



OAS | CICAD

**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION
CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

SEVENTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION

November 8-11, 2022

Washington D.C.

OEA/Ser.L/ XIV.2.72

CICAD/doc.2685/22

November 10, 2022

Original: Spanish

DRUGS AND STIGMA



Drugs and stigma

Eugenia Mata Ch

ICD



Nora Volkow
NIDA

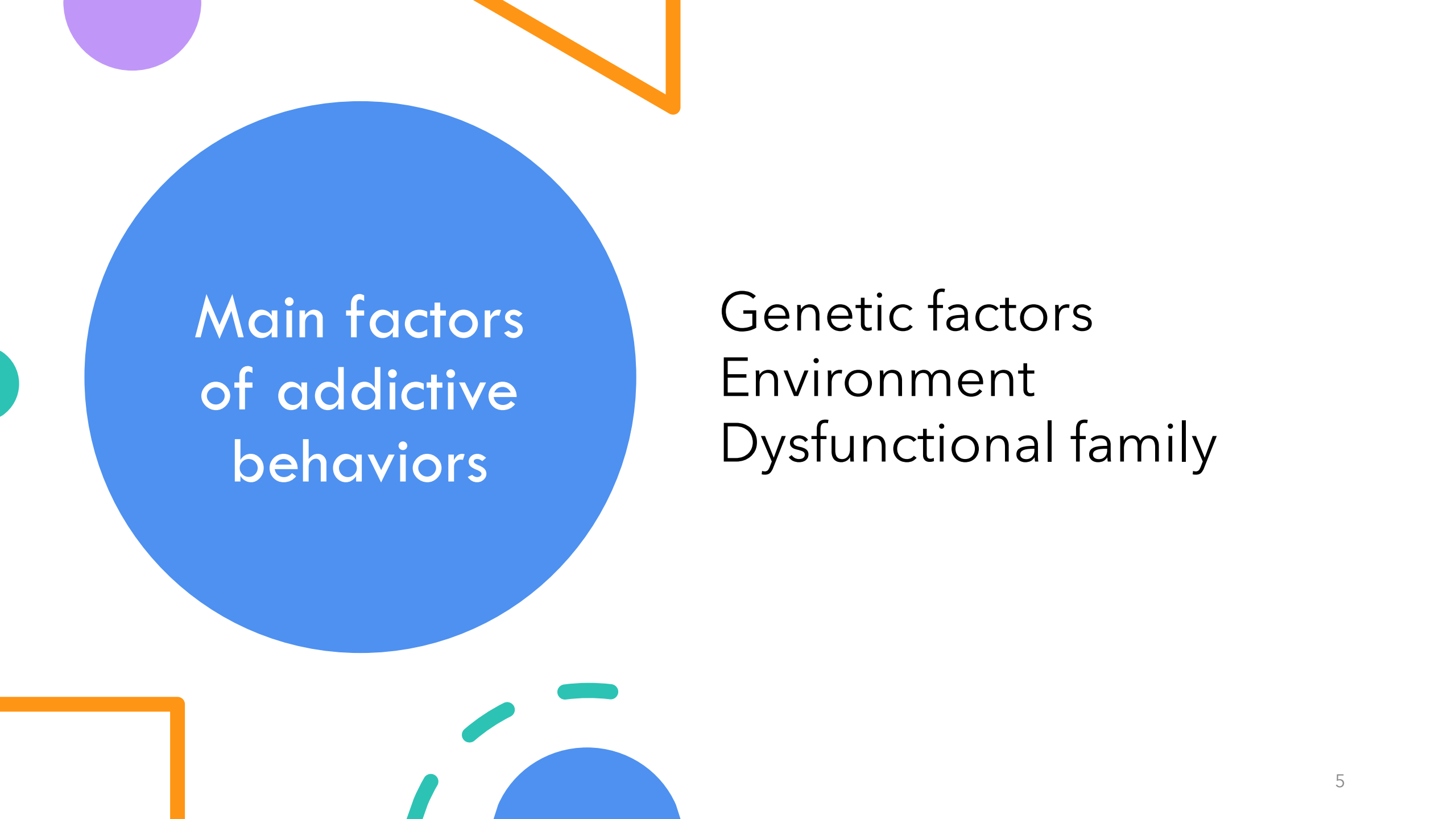
Addicted people are still being blamed for their illness. Despite the consensus in the medical field that addiction is a complex brain disorder that has behavioral components, the public—and even many in the health care and court systems— continues to see drug addiction as the result of certain moral weaknesses and character defects. Volkow, 2022



Definition

"a deeply discrediting attribute" putting the subject in inferiority, loss of position and power, causing what generates shame, guilt and discrimination"

Goffman E. 1963.



