Department Of Psychology, MLSU

Ethical Code Of Conduct

Dr. Varsha Sharma

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

ETHICAL PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOLOGISTS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Adopted August 21, 2002

a) Psychologists inform clients/patients as early as is feasible in the therapeutic relationship about the nature and anticipated course of therapy, fees, involvement of third parties, and limits of confidentiality and provide sufficient opportunity for the client/patient to ask questions and receive answers.



Informed Consent

b) When obtaining informed consent for treatment for which generally recognized techniques and procedures have not been established, psychologists inform their clients/patients of the developing nature of the treatment, the potential risks involved, alternative treatments that may be available, and the voluntary nature of their participation.



Informed Consent

c) When the therapist is a trainee and the legal responsibility for the treatment provided resides with the supervisor, the client/patient, as part of the informed consent procedure, is informed that the therapist is in training and is being supervised and is given the name of the supervisor.



Informed Consent

When psychologists agree to provide services to several persons who have a relationship (such as spouses, significant others, or parents and children), they take reasonable steps to clarify at the outset (1) which of the individuals are clients/patients and (2) the relationship the psychologist will have with each person. This clarification includes the psychologist's role and the probable uses of the services provided or the information obtained.



Therapy Involving Couples or Families

When psychologists provide services to several persons in a group setting, they describe at the outset the roles and responsibilities of all parties and the limits of confidentiality.



GroupTherapy

In deciding whether to offer or provide services to those already receiving mental health services elsewhere, psychologists carefully consider the treatment issues and the potential client's/patient's welfare. Psychologists discuss these issues with the client/patient or another legally authorized person on behalf of the client/patient in order to minimize the risk of confusion and conflict, consult with the other service providers when appropriate, and proceed with caution and sensitivity to the therapeutic issues.

Providing Therapy to Those Served by Others

Psychologists do <u>not</u> engage in sexual intimacies with current therapy clients/patients.

Sexual Intimacies with Current Therapy Clients/Patients

Psychologists do not engage in sexual intimacies with individuals they know to be close relatives, guardians, or significant others of current clients/patients.



Psychologists <u>do not</u> accept as therapy clients/patients persons with whom they have engaged in sexual intimacies.



Psychologists do not engage in sexual intimacies with former clients/patients for at least two years after cessation or termination of therapy.





(a) Psychologists terminate therapy when it becomes reasonably clear that the client/patient no longer needs the service, is not likely to benefit, or is being harmed by continued service.



Terminating Therapy

(b) Psychologists may terminate therapy when threatened or otherwise endangered by the client/patient or another person with whom the client/patient has a relationship.



Terminating Therapy

Thank you..

--

MINN

5

POR

ONW

PARS

ONA

24