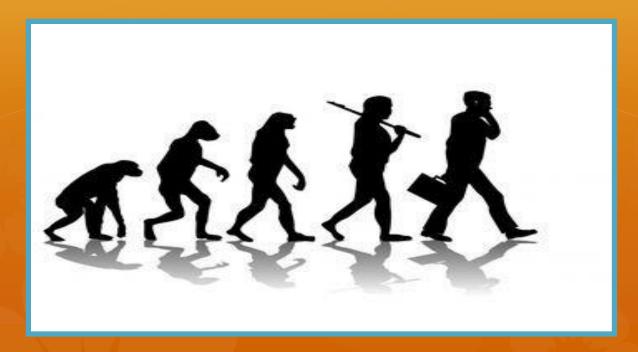


### Responses to Stressful Situations and Positive Coping



#### Stress

"The Stress system is a complex, sophisticated, and carefully regulated adaptation that has been shaped by natural selection because it gives a selective advantage."



## Components The Stress Response

- Autonomic Nervous System: Action within the central nervous system that is "reflexive."
- 1. Sympathetic Nervous System
- 2. Parasympathetic Nervous System

### Fight or Flight = ALARM Stage



- The Sympathetic Nervous System takes an active role in triggering the stress response.
- The Sympathetic Nervous System effects include increased:
  - arousal
  - blood pressure
  - heart rate
  - respiratory rate
  - physical activity

#### Resistance Stage

- Acts as an equalizer
- Brings body functions back to stability

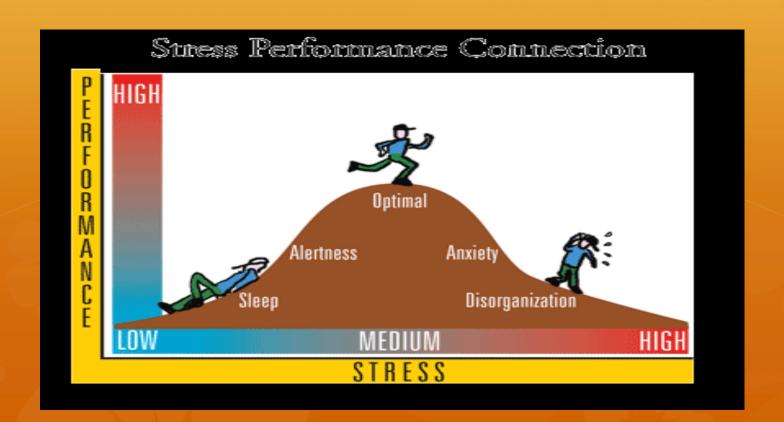


#### **Exhaustion Stage**

- Energy is depleted
- Body returns to normal if stress is removed
- Body returns to alarm stage if stress continues which can result in stress-related diseases:
  - Skin disorders
  - Gastrointestinal upset
  - Menstrual irregularities
  - Cardiovascular disorders

#### Healthy Amounts of Stress

Stress acts as a motivator, but too much stress can lead to mental illness such as anxiety or depression.



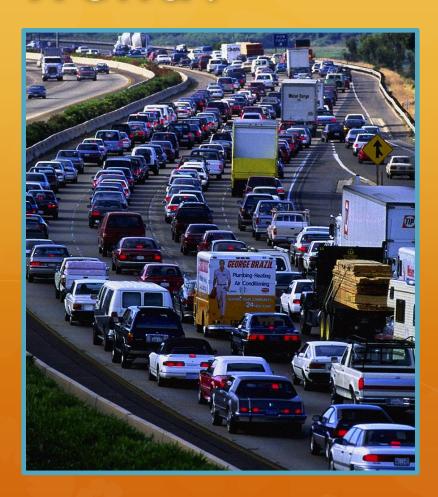
# Stress-Related Diseases & Conditions



- Gastrointestinal disorders
- Skin Disorders
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular disorders
- Depression
- Anxiety

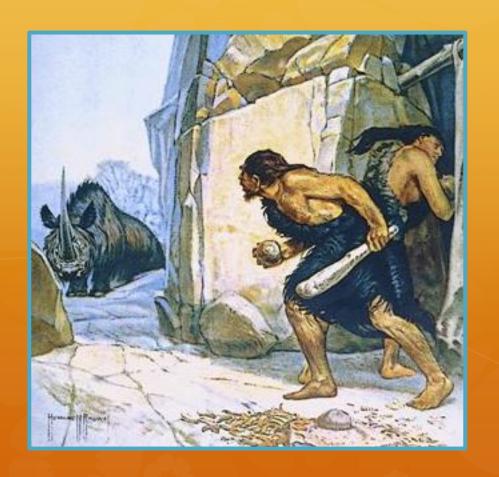
# Stressors in the Modern World?

- Unemployment
- Financial difficulties
- Traffic
- Social frustrations
- Deadlines: homework, career, taxes, bills



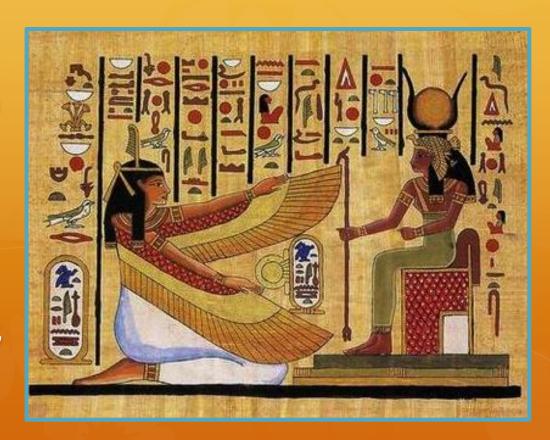
### Stressors before Modern Civilization

- Need for food
- Need for water
- Need for shelter
- Successfully hunting and gathering
- Surviving constant threats in life



## Stress Management in Ancient Civilizations

- Worship(spirituality/religion
- Hieroglyphics
- Constellations
- FINDING MEANING IN LIFE



#### Stress Management Today



- Eat
- Exercise
- Hurt self
- Prayer and meditation
- Rx medications
- Smoking/ drinking/ drugs
- Talking to friends and family
- Television, reading, or listening to music