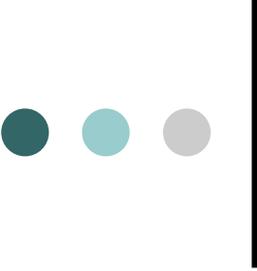


Family FrameWork

Addressing re-adjustment services
and therapy needs with
OEF/OIF families

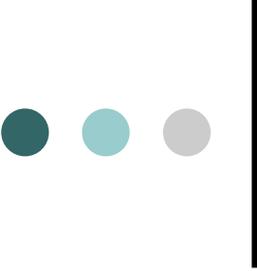
Kate Kelly, MSW
Errera Community Care Center
VA Connecticut Healthcare System

Marcia Hunt, Ph.D.
Yale University School of Medicine
NIDA Fellow



Treating the family with *or without* the family

- Conventional family therapy models
 - Longer term
 - By definition, includes entire family



Treating the family with *or without* the family

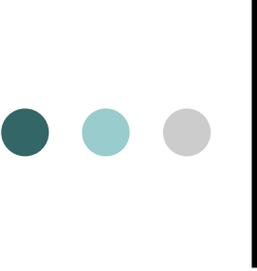
○ Family FrameWork

- “Role” is at the center of this work
- The framework is explicit about roles: investment, expectation, perception, and loss
- The role is discussed as the “frame” the client creates.



Why Roles are the Center: Power of Role

- Myth
 - Culturally informed ideal of the role
 - Fantasy of the role
- Reality
 - Interplay between role and identity
 - Relationships among family members
 - Relationship to others and to society
- Stress/distress/negative coping
 - The “frame” (role) and the reality don’t completely overlap



Family FrameWork

Advantages:

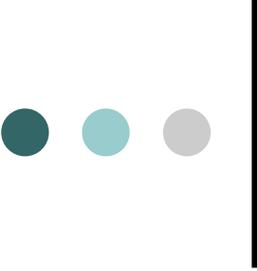
- Provides a holistic view of family
- Addresses trauma/grief and traumatic stress
- Validates flexibility and diversity in family roles
- Flexible
 - applicable to individual and family sessions



Treating the family with *or without* the family

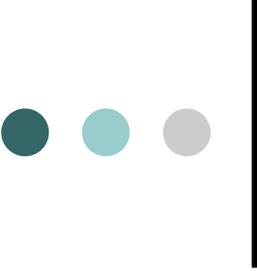
- With each life change there is a loss of “what was” that results in a trauma—visible or veiled—requiring:
 - Internal adjustments
 - External adjustments





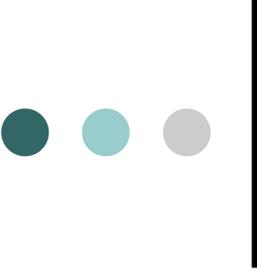
Trauma: Visible and Veiled

- Visible → **expected, anticipated**
 - Loss of life
 - Loss of limb
 - Loss of health
 - Psychiatric
 - Physical



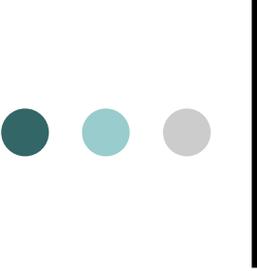
Trauma: Visible and Veiled

- Veiled → **undefined, unrecognized, unacknowledged**
 - Actual changes or losses of or in:
 - Family role
 - Social position
 - Professional capacity
 - Perceived changes or losses of or in:
 - Family role
 - Social position
 - Professional capacity



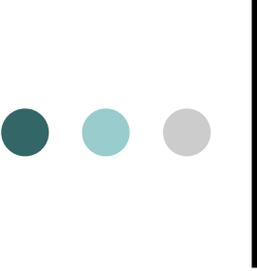
Explicit examples, veiled issues

- Mr. Fairfield County
- Returnee Dad
- Stifled Stylist



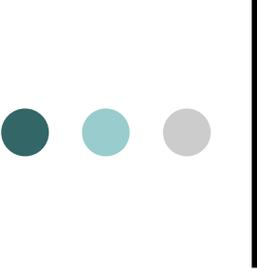
How to Use Family FrameWork

- Think about role:
 - Role investment
 - Role expectation
 - Role perception
 - Role loss



How to Use Family FrameWork

- Relate the role aspects to
 - Stress
 - Trauma
 - Loss
- Use the “frame” of the role as a place to discuss these



Benefits of Family FrameWork

- Focus outside the individual
- “Unstick” the “stuck points”
- Burden revisited
- Complexity acknowledged
- Clinician, Know Thyself
- Family work with or *without* the family

Military Sexual Trauma

- Under reported
 - Men
 - women (less so?)
- Exceeds civilian numbers
- Reports are brief time as opposed to lifetime data
- Comrade-in-arms assaulting each other
 - This, in a soldier culture creates barriers for addressing trauma concerns
 - Job loss, fear of ostracizing, whistle blowing, weakness
- Different presentation in men and women
- Less than 20% of those experiencing MST are treated by VA for it