

Reflective Supervision Group Confidentiality Agreement and Guidelines

1) In this group we will discuss clinical work with families we are seeing. In presentations we will use pseudonyms and will avoid using identifying details, while at the same time attempting to stay true to the essential issues of a particular case, in order to get helpful feedback from the group.

2) The content of consultations is confidential and will not be discussed with anyone outside the group. This includes not only client information but also personal information about group members that may come up in case discussions.

3) Group members are encouraged to get releases from clients that allow for discussion of their case in the group. The particular content/wording of the release should be consistent with policies in their agency or their usual practice. Depending on agency policy or ethical considerations in the worker's professional discipline, content of the release may vary; however, the essential issue is to state that the content of consultations is confidential. The reason for seeking consultation can be presented to the client as a wish to get helpful ideas from other professionals in a confidential supervision group. The worker can also ask the client what she/he would like the group to consider.

4) At times, in spite of the use of pseudonyms, other members of the group besides the presenter may recognize a client's identity. If this occurs, the other members remain bound by this confidentiality agreement. When a member of the group learns new knowledge about a client she is working with, she is encouraged to reflect within the group about how the new information may affect her work with a client.

Signatures of Group Members
