

REGISTRATION PACKET

2024

Includes:
3 required therapy forms (Print pages 2-8)

Discernment Counseling Info
Getting the most out of therapy

A note from Dr. Lisa Terrell discussing her specialty therapy

Consultation request form

FAQ (includes directions to the office!)

Specialty Therapy for Relationships & Sexuality
Discernment Counseling
Infidelity

Please review, fill out and sign the 3 required forms. Bring the completed forms to your initial session. For online sessions, please email or fax the completed forms at least 4 hours prior to your session. You will be sent a link for your online session usually 1 business day prior to your session.

1820 East Blvd Suite 201 Charlotte NC 28203

Phone or Text 704 377 2022

Fax 919 400 4400

www.sensovi.com Sensovia@gmail.com

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Required Form 1 of 3

Name	Age
Street Address	
City/State/Zip	
Preferred Phone	Mobile
Email	Best time/method to reach you
Spouse/Partner (if applicable)	
Name	Age
Street Address	
City/State/Zip	
Preferred Phone	Mobile
Email	Best time/method to reach you
Children's Names & Ages (if applicable)	
	·)
How did you find out about Sensovi Inst	citute?
Family Doctor	Phone
Current medications	
Briefly state your reason for coming to	Sensovi

PROFESSIONAL DISCLOSURE & CONSENT

Required Form 2 of 3

Dr. Lisa Terrell MA, LCMHC Doctor of Human Sexuality AASECT Certified Sex Therapist

The following is provided for your information and you are requested to sign this before your first counseling session.

Credentialing

Masters Degree in Community Counseling (MA)
Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan in 1994.

Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC) in North Carolina #3719

North Carolina Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, PO Box 77819, Greensboro, NC 27417

Registered Nurse (RN) in North Carolina #168976 North Carolina Board of Nursing, PO Box 2129, Raleigh, NC 27602

Certified Sex Therapist and member of the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists, PO Box 5488, Richmond, VA 23220-0488

Certified Sexologist by the American College of Sexologists, PO Box 640405, San Francisco, CA 94164-0405

Doctorate of Human Sexuality from the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, 1523 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

Years of experience: I have been in practice as a psychotherapist since 1996.

People I work with: I work with men, women and families. I am a high-level specialist working with personal growth, couple's dynamics, sexuality issues, and discernment counseling.

Services offered: Relationship and Sex Therapy. Sexual Health Consultation. Discernment Counseling. Betrayal Recovery structured program, Online Self-help relationship and sex therapy and workshops.

I practice competency and developmental based counseling therapy in the framework of brief therapy and a strong educational focus. In short, this is a belief that when we encounter difficulty in our lives that it is an opportunity to grow and mature. I believe that knowledge of and advocacy of Self is necessary for intimacy with others and that the sexual relationship includes our physical, emotional and spiritual selves.

I offer 30-minute, 50-minute, 100-minute, and 150-minute sessions (Intensive sessions). The 10 minutes extra per hour is to enable me to document our session before I go into therapy with the

next scheduled client. This is standard practice for counselors and enables me to give you more professional and attentive service.

I also offer Discernment Counseling, a 1-5 session program for couples who are considering whether Divorce or Marriage/Relationship Therapy is the best option for them.

I provide online educational, consultative, and psychotherapeutic services.

My method of counseling is teaching, reflective listening and questions, and process therapy (observation and feedback on the dynamics of a given situation), and occasional reading and work assignments.

I offer online self-help relationship and therapy programs at Sensovi Institute @ www.sensovi.com.

Payment for Services

Fee for Services only. Upon payment, I will provide you with a receipt sent by email usually within a few days. Paper copy receipts may be requested. Payment is expected at the end of each session even if you have insurance coverage. Check with your insurance carrier to confirm your benefits for reimbursement of services. I am unable to provide insurance processing for reimbursement. If you prefer not to be assigned a diagnostic code please alert the Sensovi staff.

Diagnosis

Please be aware that a medical diagnosis (designated by a number code) that is requested by insurance or managed care companies or used in a medical setting becomes a permanent part of your record and may affect your future benefits and rights to confidentiality.

