

# The Story of *Games of Power*

My Son changed  
Schools in the middle of  
the Fifth grade

My orientation program  
for him I called  
*Games of Power*

# Definition of **Games of Power**

Any behavior  
designed to

- Capture your attention
- Maintain your attention
- Control how you pay attention
- Feel powerful
- Be important

# Games of Power

- Authority
- Begging
- Bribes
- Challenge
- Confiscation
- Emotional blackmail
- Extortion
- Name-calling
- Non-Verbal
- Obnoxious Behavior
- Physical contact
- Pretending
- Quitting
- Rejection
- Ridicule
- Silence
- Sulking
- Tears
- Teasing
- Threats to Property
- Threats of Violence
- Violence
- Whining
- Yelling & Screaming

## Games of Power




# My Son's Observations

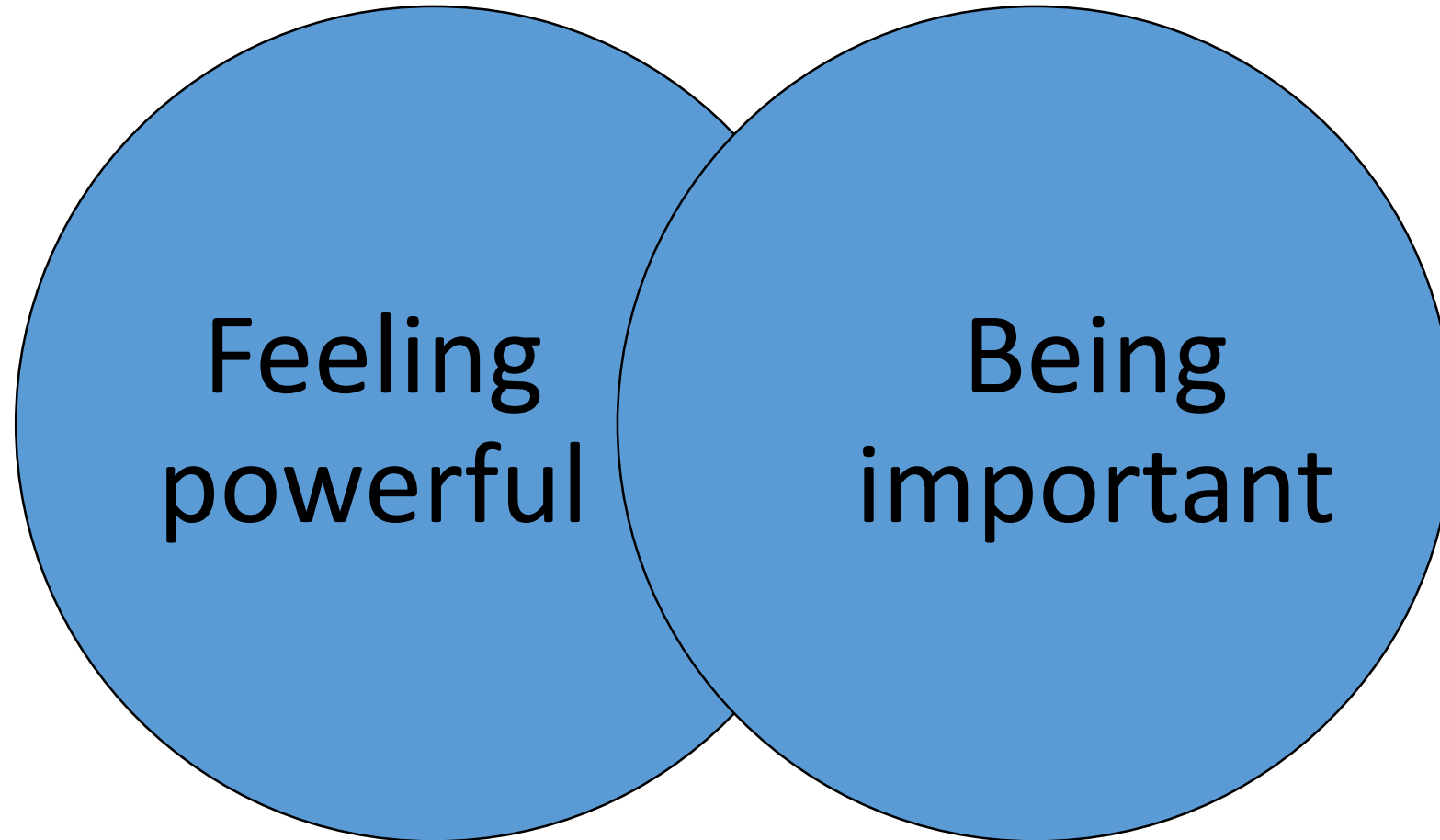
There were only  
14 Games  
presented to my  
son.

