

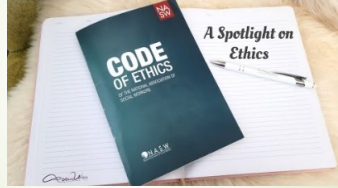
Welcome to Ethics

Today, we will be discussing how Ethics are extremely important when working with survivors of crimes.

1

Today's Discussion Leader

- Dr. Patricia Ann Davenport
- Executive Director
- Our House, Inc.



2

Honesty, fairness, and respect are fundamental qualities that describe which of the following defining values for social workers and victim assistance providers.

Integrity

Social Responsibility

Competence.

Concern for Others' Welfare.

3

True or False: Professional values grow from the same basic desire as personal values (to do no harm, help others, and make the world a better place), but they may be different in focus and content.

A. True
B. False

4

Gerold, a victim assistance provider, is helping a victim who was robbed at gunpoint and then beat up. The victim seems to be traumatized by the experience, and Gerold is not sure if he has enough resources to assist. What should he do?

- A. Consult with his peers and supervisor.
- B. Help because that's his job.
- C. Help because everyone else in his agency is very busy.
- D. Tell the victim that he will have to find someone else to help him.

5

When my spiritual or religious beliefs conflict with the agency's objectives, which of the following should I do first?

- A. Follow my spiritual or religious beliefs.
- B. Talk to my spiritual or religious advisor.
- C. Talk with my supervisor.
- D. Leave my job.

6

Which of the following statements about professional codes of ethics is true?

- A. They are important to have but no one really follows them.
- B. They are important to have but your personal ethics are more important.
- C. They are important to have but your personal ethics are more important.
- D. They are not really important because everyone knows what the right thing to do is.

7

Which of the following is a characteristic of a social worker/victim assistance provider who follows the ethical standards under Section I: Scope of Services?

- Works well with community agencies.
- Knows how to complete necessary paperwork.
- Guises what decisions the victim makes.
- Understands hi/her legal responsibilities.

8

One of the groups of ethical standards is called Collaborating with the Community, which is a characteristic of a social worker/victim assistance provider who follows ethical standards.

- A. Shares information about victims with other agencies.
- B. Conducts relationships with other professionals in a way that improves services.
- C. Refers clients to victim assistance service providers that they like.
- D. Refers difficult clients to other community providers.

9

True or False: Social Worker/victim assistance providers should respect and attempt to protect victims' and survivors' civil right.

- A. True
- B. False

10

What are.....

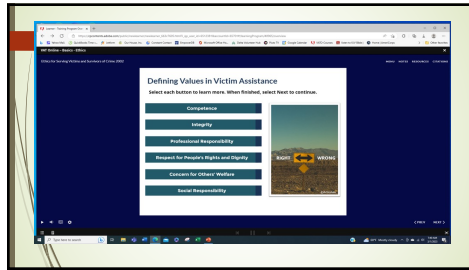
Ethics for serving Victims and Survivors of Crime?

Ethical standards identify behavioral expectations for victim assistance providers based on core values for the field.

11

The screenshot shows a presentation slide with the title "Ethics for Serving Victims and Survivors of Crime". Below the title are three main sections: "Values", "Ethics", and "Decision Making". Each section has a brief description: "Values are core principles", "Ethics are the standards", and "Decision making is the process of choosing the best course of action". There are navigation buttons at the bottom: "Home", "Back", and "Next".

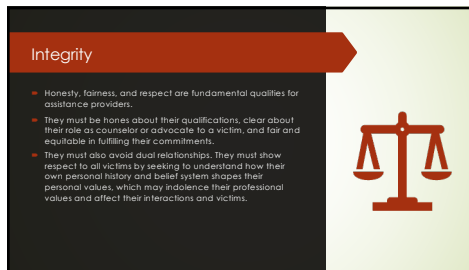
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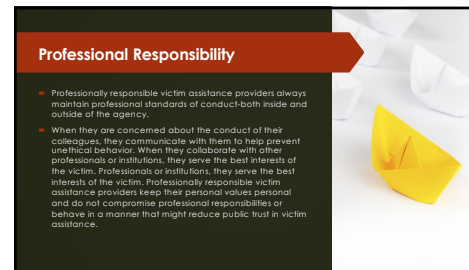
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Social Responsibility

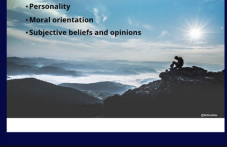
Victim assistance providers must educate themselves about their professional, legal, and social responsibilities and be committed to reducing crime and victimization.

