

Couple's Therapy & Confidentiality, Privacy & Secrets

In *addition* to the information about “Confidentiality” and “Exceptions To Confidentiality” included in my Office Policy I make the following provisions when I am working with couples.

Confidentiality Information about you as a couple or any of the members of a couple will be provided to another person only if the conditions referenced above are met. In addition if one or both of you want me to provide any information to a third party I will do that only if I have a written authorization to do so, signed and dated by both of you.

If one or both of you choose to take legal action (e.g., separation or dissolution of marriage) against the other you agree, by signing this document, that neither Dr. Thoennes nor any information in his possession will be used or subpoenaed by either party in said action.

Privacy Sometimes, when I am seeing a couple, I may talk with one of the partners of the couple. If this person tells me something which, in my best judgment, does not appear to be adverse to the other person (the partner of the couple who is not present) or to the relationship, I may consider the content “private” and so will not tell the absent partner this information.

Secrets It may occur that one partner, in the absence of the other, will tell me something that has direct and important relevance to their partner, their relationship and their therapy process with me. In my best judgment, if the information shared with me is of a secret nature I will encourage the one partner to share this information with the other. If this partner chooses not to share this secret information with their partner I may elect to discontinue being the therapist for this couple.

I consider it important to provide an environment as safe as reasonably possible, for couples to do therapy. If you have questions, comments or concerns about the elements of confidentiality, privacy and secrets, please bring them to my attention as soon as they arise.

I have read the above policy regarding Confidentiality, Privacy and Secrets. I understand this information and agree to abide by this policy.

print name

sign name

date

print name

sign name

date