For the first week  
at the new  
school

I got the report  
of the **Games of  
Power** he  
observed.

He was able to  
pick out half of  
them

# Winning at *Games of Power*



# Losing at *Games of Power*

Feeling  
ignored

Feeling  
rejected

Feeling  
powerless

Being  
insignificant

# Ways To Respond

## Choose to play.

- Respond with your own **Games of Power**
- **Danger: You may escalate the intensity to a conflict!**

## Choose to walk away.

- **You may be branding or labeled.**
- **Someone can tell stories about you that mess up your life.**

# The Truth About **Games of Power**



Without a victim a bully is powerless.

Without an audience, the showoff has no show.

Without an opponent a player has no game.

Without a follower a leader cannot lead.

**So who has the power?**



# The Bully and the Shooter

## The Bully

- The Bully is a three part game. You are the just the object of play, not a player.
- The bully is playing to his peers for the approval he needs.

## The Shooter

- The Shooter is not seeking the attention of his victims.
- He is gaining his 5 minutes of attention from elsewhere: The media, the police, the parents ...

# The Third Way To Respond: **Games of Influence**

Play

Walk Away

**Change the Game**

# Games of Influence

Any behavior:

- To give someone attention
- To make someone important
- To be influential by giving

# What is the difference?

## *Games of Power*

focus on my  
**getting**  
something

## **Games of Influence**

focus on my  
**giving**  
something

# Names of the **Games of Influence**



Games of Faith



Games of Hope



Games of Love

# Winning

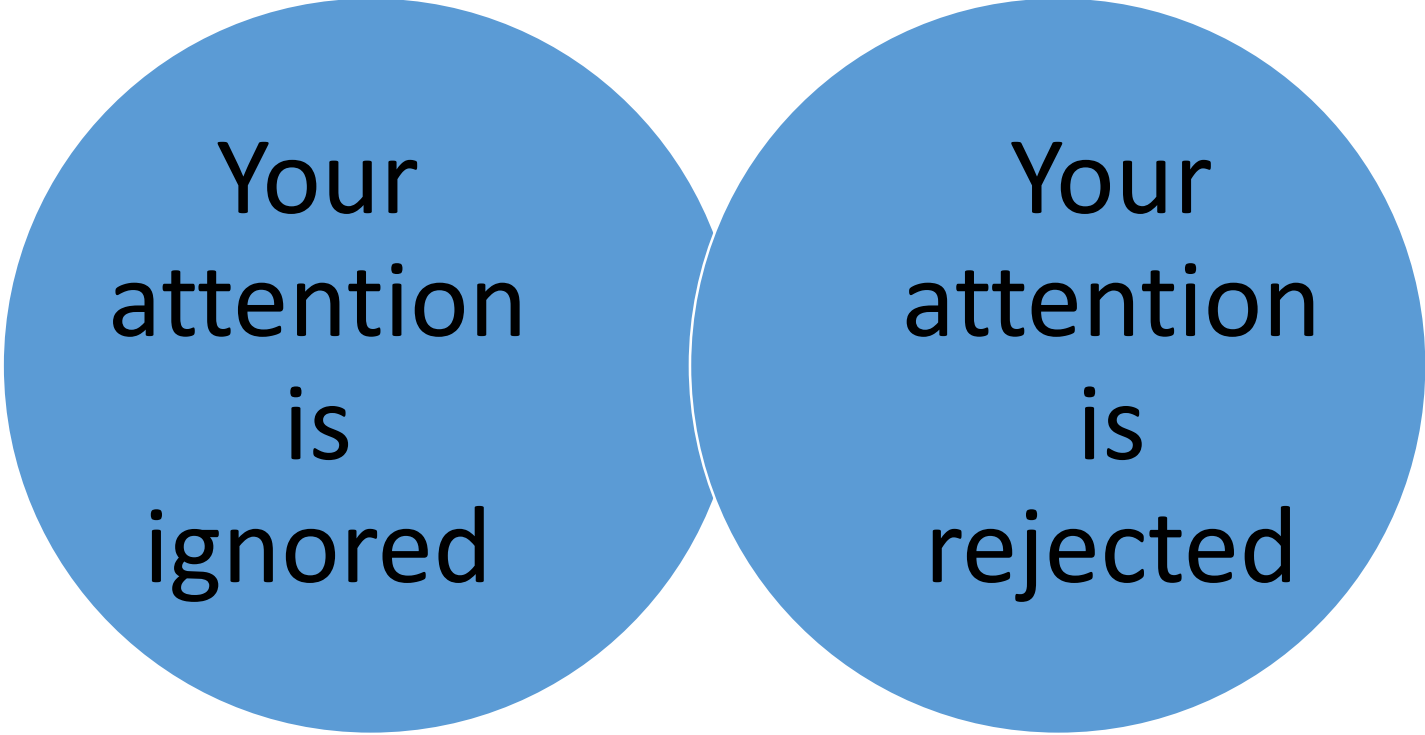


Your  
attention  
is  
received

Your  
friend  
feels  
important

**You may make new friends.**

# Losing



Your  
attention  
is  
ignored

Your  
attention  
is  
rejected

**But who is really the loser?**

# Confidence is Needed

- To play **Games of Influence**
- To counteract adversity in a cruel world
- To heal difficulties in inter–personal relations
- To grow from a failure to perform as expected
- To influence others



# Source of Confidence

## The Confidence Triangle

- Jesus loves you
- Christ forgives you
- God create you with talents and abilities.



Loveable

Forgivable

Capable

# Conclusion: Confident People are Powerful People

Do not need to play Games of Power

Are agents of influence

Change the play space

Can Stand against the crowd

# Appendix A

The  
**Games of Power**  
and  
**Games of Influence**  
in Detail

# Names of the **Games of Power**

- Authority
- Begging & Pleading
- Bribes
- Challenge
- Confiscation
- Emotional Blackmail
- Extortion
- Name-calling
- Non-verbal
- Obnoxious Behavior
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- Violence
- Whining
- Yelling & Screaming

# Games of Power

- **Authority**

