TRANSCRIPT: SOCIAL RESPONSE CYCLE RESOURCE

SECTION FOUR ETHICAL TENSIONS

The overriding tension between therapy and entrepreneurism is the tension between our clients’ inner and outer worlds. 4d of the section called “Our commitment to clients” in the BACP Ethical Framework (2018) <https://www.bacp.co.uk/events-and-resources/ethics-and-standards/ethical-framework-for-the-counselling-professions/> makes reference to our commitment as therapists to respecting the boundaries between our work with clients and what lies outside that work. Some of the cases in this module have given examples of this tension. We have referred to the need to “hold the boundary and to recognise the limits of what can be done within our professional frameworks and take action grounded in our ethical principles.”

 The BACP Ethical Framework (2018) also requires us to think about the ethical principle of respect for client autonomy.  In an earlier section we included these thoughts and a question:

“The BACP Ethical Framework (2018) is based on a set of ethical principles, one of which is the respect for client autonomy. But when we are working with the most vulnerable people in our society, the pull to help can appeal very strongly to the part of us that wants to protect and save people from pain. The line between empowering people to find their own solutions and solving their problems for them, can be very thin. So how do we find a way to take action that is empowering and ethically anchored?  We may need an additional set of ethical guidelines to support us when we extend our work beyond the walls of the consulting room.”