

## Conflict

# 3

- Conflict Defined
  - Is a process that begins when one party perceives that another party has negatively affected, or is about to negatively affect, something that the first party cares about.
    - Is that point in an ongoing activity when an interaction "crosses over" to become an inter-party conflict.

## **Transitions in Conflict Thought**

## 3

#### **Traditional View of Conflict**

The belief that all conflict is harmful and must be avoided.

#### Causes:

- Poor communication
- Lack of openness
- Failure to respond to employee needs



## **Transitions in Conflict Thought**

#### **Human Relations View of Conflict**

The belief that conflict is a natural and inevitable outcome in any group.

### **Interactionist View of Conflict**

The belief that conflict is not only a positive force in a group but that it is absolutely necessary for a group to perform effectively.



## Functional versus Dysfunctional Conflict \_

#### **Functional Conflict**

Conflict that supports the goals of the group and improves its performance.



### **Dysfunctional Conflict**

Conflict that hinders group performance.

# To check whether conflict is functional or dysfunctional

- Are the parties to conflict hostile to each other?
- Is the outcome likely to be negative one for the organization?
- Do the potential losses of the parties exceed any potential gains?
- Is energy being diverted from goal accomplishment?

## **Types of Conflict**

Intrinsic vs extrinsic conflictintrinsic conflicts consists of rational, and intellectual contents while extrinsic conflict has psychological and emotional content. Realistic vs non-realistic conflictsrealistic conflicts have rational, task or goal oriented confrontations whereas nonrealistic conflicts are in no way related to task or goal of the group and organization

- Interorganizational Conflicts
- Intergroup Conflicts
- Interpersonal Conflicts
- Intrapersonal Conflicts

# Robbins proposed three fold classification of conflict

# 3

### **Task Conflict**

Conflicts over content and goals of the work.

### **Relationship Conflict**

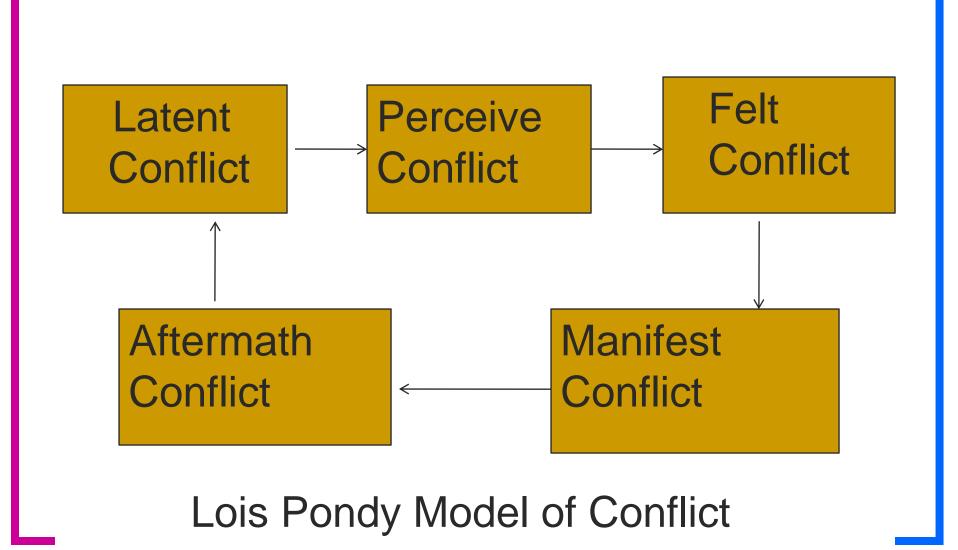
Conflict based on interpersonal relationships.

#### **Process Conflict**

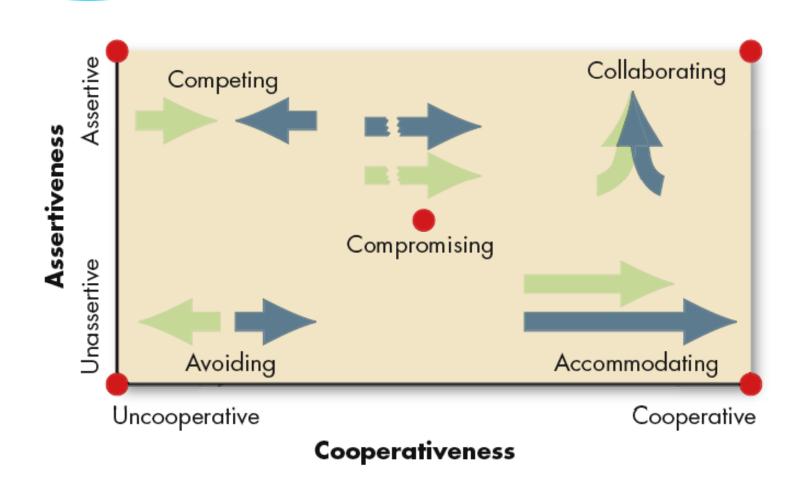
Conflict over how work gets done.



## **The Conflict Process**



## **Styles of Conflict Management**



## **Outcomes**

- Functional Outcomes from Conflict
  - Increased group performance
  - Improved quality of decisions
  - Stimulation of creativity and innovation
  - Encouragement of interest and curiosity
  - Provision of a medium for problem-solving
  - Creation of an environment for self-evaluation and change

### **Outcomes**

- Dysfunctional Outcomes from Conflict
  - Development of discontent
  - Reduced group effectiveness
  - Retarded communication
  - Reduced group cohesiveness
  - Infighting among group members overcomes group goals

## **THANK YOU**