

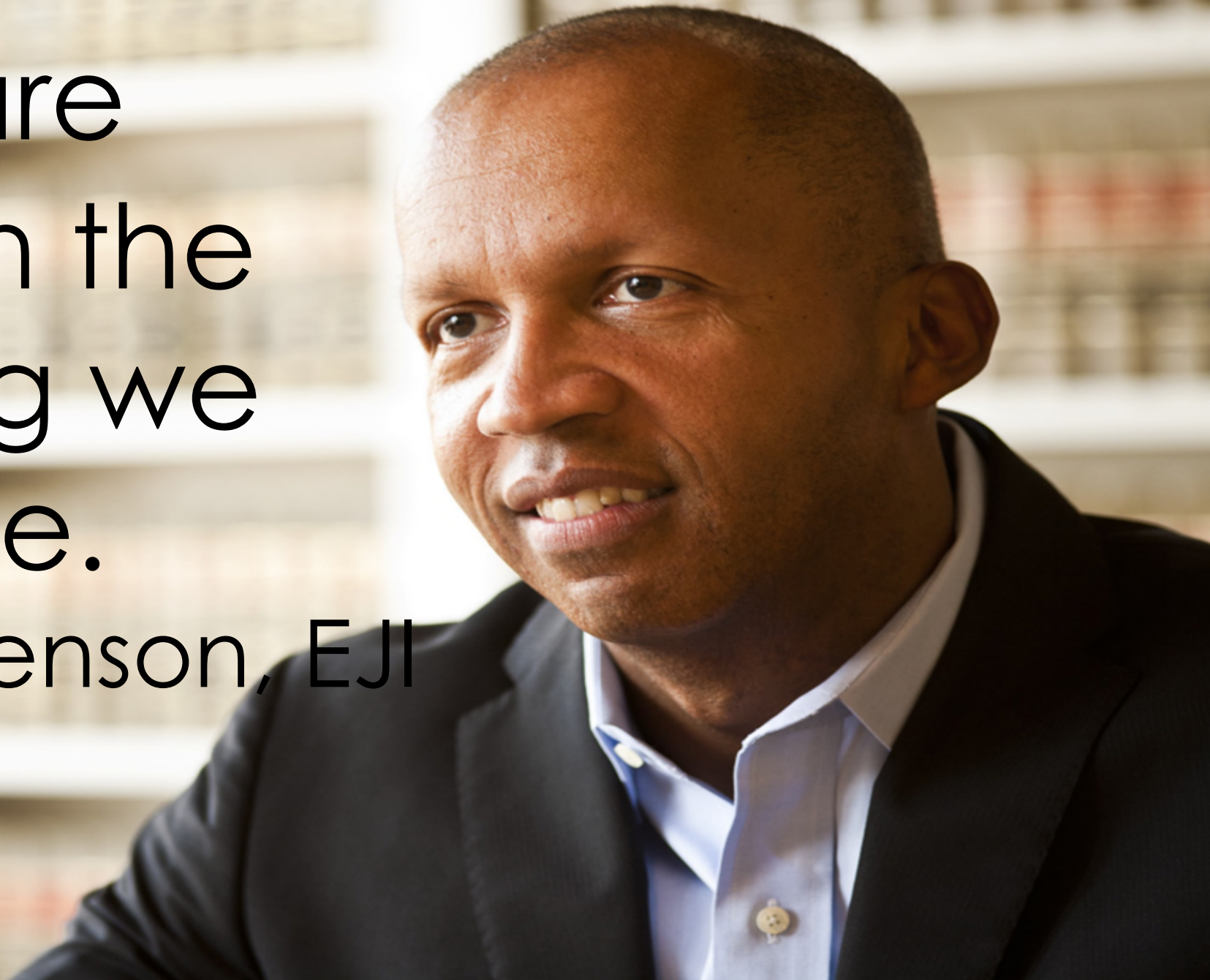


# **SHARED HUMANITY: CATALYST FOR INNOVATION, INTEGRATION AND MOTIVATION**

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All of us are  
more than the  
worst thing we  
have done.

--Bryan Stevenson, EJI



**WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?**



**WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?**

Consistent  
provision of care,  
safety &  
knowledge/praise

Brain  
flourishes &  
functions are  
internalized

Normative  
developmental  
trajectory

Adaptive behavior  
throughout the  
lifespan



# ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES



- ✓ PATERNAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE
- ✓ EXPOSURE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- ✓ PARENTAL SEPARATION
- ✓ PATERNAL ABANDONMENT
- ✓ POVERTY
- ✓ MATERNAL UNTREATED MENTAL ILLNESS
- ✓ MATERNAL EMOTIONAL ABUSE/NEGLECT



# Cognitive challenges





Emotional challenges



# Emotional challenges



A dark, low-key photograph showing the silhouettes of people in a room. On the left, a person's legs and feet are visible, suggesting they are standing or walking. In the bottom right corner, the silhouette of a person's head and shoulders is visible, looking towards the left. In the upper right, a window with four panes is visible, with light streaming through, creating a bright, out-of-focus glow. The overall atmosphere is somber and contemplative.

