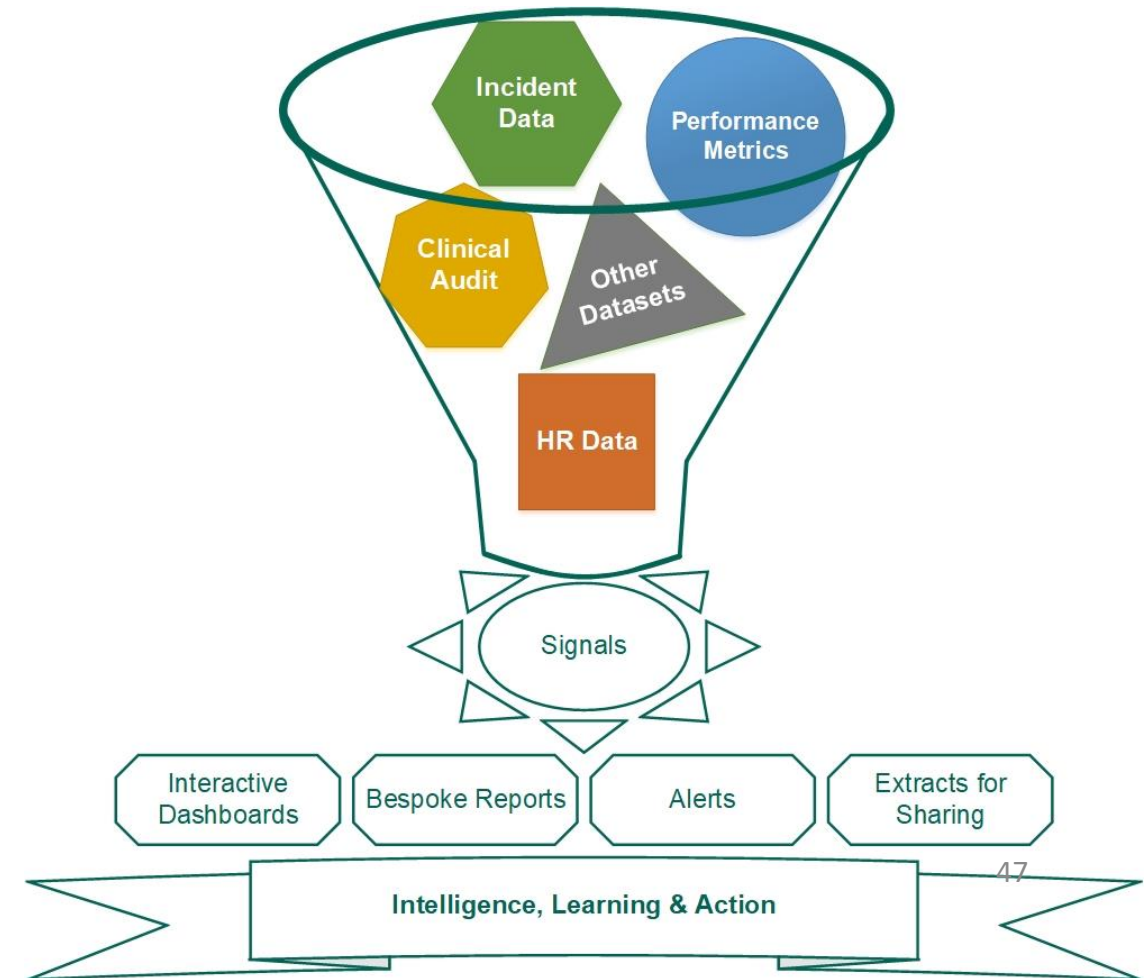


National Women & Infants Health Programme

Purpose

Provide an online system that optimises the use of available data for patient safety surveillance and quality improvement

The Quality and Safety Signals Programme has commenced development with a Sláintecare funded proof of concept in Maternity Services (Jan '23 – Dec '24), in partnership with the National Women and Infants Health Programme



Partnerships

- Patient and Public Partnership Strategy 2019-2023 (National Screening Service)
- National Patient Representative Panel
- Patients for Patient Safety Ireland
- Representatives on many project groups and working groups
- Two patient partners on the management team of NQPSD
- More to do.....



National Healthcare Communications Project

The National Healthcare Communication Programme is designed to support healthcare staff to learn, develop and maintain their communication skills with patients, their families and with colleagues. The Programme is underpinned by the Core Values of Care, Compassion, Trust and Learning and builds on these values with a focus on Person-Centred and Clinical Communication Skills.

For more information contact winifred.ryan@hse.ie,
<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/our-health-service/healthcare-communication/>

Follow on Twitter and Instagram @NHCPprogramme





Situational Awareness for Everyone, SAFE

6-month collaborative patient safety education programme facilitated by RCPI

Applications open now until 8 June 2023 for new cohort of SAFE Collaborative, funded by HSE NQPSD for clinical teams.

