

Crossroads of Care: Ethical Navigation in Faith-Based Counseling

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Abstract : In the practice of Faith-based counseling, the clinician frequently faces multifaceted issues that come together when theological directives meet professional ethics to create a special set of dilemmas. The study narrates one working through the professional dilemmas of these Faith-based counselors, thereby looking into the tensions between the necessity of fidelity to faith and the requirements to follow the American Counseling Association Code of Ethics. Through a qualitative analysis of interviews with practitioners from various denominational backgrounds, the study has identified common ethical challenges and best practices that enable the integration of faith and ethics in practice. The findings provide insight into how faith-based counselors would reconcile a situation of conflict between religious belief and professional obligations but are striving to provide care that honors both their spiritual convictions and ethical responsibilities. This will add to existing discussions related to ethical decision-making in faith-based counseling by providing practical ways of dealing with these dilemmas in support of the counselor's professional integrity and spiritual mission.

Keywords : ethics, faith, common challenges, practical tools, counseling

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