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# Ethical Issues in Group Therapy

- Professional training standards
    - **knowledge competencies**
    - **skill competencies**
  - Training for various types of groups
    - **task and work groups**
    - **psychoeducational groups**
    - **group counseling**
    - **group psychotherapy**
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# Training Program for Group Workers

## ■ Recommendations

- personal psychotherapy
  - self-exploration groups
  - participation in a training and supervisory group
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# Ethical Issues in Group

## ■ **Membership**

- **Informed consent**
  - **Screening and selection**
  - **Preparing group participants**
  - **Involuntary participation**
  - **Freedom to leave group**
  - **Psychological risks**
  - **Confidentiality in groups**
    - **exceptions to confidentiality**
    - **confidentiality with minors**
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# Unethical Use of Group Techniques

- It is unethical for group leaders to use techniques:
    - that are unfamiliar
    - to serve a hidden agenda or enhance power
    - solely to create an intense atmosphere
    - to pressure members or deprive them of their dignity
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# Recommendations in Using Group Techniques

- ❑ **Techniques should have therapeutic purpose**
  - ❑ **Techniques should be grounded in a theoretical framework**
  - ❑ **Client's self-exploration should be fostered**
  - ❑ **Leaders should modify techniques for culturally diverse clients**
  - ❑ **Techniques shouldn't be used haphazardly**
  - ❑ **Techniques should be introduced in timely and sensitive manner**
  - ❑ **Group members should be given freedom to participate or pass on experiment**
  - ❑ **Group leaders should use techniques they are familiar with**
  - ❑ **Leaders should be aware of potential impact of techniques**
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# Four Facets of Comprehensive Community Counseling Programs

1. Direct community services
    - **preventive education**
  2. Indirect community service
    - **influencing policymakers**
  3. Direct client services
    - **focuses on outreach activities**
  4. Indirect client services
    - **client advocacy**
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# Alternative Counselor Roles

- Change agent
  - Consultant
  - Adviser
  - Advocate
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# Community Counseling

## Practitioner Duties involve:

- ❑ Ability to support community needs
  - ❑ Develop partnerships in creation and delivery of services
  - ❑ Promote community organization and development of activities
  - ❑ Outreach
  - ❑ Develop strategies to empower the community
  - ❑ Consultation with community agencies
  - ❑ Evaluating human-services programs
  - ❑ Advocate and assist with initiatives
  - ❑ Develop and build community assets
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# Relationships Between Counselor and the Agency

- Counselors who are dissatisfied with an agency or the system may decide to:
    - subvert it any way they can
    - conform to institutional policies out of fear
    - make compromises between institutional demands and personal requirements
    - leave the agency
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# Case Management

## ■ Philosophy

- The primary goal of case management is to enable clients to achieve economic and personal independence and self-sufficiency

## ■ The role of case manager

- identify which needs and desires could motivate the client to change
  - help clients identify options and resources that can facilitate change and identify barriers blocking change
  - provide information options and resources that make change seem achievable
  - actively involve clients in all phases of the process
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