

Parent-Child Consent & Agreement Form

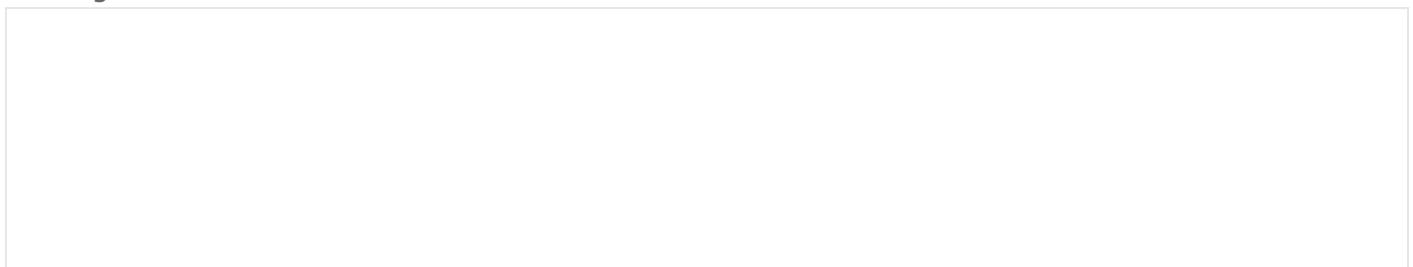
Prior to beginning counseling, it is important for you to understand our approach to child and adolescent counseling and agree to some rules about your child's confidentiality during the course of his/her treatment. Counseling is most effective when a trusting relationship exists between the therapist and a child. Privacy is especially important in securing and maintaining that trust. It is necessary for children to establish a "zone of privacy" with their counselors that allows them to feel free to discuss personal matters. Therefore, it is our policy to provide you with general information about the treatment of your child. However, if we ever believe that your child has been abused or is at serious risk of harming him/herself or another, we will inform you. We will also share with you and risky behaviors and activities that oppose your family's values that your child may be engaged in.

Adolescence is a time when children need to develop a greater sense of independence and autonomy. If your child is an adolescent, it is possible that he/she will reveal sensitive information during counseling sessions regarding sexual contact, alcohol and/or drug use, or other potentially problematic behaviors. In these cases, we will encourage your child to disclose this information to you. We will provide them with enough time to talk to you about these behaviors, and if they fail to tell you, we will help facilitate the disclosure of such information. I will also inform you if your child does not attend sessions or if it is necessary to refer your child to another professional. One risk of child counseling involves disagreement among parents and/or disagreement between parents and a counselor regarding the best interests of the child. If such disagreements occur, we will strive to listen carefully and try to understand your perspectives, while fully explaining ours. We can resolve such disagreements or we can agree to disagree, so long as this enables your child's therapeutic progress. If either parent decides that therapy should end, we ask that you allow us the option of having a few closing sessions with your child to appropriately end the treatment relationship. If conflicts arise between parents, you understand and agree that our role is strictly limited to providing counseling for the benefit of your child. This means, among other things, that you will treat anything said in

session as confidential and you will not attempt to gain advantage in any legal proceeding from our involvement with your child. You agree that you will not involve us in any legal dispute, especially a dispute concerning custody or visitation arrangements. If a court appoints an evaluator, mediator, or guardian ad litem, we will provide information as needed, if appropriate releases are signed or a court order is provided. We are ethically bound not to give our opinion about either parent's custody or visitation suitability. If, for any reason, we are required to participate in a legal dispute, the party responsible for my participation agrees to reimburse us at the rate of \$200/hour for time spent testifying, being in attendance at hearings, or any case-related costs. Additional fees will be incurred for preparing reports, telephoning, and travel time. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions about the information contained in this contract, please discuss them with us prior to signing below. Your signature indicates legally-binding agreement with the terms set forth in this contract.

I am stating that I have read and understood the Parental Consent for Child Counseling and that I am permitting my minor to attend session(s).

New Signature Field



Use your mouse (or, on a touch device, your finger) to draw your signature in the box above.

 Erase

 Type