**Discussion Questions – Chapter 5**

**Ethical Issues in Clinical Psychology**

1. What are your thoughts on the aspirational and enforceable portions of the APA Code of Ethics? Are the current enforceable standards too strict, too lenient, just right? How, if at all, would you modify these standards? What aspirational goals or enforceable standards, if any, would you add to or remove from the code?

2. The Tarasoff case has established psychologists’ duty to warn. How serious should the potential harm be for a clinical psychologist to break confidentiality to provide a warning? For example, if a client infected with HIV discloses unsafe sex practices with partners unaware of the client’s HIV status, does a psychologist have a duty to warn the client’s current and future sexual partners? If a client discloses an intent to injure, rob, or verbally assault (but not kill) another person, should confidentiality be broken? Why or why not?

3. What type of multiple relationships would you judge to be unethical? Provide several examples and your rationale for selecting these cases. By contrast, what types of multiple relationships would you judge to be ethical? Provide several examples and your rationale for selecting these cases.

4. In your opinion, how ethical is “conversion therapy?” What constitutes “affirmative treatment” for LGBT clients? What are potential benefits and drawbacks of conversion therapy? How would you respond to a lesbian, gay, or bisexual client who sought treatment to achieve a heterosexual orientation?

5. Imagine that you are a psychologist whose newest patient is a 12-year-old girl presenting with anxiety related to her parents’ recent divorce. What ethical dilemmas might arise as you provide treatment for your new patient? What information are you required to share with the 12-year-old’s parents? What type of information would you feel is necessary to share with the 12-year-old’s parents?