

DQE Fall 2013 Questions

Domain 1: Theory

Explain the key concepts and processes involved in healthy and unhealthy development and therapeutic change according to your preferred theoretical orientation. Discuss the adequacy of these key elements of development and change in addressing issues of diversity. Compare and contrast these elements of your theory with one other distinct theoretical orientation of the three provided below. Review research that supports four aspects of your preferred theory. Be sure that some of the research that you review addresses issues of diversity.

The 3 theoretical orientations from which you are to **choose one** to compare with your preferred theory are as follows:

1. Existential
2. Gestalt
3. Multicultural

Domain 2: Ethical Dilemma

For the ethical dilemma provided below, please do the following:

- a. Explain why it is a dilemma (e.g., present relevant code or principles that are in conflict),
- b. Present any relevant research literature that addresses both sides of the dilemma and offers recommended action, and
- c. Explain a cogent rationale and plan for the action you would take to address the dilemma.

Dr. Sandra Gertzog is a licensed psychologist in private practice in a small, rural town in Northern Florida. Currently, on her caseload she has a couple, JoAnne and Dave Burns, who she is seeing for marital counseling. She has been seeing this couple for only a few weeks. She also has an individual client, Anna Corti, who she is seeing for individual therapy dealing with both parenting issues and issues related to her being an adult survivor of sexual abuse. Dr. Gertzog has been seeing Anna for several years, and the therapy has been very successful and rewarding. Anna is a clerk at the local supermarket, and Dave is the manager of the store. Thus, Dr. Gertzog is careful to schedule their appointments on separate days and times.

One day, Anna comes to a session very upset. She states that she needs to talk about what happened at work. She then proceeds to tell Dr. Gertzog that her boss, Dave Burns, has sexually harassed her. She reports that he has indicated that “if he does not have sex with her, he will see to it that she loses her job.” She also states that she has an appointment with a lawyer and she is going to press charges. Dr. Gertzog focuses mainly on Anna’s emotional reactions, and does not reveal that she knows Dave Burnside.

Nevertheless, after the session is over, Dr. Gertzog is upset and worried. She is aware that, if Anna files charges, her notes from today’s session could be used as evidence in the case and thus, in essence, these notes will be used in a court case involving another one of her clients. Dr. Gertzog is at a loss as what the most ethical course of action is.

Domain 3: Research (3 hours, closed book)

Flückiger, C., Del Re, A.C., Wampold, B.E., Znoj, H., Caspar, F., & Jörg, U. (2012). Valuing clients' perspective and the effects on the therapeutic alliance: A randomized controlled study of an adjunctive instruction. *Journal of Counseling Psychology, 59*(1), 18-26. doi: 10.1037/a0023648

Write a review of the above identified article, a copy of which is attached. In your review, be sure to address each of the following content areas and questions:

1. Theoretical Perspective
 - a. Describe and critique the author's conceptual framework
 - b. Comment on the need for this study and its importance
 - c. How effectively does the author tie the study to relevant theory and prior research?
 - d. Describe and evaluate the clarity and appropriateness of the research questions or hypotheses.
2. Research Design and Analysis
 - a. Critique the appropriateness and adequacy of the study's design in relation to the research questions or hypotheses.
 - b. Critique the adequacy of the study's sampling methods (e.g., choice of participants) and their implications for generalizability.
 - c. Critique the adequacy of the study's procedures and materials (e.g., interventions, interview protocols, data collection procedures)
 - d. Critique the appropriateness and quality (e.g., reliability, validity) of the measures used.
 - e. Critique the adequacy of the study's data analyses. For example: Have important statistical assumptions been met? Are the analyses appropriate for the study's design? Are the analyses appropriate for the data collected?
 - f. Critique the adequacy of the study's consideration of cultural differences and other issues of diversity.
3. Interpretation and Implications of Results
 - a. Critique the author's discussion of the methodological and/or conceptual limitations of the results.
 - b. How consistent are the author's conclusions with the reported results?
 - c. How well did the author relate the results to the study's theoretical base?
 - d. In your view, what is the significance of the study, and what are its primary implications for theory, practical application, and future research?

Domain 4: Thematic Review and Critical Analysis of Contemporary Counseling Psychology Literature (6 hours, open book, internet access).

Select one of the following two topics that have been recurrent or current themes in the counseling psychology literature. Provide an integrative review and critical analysis of the literature relevant to the theme. Conclude your answer with directions for future development of theory and research in this area. Your answer should be no longer than **ten pages excluding references**, with one-inch margins and 12-point, double spaced, Times New Roman font.

1. The language and frame of social justice has been gaining prominence in counseling psychology. How is social justice defined in counseling psychology and how is it being integrated into counseling psychology research and practice? In your opinion, what other threads of literature in counseling psychology should inform social justice scholarship and advocacy? Give specific examples using recent published literature.
2. The role of the working alliance in counseling.