

Role Theory: Working with Clients Diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder

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THEMES

- **What's in a name – does the term borderline personality disorder cause some issues in the therapeutic encounter?**
- **Explaining role theory – how it may assist in the work you do**
- **Understanding the interplay between the body's stress system and the behaviors / emotional lability and self harm demonstrated**
- **Exploring the multiple reasons for self harm**
- **Understanding the importance of attachment theory when working with clients diagnosed with BPD**
- **Exploring issues of transference, counter transference and boundary transgressions**

OBJECTIVES

Working with clients diagnosed with borderline personality disorder (BPD) can be rewarding, challenging and frustrating. Labile moods, impulsive and risky actions and at times self harm behavior can present complexities in the therapeutic encounter.

This workshop explores working with individuals with BPD through the lens of role theory. Participants will be given many opportunities to practice a number of process oriented, and action based, interventions to assist working with individuals spontaneously and creatively.

Using a number of vignettes to explore the transference/counter-transference issues that may surface in the therapeutic encounter, participants will gain greater insight into the roles they demonstrate in reaction or response to the roles demonstrated by the individual (and vice versa).

The number of participants will be limited to 16. This workshop is open to teachers, school nurses, clinicians working in mental health, & general health settings, police officers, ambulance officers & staff working in NGO's.

Facilitator: Dr Wendy H McIntosh PhD (RGN, Grad. Dip. MH., MN, Group Leadership Cert, Cert IV Workplace Assessment & Training). Dr McIntosh has delivered workshops on boundaries at state, national and international conferences and has two papers published on the theme. With an extensive history of working in mental health (clinical, research & education), Wendy conducts regular individual and group supervision and is past President of the Australian, Aotearoa New Zealand Psychodrama Association, Qld Region.



Davaar Consultancy Training and Development Pty. Ltd

Professional Boundaries: Your Safety, Our Business

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This workshop provides participants with an opportunity to explore a number of themes relevant to understanding and working safely with individuals diagnosed with borderline personality disorder.

This process-oriented workshop invites participants to practice a broad range of interventions aimed at increasing spontaneity and creativity in the work they do. Working with individuals diagnosed with borderline personality can be challenging, and potentially frustrating; and with the balance of clear boundaries, empathy and consistency, very rewarding.

The comments below capture some of the positive experiences that participants had attending this workshop:

“very enjoyable – a serious topic tackled with humour and professionalism in equal measure”

“useful, thought provoking and stimulating”

“inspires me to be more curious and to investigate”

“I really enjoyed being challenged personally and professionally”

“I thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and gained many insights”

“this workshop left me with a feeling that I have gained new learnings and exposure to different methods”

The facilitator will challenge participants to role reverse with individuals they work with assisting them in gaining new insights to identify new options for the therapeutic encounter. The workshop will invite discussion regarding current debates on the terms Borderline Personality Disorder, Affect Dysregulation Disorder and Traumatic Attachment; how powerful is the language used in understanding the work we do with clients? Pre-reading will be provided to participants after registration and payment have been received.

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