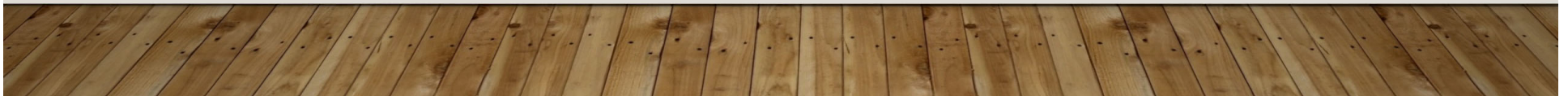




**WELCOME TO
COMPASSIONATE JURISPRUDENCE**



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CHIEF JUSTICE BRENNAN

“Judging, properly understood, involves the interaction of reason and passion, of logic and experience, and a dialogue between the head and the heart, Brennan, 1988, p.3).”

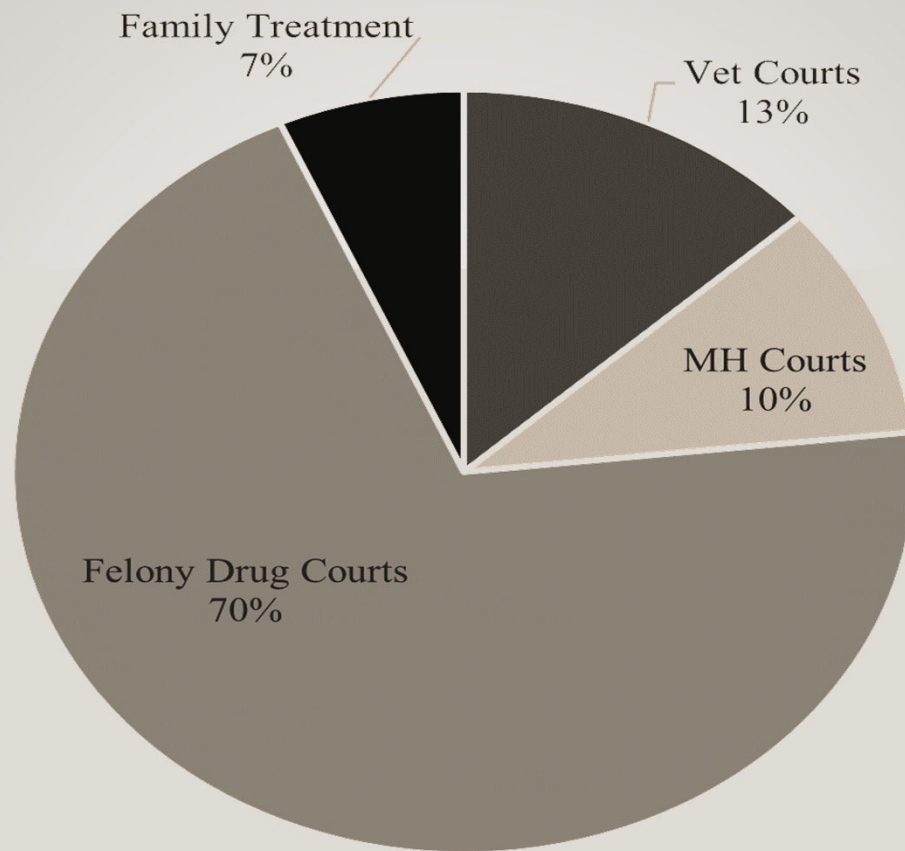
RESEARCH QUESTIONS

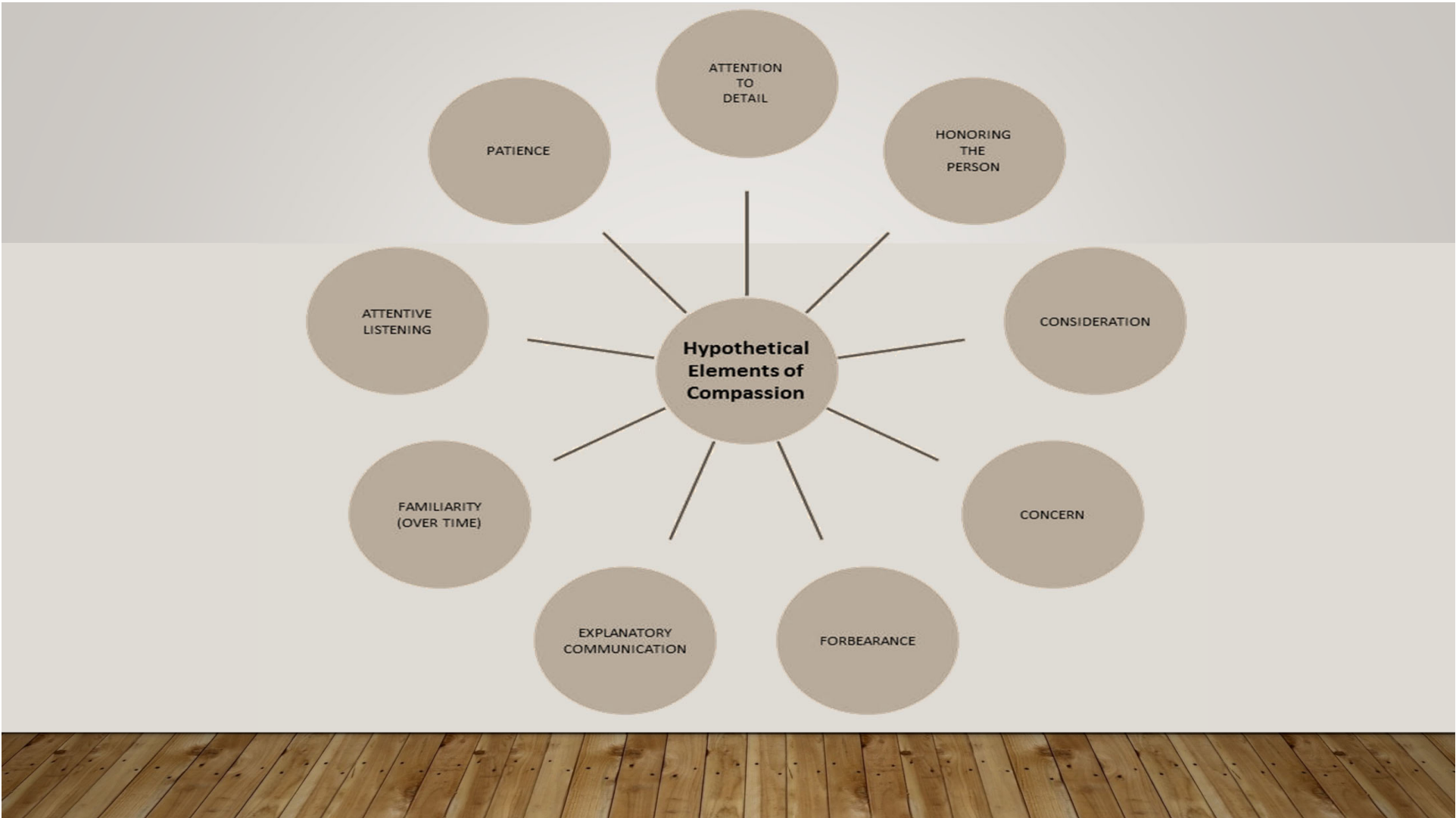
- ❑ Whether compassion and traditional perceptions of judging might coexist in American court rooms and give way to a new paradigm?
- ❑ Whether talking about compassionate behaviors in drug courts could influence judges to create interruptions in their own thought processes and behaviors?

RESEARCH SAMPLE

- ▣ 28 drug court judges – Observed
 - 1+ year of experience on the bench in a drug court
 - State of Georgia - urban, rural, Appalachian & coastal regions
 - Felony drug courts, vet courts, family treatment courts and mental health courts

- ▣ 22 drug court judges – Recruited for Dialogue





COMPASSIONATE BEHAVIORS EXHIBITED

- ▣ Attentive Listening
- ▣ Forbearance
- ▣ Concern
- ▣ Explanatory Communication
- ▣ Patience
- ▣ Introductory or closing statement
- ▣ Honoring the Person
- ▣ Consideration
- ▣ Attention to Detail
- ▣ Familiarity over Time
- ▣ Incentives & Sanctions
- ▣ Demeanor

Phase 2

- ▣ 22 judges recruited
 - Judges assigned to a cohort
 - Judges assigned a pseudonym
 - TWEN confidential online platform
