

WALKING THE BOUNDARIES OF EVERYDAY ETHICS IN HUMAN SERVICES



Each day, human service practitioners in a variety of professions and roles navigate a pathway through a maze of ethical decisions. While every profession has its code of conduct, there are many grey areas to manage. All organisations have a responsibility to

induct and develop staff at all levels. This workshop is a unique, exciting and creative way to keep conversations of learning and exploration alive and well in your organisation. In this highly interactive workshop, we ask: 'Would you ever...'

Does your organisation or profession actively create opportunities for robust discussion of ethical dilemmas? Why is it important to do so? Who misses out when such discussions do not take place? The answer is: everyone—and most importantly of all—clients. Such discussions:

- invigorate your teams
- create organisational cultures of ongoing learning and professional development for staff
- build reflective practice
- create opportunities for team building through storytelling and discussion
- identify blind spots as well as key values ... and, most importantly of all
- bring about even better (and safer) outcomes for clients.

AUDIENCE

This workshop is suitable for counsellors, therapists, social workers, health professionals, psychologists, supervisors, life coaches and all human service organisations.

It includes activities and resources for having conversations about everyday practice dilemmas that can be used to enliven teams, workshops, staff inductions, planning days, supervision sessions, professional courses...and even job interviews.

CONTENT ELEMENTS

- Common ethical dilemmas: Would you ever...?
- The impact of ethical decisions on clients, workers and organisations
- Ethical dilemmas as part of reflective practice that fosters ongoing learning, helps prevent burn out and leads to better outcomes for clients
- Activities with resources to build a rich picture that includes stories, values and feelings about best practice
- Ways to embed ethical, client-centred decision-making practice into your organisation
- Frank (and safe) invitations to discuss the dilemmas encountered by workers that may not be addressed in policy documents.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Participants have the opportunity to:

- take away ideas for having dynamic conversations about ethical dilemmas in their own organisations
- understand the link between good outcomes for clients and ongoing reflective practice
- identify blind spots as well as key values in themselves and in their organisation
- help build a strong identity for their organisations via its considered and articulated values, principles and practices.

PRACTICE KNOWLEDGE

This workshop draws on strengths-based and solution-focused principles, tools and techniques. Also informing the resources and activities of this workshop are elements drawn from Brief Therapy Choice Theory, Narrative Approaches, Circles Approaches to groupwork and Appreciative Inquiry. This workshop is highly-interactive and celebrates creative approaches to opening up learning such as writing, games, and storytelling.

RESOURCES USED IN THE WORKSHOP

This workshop includes reflective exercises, small and whole group conversations, and the use of hands-on, highly visual resources drawn from the following:

Walking the Boundaries, Self-Care Cards, Body Signals, Anxiety Solutions, Next Steps, No Room For Family Violence, Rainbow Talk, A Vision for Supervision and Paperworks.

