



Chart of Professional Vulnerabilities to Ethical Misconduct

An Ethical Awareness Tool in the InnerEthics® Model

Copyright © 1994—2023 by Kylea Taylor. All Rights Reserved.
 Taylor, K. (2017). *The Ethics of Caring: Finding Right Relationship with Clients* (\$25.95) (also in Spanish)
 Hanford Mead Publishers, Inc. / hanfordmead.com
<https://innerethics.com>
 Please do not duplicate or distribute this chart without written permission of the publisher or Kylea Taylor.

The Chart of Professional Vulnerabilities to Ethical Misconduct

Kylea Taylor

*My job is to be a space where nothing in me
is preventing the changes
that are wanting to emerge in you.
~Ram Dass*

Ram Dass states the simple ethical mission of most of us who care about our clients. It is a lifelong mission to be willing to know ourselves and learn how to recognize those unresolved and unconscious parts of us that might get in the way of the healing trajectory of our clients.

The idea for this Chart came to me first; then I wrote my book [*The Ethics of Caring: Finding Right Relationship with Clients*](#) about it. This Chart is one of the Ethical Awareness Tools of InnerEthics®, and is the one designed to raise our awareness about our *motivations*, those impulses that precede actual behaviors.

The Chart shows seven centers or life areas in a body outline. The line down the middle of these seven centers represents Right Relationship with our clients and ourselves. If we are feeling that we have somehow gotten off the track of Right Relationship with a client, this chart helps us identify where our desires and longings (on the right side of the chart) or our fears (on the left side of the Chart) may have pulled us out of Right Relationship.

The Ethics of Caring devotes a whole chapter to each one of the seven Centers: (1) Money (also Safety and Change), (2) Sex, (3) Power, (4) Love, (5) Truth, (6) Insight and (7) Oneness. In each chapter there are stories, examples, and guidance related to countertransference and transference (projection) pertaining to that Center.

When we are working with clients in profound states of consciousness (e.g., psychedelic-assisted therapy, deep grief, terminal illness, perinatal care) the relationship with clients is multi-dimensional. There is greatly increased vulnerability, suggestibility, and emotionality. In these profound states there is also opportunity for transformation and expansion. Responsible Parties have more power because they're in position of important responsibility. The client has entrusted them with the client's vulnerability and suggestibility.

All the laws, standards of care, codes of ethics, ethical guidelines — what you may have learned in traditional ethics courses — still apply when we are in the Responsible Party role. All those written guidelines have the intent of harm reduction. Most of the harmful behaviors the codes are designed to prevent have to do with lack of protection or unintentional exploitation of clients by a person who is the role of Responsible Party.

This Chart of Professional Vulnerabilities to Ethical Misconduct is for individual and group use in support of our willingness to know ourselves more deeply, so that we can be better allies for our clients on their healing journeys. It is to be used with great self-compassion for self-inquiry, and never to be used to shame or blame oneself or another person.

Other tools in the InnerEthics® tool kit help us to: 1) balance the relational elements in a therapeutic container; 2) identify situations in relationships with clients that are challenging and even more precarious when the client is in a profound state of consciousness; 3) recognize conflicts of interest between ourselves and our clients; and 4) provide a structure to compassionately support one another in InnerEthics® Peer Consultation Groups. All these Ethical Awareness Tools are taught in home study courses (CEs available) in [ETHICS 101, 102, and 103 at Psychedelic.Support](#).

Copyright © 2023 by Kylea Taylor. All rights reserved.

InnerEthics.com