

Andrelië Nelson

SWK658: Clinical Social work Practice 111 with groups

During the group session, the social worker and four participants were present, including James, who had a habit of interrupting others. The social worker spoke with James outside of the group, utilizing motivational interviewing to explore whether his childhood trauma was causing him to talk over others. James had previously shared that he had experienced neglect from his parents and ended up in the foster care system.

However, James felt that the social worker was overreacting and that she was the only one who felt he was causing a disturbance. In the next group session, the facilitator asked the participants how they felt when James interrupted them. One participant shared that it bothered her, but she knew James did not mean anything by it. The second participant shared that it made her feel disrespected, and the third participant shared that she was offended that the facilitator brought this up in front of the group. James was angry that she brought this up and felt it was done to embarrass him. He even mentioned that he might not come back, and another participant said she would leave if James left the group.

The social worker clarified that she did not intend to embarrass James but only wanted to help him hear how his fellow participants felt. The group members comforted James, and they moved on to another topic of conversation.

The social worker attempted to use object relation theory to explore how James' childhood connected to his habit of interrupting others. As an observer, I agreed with the facilitator's approach of speaking to James separately to address his disruptive behavior.