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# **Retaliation and Revenge**

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# Acknowledgements

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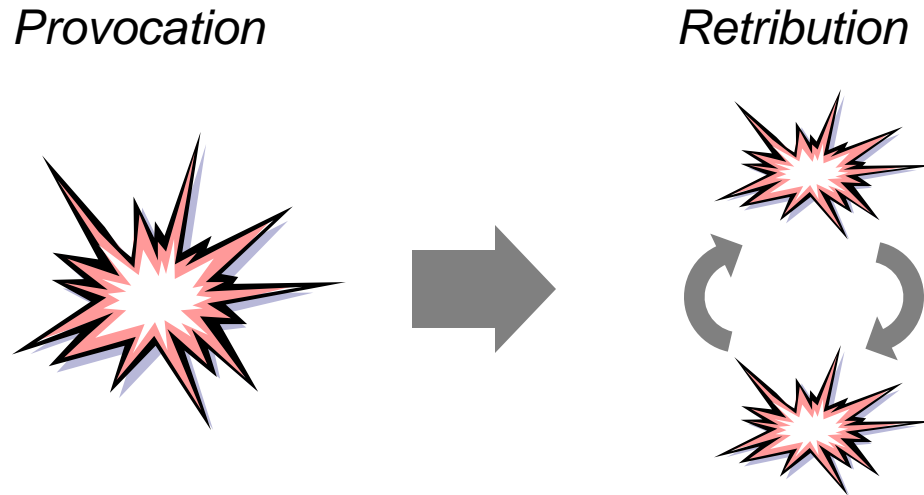
# **Group-Based Retaliation and Revenge**

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- Vital to understand
  - To short-circuit budding conflicts
  - To build sustainable peace after conflict
- Tenacious
  - Rooted and sustained in some very basic aspects of human psychology and society
- Complex
  - Intertwined processes at the individual and group/society level

# Why Do (Intergroup) Provocations Spread and Recur?

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Lickel, Miller, Stenstrom, Denson, & Schmader, 2006,  
*Personality and Social Psychology Review*

# **Two Interconnected Levels of Analysis**

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- Individual level
  - Construal of events
  - Emotions
  - Actions and attitudes
- Group Level
  - Affiliation with others
    - Meaning-making (construal) and history
  - Group decision-making
  - Collective action

# Why Do (Intergroup) Provocations Spread and Recur?

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- Ingroup identity and historical memory
  - People who are (in a direct, literal sense) not harmed by events are drawn in because of a common ingroup identity with victims
- Collective blame of outgroup
  - People who are not direct provocateurs are targeted for retaliation
- Divergent construal and motivated cognition
  - Each side likely to view itself as victim
  - Construals justify retaliation

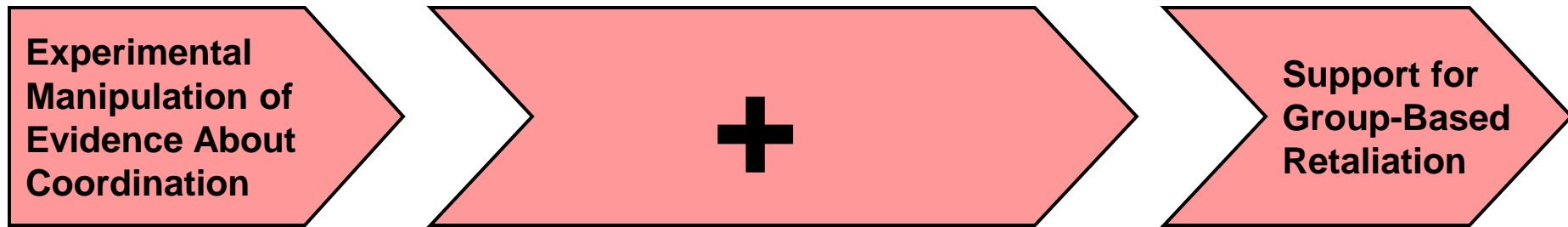
# Perceptions of Outgroup Coordination and Collective Blame

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- People's judgments of collective blame are rooted in their assessments of social connections in the outgroup
  - Shared values and goals(wanting the same things)
  - Social coordination and collective action
  - Mutual social influence
- A “rational” basis for collective blame
  - But, open to motivational biases as well

