

Bridges Out of Poverty

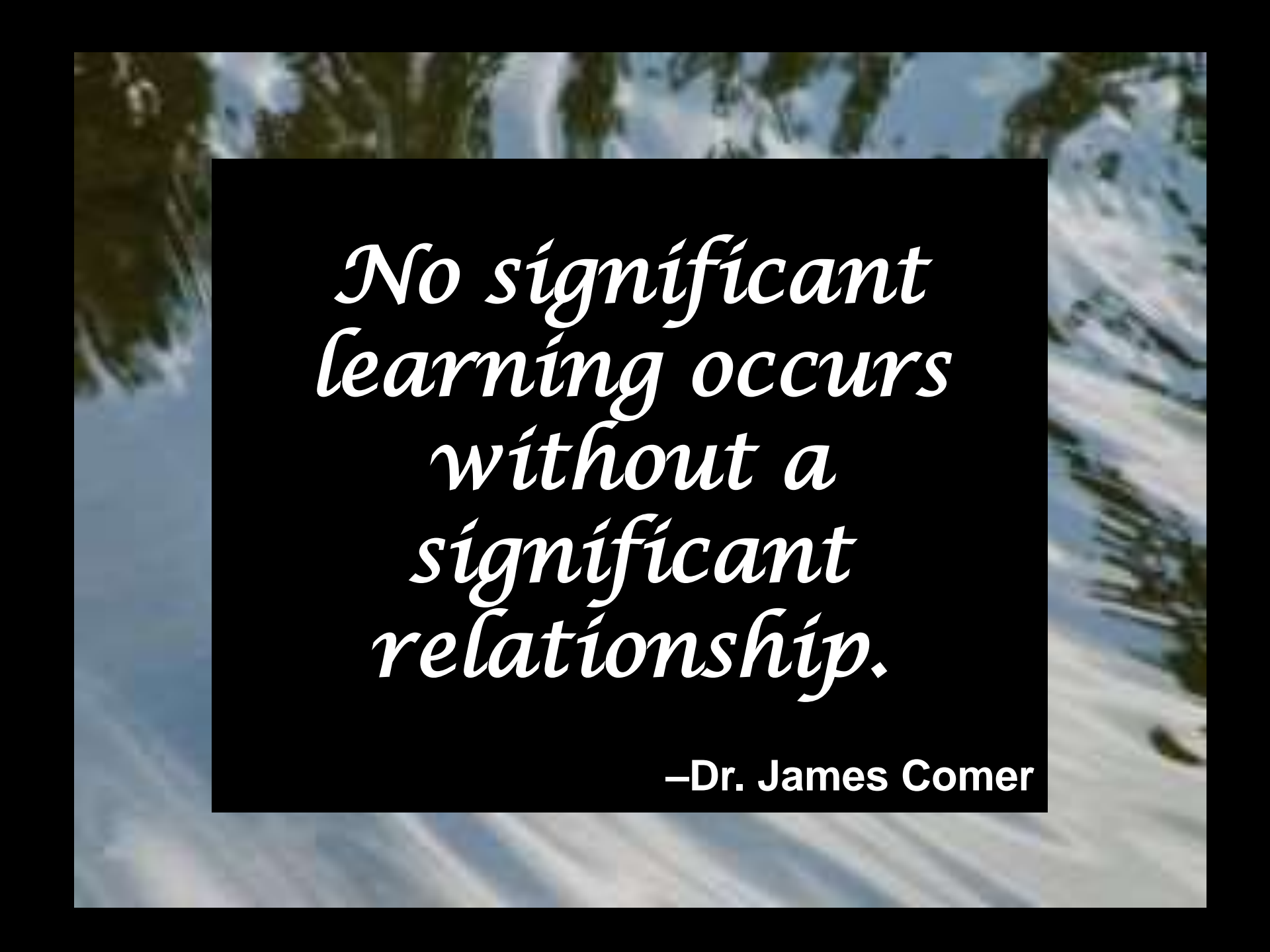
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Payne, R. K., DeVol, P. E., & Smith, T. D. (2006). *Bridges out of poverty: Strategies for professionals and communities*. Highlands, TX: Aha! Process.