They must work toward developing laws and policies that support justice and the well-being of everyone.

19


Factors for Providing Quality Assistance

- Personality
- Moral orientation
- Subjective beliefs and opinions



20

Influence of Values and Morals




21

Reflection on Personal Beliefs and Values

Think of a time when you experienced a situation in which the best interest of a victim you were serving contradicted a personal belief or value.

How did you resolve this dilemma?
Would you act differently if the situation presented itself again?



22


Self-Awareness Inventory

Keep in mind that there are no right or wrong answers. This is an inventory designed to get you thinking about your own values, attitudes, and beliefs so that you may better

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Members of a helping profession such as victim assistance providers should refrain from getting personally involved with the victims with whom they work.					
A higher spiritual power should give our behaviors and thinking.					
Women are rarely violent.					
The needs of victims must sometimes override a supervisor's directive.					
Culture and race are not factors in a professional					

23

Case Study Scenario



- Jones works at a local domestic violence shelter. She has taken a couple of counseling classes but has no formal training as a therapist or mental health professional.
- Jones is a victim who was abused as a child and currently has an extremely poor physical abusive relationship.
- Jones has serious mental health issues and needs additional therapy.
- Jones expresses a deep-seated distrust of "helpers." Besides the 911 calls, she is only in a therapist's office once every 4-6 weeks. She is afraid to get help and the relationship she has with her therapist is not the best.

24

Knowledge Check 1: Select the appropriate response, and then select the Submit button.

Teresa is worried about Sonya's mental health. She sees that Sonya continues acting irrationally but feels like she can't give Sonya the help she needs. Teresa decides that she will make a referral to help Sonya because her training is not enough to help Sonya through her mental health issues. Teresa is demonstrating which defining value for victim assistance providers.

Competence

Integrity

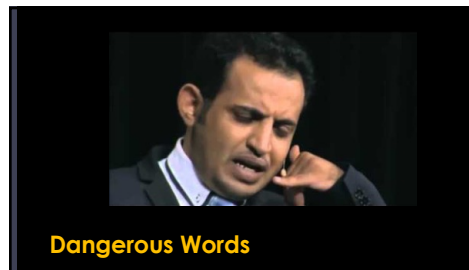
Respect for Peoples' Rights and Dignity

Social Responsibility

25

Knowledge Check 2: Select the appropriate response, and then select the Submit button. After a few months visiting with the referral that Teresa recommended to her Sonya is doing much better and she is cooperating with the prosecutor who filed charges against her current abuser. She continues to get help from Teresa. Because they've built trust between each other, Sonya suggests that she and Teresa start meeting after work and getting drinks at a bar. Teresa decides that meeting one time is OK. When they meet, Teresa tells Sonya that she thinks Sonya could go her medication soon because she has been doing so well. This contradicts what Sonya's doctor said. Sonya is confused, but Teresa tries to reassure her because she has taken a couple of Mental health counseling classes.

26



Dangerous Words

27

Which of Teresa's actions go against the defining values for victim assistance providers?

- A. She misled Sonya about the help she is getting for her mental health and violated professional boundaries.
- B. She discussed Sonya's mental health treatment plan.
- C. She met with Sonya after office hours.
- D. She built trust with Sonya.

