

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GEORGIA SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK STUDENT PAPER AWARD

To Enter: Please make three copies of your paper. Attach a front page with your name and title of your paper. This page will be detached and your paper will be assigned a number before being distributed to the judges. This way the judges will not have any identifying information about you, the author. Papers must be postmarked by March 29, 2010 and sent to Nicole Orlando Murphy, 139 Estoria St. Atlanta GA 30316. Feel free to e-mail questions to nso20@aol.com.

Paper Outline:

I. Introduction to agency

- A. Mission of the agency.
- B. Community context and population served.
- C. Agency resources.

II. Case presentation (the case must be on a client you have met with personally).

- A. Presenting problem/precipitating event that triggers client's contact with the agency.
- B. Bio-psycho-social assessment of the client.
 - 1. Biological: age, sex, physical appearance, physical health, level of intellectual functioning, cognitive deficits. If the client is a child, include developmental history. Other disorders that may have biological effects such as eating disorders and substance abuse.
 - 2. Psychological: mood/affect, level of psychological functioning (attachment style, ability to communicate feelings and thoughts), evidence of psychopathology, family history of mental illness, substance abuse.
 - 3. Social Functioning: client's familial and social relationships, sexual identity, ethnocultural identity, economic situation.

C. Therapists' initial assessment summation of client and client's problems (including DSM diagnosis, including the 5 Axes).

III. Review of the literature.

A. Theories relevant to case study (including intra-psychic, systems, and person-in-environment issues).

B. Clinical approaches and techniques.

C. A rationale for treatment approach chosen for this client based on your assessment and the literature review.

IV. Process of treatment.

A. Treatment goals and expectations (including limitations pertaining to the function of the agency, the time frame, client's motivation, etc.).

B. Description of the therapeutic relationship, including examples of the working (therapeutic) alliance, resistance to the treatment, transference and counter-transference.

C. Rhythm of treatment.

1. What happens during the initial, middle, and termination phases of treatment. Include description of intra-psychic, inter-personal growth, and improvement in client's external circumstances.

2. Use of supervision.

3. Include written process recording to illustrate a relevant issue.

V. Conclusion.

Evaluation of the work done and the use of self in this case. What might you have done differently; what went well, what might your goals/expectations be if you could continue to work with this client.