Fee

Please carefully review the Financial Policy which is in the next section of this packet. Fee for an In Office session (as of November 1, 2018) is \$225 per 50-minute day session and \$250.00 per 50-minute evening session. An evening session is any therapy session or part of a session that begins at or after 6pm. Discernment Counseling and Online therapy services have different fees. Please see the Financial Policy Form.

No show fee -The appointment you schedule will be reserved for you. If you do not come to your appointment and have not given proper notice, you will be charged for the session. Proper cancellation notice is by 2pm the day before your scheduled appointment. Monday appointments require notice by Friday 2pm.

Insurance

I do not process insurance claims. Payment is at the time of service by check, cash, PayPal (PayPal funds or PayPal processing of your credit card.) Many insurance companies cover my counseling services. I provide you with an "insurance ready" receipt for Therapy Services. That means that it has all the codes and verification of my tax status, and licensure needed for your reimbursement. It

is your responsibility to understand your insurance coverage and to file paperwork with your insurance company. I am unable to fill out or sign any claim form.

It is state law that insurance process your claim within 30 days. If they have not done so or you feel that they have made unnecessary delay or difficulty, you may contact the North Carolina's Insurance commissioner to file a complaint. North Carolina Commissioner Dept of Insurance, PO Box 26387, Raleigh, NC 57611, Tel: (919) 733-7349, online: www.ncdoi.com

Confidentiality

The information and issues you disclose in the counseling relationship are confidential. I will keep the issues totally confidential except under the following circumstances that are mandated by law:

- * Any information that you may disclose about the intention to harm or harm done to yourself or any other person, and in some cases property.
 - * Any information that you may disclose that indicates child or vulnerable adult harm or abuse.
- * Court order. Though all efforts such as appeals and any possible legal protection against disclosure will be used, a court of law ultimately may open any record.

Grievance Procedure

If at any time you have a question or complaint, please alert Dr. Lisa Terrell. You may also contact: North Carolina Board of Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors, PO Box 77819 Greensboro, NC 27417 Tel: (844) 622-3572 www.nclcmhc.org

Request for Services

I am requesting the counseling and therapy service of Dr. Lisa Terrell, MA, LPC. I have read the above information. I understand that though every effort for confidentiality will be made, that ultimately an order from a court of law or life endangerment supersedes my need for confidentially. I understand that I may discontinue counseling or therapy sessions at any time, and that continuance of services is based on timely payment for the services rendered.

I have read the information packet and agree to the Financial Policy stated therein. **YES**

I understand fully the No Show Fee Policy and agree to pay for my scheduled time when I am unable to give proper notice. Proper notice of cancellation/reschedule is by 2pm the day prior to your scheduled appointment. Monday appointments require by 2pm Friday notice. YES

Signed	Date
Signed	Date

^{*}Both spouses/partners signature needed

FINANCIAL POLICY
Required Form 3 of 3

as of May 2020

Payment for services is due at the time the services are provided; services that are covered by insurance are not an exception.

Sensovi requires notice by 2pm the day before your scheduled appointment. Monday appointments require by 2pm Friday appointments. Missed appointments not meeting those requirements will incur the No Show Fee. The No Show Fee is the standard fee for the time scheduled.

Sensovi Institute will email your session statement/receipt in the week following your session. The statement includes the following: services rendered, payment, diagnostic and CPT codes, the provider's credentials.

Therapy/Consultation Fees

In Office Session Services
Initial Consultation:
50 min/\$225 Day session (9am-5pm)
50 min/\$250 Evening session (6pm-8pm) or Saturday session
Day Sessions between 9am - 5pm:
30 min/\$120; 50 min/\$225; 100 min/\$450/; 150 min/\$675
Evening Sessions between 6pm - 8pm:
30 min/\$130; 50 min/\$250; 100 min/\$500; 150 min/\$750
Saturday Sessions
50 min/\$250

Online Session Services* (Usually Zoom)
Initial Consultation:
75 min/\$375 Day Session
75 min/\$400 Evening Session

Day Sessions between 9am - 5pm: 50 min/\$250; 100 min/\$500 Evening Sessions between 6pm - 8pm: 50 min/\$275; 100 min/\$550

