Characteristics of Communication Styles

	Passive	Aggressive	Passive-Aggressive	Assertive	
Active toward reaching one's goal?	No, Ineffective strategy	Yes, but at the expense of others	Yes, but usually too late and inappropriately	Yes, and appropriately	
Respectful?	Communicates apathy or submissiveness	No, intentions are to hurt others	No, mostly blame and guilt trips	Yes, even when defending their own safety	
Listens to Others?	Maybe, but does not actively respond	Probably more concerned with own perspective	Maybe, but with hidden intentions	Yes, then responds at the appropriate time	
Communicates Confidence?	No	Yes, probably too much	Maybe when acting aggressive	Yes, to set appropriate boundaries.	
Uses Nonverbal Communication?	Yes, displays weakness and vulnerability	Yes, from threat gestures to injuring others	Yes, used to manipulate others	Yes, to reinforce appropriate verbal communication	
Impression given to others?	Weakness, apathy	"Jerk" "Mean" you get the idea	Difficult to read, unpredictable	Easy to get along with, confident, cooperative	
Reinforced by achievement of goals?	Yes, temporarily, if goal is to avoid conflict	Yes, immediate gratification, poor long term outcome	Yes, at the expense of relationships	Yes, and improves relationships	
Examples of verbal interaction	Idon'tcare Whatever Silent	F*@% You! I'll Kill You! You're Stupid!	It's your fault You should have Sarcasm	"I" Statements When is a good time to talk?	