

## **BRIEF ETHICAL GUIDELINES**

Draft

Idea taken from IAGP brief guidelines below. Statements are adapted from EAP  
“statement of ethical principles”

- 1-Be aware of the fact that the rule of confidentiality is respected not only by the leader, but also by every member of the group.
- 2-Respect other members of your profession.
- 3-Keep the responsibility which requires; competence, objectivity in the application of skills, and concern for the best interests of clients, colleagues, students, research, participants, and society members.
- 4-Accept the responsibility to make every effort to ensure that services are used appropriately.
- 5-Avoid relationships that may limit objectivity or create a conflict of interest.
- 6-Keep your practice at the highest standard and that your communication is accurate, current, and relevant.
- 7-Avoid any action that will violate or diminish the human, legal and civil rights of clients, students or others who may be affected.
- 8-Respect the confidentiality of information obtained from persons in the course of your work as psychodramatist and trainer.
- 9-When conflict arises between client/student and psychodramatist/trainer, keep all parties informed of their commitments.
- 10-Respect the prerogatives and obligations of the institutes with which other colleagues are associated.
- 11- Do not exploit your professional relationships with clients, supervisees, trainees, or research participants sexually or otherwise.
- 12- Be aware that public statements, announcements of services, advertising, serve the purpose of helping the public make informed judgments and choices.
- 13- Guard against the misuse of assessment results.
- 14- The decision to undertake research considers how best it contributes to human science and human welfare.
- 15- Respect the individual’s freedom to decline to participate in or withdraw from the research at any time.

---

## **BRIEF ETHICAL GUIDELINES**

Draft-statements taken from FEPTO Ethical Codes

- 1-Stay within the laws of the country in which you practice psychodrama.
- 2-Use your professional work to the benefit of the client/patient /trainee and not primarily to satisfy your own needs.
- 3- Seek ways of increasing your personal and professional awareness and development, including seeking supervision from a supervisor.

- 4- Be aware of and respect cultural mores of your clients, trainees and colleagues
- 5- Obey the confidentiality of the information of the group members as well as the third parties not included in the group.
- 6-Preserve client's anonymity when writing or teaching others.
- 7- Make available a copy of the code of practice for all students.
- 8-Make a clear contract about the form content process and the purpose of the group/individual work.
- 9-Provide a safe and secure space for therapy.
- 10-Prevent the development of a sexual or private intimate relationship.
- 11-Feel obliged to obtain clear, informed consent from all participants, involved in the recorded or observed sessions.
- 12-Keep the responsibility to continue personal therapy, training and supervisions.
- 13-Be aware that you have an educative role in society as well as a therapeutic one.
- 14-Be aware that supervision is a confidential activity between supervisors and supervisees.
- 15- Keep the rule that psychodramatists do not supervise or train persons receiving therapy with them.
- 16- Be aware that Institute Manager, trainers, and students should agree to their contract.

### **Brief Ethical Guidelines Version 1.0**

#### **Core Principles taken from the Code of Ethics and professional standards for Group Psychotherapy of the International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes**

1. At all times strive to do no harm to your patients.
2. Keep your personal and professional boundaries intact in all your relations with your patients. Restrict financial arrangements with patients to payment for services. Sexual relations with patients are never appropriate.
3. Be open about the limits of your clinical skills and refer patients for treatment in areas outside your ability to treat.
4. Show respect in all communication with your colleagues, especially when their opinion differs from yours.
5. Take the necessary time to develop relationships with those colleagues who are your co-therapists or with whom you must collaborate closely in order to better serve your patients.
6. Continue to study and learn from your patients and your colleagues, always remembering the complexity of the task before you.

7. Always guard the confidentiality of your communication with your patients, except in extraordinary cases when the patient threatens to harm him or her self or a person designated by name.
8. Respect the diversity and otherness of your patients. Their world view may differ greatly from your own.
9. Be aware of your obligation as a healer to the larger international community and use your skills to promote understanding and conflict resolution whenever possible.
10. Be modest in realizing what you can achieve in your special role as group psychotherapist. Never underestimate your power in the lives of your patients and never exaggerate what you can do to help them.
11. Make an effort to treat patients with special needs and physical handicaps whenever possible.
12. Adhere to the values of honesty and the principles expressed in the Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations.
13. Obtain informed consent when initiating scientific investigations with your patients as subjects.
14. Strive to be happy and joyful in your work. You work in a field that is like no other in its large responsibilities and its deep satisfactions.

The latest complete version of IAGP's Ethical Guidelines, including contact details for the ethics chair, can be found at

<http://www.iagp.com/about/ethicalguidelines.htm>