Please note: Therapy/Consultation are Actual Time-based fees

Service fees are based on Actual Time. Since my specialty often involves intensive work with high distress situations, I may allow the session to continue past the scheduled time. This is dependent on my schedule, your schedule, and appropriateness of extending the session. I charge by taking

^{*}After 2-3 "In Office" sessions, the fee for online sessions will remain at "In Office" rates.

the total time in and out divided by 50 minutes. Please note that it is my policy to do one of the following:

- 1) Alert you by saying "we are out of time" and ask if you would like to keep going (schedule permitting) or reschedule.
- 2) If the session is dealing with intense and urgent matters, I may not interrupt but keep engaged in the work of the session. The session statement will document the actual length of the session. 3) If you do not wish to be charged for extra session time, it is your responsibility to say so and to assist in closure of the session and rescheduling to continue the work.
- 4) Phone conversations that last more than 10 minutes will be subject to service charges at the usual rates.

Discernment Counseling Schedule/Fees

Discernment Counseling (more information on page 11) is a structured/time-controlled program usually lasting from 1-5 sessions.

20 minute phone interview/orientation for each partner (no charge)

Session 1 Initial 120 minute session \$400

Session 2 90 minutes \$300

Session 3 90 minutes \$290 Session

4 90 minutes \$280

Session 5 90 minutes \$270

Follow up Discernment Counseling

Day Session 50 minute \$225

Evening Session 50 minute \$250

Book Charges

Sensovi books that are taken home for review need to be returned <u>at the next session</u>, unless you would like to purchase the book to keep. Books that are not returned in this timely manner will be charged to your bill so that they can be replaced in our Library.

Betrayal Recovery Charges

Couple's who are working through Betrayal will each receive a copy of the *Handbook for Betrayal Recovery for Relationship: 3 Steps to Manage the Crisis*. As a part of the suggested program there are some additional charges that may be incurred as an option to enhance the work. Each additional resource is optional but has been shown to expedite the therapy process cutting down on the number of sessions needed to complete the work.

- Session 2: 50 min Individual sessions for each partner
- Sexual Experiences and Behavior Inventory (SEABI) \$200 per person Individual Report and Couple's report available at no extra charge if both partner's take the Inventory.
- Review of Life Audit draft and written feedback is charged at Day rate for actual time, usually about 25-30 minutes or \$100 per review.

Insurance claims are self-file

Sensovi Institute does not file insurance or employee assistance claims, and we are not a member of any network or panel (this means Dr. Terrell's services are "out of network".) It is up to the client to determine and process the appropriate paperwork for which they are eligible.

We accept credit cards (Visa, MC, Discover) cash, check, Zelle, PayPal Funds (PayPal will process your credit card if needed and provides a payment plan)

There will be a fee of \$25 charged for any Non-Sufficient Funds incident. A third session cannot be scheduled until the balance due by the client is \$0.

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I have read and fully underst this contract with Sensovi Institute. Please use the following to cover my	and, and agree to this financial policy fully and enter y payment (circle which):
Credit Cards, Zelle, PayPal (including be used.	g PayPal payment plan), Debit, HSA, Check or Cash can
	Expiration Date
Security Code	
Signed	Date
Signed	Date

Get the most from your Specialty Therapy sessions

Suggestions for making the counseling beneficial and cost-effective:

