



a life simply lived

PSYCHOLOGY

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY

Psychological Service

As part of providing a psychological service to you, Dr. Malone will need to collect and record personal information from you that is relevant to your current situation. This information will be a necessary part of the psychological assessment and treatment that is conducted. You do not have to give all your personal information, but if you don't, this may mean the psychological service may not be able to be provided to you.

Purpose of Collecting and Holding Information

Information is gathered as part of the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of the client's condition, and is seen only by Dr Malone. Information is retained in order to document what happens during sessions, and enables her to provide a relevant and informed psychological service.

Access to Client Information

At any stage, you as a client are entitled access to the information about you kept on file, unless the relevant legislation provides otherwise. Dr Malone may discuss with you appropriate forms of access. All information sent electronically is password protected.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is important to our work. However, there are some situations where confidentiality has limits.

All personal information gathered by Dr Malone during the provision of the psychological service will remain confidential and secure, except where;

1. It is subpoenaed by a court; or
2. Failure to disclose the information would place you or another person at serious or imminent risk; or
3. Your prior approval has been obtained to:
 - a. provide a written report to another professional of agency, e.g.: GP or lawyer;
 - b. discuss the material with another person, e.g. a parent or employer.
4. If disclosure is otherwise required or authorised by law.



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APS Charter for Clients of Psychologists

The charter explains your rights as a client of psychologist.

Before people can work as psychologists they must be registered with the Psychology Board of Australia (PBA). Your psychologist is a member of the Australian Psychological Society (APS), which is the largest professional association of psychologists in Australia, with a comprehensive Code of Ethics and complementary series of Ethical Guidelines.

As a client of an APS psychologist, you have a right to expect that:

- You will be treated with respect
- You will receive a clear explanation of the service you will receive
- Your consent for any service will be sought by the psychologist prior to the service commencing and as it progresses
- You will receive an explanation about the nature and limits of confidentiality surrounding the service
- You will be clear about the goals that you and the psychologist are working toward
- You will receive competent and professional service
- You will receive a clear statement about fees
- An estimate of the number of sessions required to achieve your goals will be discussed
- You will receive a service free from sexual harassment
- You will be shown respect for your cultural background and language tradition

Note:

If you have any concerns about the above matters, discuss them with your psychologist. If you have concerns about the conduct of your psychologist, you may call either the Psychology Board of Australia on 1300 419 495, or the Australian Psychological Society on (03) 8662 3300.