28

Correct Answer: A

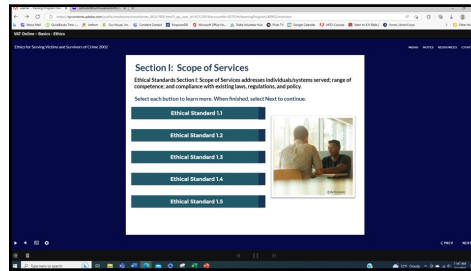
- Victim assistance providers who are actively concerned with the welfare of those they serve and those with whom they collaborate must act compassionately and with sensitivity to the real and ascribed difference in power between themselves and others. They must not abuse their position or exploit or mislead people during or after the professional relationship. When conflicts occur, providers must attempt to fulfill their duties in a manner that causes the least of harm to all involved.

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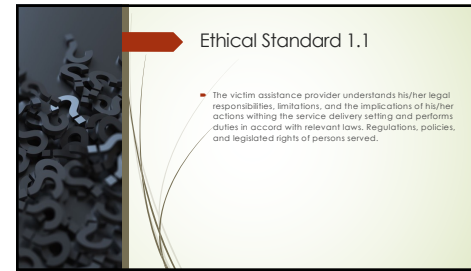
Professional Code of Ethics

- Define the ideals and responsibilities of the profession.
- Protect clients and professionals.
- Improve the profile of the profession.
- Motivate and inspire practitioners by defining their Professional identity and purpose.
- Raise awareness and consciousness of issues.
- Improve and maintain quality and consistency.
- Safeguard the Public

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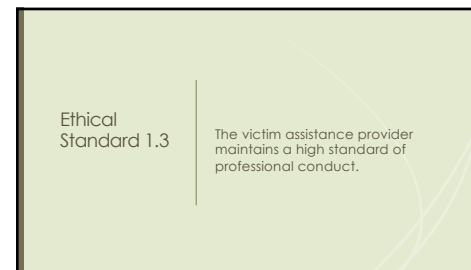
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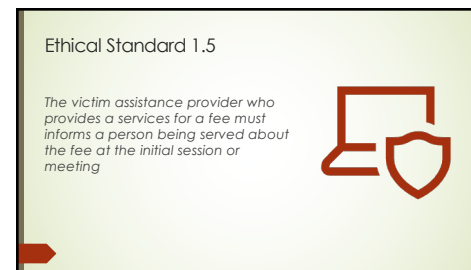
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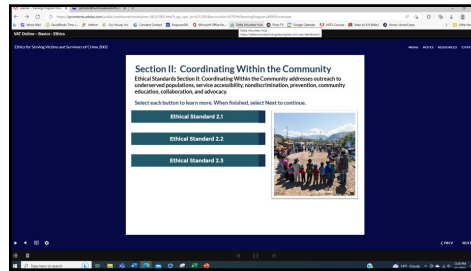
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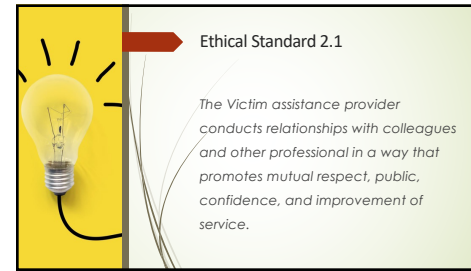
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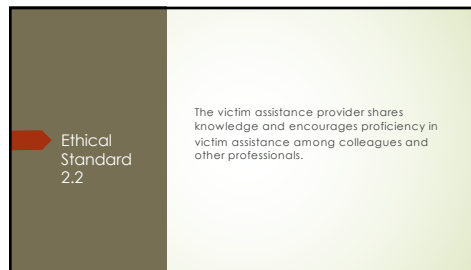
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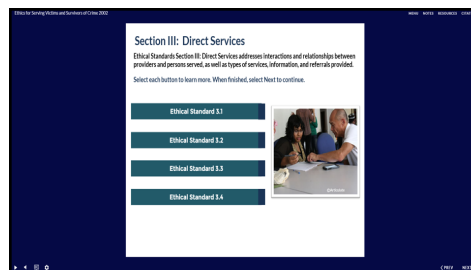
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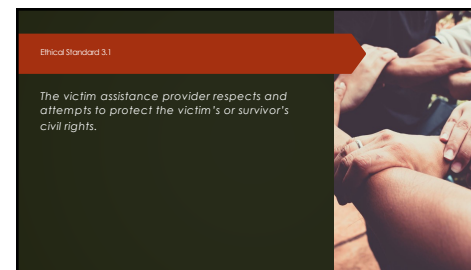
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Ethical Standard 3.2


The victim assistance provider recognizes the interests of the person served as a primary responsibility.