# Evidence About Outgroup Coordination: Impact on Group-Based Retaliation

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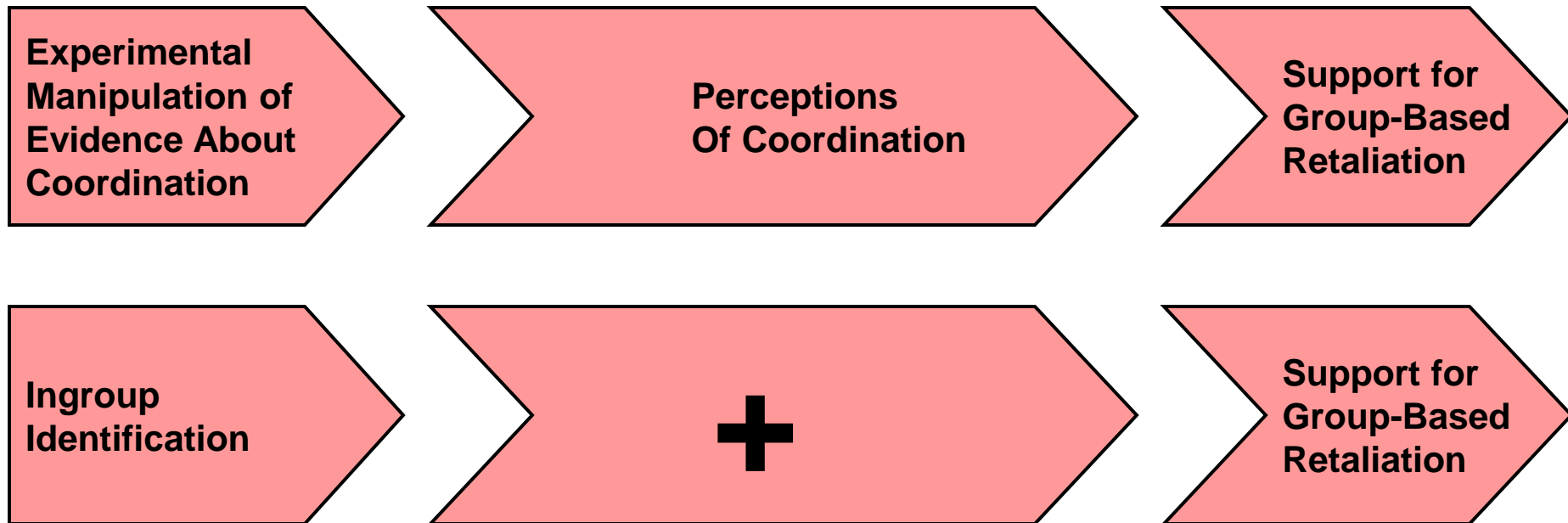


Stenstrom, Lickel, Miller & Denson, 2008,  
*Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*



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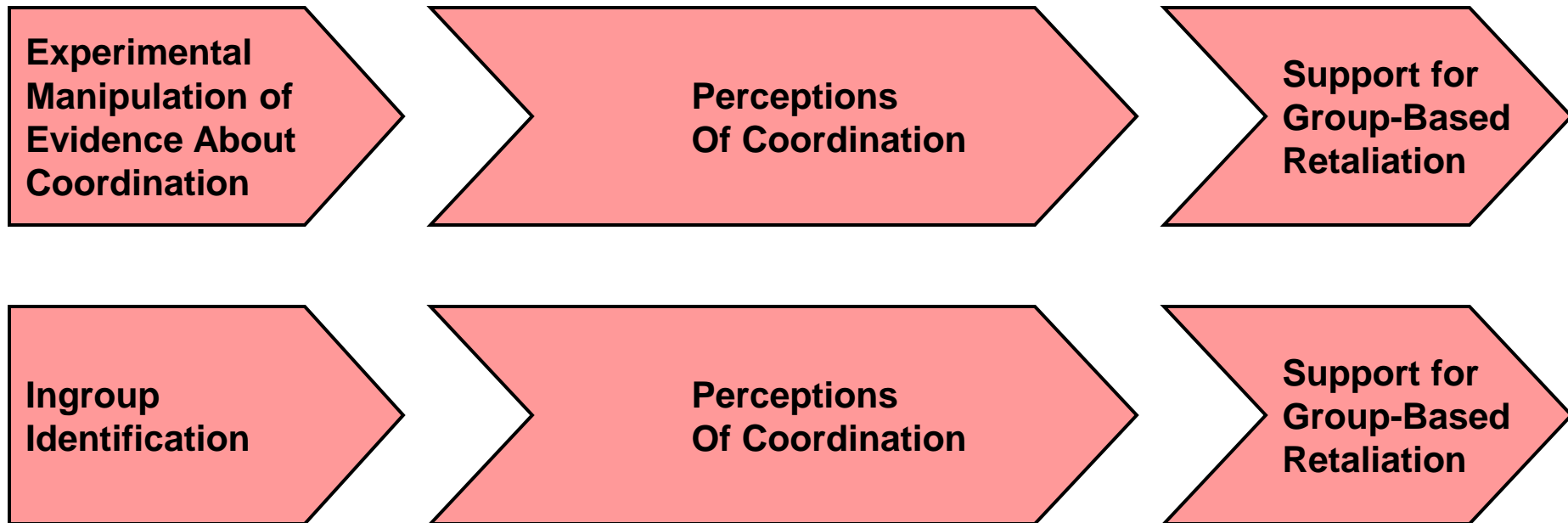
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Stenstrom, Lickel, Miller & Denson, 2008,  
*Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*

