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The Impact of “the host culture” on Role Performance of Therapists from Developing countries

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Outlines

- **Introduction**
- **Host Culture - Therapist**
- **Problematic Areas & Examples**
- **Strategies & Tips**
- **Conclusion**

**In The Name of Allah the Entirely
Merciful, the specially Merciful**

“O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know each other (not that ye may despise (each other))”.

Qura'n 49:13

Introduction

- The host culture : Australia.
- Growing numbers of overseas therapists.
- Cultural Shock: “a removal or a distortion of many of the familiar cues one encounters at home and the substitution for them of other cues which are strange” (Hall, 1981, p. 174)
- Role performance of overseas therapists.

Problematic Areas & Examples

A. Language

- Written VS Verbal
- Greeting (i.e G'day mate, Hello DR PETER)
- Australian Idioms (i.e. I am going great guns now and/or I am as fit as a fiddle)

B. Media & Propaganda

- Forbidden love
- Arab Vs Muslim
- Police clearance
- Random check up at airport

C. Role performance

- Transition in the role : Accreditation
- Dual Role: (i.e: Male nurse, OT, Muslim, Australian, Jordanian, etc).
- C. Reverse/Shift role.

D. Gender issues

- “Mail ordered bride”
- Shower Assessment
- Muslims are treating woman as an object/Oppressed Muslim woman.

E. Meaning of Care

- People with disability (i.e. W/C)
- Old people (i.e. going to the post)
- Overprotection: woman with CVA.

F. Some Cultural Clashes

- Are you vegetarian?
- X-mass party gift
- Hand shaking
- Eye contact (opposite sex)
- Women modesty (i.e. Hijab)

G. Cognitive Dissonance

- Single Mum
- Next of kin: important of the family
- Homosexuality
- Nursing home

H. Look through different glasses

- Different assessment tools for cognition
- Mental Health Act
- Western therapists prefer to put people in boxes and give each group a label
- Justice Vs Just Us

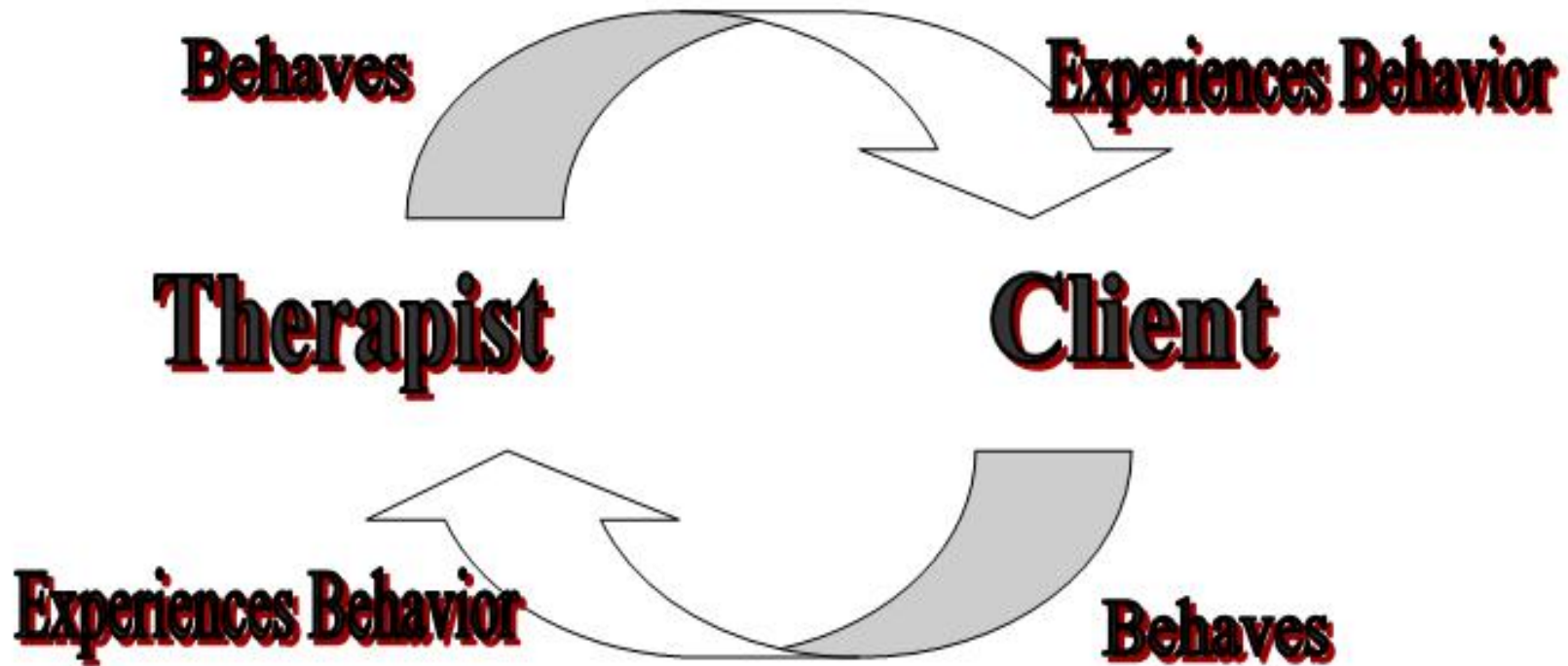
Strategies & Tips

- Treat people in the way that you want to be treated.
- Communication: to understand & to be understood.
- Civility cost nothing
- You know enough not to kill anybody
- The importance of increased awareness of the Australian society about cultural competence.

Strategies & Tips (Cont)

- My color does NOT bother me so why this bother you?
- How do you do it in your own country?
- Client-Therapist relationship is partnership and learning process.
- The role of the supervisor/mentor as a cultural broker
- Be brave enough to say “I DO NOT KNOW” rather than providing a wrong answer

Therapeutic Encounter



Adapted from Tebbutt & Beltran, 1986)

Conclusion

THANKYOU

