
Class 6 - Values

Client Rights

Quiz

- What are three of the reasons for malpractice?
 - What is the #1 thing you can do to prevent malpractice on a daily basis, besides not committing unethical or illegal acts?
 - What are the two other names that “refereed” journals go by?
 - According to Pope what is the problem with forms and informed consent?
-

Checklist for Informed Consent

- **Voluntary participation**
- **Client involvement**
- **Counselor involvement**
- **No guarantees**
- **Risks associated with counseling**
- **Confidentiality and privilege**
- **Exceptions to confidentiality and privilege**
- **Counseling approach or theory**
- **Counseling and financial records**
- **Ethical guidelines**

Checklist for Informed Consent

- **Licensing regulations**
- **Credentials**
- **Fees and charges**
- **Insurance reimbursement**
- **Responsibility for payment**
- **Disputes and complaints**
- **Cancellation policy**
- **Affiliation membership**
- **Supervisory relationship**
- **Colleague consultation**

Content of Informed Consent

- **The therapeutic process**
- **Background of therapist**
- **Costs involved in therapy**
- **The length of therapy and termination**
- **Consultation with colleagues**
- **Interruptions in therapy**
- **Clients' right of access to their files**
- **Rights pertaining to diagnostic labeling**
- **The nature and purpose of confidentiality**
- **Benefits and risks of treatment**
- **Alternatives to traditional therapy**
- **Tape-recording or videotaping sessions**

Ethical Issues in Online Counseling

- **It is the counselor's responsibility to examine the ethical, legal, and clinical issues related to online counseling**
- **Providing counseling services online is controversial**
- **There are potential legal issues that must be addressed, a few of which include:**
 - **Competence of practitioner in providing online counseling**
 - **Informing client of limits and expectations of the relationship**
 - **Developing a plan for how emergencies can be addressed**

Some Advantages of Online

- **Reaching clients who may not participate in face-to-face therapy**
 - **Improving client access in rural areas**
 - **Increasing flexibility in scheduling**
 - **Facilitating assigning and completing of client homework**
 - **Augmenting a problem-solving approach**
 - **Improving an orientation to the counseling process**
 - **Enhancing the provision of referral services**

Some Disadvantages of Online

Counseling

- **Danger of making an inaccurate diagnosis**
- **Compromising of confidentiality and privacy**
- **Problems involved in being able to protect suicidal clients**
- **Difficulties in attending to clients who are in crisis situations**
- **Absence of traditional client-therapist relationship**
- **Inability to address a range of more complex psychological problems**
- **Inability to deal with interpersonal concerns in the therapy process**

Reasons for Malpractice Suits

- **Failure to obtain or document informed consent**
- **Client abandonment**
- **Marked departures from established therapeutic practices**
- **Practicing beyond the scope of competency**
- **Misdiagnosis**
- **Crisis intervention**
- **Repressed or false memory**
- **Unhealthy transference relationships**
- **Sexual abuse of client**
- **Failure to control a dangerous client**
- **Managed care and malpractice**

Signs of Child Abuse

- **Wary of physical contact with adults**
- **Apparent fear of parents or going home**
- **Inappropriate reaction to injury**
- **Lack of reaction to frightening events**
- **Apprehensive when other children cry**
- **Acting-out behavior to get attention**
- **Fearful, withdrawal behavior**
- **Short attention span or learning difficulties**
- **Regression into earlier stages of development**
- **Sudden change in behavior**
- **Fearful reaction to questions about injury**