

INFORMATION FOR THE GENDER GENOGRAM PRESENTATION:

Draw a family tree representing three generations of your family. (You will be given a model in class). Gather information about your mother and as many female family members as you can find. (Remember that this can be an ongoing process for you after you finish this class, so limit yourself to what is possible for now.) Patterns to look at could be: child bearing; mother's age, number and spacing of children, miscarriages, etc.; partner patterns, marriage, divorce, etc.; characteristics of female members highly valued in the family, or outcasts of the family. What traumas were experienced and how did the women cope with them? Reflect back on stories you might have heard. Listen for gender/sex role messages that have been passed on verbally or modeled. How are you currently living in accordance with or in reaction to the gender legacies of your family? How does this affect you as a counselor? (or teacher? or...) Reframe or relabel a "gender" experience. Reframing shift is usually from intrapersonal/individual to societal/political, identify the contribution of the external environment to the individual's problem. Relabeling involves perceiving a previously evaluated weakness as a strength. Summarize impact of conducting this exercise. Be sure to address each of these topics in your presentation or paper.

Note: It is your choice how much you want to disclose about your genogram. I can only guarantee that I will keep the information confidential. Students will be asked to keep the information confidential. If you feel you cannot do this assignment, you may present on a topic. Please visit with me in my office.