*No significant
learning occurs
without a
significant
relationship.*

–Dr. James Comer

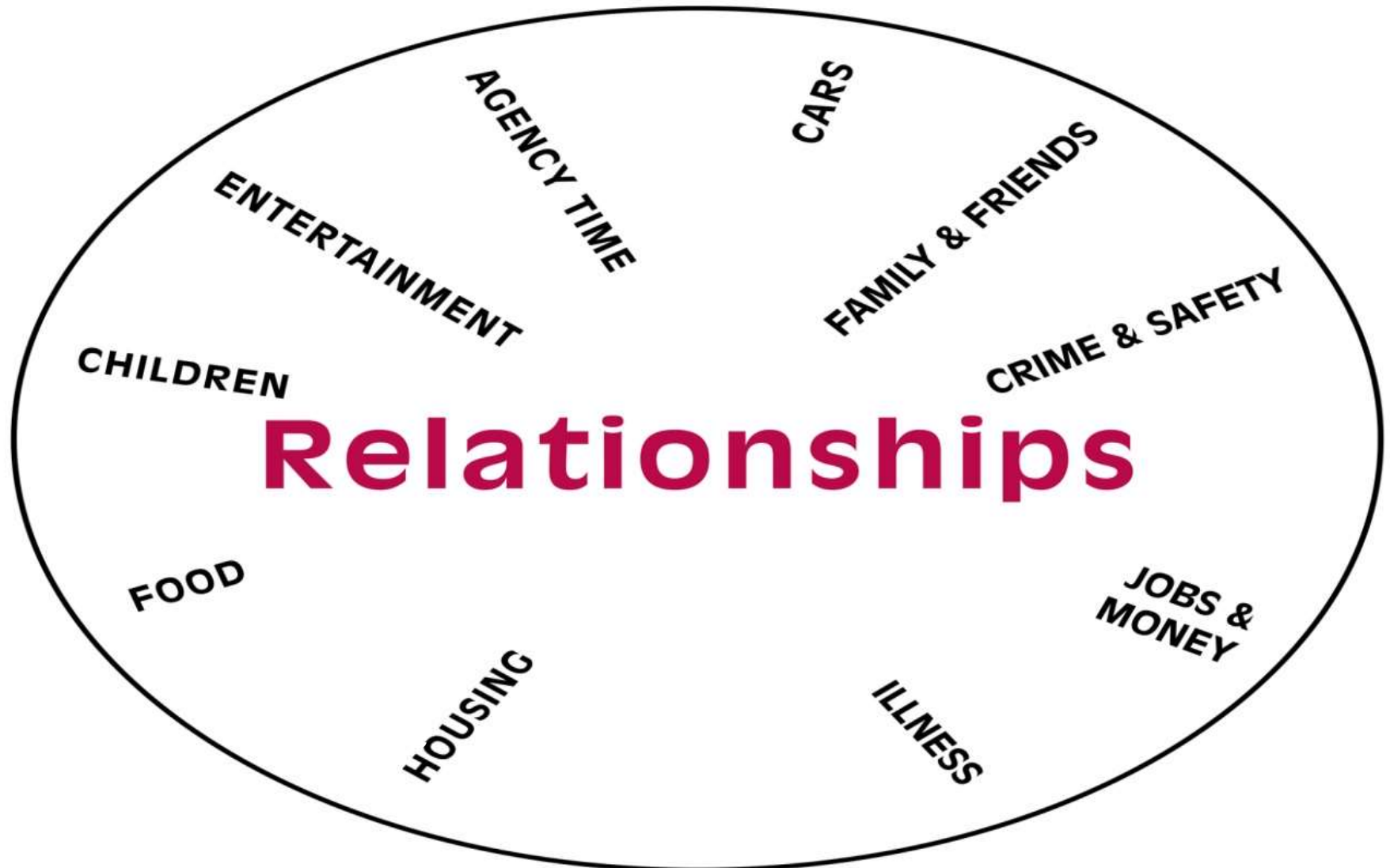
Workshop Objectives

- Explain what poverty looks like.
- Define Poverty
- Give examples of hidden rules among classes.
- Explain language registers.



1. ***Think*** of an adult in generational poverty.
2. ***Imagine*** that you followed that person for a year, observing what happened and how he/she spent his/her time.

