

“Stepfamily” Systems:

Ethical Paperwork, Boundaries, and Foundations of Competency

When Working with Clients Living in 2 Homes, Foster Care,
Adoption, Recoupled Families.

*Stephanie Sternes,
Contemporary Family Specialist
LMFT, LCPC, NCC*



- Treat Your Staff to Lunch
- 6 CE (includes 3 Boundary and 3 Ethics)
- Protect Your Clinic from Lack of Competency Risks!
Team Training in Your Office! All Your Staff at Once!

OR

Staff Retreats and Intensives

StephSternes.com

Lets' Create Your Training!

Email: help@StephSternes.com

REAL TOOLS, REAL HELP for your clients. You will understand the foundational attachment ruptures that Contemporary Families all struggle with.

My goal is to ethically train you on the challenges that contemporary family systems face and how their differences interfere with attachment, communication within their family, and moving toward a safe relationship for all members of the family. There are essential tools that you can use to help these families move forward and real help to work through their challenges.

Course Objectives: Participants of this FOUNDATIONAL level course will be able to:

Ethics (3 CE):

- **Code by code Sections Ethics A, B and C.** You will learn how clients in 2 homes double our risk to break ethical codes and how to use our codes to do no harm.
- Learn how to use your informed consent to set boundaries for these clients and their parents. This covers Adoption, Foster Care, Stepfamilies, Legal Guardians and 67 other types of blended families.
- Learn how to use ethical and legal guidelines to create informed consents for working with 2 home families. I.e: what paperwork to collect, what ROI's need to be in place, how to handle appointments and reminders that switch between 2 homes, best practice communication with parents in 2 homes, etc.
- You will be able to summarize clear boundaries to parents regarding working with children that live in 2 homes.
- Describe the challenges of keeping children out of the middle and to work for mutual team support and treatment plan for children.
- Discuss the difference between co-parenting and parallel parenting styles and how best practices help to collaborate both written and verbally in these family systems.
- Be able to determine who has rights to authorize children for therapy and use of insurance.
- Be prepared to have conversations with parents that have conflict with each other.
- Learn what to include in your intake to help set boundaries for collaboration in the first session.
- Describe common professional boundary or dual relationship errors that happen in these types of cases.
- Describe when individual counseling may not be appropriate in a high conflict family and what are the ethical options.
- Describe your risk of countertransference/transference in divorce and stepfamily cases.
- Describe professional behaviors that keep you from getting caught between conflicting parents

Boundaries in Competency working with these family systems (3 CE):

- Name the leading experts in the field of StepFamily Relationships
- Become culturally competent with 42% of your current client cases
- Describe the 3 foundational differences between how Biological and Non-Biological systems form
- Learn how to join with these families by understanding how they attach differently
- Summarize the 5 BIG Challenges that Dr. Papernow has Identified for these families
- List foundational ways to assess the client individually and within the family system
- Be able to define 10 terms and processes unique to family systems with non-biological members and how they function in the family
- Be able to list why we don't counsel these families as if they are biologically attached and how that can do harm
- Define what is normal behavior and timing for attachments in these family systems
- Have grounds for FOUNDATIONAL competency skills in counseling Stepfamilies, Adoption, Foster Care and all other family systems that have non-biological members in it

Course per person is \$200.

Best Price Gather a Group. \$1200-Any Size

Lunch? Add \$20 per person for catered lunch or bring in lunch for your staff