# Evidence About Outgroup Coordination: Impact on Group-Based Retaliation

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# **Emotions and Group-Based Aggression**

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- Emotion research has focused on anger as the prototypical emotion of aggression and revenge
  - Including work on group based emotions
- Other emotions are likely to play an important role in conjunction with anger
  - Fear
  - Contempt
  - Humiliation
  - Envy

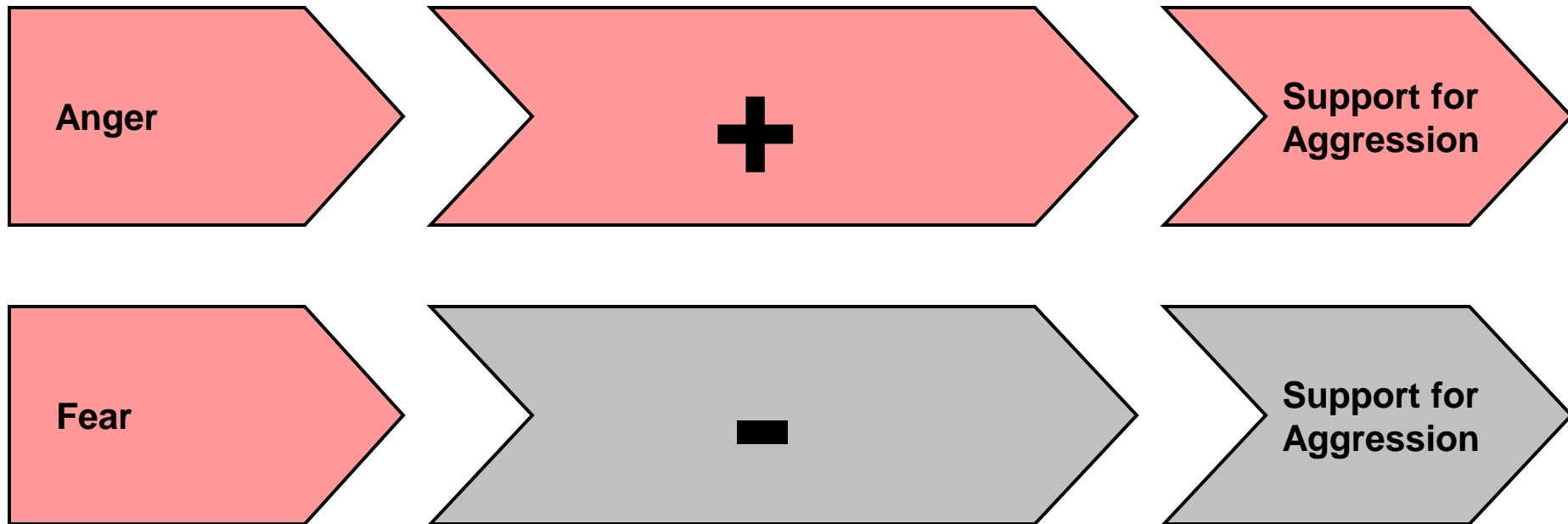
# **Emotions in Different Stages of Conflict**

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- When and why would other emotions play a role?
  - Fear?
  - Humiliation?
  - Envy?
- Contrasting fear and anger
  - Comparison of Serbian-Bosnian Muslim, and Serbian-Kosovar Albanian conflicts