43

Ethical Standard 3.3

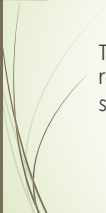
The victim assistance provider refrains from behaviors that communicate victim blame, suspicion regarding victim/survivor accounts of crime, condemnation for past behavior, or other judgmental sentiment.



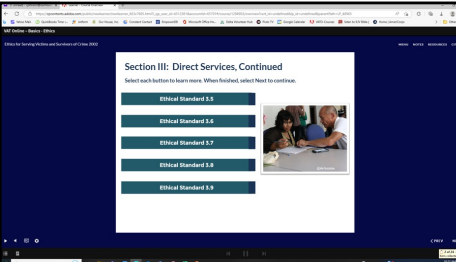
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Ethical Standard 3.4

The victim assistance provider respects the victim's right to self-determination.



45



Section III: Direct Services, Continued


Select each button to learn more. When finished, select Next to continue.

- Ethical Standard 3.5
- Ethical Standard 3.6
- Ethical Standard 3.7
- Ethical Standard 3.8
- Ethical Standard 3.9

46

Ethical Standard 3.5


The victim assistance provider avoids conflicts of interest and discloses any possible conflict to the program of person served, and also to prospective programs or persons to be served.



47

Ethical Standard 3.6

The victim assistance provider terminates a professional relationship with a victim/survivor when the victim/survivor is not likely to benefit from continued services.



48

Ethical Standard 3.7

The victim assistance provider does not engage in personal relationships with persons served that exploit professional trust or that could impair the victim assistance provider's objectivity and professional judgment.

49

Ethical Standard 3.8

The victim assistance provider does not discriminate against a victim/survivor and does not turn victims/survivors away from services due to personal biases or lack of cultural competency.

50

Ethical Standard 3.9

The victim assistance provider furnishes opportunities for colleagues to access services if/when these colleagues become victims of crime of trauma.

51

Section IV: Privacy, Confidentiality, Data Security, and Assistive Technology

Ethical Standard Section IV: Privacy, Confidentiality, Data Security, and Assistive Technology addresses documentation, confidentiality of data, security of paper and electronic media, and use of auxiliary aids such as computer screen readers, voice synthesizers, and software.

Select each button to learn more. When finished, select Next to continue.

- Ethical Standard 4.1
- Ethical Standard 4.2
- Ethical Standard 4.3

52

Ethical Standard 4.1

The victim assistance provider protects the privacy of the person served, adhering to the highest applicable standard of privacy.

53

Ethical Standard 4.2

The victim assistance provider preserves the confidentiality of information provided by the person served or acquired from other sources before, during, and after the course of the professional relationship.

54

Ethical Standard 4.3

The victim assistance provider makes good-faith efforts to ensure that services are accessible, suitable, and secure for clients from a variety of personal backgrounds.

55

Social Work Ethical Dilemmas

56

Section V: Administration and Evaluation

Ethical Standard 5.1: The victim assistance provider reports to appropriate authorities the conduct of any colleague or other professional (including oneself) that constitutes mistreatment of a person served or that brings the profession dishonor.

Select the button below to hear more. When finished, select "Next" to continue.

Ethical Standard 5.1

57

Case Study Scenario

- Blake is the victim assistance provider for local area's rape center.
- Blake's sister, Susan, went through an emotional divorce; her husband, PRS, helped her through it.
- A woman in the choir has accused PRS of molesting her during an overnight session.
- Blake is certain that PRS would not be guilty; he knows from Susan that there are bad boys within the church that are trying to get rid of the mission and help her leave.