Mental Model for Poverty



Mental Model for Middle Class



Tyranny of the Moment

**“The need to act overwhelms
any willingness people have
to learn.”**

Source: *The Art of the Long View* by Peter Schwartz



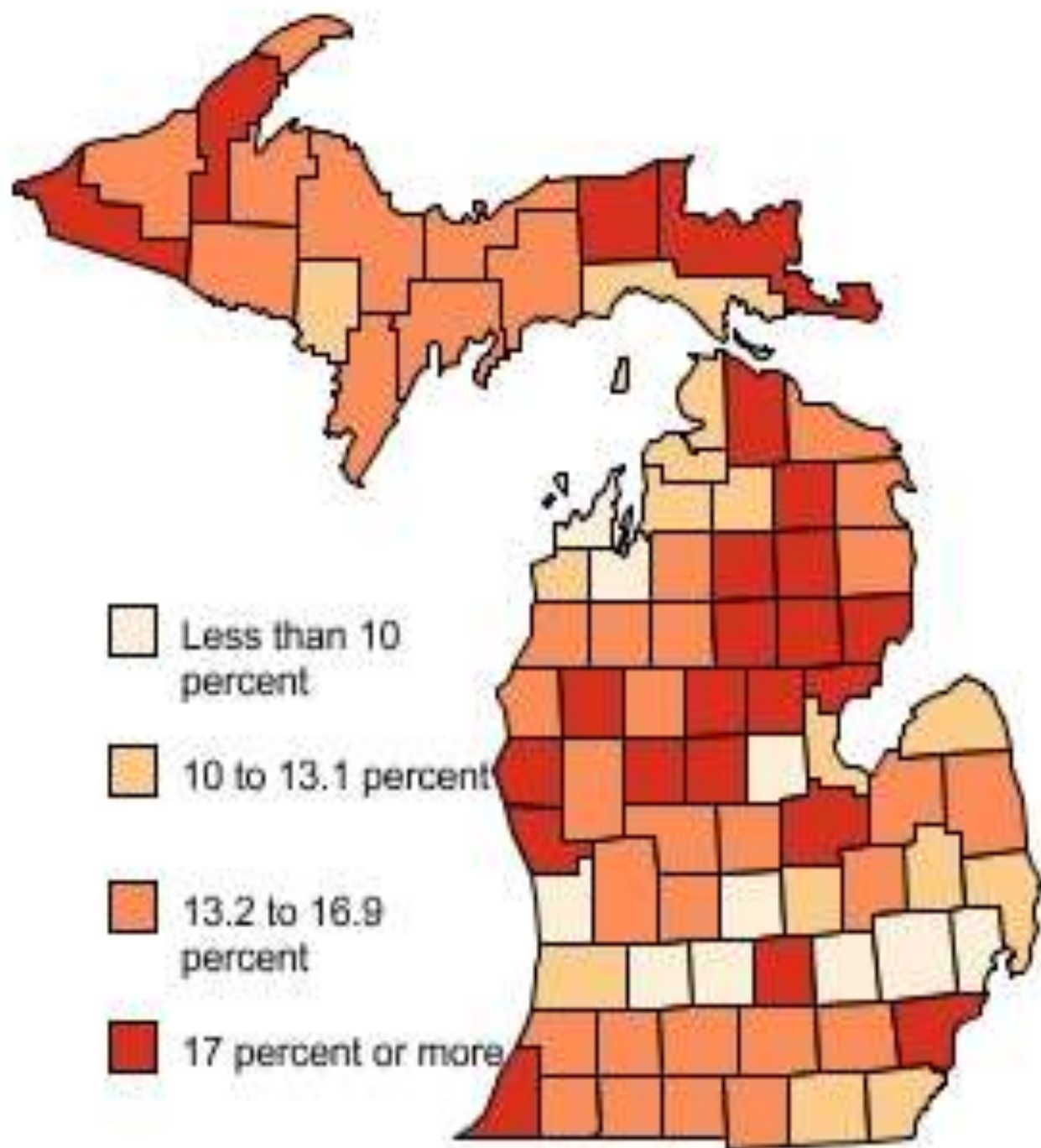


TABLE A**2014 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States
and the District of Columbia**

# Persons in Family/Household	Federal Poverty Guideline	2X Federal Poverty Guideline ¹	4X Federal Poverty Guideline ²
1	\$11,670	\$23,340	\$46,680
2	\$15,730	\$31,460	\$62,920
3	\$19,790	\$39,580	\$79,160
4	\$23,850	\$47,700	\$95,400
5	\$27,910	\$55,820	\$111,640
6	\$31,970	\$63,940	\$127,880
7	\$36,030	\$72,060	\$144,120
8	\$40,090	\$80,180	\$160,360

NOTE: For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,060 for each additional person.

¹ Phase Out Begins

² Phase Out Ends

Poverty: A Definition

To better understand people from poverty, the *definition* of poverty will be

“the extent to which an individual does without resources.”

Not just an arbitrary federal line...