 - 5 days a week for 4 weeks
 - Asynchronous

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DIALOGUE

- ▣ Attentive and careful listening = Respect for the person and their point of view
- ▣ Compassionate language is respectful, non-threatening and clear
- ▣ Praise and encouragement is compassionate
- ▣ Smiling and eye contact is compassionate
- ▣ Time spent lets people know you care

MORE HIGHLIGHTS

- ❑ Set time not important, it is what the person needs
- ❑ Anger not helpful
- ❑ “Important not to let disappointment drive the moment, use it to teach.”
- ❑ Lying, kissing up and being disingenuous inhibits compassion
- ❑ Self-disclosure is a way to show you too are human

AND EVEN MORE HIGHLIGHTS

- ▣ Body language, tone, humor, and presence helps to connect
- ▣ Ending strong and positive with an individual is important

RESULTS

- ▣ Can compassion and traditional perceptions of judging coexist in American court rooms and give way to a new paradigm?

RESULTS

- ▣ Did talking about compassionate behaviors in drug courts influence judges to create interruptions in their own thought processes and behaviors?

WHERE DIALOGUE INFLUENCED THOUGHT

- ▣ Transfer of compassionate behaviors from drug courts to traditional court
- ▣ Fee discussion
- ▣ New ideas
- ▣ Legacy

Timing: Drug court judges appear to create space within a busy court day for more opportunities for communication and listening with the drug court participants.