Multidisciplinary teams of 4 from frontline healthcare

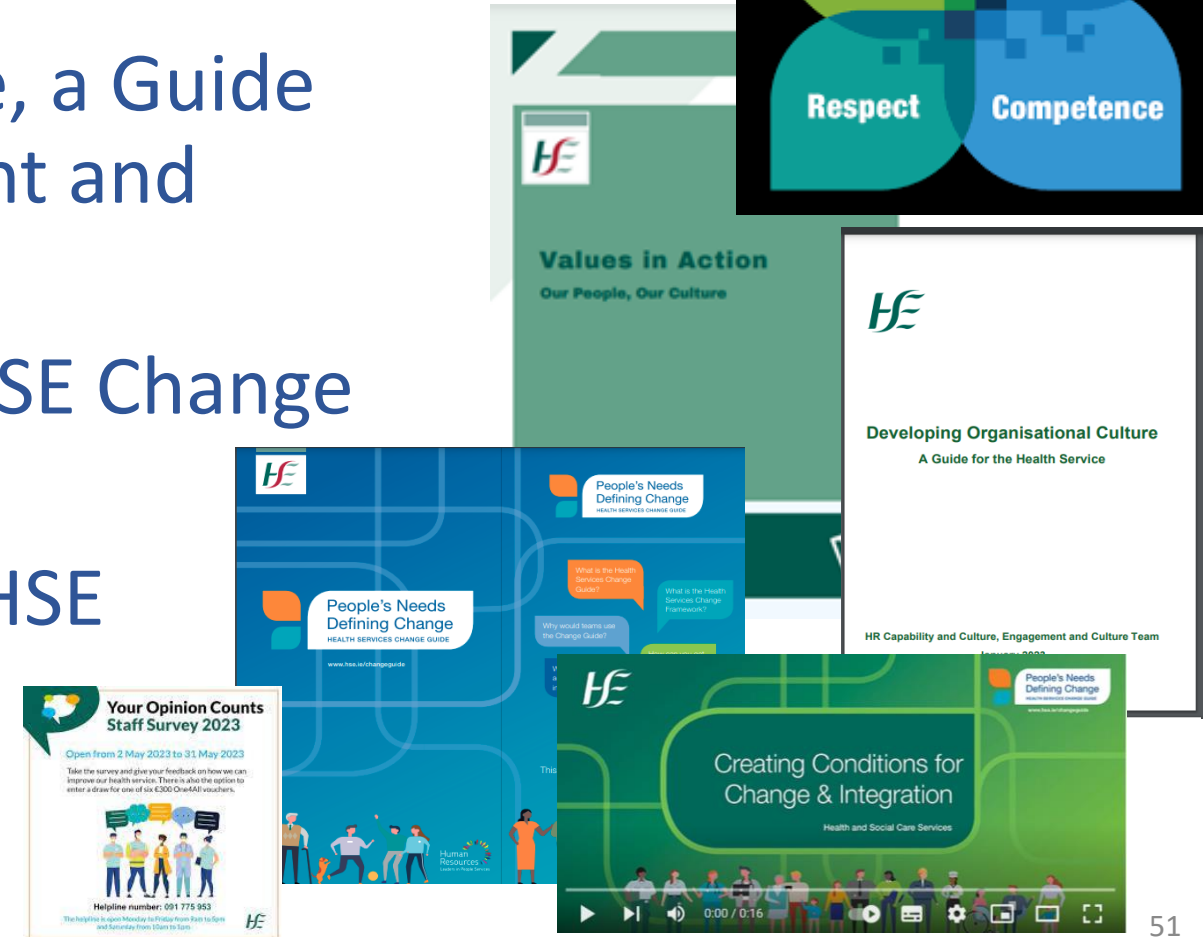
Marries the theory of prediction with the Irish early warning tools

Improve safety, communicate effectively, heighten recognition & response in your setting

Implement or improve a bespoke patient safety huddle



- Values in Action, Culture and Engagement, National HR
- Developing Organisational Culture, a Guide for the Health Service, Engagement and Culture Team, National HR
- People's Need Defining Change, HSE Change Guide, National HR
- Trust and Confidence in the HSE, HSE Communications
- HSE Staff Survey



HSE Just Culture Working Group - Just Culture Framework



The NHS Improvement Academy
(<https://improvementacademy.org/our-networks/just-culture-network.html>)

[Just Culture - HSE.ie](https://www.hse.ie/just-culture)



New Developments: Regional Health Areas

Vision

RHAs will function as part of a strengthened regional health and social care service, with their own budget, leadership team, and increased local decision-making

RHA patient benefits include:

- care closer to home
- services based on the region's population
- consistent quality of care
- patient involvement in their own care and treatment
- strengthened governance and accountability

Sláintecare and RHA objectives include:

- improving access and performance
- ensuring timely implementation
- building public confidence




And so much more.....

- What is happening in your area?
- How can we join up all this work?
- What can you do to implement a Just Culture in your service?

QPSIM@hse.ie





You're off to
GREAT PLACES
today is
YOUR DAY
your **MOUNTAIN** is waiting, so ...
GET ON YOUR WAY!
-- Dr. Seuss

Thank you



Building a Just Culture in Healthcare: *a HSE Dialogue*

Mr Bernard Gloster
CEO, HSE



Building a Just Culture in Healthcare: *a HSE Dialogue*

Interactive Dialogue: How do we implement Just Culture and what needs to happen next?



Building a Just Culture in Healthcare: *a HSE Dialogue*

Poster Awards and Closing remarks

**Dr Orla Healy, National Clinical
Director of Quality and Patient Safety,
NQPSD, HSE**





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Thank You

