

Babette Rothschild: Balancing Your Client's and Your Own Autonomic System Arousal via Precise Observation and Regulation



Babette Rothschild, M.S.W is a Body-Psychotherapist, and educator specializing in the treatment of PTSD and trauma. She is also the author of The Body Remembers Volumes 1 and 2 as well as the upcoming book, *Global Chaos and Trauma Therapy: Balancing Personal Care and Client Care During Shared Crisis* coming out in 2021. Learn ways to manage your own response to others' emotions, especially in aroused states and prevent vicarious trauma.

TOP EMBODIMENT TIP: Mindfulness and individualization. Just because someone tells you this is the best way to be embodied, it might not be so for you. Find out what is best for you.

Things To Remember in Taking Better Care of Ourselves :

- Realize someone cannot infect you with vicarious trauma without your participation.
- You can make yourself vulnerable to being affected by someone else's trauma.
- **Mirroring** is primarily the way we can maximize the advantages of empathy and decrease the disadvantages including the risk for vicarious trauma. **Think of it as having an empathy dial.**

Core Principles to Remember about Mirroring:

- Mirroring can be conscious or unconscious. Unconscious mirroring is the most dangerous.
- Don't lose mindful awareness of yourself emotionally or physically.
- Don't confuse feelings you are picking up from somebody else as your own.
- Remember if you have been consciously mirroring someone to "shake it off" in whatever way works for you.

Compassion vs. Empathy: Different People Define Them Differently.

- Empathy has to do with resonance. "Feeling with other(s)"
- Compassion has to do with whether you care enough. "Feeling for other(s)"

Preventing Vicarious trauma: What Do You want to Have to "Boost your Immunity"?

- Simple body awareness. Mindful body and mind awareness.
- Monitor your own nervous system.
- Make sure you unmirror what you have consciously or unconsciously been paying attention to and mirroring.

<u>Resources</u>

- Books: The Book Remembers (Volumes 1 & 2) including pullout of "Autonomic Nervous System: Precision Regulation", Global Chaos and Trauma Therapy: Balancing Personal Care and Client Care During Shared Crisis
- Website: <u>SOMATIC TRAUMA THERAPY</u>
- References: <u>Dr. Stephen Porges</u>





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