Main factors of addictive behaviors

Genetic factors
Environment
Dysfunctional family



Causes

Violation of social norms
Violent behavior
Unhygienic conditions



Consequences

Family separation
Social exclusion
Unemployment
Little or no access to services
Refusal to seek help
Low adherence to treatment.



Stigma
ethnicity y
gender

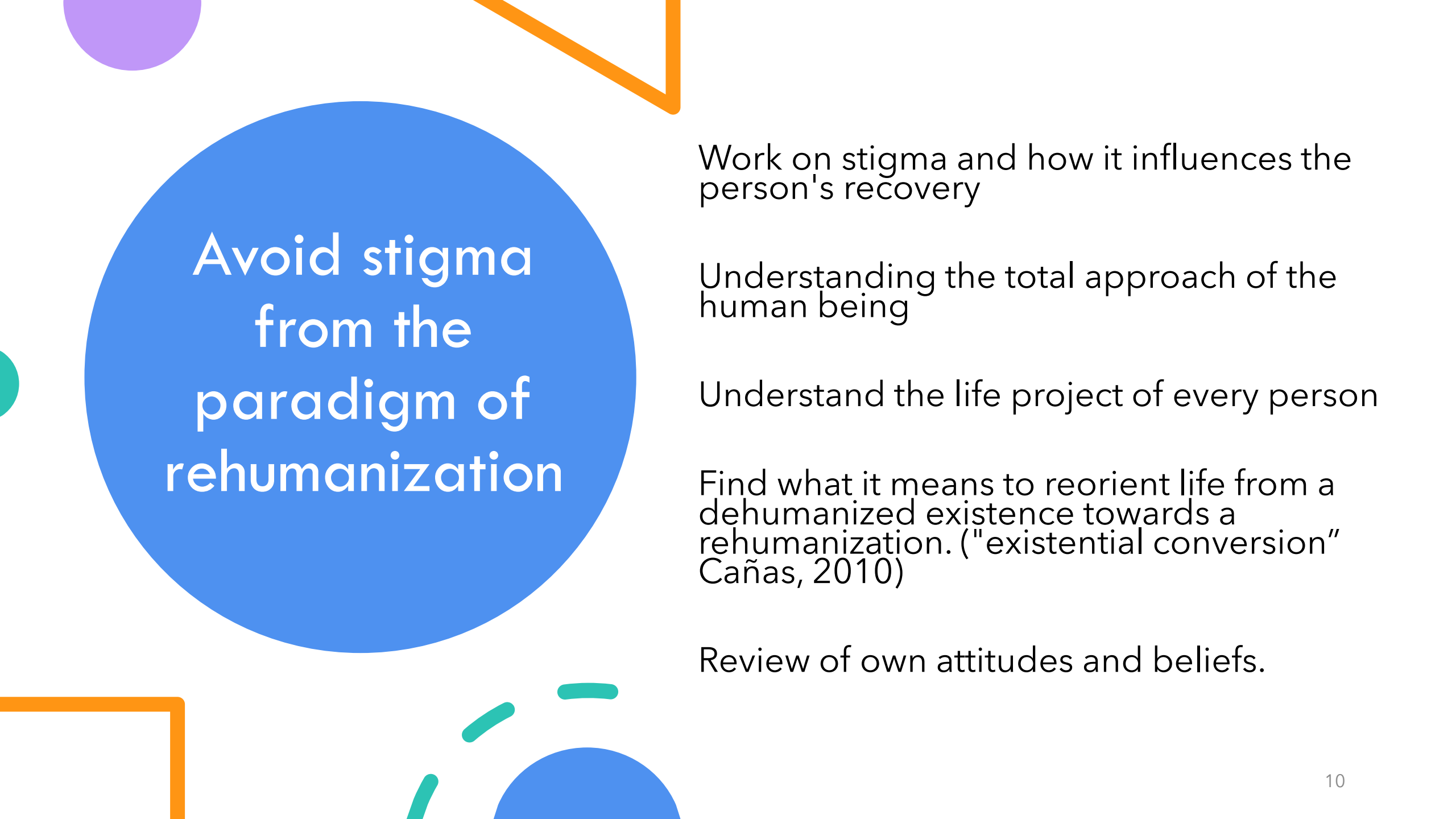
Double & triple stigma to:
Women
Afro-American people
Aboriginal people
Gender diversity people



Rehumanization
as a starting
point

The path of rehumanization will definitely always respond to the need for a profound change in mentality because all of us can be reborn.

Jose Luis Cañas, 2013



Avoid stigma
from the
paradigm of
rehumanization

Work on stigma and how it influences the person's recovery

Understanding the total approach of the human being

Understand the life project of every person

Find what it means to reorient life from a dehumanized existence towards a rehumanization. ("existential conversion" Cañas, 2010)

Review of own attitudes and beliefs.



***Thank you very
much!!!!***