DRIVING FORCES/HIDDEN RULES

POVERTY

Survival, relationships,
entertainment

MIDDLE CLASS

Work, achievement



TIME

POVERTY

Present most important

Decisions made for the moment based on feelings or survival

MIDDLE CLASS

Future most important

Decisions made against future ramifications

MONEY



POVERTY
To be used, spent

MIDDLE CLASS
To be managed

Registers of Language

School and Business



FROZEN

FORMAL

CONSULTATIVE

CASUAL

INTIMATE

Poverty

Research About Language in Children, Ages 1 to 3, in Stable Households by Economic Group

Number of words exposed to	Economic group	Affirmations (strokes)	Prohibitions (discounts)
10 million words	Welfare	1 for every	2
20 million words	Working class	2 for every	1
30 million words	Professional	5 for every	1

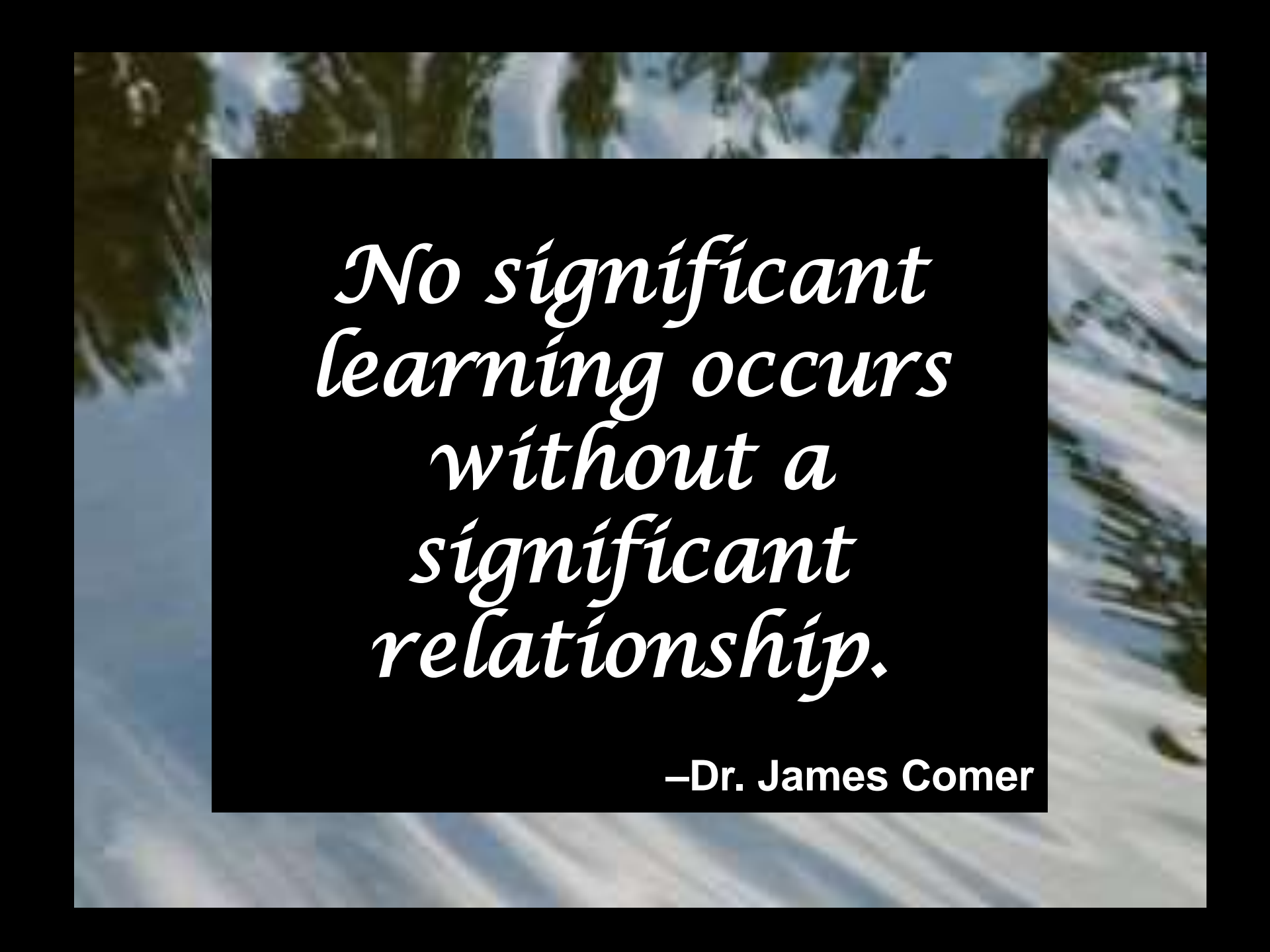
Source: *Meaningful Differences in the Everyday Experience of Young American Children* (1995) by Betty Hart & Todd R. Risley

The Second Mile



*When we go the first mile we simply do what is
required of us.*

*It is when we go the second mile that excellence is
achieved
and minor miracles happen.*



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