58

Which ethical standard applies in order to ensure that Blake's prior knowledge and relationship do not interfere with the accused and the victim in this case?

- Standard The victim assistance provider avoids conflicts of interest and discloses any possible conflict to the program or person served and also to prospective programs or person to be served.
- Standard 5.1: The victim assistance provider reports to appropriate authorities the conduct of any colleague or other professional (including oneself) that constitutes mistreatment of a person served or that brings the profession dishonor.
- Standard 4.2: The victim assistance provider preserves the confidentiality of information provided by the person served or acquired from other source before, during, and after the course of the professional relationship.
- Standard 4.1: The victim assistance provider protects the private of the person served, adhering to the highest applicable standards of privacy.

59

Correct Answer (A)

- Standard The victim assistance provider avoids conflicts of interest and discloses any possible conflict to the program or person served and also to prospective programs or person to be served.

60

Blake invites Jim and a few other friends to his house after work one day to relax. Jim brings along Dan, the investigator, on a case in which Blake is working. Blake thinks this is his chance to get inside information on the case. Blake introduces himself to Dan and casually asks about the case, which they begin to discuss.

61

Which of the following ethical standards would apply in this situation?

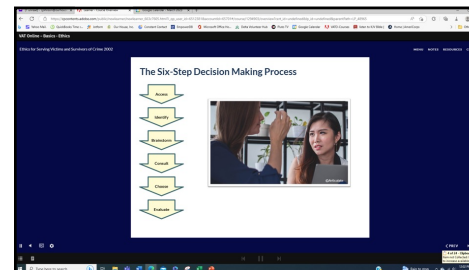
- A. Ethical Standard 2.1: The victim assistance provider conducts relationships with colleagues and other professionals in a way that promotes mutual respect, public confidence, and improvement of services.
- B. Ethical Standard 3.8: The victim assistance provider does not discriminate against a victim or another staff member on the basis of race/ethnicity, language, sex/gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, social class, economic status, education, marital status, religious affiliation, residency or HIV status.
- C. Ethical Standard 3.9: The victim assistance provider furnishes opportunities for colleague victim assistance providers to seek appropriate services when traumatized by a criminal event or client interaction.

62

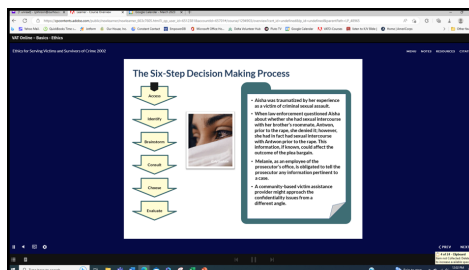
Correct Answer (A)

Out of options provided, Ethical Standard 2.1 is the most relevant to this situation. Blake is clearly behaving unethical. His behavior will affect public confidence if it is made public that he and the investigator were speaking about the investigation in this manner and does not improve service because this is not the way the relationships with other professionals should be conducted.

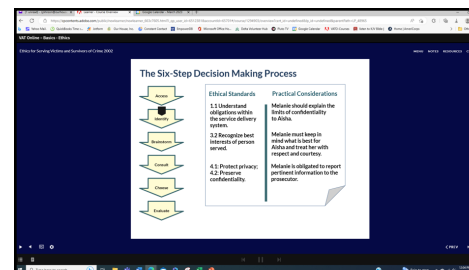
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66

The Six-Step Decision Making Process

1. Keep quiet.

The Alpha attacker gets the maximum punishment for his crimes.

Con: Melanie puts her job in jeopardy. If the truth comes out that she withheld information from the prosecutor, Alpha may be off with feelings of guilt for future.

67

The Six-Step Decision Making Process

2. Don't say anything, but have Alpha tell the prosecutor.

Pro: Melanie leaves Alpha's trust by providing test to tell the justice making responsibility on Alpha. Melanie feels empowered from taking action.

Con: Melanie puts her job in jeopardy if the truth comes out that she withheld information from the prosecutor.

