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CONFIDENTIALITY WITH MINOR CLIENTS

It is important to clarify with parents and minors the expectations regarding confidentiality, in order to build a strong working relationship on behalf of optimal treatment.

Legally, parents hold the rights to confidential communication between minor clients and their therapist. However, psychotherapy tends to work best when minors feel that information they share with their therapist will not be told to their parents by the therapist.

In cases where the minor is in immediate, life-threatening danger, the parents, of course, will be informed (see policies agreement form about legal limits to confidentiality). Otherwise, when working with Dr. Hartman, parents will not be told the content of their minor's conversations.

When the therapist feels it is important to have certain information shared with the parents, the minor will be encouraged to do so and family sessions may be held to facilitate this process.

The therapist will periodically meet with the parents to give them a general update on progress, to assist them with parenting issues, or to share information the minor has authorized.

With that said, parents are encouraged to be open and forthcoming with any and all information about the minor and associated life variables so that Dr. Hartman can optimally inform her treatment planning.

Minors and parents are not bound to confidentiality and are encouraged to share with each other and others to the extent they are comfortable.

We have read, understand, and agree to accept the above policy.

Name _____ Date _____

Name _____ Date _____

Name _____ Date _____