- Check with your insurance company and be very clear about the coverage you have. Many clients have found that they have to be persistent in order to get their full benefits.
 Read about Specialty therapy for Relationship and Sexuality (see page 10 of Registration Packet).
- Come to each session ready to work. Counseling is an active process. Make every effort to complete assignments given by your therapist. Let your therapist know if you are too busy or distracted to apply yourself fully.
- Consider longer sessions less frequently rather than shorter sessions more frequently. For example, a 100 or 150 minute session every 4-6 weeks vs. a 50 minute session every 1-2 weeks. Our experience has been that clients process and work more efficiently by using the longer sessions.
- Turn off your phone. Only urgent and child care backup on silent mode please. Phones alerting to texts, emails, and calls provide unnecessary distraction.
- Betrayal Recovery Couples be sure to Read and frequently review the Handbook for Betrayal Recovery for Relationships: 3 Steps to Manage the Crisis. It is packed full of support to help you move through the work of healing and rebuilding your relationship.
- Space your sessions in a **consistent manner**. Less frequent and erratically scheduled sessions tend to use more time getting up to speed with your life situation.
- Make sure that you are a good fit with your counselor. Find out if your counselor has experience in helping people with your challenges move forward. You will want to graduate from counseling as soon as possible. At Sensovi Institute, the goal in working with people is to get them needing us less and less and able to work out their life with the new skills they have learned in counseling. Every session, we evaluate whether we are moving forward, and whether the client needs to come back.
- Consider the true value of making your relationships more satisfying and enjoyable. How much is it worth to you? Motivated people often spend less than \$2500.00 for a lifetime of feeling great. Many sexual problems take less than 6 sessions to leave behind. Think about all the ways you spend your time and money, how does it compare with the lifetime changes to your most important relationships?
- Come to your sessions on time or a little early so that you can shift gears for the work ahead of you.
- Make every effort to **complete assignments** given by your therapist.
- Call to cancel or reschedule an appointment by 2pm one business day before your scheduled session to avoid a No Show Fee.

A note from Dr. Lisa Terrell about her specialty practice

I have noticed over the years that my clients comment about how different our work in session is to what they expected. Especially if you experienced therapy before, the first few sessions where you are introduced to the structure of our work and the new skills that will help you—may be surprising!

I am strongly "Process" oriented. This means that I believe that to help people I need to help them see patterns and create new patterns. Our personal patterns show up when we talk, when we argue, when we are doing normal life, in crisis and when we tell our story. Another way to put this is that my therapy is not just "talk therapy".

Sharing your story and your experience and emotions is an important part of therapy. Please know that I will guide you to share your story in a specific way by asking some important questions to get me the information I need to begin to help you right away. These questions come from the stories of many couples and individuals, and therefore you get the benefit of those who have come before you. You may wish you could talk more at the beginning, but I promise that if you hang in there, you will feel thoroughly heard.

Here are a few ideas from Process therapy:

- Process therapy doesn't necessarily need a detailed history to be effective. The therapist is listening carefully for patterns and your viewpoint about those patterns.
- An issue that affects the couple, will resolve much more quickly and completely if addressed in Couple's therapy. Although one partner's issues may be harming the Couple, both partners "work" in therapy.
- An individual's issues will tend to be resolved much sooner if they are worked on in conjunction with Couple's therapy.
- If you were harmed or betrayed by your partner, you— as a partner will have hard work to do too. It is likely at some point to seem harder for you than your partner and the work very unfair to you (as in "I didn't choose or ask for this").
- The Process oriented couple's therapist is always advocating for the partnership—getting the partnership functioning and healthy. Don't worry about being right or justified or winning the therapist over. Experience gives a Process therapist a laser focus to pick up the imbalance in patterns and function. Both partners' must function for the partnership to work. You will feel the difference when you are functioning—no need to worry that things are unfair—defensiveness, anger, and volatility go away with emotional function.
- Interpersonal Function is the most valuable commodity in Process therapy. Function means that you feel you have a "say so" that your thoughts, feelings, needs, wants and desires matter and you articulate your "say so" clearly.
- Sex Therapy ("process" oriented) is largely about learning to be profoundly (intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, physically, and erotically) intimate with your partner.
- Therapy for highly distressed couple's in crisis will tend to feel like slow motion. I insist on my couple's learning to function together before we try to fix or decide anything. I attribute this "boot camp" approach in emotional function as largely the reason I am successful with critically distressed clients.

I hope this gives a glimpse into my therapy sessions. The work is life changing and transformative.

Courage to you as you begin!

What is Discernment Counseling?

DISCERNMENT COUNSELING is for COUPLES ON THE BRINK

If you or your spouse are considering divorce but are not completely sure that's the best path, you are in a tough spot. And Discernment Counseling is designed for you. It's a chance to slow down, take a breath, and look at your options for your marriage.

Discernment Counseling is a new way of helping couples where one person is "leaning out" of the relationship—and not sure that regular marriage counseling would help--and the other is "leaning in"—that is, interested in rebuilding the marriage.

