

JO DRAYTON – Wheatbelt Suicide Prevention Coordinator - HOLYOAKE



Quick question to start?





As women, we hold many roles:

We are mothers, partners, wives, sisters, daughters, girlfriends, farmers, business partners, friends, aunts, grandmothers, teammates, mentors, confidants, role models, coaches, co-workers or volunteers.

But often, when juggling many of these roles, in our day to days lives, it can very easily come to a point where taking care of ourselves becomes secondary.



Practicing self-love and self-care not only makes you more whole as a person, but also makes you more capable of RECEIVING & GIVING love

After all, we cannot give to someone else what we cannot gift to ourselves.

To quote Audre Lorde,
"Caring for myself is not self-indulgence,
it is self-preservation."





Another question to ponder.....

Why is investing in ourselves and undertaking selfcare always the last thing on our 'TO DO LIST'





So today, as somebody that was raised on a farm, has a husband who is involved in agriculture, friends who farm, whose role supports the wellbeing of those involved in agriculture across the Wheatbelt, I salute you ALL,

I look out at a room full of hard working, multi-tasking women, who often are quietly, and sometimes without recognition, juggling a myriad of tasks every single day and are making it all look easy.

Today, in honour of you ALL, I will now gift you the importance of INVESTING IN YOURSELF



You need to practice 10 – 15 minutes of self care every single day

there are 1,440 minutes in a day

– you must invest at least

10 – 15 minutes

every day in yourself.

Self care is the things you do that make your eyes shine, make you smile subconsciously, and make you loose track of time......





REMEMBER YOUR VALUE DOESN'T LIE IN HOW YOUR BODY LOOKS

SO MANY THINGS IN THE WORLD WANT TO DISTRACT YOU FROM THIS POWERFUL TRUTH.

YOU ARE VALUABLE BECAUSE YOU ARE YOU,
NOT BECAUSE OF YOUR BODY.

YOU ARE ROLE MODELLING TO YOUR DAUGHTERS, NIECES, AND YOUNG EMERGING WOMEN.



START A COMPLIMENTS FILE

IT IS A POWERFUL REMINDER OF YOUR SELF-WORTH
AND WILL MAKE FOR AN
ENCOURAGING AND HEARTWARMING
READ ON YOUR
'NOT SO CONFIDENT' DAYS.





STOP COMPARING YOURSELF TO OTHERS.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO FOCUS ON YOU & ALL THAT YOU BRING TO THE WORLD AND GIVE TO THOSE THAT YOU LOVE !!!!

THANKFULLY, THERE IS ONLY ONE MAGNIFICENT & GLORIOUS "YOU".



DO AN OCCASIONAL 'FRIENDSHIP PRUNE'

THERE ARE TIMES IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU MAY HAVE
TO DISTANCE YOURSELF FROM TOXIC PEOPLE

THOSE THAT DON'T HAVE YOUR BEST INTEREST AT HEART,
THOSE THAT MAY CRITICISE OR JUDGE YOU BEHIND YOUR BACK.

DON'T BE AFRAID TO DO THIS – IT'S IMPORTANT AND IT IS ALSO VERY LIBERATING!

AS YOU EVOLVE SO DOES YOUR INNER CIRCLE / TRIBE



TREAT YOURSELF OFTEN !!!!

INDULGE IN SMALL LUXURIES OFTEN!

IT COULD BE AS SIMPLE AS TAKING A LONG SHOWER,
RE-READING YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK OR
RE-WATCHING YOUR FAVOURITE MOVIE,
TAKING TIME FOR MINDFULNESS OR MEDITATION,
'ME TIME' IN THE EVENING OR
EATING A DECADENT TREAT (EVEN FOR BREAKFAST).



ALLOW YOURSELF TO TRY NEW THINGS AND MAKE MISTAKES

WE TELL OUR CHILDREN

"NOBODY'S PERFECT, EVERYONE MAKES MISTAKES.... DON'T BE AFRAID TO

TRY SOMETHING NEW"

BUT THE OLDER WE GET,
THE MORE PRESSURE WE FEEL NEVER TO FAIL,
OR RESIST TRYING SOMETHING FOR THE FIRST TIME.....

A MISTAKE IS NOT A MISTAKE IF YOU LEARN FROM IT, AND THERE IS SOO MUCH TO EXPERIENCE WHEN WE STEP OUTSIDE OF OUR COMFORT ZONE!



CHECK IN WITH YOURSELF AND INVEST IN YOUR 'RELATIONSHIP WITH YOURSELF"

IF YOU'RE FEELING PARTICULARLY OVERWHELMED, SAD OR STRESSED, TAKE A
MOMENT TO SIT SOMEWHERE QUIET
AND NAME WITHOUT JUDGEMENT WHAT YOU'RE FEELING.

GET INTO THE HABIT OF WRITING DOWN YOUR FEELINGS, TRACKING YOUR MOODS AND THEIR CAUSES.

ALSO REMEMBER IT IS OK TO NOT BE OK,
BUT IT'S NOT OK, TO NOT DO ANYTHING ABOUT NOT BEING OK!!



LEARN WHAT IS WITHIN YOUR CIRCLE OF CONTROL & WHAT'S NOT !!

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

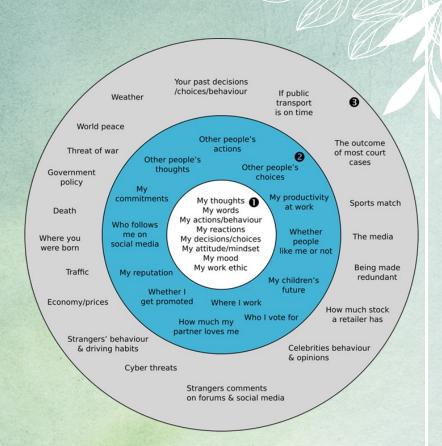
Majority of things you have no control over but often cause you concern (learn to let these go).

CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE

More control, but not full control – we can have 'influence' here (by changing our attitudes or actions).

CIRCLE OF CONTROL

These are the things that you have full control over and should be the focus of your attention





LAUGH & EMBRACE YOUR INNER CHILD

THE WORLD IS OFTEN A SERIOUS AND STRESSFUL PLACE,
TRY TO EMBED LAUGHTER AND LIGHTNESS INTO EVERY DAY — RELEASE
THOSE ENDORPHINS (THEY NEGATE CORTISOL).

AFTER ALL LAUGHTER TRULY IS THE BEST MEDICINE.





ON THE DAYS THAT NOTHING IS GOING RIGHT AND YOU CAN'T GET OUT OF YOUR PYJAMAS,

FIND THE PERSON THAT YOU CAN RING, WILL COME OVER IN THEIR PYJAMAS AND SIT WITH YOU, WITHOUT JUDGEMENT

AND EAT CHOCOLATE CAKE WITH YOU FOR BREAKFAST!!!



Mental health

I make time to take care of myself, even when I'm dealing with difficult feelings or situations

I know that I can start working to solve problems

I can handle disappointments or difficult feelings, and I know they don't reflect my worth

Things may not be 100% perfect all the time, and that's okay

Body image

I'm comfortable with the way I look

I'm in tune with what my body needs

I know that looks have nothing to do with worth or abilities

Self-esteem

I'm feel confident and capable

I place realistic expectations on myself and others

I respect myself







I am proud of every woman who finds it in herself to try new things, push herself, and move outside of her 'comfort zone'.

I am proud of the women who find inspiring role models to motivate them, and women who live their lives in ways

where they can fill that role for others.



I am proud of the women who have 'become'

because of the women who have come before them.

I am proud of the women that know how to both give and take compliments, support and respect other women.

I am proud of the inner strength they have found, and the outward strength they produce.



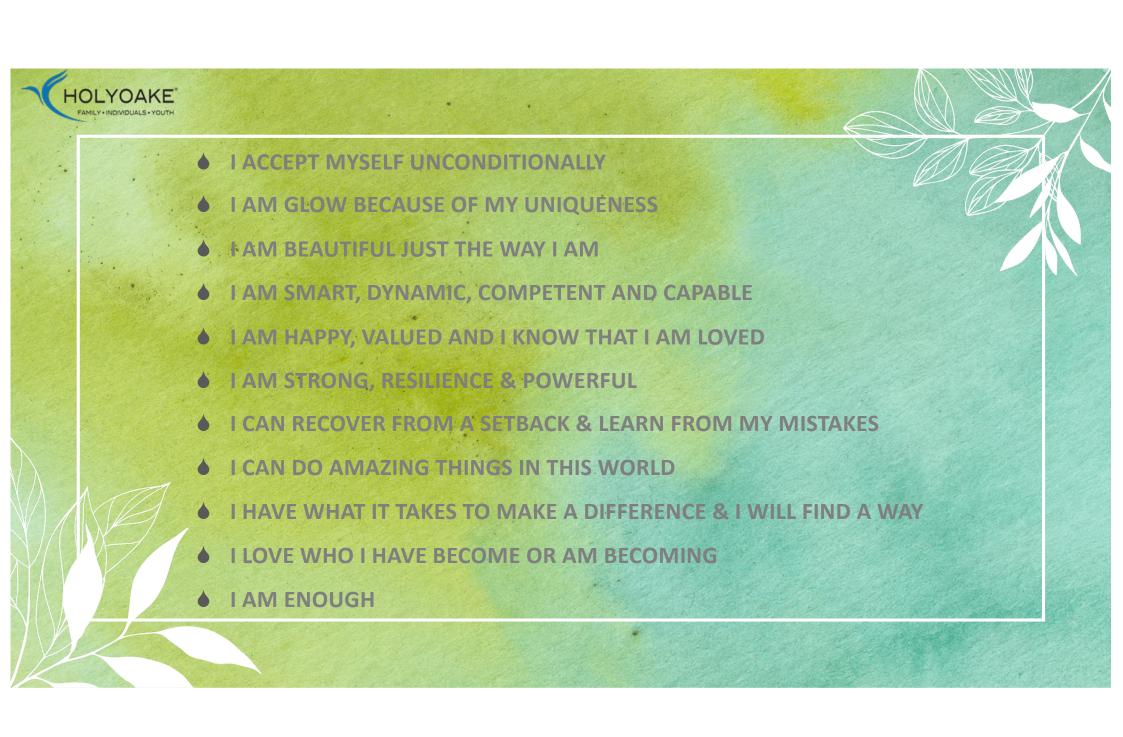
I am proud of the women who judge peoples work ethic rather than their work clothes.

I am proud of the women who find creative solutions, use their bodies and brains in unison, and courageously break the mold.



I am proud of individuals who value ambition and "giving it your all" above superficial experiences and fabricated needs.

I am proud of women who hold each other up, approach life with determination and will not let anything stand in the way of accomplishing their dreams.





In closing

Self-care is <u>NOT</u> being self-indulgence or being selfish.

Self-care means taking care of yourself so that you can be healthy, you can maintain a state of wellbeing, you can do your job, you can help and support others, and you can do all the things you want to accomplish everyday, without experiencing resentment or frustration towards family and friends.

Self-care is part of the answer to how we can all better cope with daily stressors

