## Protocols

- Long-term protocols should be things you can incorporate into daily life. (Remember: protocols don't work if they are not sustainable.)
- Take things slowly → add one new action/ritual at a time to avoid overwhelming both partners.
- Appeal to each person's strengths → the Dominant doesn't have to be in charge of everything! (Chief of Staff model)
- Be creative. Protocols can be small, ordinary things.
- Examples: kneeling/presenting, honorifics, capitalization, opening doors, positioning or daily functioning, boot service, drink service, orgasm/sexual control, training, completing specific tasks/assignments...
- Reinforcement is needed to encourage compliance!



## **Punishments**

- Punishment is simply an action that **stops** a behavior.
- "We know that reinforcers strengthen behavior in the future, but a punisher will not result in *predictable* changes."
- Punishers generally work only tied specifically to tasks/consequences → the threat of a punisher may motivate behavior; in this case it is negative reinforcement. Punishers after mistakes/misbehavior are not effective at modifying behavior.
- Punishment in D/s only works to discourage behavior if the bottom does not *like* the punisher (i.e. canes don't work on masochists).
- **Examples** of non-corporal punishers: time out, removal of electronic devices, writing, chastity...

## **Rewards: Positive/Negative Reinforcement**

- "Reinforcement is an event that (a) occurs during or upon completion of a behavior; and (b) increases the likelihood of that behavior occurring in the future."
- Reinforcement should happen as close to the behavior as possible; delayed reinforcement is not as effective.
- You cannot reinforce behavior that is not occurring! Bribes are ineffective for long-term behavior modification.
- Reinforcers are RELATIVE, not absolute. In order to encourage/increase behavior, the reinforcer must be something the subject wants. (Love language test is good for this → praise, gifts, physical affection, service, quality time)
- If a reinforcer does not increase wanted behavior, try something else.
- Consistency is important, but a variable schedule of rewards is the most effective at maintaining behavior without extinction. (Hope for jackpot reward.)

There are two types of reinforcers:

- A **positive** reinforcer is something the subject wants, such as food, petting, or praise.
- A negative reinforcer is something the subject wants to avoid—a blow, a frown, an unpleasant sound. (The warning buzzer in a car if you don't fasten your seat belt is a negative reinforcer.)
- Every instance of a negative reinforcer applies a punisher.
  (Fear vs. Love)

