

Course Syllabus

Title: Gender Affirming Care for Minors: The Basics

Asynchronous Learning

Course Description:

With increasing instances of transphobic legislation, gender affirming care for minors is once again in the national spotlight. Transgender and non-binary youth are disproportionately burdened by stigma, discrimination, and lack of competent support. Minors as well as their parents/guardians are looking for support. It is imperative that therapists understand the context of the current debate, legal and ethical standards of care, and the role of the therapist in the journey of a trans, non-binary, or questioning youth.

Knowledge Base: Practice and Research

Level: Introductory

Instructor Information:

Traci Medeiros-Bagan (She/They) has a BA in Critical Gender Studies with a focus in Sexuality from UC San Diego and an MA in Counseling Psychology from Argosy University. They have been in private practice for 10-years specializing in work with QTPOC, Kink, Non-Monogamous, and Sex Worker Communities.

They are the Co-Founder and Co-Director of Gather and Grow OC, a group practice specializing in affirming and integrative wellness. Traci previously sat on the board for the QTAP (Queer and Trans Affirming Provider) Certification Program, in addition to being a mentor and faculty member for the organization. They are an advisory board member for the upcoming KinkedIn dating application which seeks to center the safety of QTPOC users. Traci is currently the Director of Diversity for the Orange County Chapter of California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (OC CAMFT).

Educational Goals:

This course will explain the basic tenets of gender affirming care (the globally accepted standards of care for serving trans, non-binary, and questioning youth and family).

These concepts will be reflected through an overview of current debates, legal and ethical expectations of the clinician, considerations for the well-being of this minoritized and high-risk population, and overview of what competent care looks like in the therapy room.

Measurable Learning Objectives:

- Participants will be able to define the basic tenets of gender affirming care
- Participants will be able to identify the current debate around gender affirming care for minors
- Participants will be able to distinguish current unethical practices from globally accepted standards of care

- Participants will be able to explain the legal, ethical, and functional role of the clinician in supporting trans, non-binary, and questioning youth and their families

Outline:

1) Topic 1: Gender Affirming Care

- a) Defining gender affirming care (and informed consent) as the standard of care for therapists in CA as well as all of the major psychological and medical organizations worldwide.

2) Topic 2: The Current Debate

- a) Misunderstanding about gender affirming care in the media (as well as in mental health communities).
- b) Lack of education about the role of the therapist in serving this populations.
- c) Disagreement about the clarity and agency of minors in experiencing gender.

3) Topic 3: Unethical Practices vs. Standards of Care

- a) Short explanation of reparative and conversion therapies
 - i) How these treatments are still showing up today
- b) Explanation of current Standards of Care via the World Professional Association of Transgender Health (WPATH)

4) Topic 4: The Legal, Ethical, and Functional Role of the Clinician

- a) What gender affirming care looks like in the room for different age ranges:

- i) Prepubescent
- ii) Moving towards puberty
- iii) Puberty and beyond

5) Conclusion: How to Support Youth

Citations

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