

Cultural Responsiveness in ABA Caregiver Support

Parenting with ABA Members CE Event

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Cultural competence:

"Cultural competence - Having the capacity to function effectively as an individual and an organization within the context of the cultural beliefs, behaviors and needs presented by consumers and their communities."

-US Dept Health & Human Services

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Cultural humility:

"Understanding that one's view of the world is impacted by one's individual learning history and that different environmental and learning histories impact the behavior of others."

"Using a posture of cultural humility requires individuals to self-monitor private verbal behavior and rules regarding the labels right and wrong, while considering others' learning histories when delivering behavior services."

-Beaulieu & Jimenez-Gomez, 2022

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Cultural responsiveness:

Cultural responsiveness involves understanding and appropriately including and responding to the combination of cultural variables and the full range of dimensions of diversity that an individual brings to interactions.

Cultural responsiveness requires valuing diversity, seeking to further cultural knowledge, and working toward the creation of community spaces and workspaces where diversity is valued.

-Hopf et. al, 2021



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Culture impacts:

- communication
- daily routines
- habits
- greetings
- parenting styles
- concepts
- values
- beliefs
- respondent behavior
- traditions

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Diversity relates to the intersectionality of various demographic variables

- race
- ethnicity
- age
- generation
- education
- socioeconomic status
- religion
- spiritual beliefs
- language
- nationality
- genographic location
- disability
- gender identity
- sexual orientation

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3 Dimensions of Cultural Responsiveness

- Awareness
- Knowledge
- Skills



← →
Ethical overlaps

**Cultural
responsiveness**

- Avoids stereotypes
- Avoids gross overgeneralizations
- Distinct intersecting cultural variables impacting individuals
- Relationship building
- Working collaboratively
- Continuous approach

**ABA/
BACB Ethics**

Core principles:

Benefit others

Treat others with compassion, dignity, & respect

Ethics codes:

2.09 Involving Clients & Stakeholders

3.01 Responsibility to Clients

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Self-assessment

Tact your own culture, beliefs, attitudes, & biases

"Systematically evaluating the cultural variables that have shaped one's own behavior pattern and the manner in which these cultural variables impact behavior and interactions with others."

"Self-discriminating histories of reinforcement & punishments sustain by the groups to which one belongs"

-Beaulieu & Jimenez-Gomez, 2022



References (with hyperlinks)

Beaulieu, L., & Jimenez-Gomez, C. (2022). Cultural responsiveness in applied behavior analysis: Self-assessment. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 55(2), 337-356. Chicago
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Jimenez-Gomez, C., & Beaulieu, L. (2022). Cultural responsiveness in applied behavior analysis: Research and practice. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 55(3), 650-673. Chicago (*need to be logged in to BACB account to access*)

<https://behavioralobservations.com/cultural-responsiveness-in-applied-behavior-analysis-inside-jaba-series-12/>

<https://practicalfunctionalassessment.com/implementation-materials/>

<https://practicalfunctionalassessment.com/2015/11/20/fa-c-qa1/>

Behavior Analysis in Practice Special Issue on diversity & inclusion:
<https://link.springer.com/journal/40617/volumes-and-issues/12-4>

Parent Check-In

CELEBRATE

What is one win your child had in the last week(s)?

What is one win YOU had as a parent in the last week(s)?

What is one thing your partner did really well in the last week(s)?

TODAY

What is your biggest parenting concern right now?

What is your partner's biggest parenting concern right now?

Explore any differences in these.

SETTING

Any changes in daily health- sleep, eating, etc?

Any changes in routine, schedules, etc?

Any other factors to keep in mind?

Is this a good fit for your family?

Time

- I feel this is doable in the time I have.
- I need help finding the time.
- There's no way I can find time for this.

Comfort/ Confidence

- I understand the plan and feel good trying it on my own.
- The training was a little unclear. I'm not sure what to do.
- That made no sense to me. We need something else.

Troubleshooting

- I feel good applying this to new things that may pop up.
- I can try to use these behavior tools on my own.
- Not going to work for new issues that may come up.

Whole Family

- This feels too hard on my child.
- This feels too hard on the rest of my family.
- This feels too hard on me.

Is it worth it?

- The effort is totally worth it.
- The payoff of improvement in my family seems really far off.
- The effort does not seem like it's going to get us anywhere.

Community

- The people in our world will be understanding of this.
- No one will understand and I'll feel uncomfortable.