

Ethical Issues in Multicultural Counseling.  
Name  
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Multicultural counselling has been an aspect that has garnered considerable attention in the modern day world. Contrary to popular belief, a number of multicultural aspects affect the effectiveness and efficiency of any counselling session. This essay will consider all the aspects within the said topic and argue in respect to the necessity of multicultural counselling and our allegiance to its successful implementation worldwide.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, aspects such as cultural backgrounds, race and ethnicity were not considered by counsellors when passing counseling sessions whatsoever. However, in the modern day world, clients have become wary of counsellors who don't consider such factors when passing judgement as they might feel uncomfortable and not respected. This, therefore, indicates the need for multicultural counselling for its continued development and awareness (Seemann,2004).

In this particular essay, we are going to focus on ethical issues in multicultural counselling. This is a vital topic as it considers the ethical aspects that facilitate the need for multicultural counselling. The importance of ethical issues in multicultural counselling comes in the form of necessity in decision making while handling clients. The counsellor needs to consider all the ethical issues before passing decision to the client without discrimination and also without interfering with the rights of the client as an individual. Another considerable consideration is cultural barriers counsellors are faced with when handling clients during the counselling sessions. Proper consideration need to be taken before advising these clients on how to maneuver their day to day issues without discriminating them on lines of their cultural background or ethnicity. Ethical issues in multicultural counselling should also consider the confidentiality between the counsellor and the client, the functions of the counsellor and the client and

their responsibilities in order to achieve mutual understanding and cooperation between the two parties.

Ethics, like morals, define boundaries between good or bad behaviors between individuals and thence their importance in counselling. This, therefore, leads to the need for ethical codes which define the regular do's and don'ts when handling clients or also when conducting counselling sessions. Although the ethical issues in multicultural counselling actively focus on issues relating to the cultural background of the client, aspects such as; gender, age, race, sex, religion, color and characteristics such as introverts and extroverts are also vital for consideration when passing the specific judgement (Seemann,2004). A counsellor must realize that the discrimination of clients on such lines can be detrimental to their health, relationships and also life in general. Although most counsellors take aspects such as integrity with top priority, some rigidity displayed by some clients based on ethical lines such as religion can be a challenge as some clients are not willing to leave their old habits to newer ones. This has been seen in situations where said clients belong to religions that practice cult like procedures and norms, hence posing a threat to change implementation by the counsellor (Collins,2010).

The relevance of ethical issues in multicultural counselling in cannot be ignored as this is an aspect that has been considered necessary owing to the rise in discrimination for individuals who belong in minority groups such as gays and lesbians. Another ethical issue in multicultural counselling is personal bias. Although this aspect is underrated, it has detrimental effects to the level that most counsellors end up advising their clients on lines that will affect the set standards of lifestyle, belief and decisions based on their personal experiences or even exposure. This should be considered as mean and should

be discouraged as it enhances the passing of judgement on lines that interfere with the client's freedom(Collins,2010).

A counselor should closely monitor the behaviors of a client and relate them to his or her background and upbringing and define correct procedures that would be necessary for his development and substantial growth. Although it's not one of the major factors of ethical issues in multicultural counselling, its importance cannot be ignored whatsoever. This is backed by the fact that most people are brought up from different backgrounds, lifestyles and parents who have different beliefs and ignoring this would lead to bias and misjudgment. The parameter of parental involvement should be, therefore, a close consideration mostly for school counsellors when addressing students.

It is true to conclude that ethical Issues in Multicultural Counseling cannot and will not be ignored owing to the continued rise in ethical issues by unqualified and rogue counsellors who don't uphold the code of conduct. This, therefore, highlights ethical issues as one of the key aspects of consideration in multicultural counselling as it covers a bigger percentage of the scopes and the realization of efficiency in counselling. It is, therefore, vital to note that a client will be easily reprehended for failure to uphold the listed ethical issues in multicultural counselling (Collins,2010). This has facilitated the rise in standards in the industry of counselling as the aspect of multicultural counselling has garnered active awareness and consideration in line with the goal of providing quality services to their clients.

## References

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