“I Value what you’re saying, but…”

Values in the Helping Relationship
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The Code…

• "Counselors are aware of their own values, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors and how these apply in a diverse society, and avoid imposing their values on clients."
  -- ACA Code of Ethics (A.5.b)

Who’s Values?

• The development of value systems are influenced by:
  • _______
  • _______
  • _______
  • _______
  • _______
  • _______
  • _______
  • _______
To Disclose or Not to Disclose

- When you disclose, make it clear that __________
- Allow clients to arrive at their own conclusions as to where their values fall
- To practice ethically, you must
  - (1) ____________ and
  - (2) work to understand how they are influencing your work with clients

Values and the Helping Relationship

- ___________ – to refer or not to refer
- Appropriate when moral, religious, or political values are centrally involved in a client’s presenting problems and when:
  - Counselor’s ________________ have been reached
  - Counselor has ______________ with client’s values
  - Counselor is unable to ______________
  - Counselor has ______________ about imposing his or her values on the client

Potential Areas of Difference

- Education/New Knowledge
- Money/Possessions
- Religion/Morals
- Helping Others
- Friendships
- Work/Career
- Health – Emotional and Physical
- Love/Affection
- Achievement/Recognition
- Marriage/Family
- Security
- Leisure
Do we Need to have Walked the Paths that our Clients Walk?

- Some believe you must be like the clients you counsel (__________________________).
- What do you think?
  - The elderly
  - Minorities
  - Women/men
  - Gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender
  - Addiction
  - Religious/spiritual beliefs
  - Others?

Spiritual and Religious Values

- _______ refers to:
  - general sensitivity to moral, ethical, humanitarian, and existential issues without reference to any particular religious doctrine
- _______ refers to:
  - the way people express their devotion to a deity or an ultimate reality
- Key issues:
  - Can the counselor ___________ the religious beliefs of the client?
  - Can the counselor work within the ___________ of the client?

Making End-of-Life Decisions

- Various continuing care or treatment options exist, such as:
  - Aggressive treatment of the medical condition(s)
  - Life-sustaining treatment
  - Medical intervention intended to alleviate suffering (but not to cure)
  - Withdrawing __________________
  - Voluntary active euthanasia
  - Physician-assisted suicide
Let's Talk about Sex

- Counselors need to know their attitudes toward the following:
  - The belief that sex should be reserved for marriage
  - Sex as an expression of love and commitment
  - Casual sex
  - Group sex
  - Extramarital sex
  - Premarital sex
  - Homosexuality
  - Teenage sex