

Outline

Ethics of Using Technology

- Covering the codes
- Similarities and differences
- Competency and skills for using technology

The Benefits of Using Technology

- Enhance services
- Increased client access to services
- Convenience for all parties
- Financial benefits to all

Risks and Reluctance to Using Technology

- Safety concerns
- Trouble building therapeutic alliance
- Misunderstandings and misinterpretations
- Equipment failure
- Insurance reimbursement
- Baby boomer reluctance to technology

Safety Concerns When Using Technology

- Privacy of client and MHP
- Identification of client
- Identity fraud

Using Technology Across Different States

- Residency of the client
- License requirements
- Clients on vacation or going to college
- Services to other countries
- Distance counseling

Laws Concerning Technology

- Confidentiality
- Informed consent
- HIPAA and HITECH

Skype, Cell Phones, Computers and Social Media

- The HIPAA compliance controversy
- To text or not to text
- What the codes say about Facebook

Resources for Using Technology

- Video-conferencing
- State licensing boards
- Federal resources
- Code of Ethics

Objectives

1. Appraise the legal and ethical codes that relate to utilizing technology while providing mental health services.
2. Evaluate ethical practices to ensure safety when utilizing telemental health services.
3. Assess ethical dilemmas clinicians may face related to therapeutic boundaries with respect to utilizing technology in clinical practice.
4. Analyze interjurisdictional laws and regulations for using technology in clinical practice.
5. Appraise cultural differences when using technology and articulate how this may inform the clinician's choice of treatment interventions.
6. Utilize an ethical decision making framework to recognize, analyze, resolve or prevent ethical dilemmas in your clinical practice.

Live Webcast Schedule

(Times listed in Central)

8:00 Program begins

11:50-1:00 Lunch Break

4:00 Program ends

There will be two 15-min breaks (mid-morning & mid-afternoon).  
Actual lunch and break start times are at the discretion of the speaker.  
A more detailed schedule is available upon request.

Target Audience

Counselors • Psychologists • Social Workers • Psychotherapists • Addiction Counselors  
Therapists • Marriage & Family Therapists • Case Managers • Nurses • Psychiatrists  
Other Mental Health Professionals

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Legal and Ethical Issues with

# Technology

in Mental Health

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Wednesday, August 5, 2020

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## Legal and Ethical Issues with Technology in Mental Health

- Laws, rules and risk management for using technology
- Top 5 boundary violations of using technology
- Current changes and movements with technology in mental health
- Latest updates in the code of ethics

6.25 CE Hours of Ethics

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# Legal and Ethical Issues with Technology in Mental Health

A client goes on vacation and they want to schedule a session while they are out of state. How do you ethically and legally practice in this situation?

Smart phones are used for scheduling and for exchanging information. What happens if these phones are misplaced?

Emails are used to send important information to other professionals. How do we ensure the right person receives this information?

How do you ensure confidentiality of your clients in this digital age?

In today’s technologically-advanced world it is difficult to keep up with the ever-changing laws and standards for using technology in our field. There are issues that are not clearly defined.

Joni Gilbertson, MA, NCC, LCPC, BC-TMH, will use her wealth of experiences, real-life case examples, entertaining videos, and thought-provoking scenarios to make challenging topics and concepts easy to discuss and learn. Be recognized for your experience and knowledge in compliance and ethics and technology and move your practice forward.

Attend this engaging workshop and walk away being more confident with:

- New laws regarding using technology in your mental health practice
- What the code of ethics states and how to apply this information
- Navigate the gray areas and practice safely
- The ability to immediately apply the information and new skills with your clients near and far

## Speaker

**Joni Gilbertson, MA, NCC, LCPC, BC-TMH,** is a licensed clinical professional counselor, court program specialist and credentialed distance counselor. She is licensed in Illinois and presently resides in Florida. Joni is also a college instructor in the Sociology Department where she teaches legal issues and numerous other mental health and criminal justice classes. She recently was nominated and presented with the award for “Teachers Who Make a Difference” due to her engaging style of teaching.

Joni is the owner/founder of COPE Counseling Services, LLC. These centers specialize in family treatment for both adults and children and court-ordered programming for people within the court system. Joni is also certified in domestic violence facilitation, sex offender training, distance counseling and selective creative therapies that enhance client awareness.

Joni has many years of experience working in law enforcement as a probation officer and chief of probation where she was directly responsible for training the staff on ethics and legal issues, suicide awareness, and other work-related topics. She has experience supervising a mental health staff and experience as a prison therapist where she trained the officers and mental health staff on legal issues, ethics, and other relative topics. She has given numerous trainings and lectures for agencies, hospitals and universities on ethics, legal issues, mental health and suicide prevention.

Speaker Disclosures:

Financial: Joni Gilbertson is owner of COPE Counseling Services. She receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.

Non-financial: Joni Gilbertson has no relevant non-financial relationship to disclose.



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**Marriage and Family Therapists:** AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WY

**Nurses:** All States

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This course has been approved by PESI, Inc., as a NAADAC Approved Education Provider, for 6.0 CE in the Legal, Ethical and Professional Development skill group. NAADAC Provider #77553. PESI, Inc. is responsible for all aspects of their programming. Full attendance is required; no partial credit will be awarded for partial attendance.



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\*includes up to 6.25 hours of general ethics instruction.

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PESI, Inc. is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. Nurses in full attendance will earn 6.25 contact hours.



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\*Content and materials in this course may include interventions and modalities that are beyond the authorized practice of your profession. As a licensed professional, you are responsible for reviewing the scope of practice, including activities that are defined in law as beyond the boundaries of practice in accordance with and in compliance with your profession’s standards.

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