Behavioral challenges

Social problems are contagious  
and spread by peer influence

Tipping  
point is 6%

Youth must have  
appreciably similar  
role models

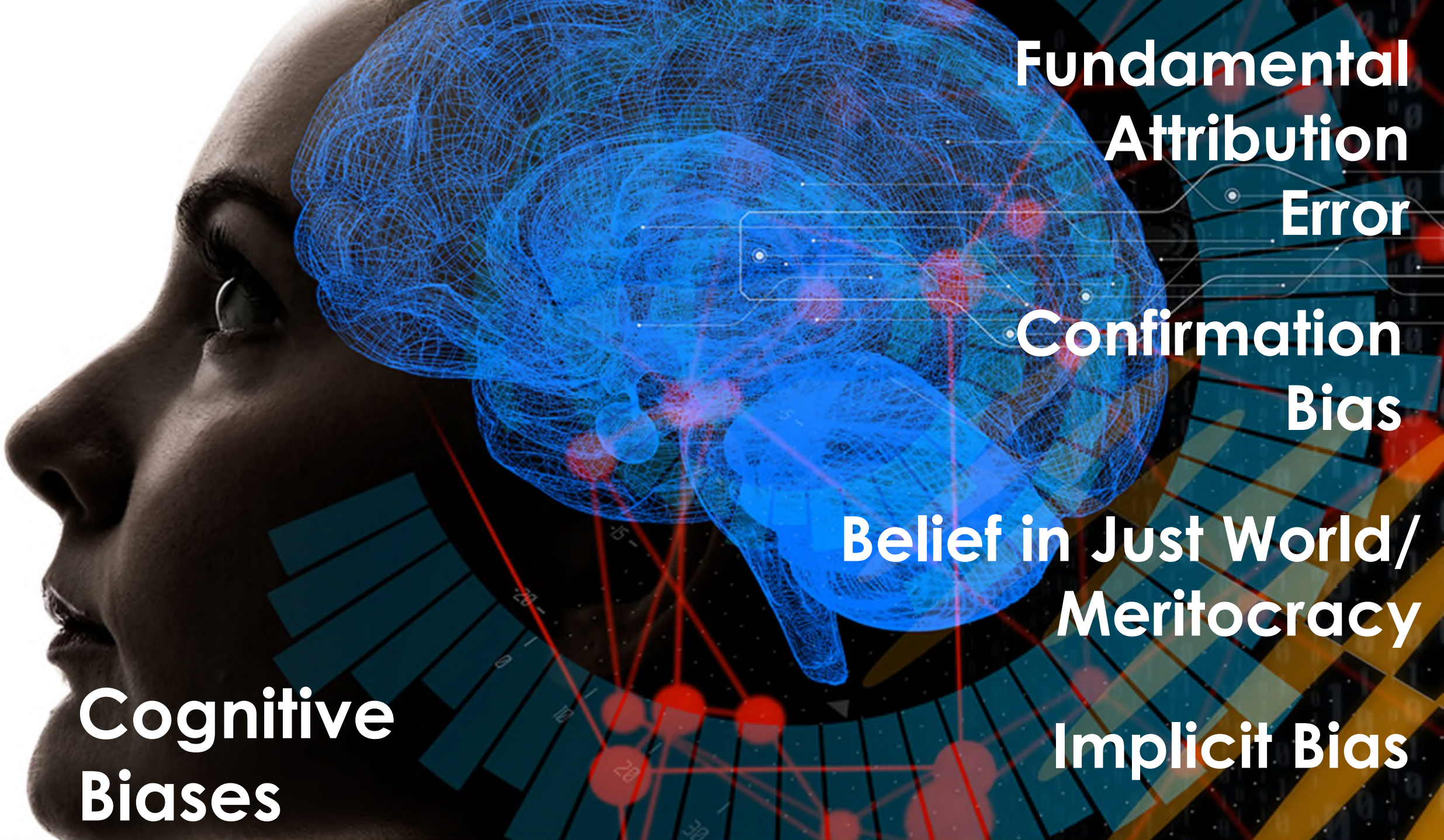


# ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES

Stress hormones flood the brain during emergencies

When the stressor is chronic, unrelenting, irresolvable:

1. Cognitive challenges via malformation of attention, memory & impulse-control
2. Emotional challenges via poor impulse control & amygdala hijack
3. Behavioral challenges via higher emotional set-point; adrenaline junkie, high-risk behavior
4. Spiritual challenges via hopelessness/learned helplessness ("send heroin")



# Cognitive Biases

Fundamental Attribution Error

Confirmation Bias

Belief in Just World/  
Meritocracy

Implicit Bias

# Critical self-assessment and accountability



# CAN MIGUEL BE REDEEMED?

- Arming ourselves with empathy that he is more than the worst thing he's done
- Adopting a trauma-informed paradigm
- Rejecting cognitive biases by checking our assumptions, becoming proximate & accountable
- Becoming appreciably similar role-models





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