- I'm the leader and you do what I say
- I'm the teacher
- You are my son and don't you forget it
- If you do that, you are grounded
- Yelling at
- It is my job think you are
- This as A parent to inform you
- Who do you think you are?
- This is the police. Don't move

# Games of Power

- **Begging & Pleading**

- The sob story
- Rescue me
- I'm going to kill myself
- Putting yourself down
- Begging and pleading
- Pleeeeeeeeeease

- **Bribes**

- If you do this, I'll be your friend for ever
- Want to earn A quick buck
- I'll give you money for each 'A' on your report card

# Games of Power

- **Challenge**
  - Dare me
  - I'm better than you
  - Nanny-nanny you can't catch me
  - What's wrong with you
  - Name calling
  - Prove it
  - I can play
- **Confiscation**
  - Grab the hat, purse or other things
  - refuse to give it back

# Games of Power

- **Emotional Blackmail**

- I'll love you if you do that
- I'll love you when you do that
- I'm going to tell about when you did that
- I'll tell that you did it even though it's not true

- **Extortion**

- You owe me

- **Name-calling**

- Jerk



# Games of Power

- **Non-verbal**

- Flirting - eye talk
- Provocative or flashy clothing
- Hair
- Logos, signs and symbols on clothes
- Perfume -- the right smell

- **Obnoxious Behavior**

- Gross out
- Being a pest
- Vulgarity
- Do the opposite
- Open disrespect

- **Physical Contact**

- Pushing and Shoving

# Games of Power

- **Pretending**
- **Quitting**
- **Ridicule**
  - Mimicking what someone says
- **Rejection**
  - The guilt trip
  - I'm disappointed in you
- **Sulking**
  - Mope in a corner

# Games of Power

- **Silence**

- Tell David I'm not talking to him
- Nobody talk to her
- Over-talking when someone is talking
- I'm not listening to you
- The silent storm - banging, slamming
- Muttering under your breath
- Ignore the question

- **Tears**

- Crying to get attention

# Games of Power

- **Teasing**

- Taunting
- Making fun of
- Mimicking

- **Threats to Property**

- Going to break something you care about

- **Threats of Violence**

- Threats of bodily harm
- Threats of destruction of property
- Cornering someone not letting them go

# Games of Power

- **Violence**
- **Whining**
  - I don't wannnna!
- **Yelling & Screaming**
  - No no no no

# Games of Influence

- **Games Of Faith**

- Giving Praise
- Validating Character
- Actively Caring
- Showing Kindness
- Trusting A Stranger
- Sharing Values
- Offering Guidance
- Loyalty To A Persons Values

- **Games Of Hope**

- Understanding Others
- Sharing Stories
- Commitment To Be A Friend

- **Games Of Love**

- Inclusion In Your World
- Acceptance Of The Person
- Listening To Stories
- Comforting Others
- Giving Hugs
- Loving Others
- Respecting Others Thoughts And Ideas
- Offering friendship
- Helping Others

The End