68

The Six-Step Decision Making Process

3. Don't keep this information confidential and accompany Alpha through the process of setting the record straight.

Pro: Melanie fulfills her obligations as a victim assistance provider at the prosecutor's office. Alpha takes responsibility for her actions.

Con: Alpha may feel betrayed. The plea bargain may be withdrawn. The sentence will probably include a higher sentence because Alpha is perceived to be less credible.

69

The Six-Step Decision Making Process

70

The Six-Step Decision Making Process

- Melanie should stress to victims the importance of telling the truth from the beginning.
- Melanie is obligated to be certain that victims understand the limits to confidentiality within the prosecutor's office.

71

The Six-Step Decision Making Process

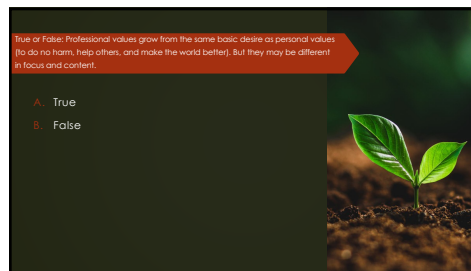
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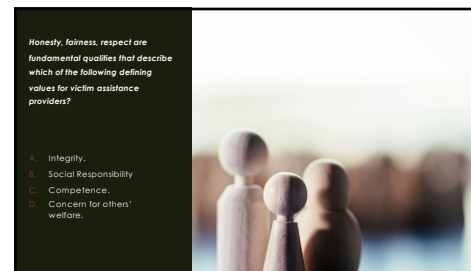
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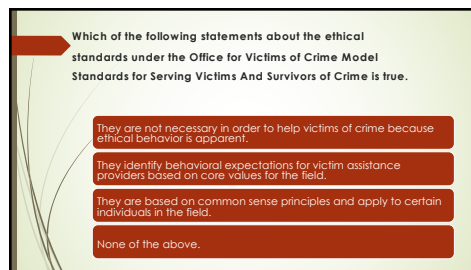
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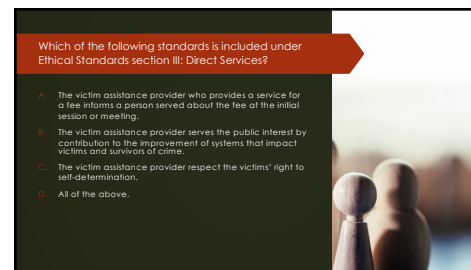
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Gerald, a victim assistance provider, is helping a victim who was robbed at gunpoint and beaten up. The victim seems to be traumatized by the experience, and Gerald is not sure if he has enough expertise to assist what he does.

Consult	Consult with his peers and supervisor.
Help	Help because that's his job.
Help	Help because everyone else in his agency is very busy.
Tell	Tell the victim that he will have to find someone to help him.

79

When my spiritual or religious beliefs are in conflict with the agency's objectives, which of the following should I do first?

Follow	Follow my spiritual or religious beliefs.
Talk	Talk to my spiritual or religious advisor.
Talk	Talk with the supervisor.
Leave	Leave my job.

80

Which of the following statements about professional codes of ethics is true.

They are important to have, but no one really follows them.	They are important to have, but your personal ethics are more important.
They are important because they articulate what constitutes excellence in the field.	They are not really important because everyone knows what the right thing to do is.

81

Which of the following is a characteristic of a victim assistance provider who follows the ethical standards under Section Scope of Services.

- Work well with community agencies.
- Knows how to complete necessary paperwork.
- Guides what decisions the victim makes.
- Understands his/her legal responsibilities.

82

Which of the following is a characteristic of a victim assistance provider who follows the ethical standards under Section II: Coordination Within the Community

- Shares information about victims with other agencies.
- Conducts relationships with other professionals in a way that improves services.
- Refers clients to victim assistance providers that they like.
- Refers difficult clients to other community providers.

83

True or False: Victim assistance providers should respect and attempt to protect victims' and survivors' civil rights.

True False

84