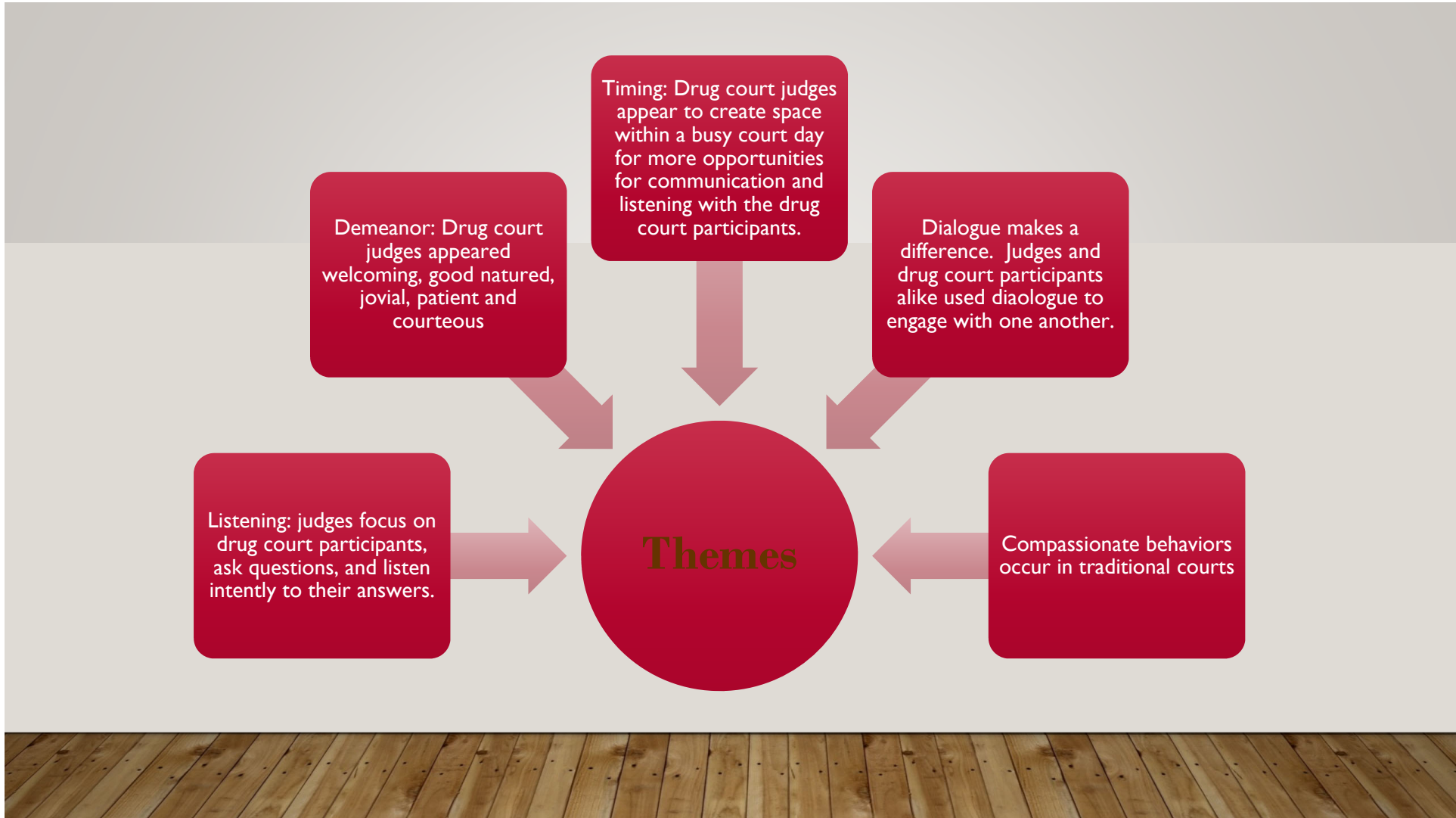
Demeanor: Drug court judges appeared welcoming, good natured, jovial, patient and courteous

Dialogue makes a difference. Judges and drug court participants alike used dialogue to engage with one another.

Listening: judges focus on drug court participants, ask questions, and listen intently to their answers.

Compassionate behaviors occur in traditional courts

Themes



IMPLICATIONS OF STUDY RESULTS

- ▣ The Power of Listening
- ▣ Compassionate Judicial Demeanor Humanizes
- ▣ Time is Important – Slow Down
- ▣ Dialogue Makes a Difference
- ▣ Transferability of Behaviors to Traditional Court
- ▣ Transferability to other Disciplines in Criminal Justice

COMPASSIONATE JURISPRUDENCE



- ❑ Sanctions
- ❑ The Rule of Law
- ❑ Reason
- ❑ Case oriented
- ❑ Ego
- ❑ Reaction
- ❑ Degree of Dispassion

- ❑ Rewards
- ❑ Restorative Justice
- ❑ Intuition and Experience
- ❑ People oriented
- ❑ Empathy
- ❑ Reflection
- ❑ Compassion



Thank you for listening and for all that you do.

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