Outline

Infertility Trauma and Your Client

The most surprising facts about infertility Where is the line between infertility stress and infertility trauma

Social infertility

Top questions to understand your client's experience

Cultural humility as a critical element Tips for assessing your client's

intersectional identity Exercise – therapist self-assessment

Case study – mental health symptoms alongside ongoing fertility treatments

Reproductive Grief: Thrust Against the Margins

Infertility and reproductive grief as disenfranchised loss Embracing and avoiding loss - dualprocess grief model Best practices for assessing and monitoring your client's grief Infertility loss grief interventions Strategies for decreasing grief stigma Grief and cultural humility Case study – termination for medical reasons after IVF

Trauma-Informed Therapy for Infertility

Objectives

EMDR and somatic resourcing techniques Adapting EFT and Gottman Method for infertile couples

Strategies to strengthen attachment, reduce emotional distress, and facilitate grieving

Common partner communication challenges: resentments, intimacy, financial strain, and more Crisis management techniques to

address immediate trauma Foundational strategies to address chronic experience of infertility

Exercise – resource development for infertility distress

Case study – couple contemplating involuntary childlessness

Clinical Considerations

Tailoring interventions to clients' unique identities Self-disclosure and how culture influences it Management of countertransference and therapist reactivity Limitations of the research and potential risks

Live Webinar Schedule

(Times listed in Central) **9:00** Program begins

12:50-2:00 Lunch Break

5:00 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.

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2. Investigate infertility grief in the context of clients' intersectional identity.

- 3. Utilize techniques to decrease the stigma of infertility.
- 4. Employ interventions to reduce emotional distress related to infertility in individual clients.

1. Evaluate the DSM V-TR[™] definition of trauma as related to infertility.

- 5. Assess the impact of infertility on intimate relationships.
- 6. Investigate the potential risks and benefits of therapist self-disclosure related to fertility.

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Infertility **Grief and Trauma**

Integrative Strategies to Help Individuals and Couples Move Through Grief and Improve Mental Health



Featuring Dr. Loree Johnson, LMFT Former Task Force Member for the Mental Health Professionals Group of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine

 Tools to manage stress from assisted reproductive

 Decrease the impact of fertility stigma on clients

Solutions for self-disclosure



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"Do you have kids?"

This common intake question is intended to gather information, forge connection, and build context around your clients' lives.

But for your clients experiencing infertility, it is a major trigger. And it activates the grief and isolation inherent in involuntary childlessness.

As more individuals start their families at older ages and the presence of reproductive challenges increases, infertility trauma and grief will show up in more therapy practices.

Without specific training in infertility grief and trauma, you won't be effective at challenging inadequacy beliefs, negative self-worth, shame, worry, irritability, depression, body issues, and relationship conflict these clients experience - nor be equipped to navigate the myriad of heartbreaks they face.

Don't let therapy be a place where clients coping with current or previous infertility feel further stigmatized.

Join Dr. Loree Johnson, LMFT, fertility counseling and reproductive trauma expert, for this dynamic one-day training that will give you the skills you need to process infertility grief and trauma with your clients. Using the lens of cultural humility, you'll learn strategies to:

- Ask the right questions to get to the heart of your clients' infertility experience
- Intervene with individuals and couples using EMDR, somatic and emotion-focused techniques, and more
- Assess your clients' intersectional identity to contextualize their reproductive story
- Utilize the dual process model to support grief at all life stages

Packed with case studies, exercises, and compelling self-reflections for the therapist, this training will have you ready to meet the growing need for support around infertility. *Register today!*



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Meet Your Speaker



Dr. Loree Johnson, LMFT, graduated from Syracuse University with a master's and doctorate in marriage and family therapy. Inspired by one of the first mental health programs to weave the basic tenets of social justice into the field of family therapy, she started her career in community mental health and now works in private practice in Hermosa Beach, CA. As a result of her reproductive story, Dr. Johnson sought training in fertility counseling and reproductive trauma. She is certified in EMDR. Dr. Johnson has been an active

member of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy for more than 20 years and has served in various board positions at the state and national levels. She completed her tenure on the Anti-Racism Task Force for the Mental Health Professionals Group of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine. In addition to reproductive psychology, Dr. Johnson is passionate about training therapists and reducing disparities in the infertility and loss communities that impact access to treatment, care, and outcomes.

Speaker Disclosure:

Financial: Dr. Loree Johnson maintains a private practice. She receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc. She has no relevant financial relationships with ineligible organizations.

Non-financial: Dr. Loree Johnson is a member of American Society for Reproductive Medicine's, the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, and the EMDR International Association.

Target Audience:

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

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Recommended Reading:



The Miscarriage Map Workbook An Honest Guide to Navigating Pain, and Moving Forward

Sunita Osborn, PsyD, MA 524.99 \$19.99*



Pregnancy Loss, Working Through the



Trauma, PTSD, Grief & Loss The 10 Core Competencies for Evidence-Based Treatment Michael Dubi, EdD, LMHC, Patrick Powell, EDD, LMHC, LPC, NCC & J. Eric Gentry, PhD, LMHC

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