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Please Remember

- Don't have sex with any of your clients



Who has seen an ethics violation?

Who has reported someone for an
ethics violation?



"It doesn't *matter* that you never got caught!"

What is ethics?

The word "ethics" is derived from the Greek word *ethos* (character), and from the Latin word *mores* (customs). Together, they combine to define how individuals choose to interact with one another.

How we view the world and make decisions...

What is ethics?

- The professional guidelines that allow us to practice professionally and within a framework to protect our clients as well as ourselves

Professional Ethics

Based on the definition, this would specifically speak to how a professional chooses to interact with a client.

It can also refer to professional to professional interaction, professional to supervisor, professional to referral source...



Why Do Professionals Break an Ethics Code?

Self care

- Professionals don't take care of themselves as well as we would like to think
- We allow stress to interrupt the thinking process
- Unchecked emotions trigger poor judgements
- We get too busy for lunch/breaks... quiet time
- Lack of exercise and good nutrition

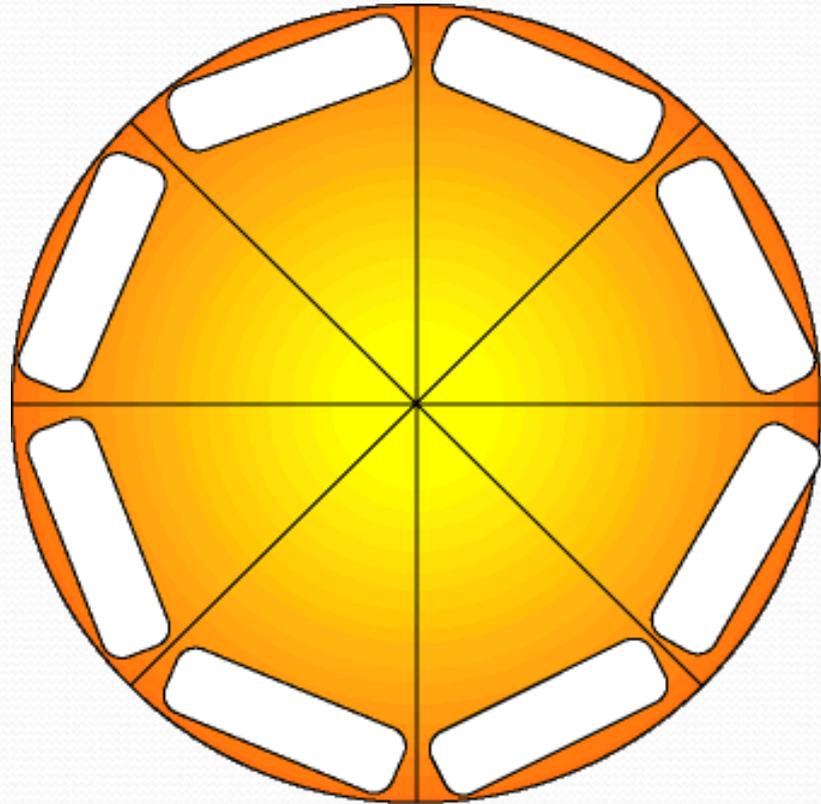
Poor self care leads to poor ethical choices

Life Balance Scale:

Decide on 8 life areas to fill in the circle.
Here are suggestions:

- Work
- Family
- Social Connections
- Mental/Emotional Health
- Financial Health
- Physical Health
- Spiritual Health
- Community Service

Rate each area in satisfaction from 1 to 10 with 1 being in the center and 10 on the outer circle line. Connect each point to see how balanced you are.



Boundaries

1. Professional boundaries with clients
2. Professional boundaries with co-workers
3. Professional boundaries with agency
4. Personal boundaries

Why Have Boundaries

1. Creates an emotional space
2. Creates a necessary distance
3. Holds professionals accountable
4. Prevents client from being hurt



5. We want to shrink the gray space!!

Boundary Setting Guidelines

1. Give clients choices
2. Collaborate with staff and clients
3. Set boundaries immediately and clearly communicate them
4. Avoid threats and don't make false promises



Role Model

It is always the professional's responsibility to set the boundaries.

Be a role model of appropriate behavior.

Make sure you have a role model/mentor/supervisor

ETHICS APPLY ALL THE TIME

