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OBJECTIVE

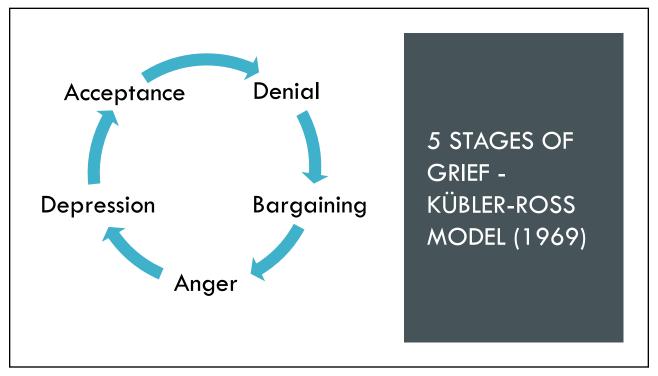
ADDRESS THE EMOTIONS THAT ARE INVOLVED IN THE DIAGNOSING PROCESS.

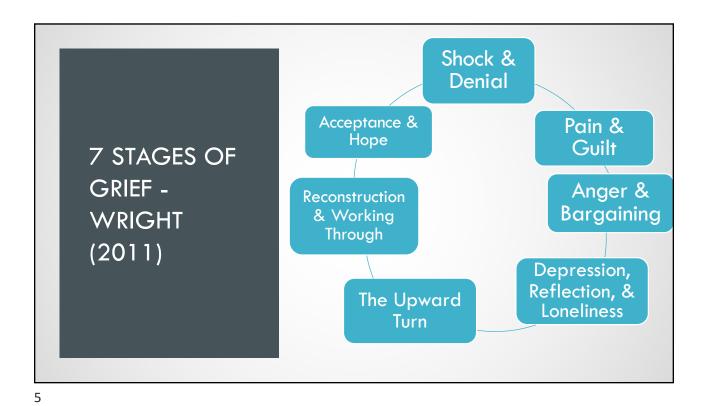
DISCUSS THE GRIEVING PROCESS FOR SOME PARENTS WHOSE KIDS ARE DIAGNOSED

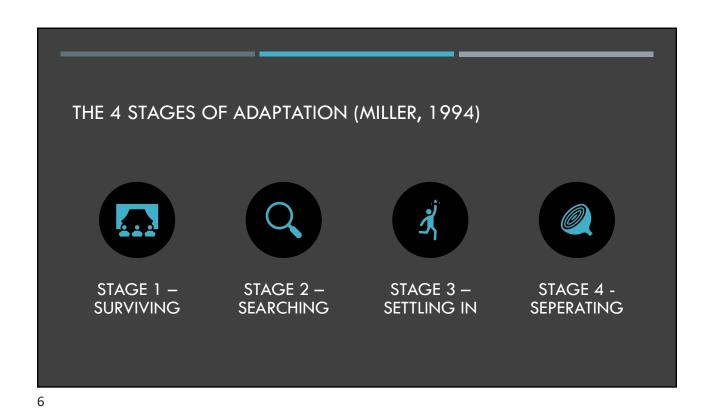
DISCUSSING THE 4 STAGES OF ADAPTATION

EMOTIONS THAT PARENTS MIGHT FACE Anger Bargaining Frustration Relief Guilt Shame Anything else?

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STAGE 1 - SURVIVING

- Shock
- Bodily stress and symptoms
- Grief and loss
- Confusion and fear
- Guilt and self-doubt
- Anger
- Denial

STEPS TO EASING THE SURVIVING PROCESS

- Understand that your feelings are normal
- Try to make time for yourself
- Create and use your support system

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STAGE 2 - SEARCHING

- Outer Searching for answers about your child's problems
- Outer searching givesyou
 - Knowledge
 - A new perspective
 - Strength

• Inner Searching for understanding what the problems mean in your life

STAGE 3 - SETTLING IN

- Settling In is seeing the world for what it is and seeing yourself for who you are
- working to establish a new sense of stability and harmony
- Trying to understand how can one help their child.
- Prioritize one's child and their needs.
- Feeling more control of one's life

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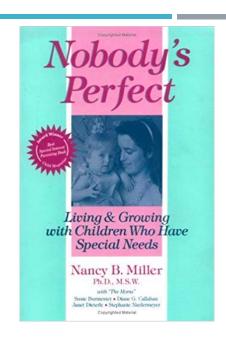
STAGE 4 - SEPARATION

- Stepping towards independence
- Helping one's child develop skills like
 - Self-esteem, persistence, and a sense of humor
 - Daily living skills
 - Pride in physical appearance
 - Living skills practice
 - Self-discipline
 - Understanding and living with a disability
 - Learning to meet challenges

Letting go

What does that mean to you as a parent?

NOBODY'S
PERFECT: LIVING
AND GROWING
WITH CHILDREN
WHO HAVE
SPECIAL NEEDS



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REFERENCES

- Kubler-Ross, Elizabeth. (1969). On Death and Dying. New York: Collier Books.
- Miller, N. B. (1994). *Nobodys perfect living and growing with children who have special needs*. Baltimore: Brookes.
- Wright, J. (2011). 7 stages of grief: through the process and back to life.

QUESTIONS?