

Informed Consent Supplement for Marriage & Relationships

For couples only.

In addition to the provisions of the Informed Consent document that you have already signed, there are a few special things that you need to know about marriage, family, and relationship counseling.

The most important of these is some change to the confidentiality provisions of our time together. When I do couples or family therapy, I keep one record for the session. The regulations in the state of Arizona specify that information about a counseling session that is attended by more than one legal adult may not be released without the written authorization of all the legal adults that attended the session. That means if you as an individual ever want a copy of your records or information from a marriage, family, or relationship counseling session, it will require the written approval of all the legal adults that attended the session.

You should also know a bit about my philosophy of couples counseling. I believe that it is very important to maintain an open, honest, balanced relationship with both parties as we proceed through the counseling process. If I receive a telephone call, fax, email or any other form of communication from one of the individuals, the partner will be notified of that communication at the next session and we will process the information discussed. In signing this document, you are expressly waiving any confidentiality between us to allowing me to discuss those issues with your partner.

Sometimes, individual sessions are warranted with one partner or the other. The information from that session may be available for the partner not present at the next couples session. In couples counseling, I encourage honesty and disclosure, and realize that clients sometimes need an individual session to work through what is difficult to say to their partner. Again, that information may be available for the partner not present, as both of you have entered into the couples counseling session together. If either one of you feels not taken care of, or feel like you're losing me, or an alliance is developing, please let me know, so we can bring someone else into the couples' work. Please be aware of this important addendum.

Consent for evaluation and treatment. Consent is hereby given for evaluation and treatment under the terms described in this consent document. All disputes related to this Agreement shall be resolved exclusively in a court located in Maricopa County, Arizona. This Agreement and all disputes shall be governed by Arizona law. The non-prevailing Party shall be responsible for the prevailing Party's attorneys' fees and any other costs related to resolving the dispute.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For office use only — verification that client has read and understands informed consent document.

Authorized Representative: _____ Date: _____