Why Are We So Angry?

A universal trigger for anger is the sense of being endangered, not just by an outright physical threat but more often:

- 1. A threat to self-esteem or dignity.
- 2. Being treated unjustly or rudely.
- 3. Being insulted or demeaned.
- 4. Being frustrated in pursuing an important goal.

Some of the dynamics of anger and why we get angry are:

- 1. We are rarely ever angry for the reasons we think.
- 2. Often your anger toward the smallest thing is really about something deeper.
- 3. Often what stresses us out aren't major crises, but the little things that build up day after day.
- 4. Lack of time makes us more likely to get angry. As we rush from one task to another, we become impatient at anything and anyone that slows us down.
- 5. Because of their high expectations, more people feel a sense of entitlement for attention, time, money, and things.
- 6. We become more angry when we are stressed and our body resources are down.
- 7. You may be prone to anger because of a physical problem.
- 8. We often become angry when we see a trait in others we can't stand in ourselves.
- 9. We are often angry when we didn't get what we needed as a child.
- 10. Sometimes we get angry because we were hurt as a child.
- 11. Underneath many current angers are old disappointments, traumas, and triggers.
- 12. We get angry when a current event brings up an old unresolved situation from the past.
- 13. We often feel strong emotion when a situation has a similar content, words, or energy that we have felt before.