# Anger and Fear – Bosnian (Republika Srpska) Serb Emotions Toward Bosnian Muslims

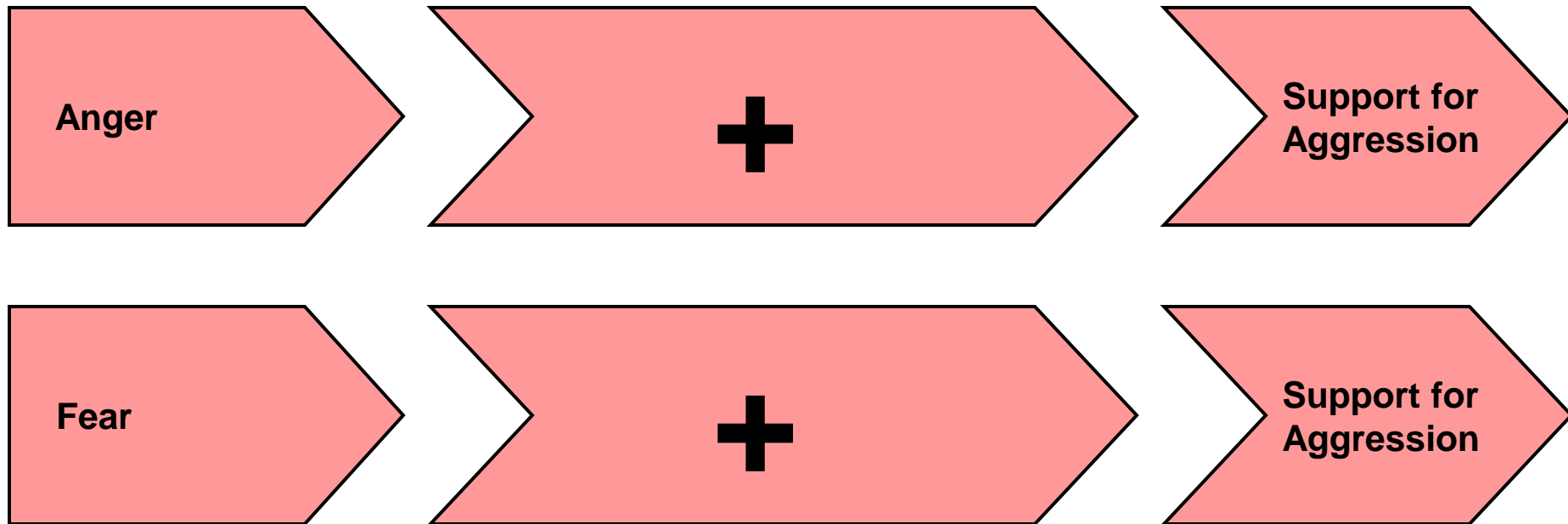
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Spanovic, Lickel, Denson, & Petrovic, In press,  
*Group Processes and Intergroup Relations*

# Anger and Fear – Serbian Emotions Toward Kosovar Albanians

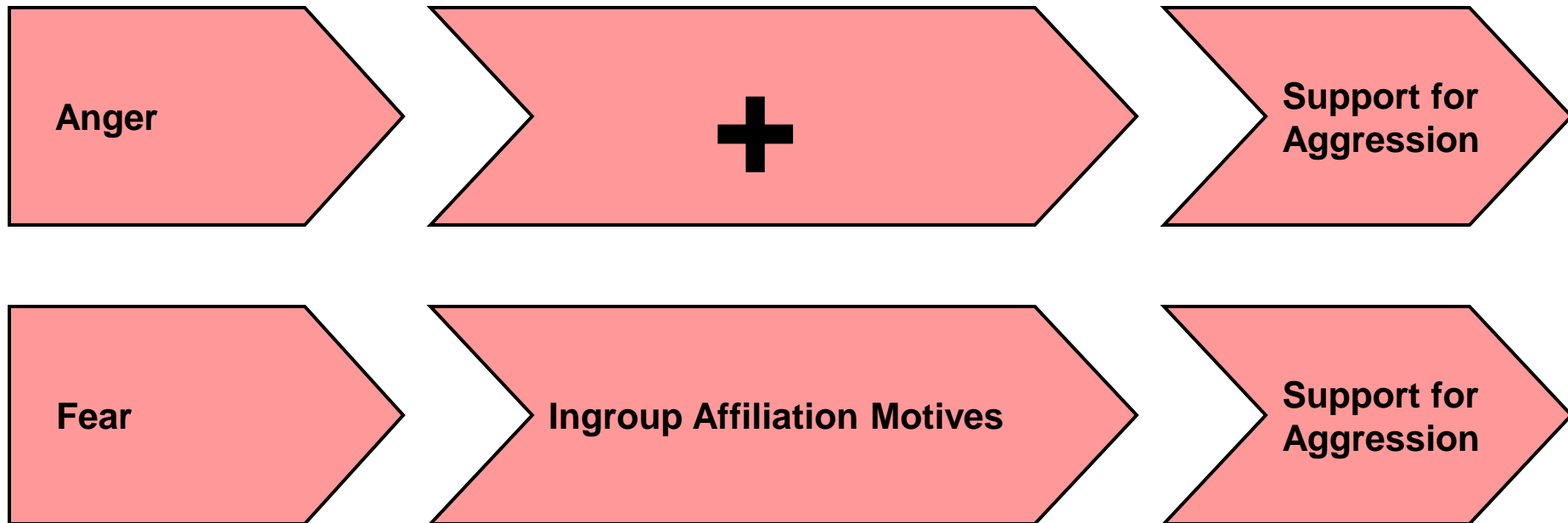
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