“Hold on! I just started understanding ethics for working with individuals...”

Managing Multiple Clients: Ethical Issues in Working with Couples, Families, & Groups
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Ethical Standards in Couples and Family Therapy
- Professional competence and training
- Confidentiality and informed consent
- Ethical Issues in Marital/ Family Counseling
- Ethical pitfalls/dilemmas

Professional Competence & Training
- Personal Characteristics
  - _______________________________
- Training and Supervision
  - Didactic and experiential methods
- Values in Couples and Family Therapy
  - Counselor’s value system impacts:
    - Formulation and _______________________
    - Treatment planning
    - _______________________
More on Values: Gender - Sensitive Counseling

- Challenging traditional gender roles
- Gender ______________________
- Feminist perspectives on family counseling:
  - ______________________________
  - valuing women’s request for change
  - valuing expression of emotion and nurturance
  - challenging patterns of dominance and subordination
  - questioning ________________________________
  - valuing ________________________________

Confidentiality & Informed Consent

- Exceptions to confidentiality are the same as in individual counseling
  - It may get “____________”
- Informed consent is similar to individual counseling
  - _________________________
  - Members can withdraw

Ethical Issues in Marital/Family Counseling

- Responsibility to Clients
  - Dual relationships
  - Abandonment
  - Prejudice
  - Exploitation
  - Continued treatment without benefit
  - Sexual intimacy
Ethical Pitfalls/Dilemmas for Couples & Families

• Whose agent is the counselor?
• _______________________________________
• Who wants/does not want counseling?
• How informed is informed consent?
• How does the counselor deal with ______________?
• How important are counselor values in interpretation?
• Do members have the freedom to quit counseling?

Ethical Standards in Group Counseling

• Professional competence and training
• Working with school aged children and adolescents
• Co-Leadership pros and cons
• Ethical issues in group counseling
  – The counseling process
  – Techniques

Professional Competence & Training

• Personal Characteristics of Group Counselors
  – Self-confident, flexible, risk taker, ____________, disciplined, honest, & ____________
• Training, Supervision, and Clinical Experience
  – didactic and experiential methods
• Recommendations
  – self-exploration groups
  – participation in a training and supervisory group
## Ethical Principles for Group Counseling with Children

- Placement based on benefits
- Leadership training
- Setting the group rules
- Focus on those in the group
- Information for _______
- No visitors
- Asking a member to leave
- Member termination
- Professional conduct
- Codes of ethical conduct (ACA, ASCA, ASGW)

## Co-Leadership

**Advantages**
- ___________________________ – content vs. process, schedule changes
- ___________________________ – diffusing antagonistic relationship dynamics
- Shared responsibility – both in and out of group
- ___________________________ – allies, venting
- Increased role-modeling opportunities

**Cautions**
- Some times you can pick ‘em, sometimes…
- Working together
- ___________________________ approaches
- Inconsistencies and arguments
- ___________________________
Ethical Issues in Group Membership

- Informed consent
- Preparing group participants
- Involuntary participation
- Freedom to leave group
- Confidentiality in groups