

## What Makes It Hard to Regulate Your Emotions

### BIOLOGY

- Biological factors can make emotion regulation harder.

### LACK OF SKILL

- You don't know what to do to regulate your emotions.

### REINFORCEMENT OF EMOTIONAL BEHAVIOR

- Your environment reinforces you when you are highly emotional.

### MOODINESS

- Your current mood controls what you do instead of your Wise Mind.
- You don't really want to put in time and effort to regulate your emotions.

### EMOTIONAL OVERLOAD

- High emotional arousal causes you to reach a skills breakdown point. You can't follow skills instructions or figure out what to do.

### EMOTION MYTHS

- Myths (e.g., mistaken beliefs) about emotions get in the way of your ability to regulate emotions.
  - Myths that emotions are bad or weak lead to avoiding emotions.
  - Myths that extreme emotions are necessary or are part of who you are keep you from trying to regulate your emotions.