The counselor will help you decide whether to try to restore your marriage to health, move toward divorce, or take a time out and decide later.

The goal is for you to gain clarity and confidence about a direction, based on a deeper understanding of your relationship and its possibilities for the future. The goal is not to solve your marital problems but to see if they are solvable. You will each be treated with compassion and respect no matter how you are feeling about your marriage at the moment. No bad guys and good guys.

You will come in as a couple but the most important work occurs in the one-to-one conversations with the counselor. Why? Because you are starting out in different places.

The counselor respects your reasons for divorce while trying to open up the possibility of restoring the marriage to health. The counselor emphasizes the importance of each of you seeing your own contributions to the problems and the possible solutions. This will be useful in future relationships even if this one ends.

Number of Sessions: A maximum of five counseling sessions. The first session is usually two hours (120 minutes) and the subsequent are 1.5 hours (90 minutes).

Discernment Counseling is not Suited for these situations:

- When one spouse has already made a final decision to divorce
- When one spouse is coercing the other to participate
- When there is danger of domestic violence

CONSULTATION REQUEST

Fill out this form if you would like to have a Consult Report sent to another Healthcare Provider/Person

addition, it is her policy to keep the clie	riting a Consultation with other services providers. In one completely in the loop about the information that is ssionals. This usually means that you will deliver the provider.
I request that Representing Sensovi Institute	
Provide and Send a written Consultation	Report/or Other Consultation to the following:
Name	Phone
Address	
I request a professional opinion and or as Institute for the purpose of Consultation	ssessment about my work and participation at Sensovi
I understand the following:	
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	written or in other forms from Sensovi Institute are a fee minutes and prorated in increments of 15 minutes. The
 I will be responsible for this f 	
 I will receive a copy of the Co Consultation such as phone co 	onsultation Report, and or be present at other forms of onversations.
Written Consultation during an "in-office This means that I can write the report in	e" session are included under the Counseling session fee. I your session if you need one.
Signed	Date

REGISTRATION FAQ'S

What is Sensovi Institute?

It is the psychotherapy practice of Dr. Lisa Terrell and the robust online programs providing specialty therapy, assessments, resources, and self-help programs for relationships and sexuality. It is your destination for personal growth, relationship counseling, information and help with your sexuality.

How do I get started?

First—Read the Registration Packet. Available on the homepage of MarriageTherapyCharlotte.com or by requesting via email, regular mail, or phone.

Second— Make an appointment

- Online scheduling. See the button on the homepage
- Call 704 377 2022 For special scheduling requests or information
- Email sensovia@gmail.com
- Leave a Message on the Sensovi.com Contact Us feature. See the button on the homepage

Where is Sensovi?

We are located in Charlotte, NC at 1820 East Blvd Charlotte, NC 28203. Please park in the back of the building. Walk around to the front entrance and be seated in the waiting area. You will be given a code to enter the building.

What issues do you help with?

Marriage concerns such as marriage renewal, affair recovery, lack of intimacy issues, divorce prevention, divorce mediations, and separations.

Sex concerns such as low sexual desire, no sexual desire, intercourse and arousal difficulty, painful sex, sexual addictions, fetish issues, sexual aversion or avoidance, inability or difficulty with orgasm, premature ejaculation, loss of erection.

Intimacy concerns such as communication, roles, conflict resolution, satisfaction with the relationship, sexuality and sensuality developments, previous traumas, trust issues, growth and development of relationship and individuals within the relationship.

Personal Growth Concerns for individuals and couples.

How much does the therapy cost?

The therapy fee is \$225 per 50 minute day session and \$250 per 50 minute evening session. Evening sessions begin at 6pm. Some Saturday hours are available at the rate of \$250 per 50 minute session.

Discernment Counseling. A structured 1-5 session program to help couples determine if marital/relationship therapy is right for them and will have a good chance of success.

Books. You will have a chance to review a book for 1 week. If you would like you can keep it and will be charged the fee to replace the book. Books not returned after 1 week will be considered purchased and be billed accordingly.

Sexual Experiences and Behavior Inventory (SEABI). For assessment of a person's sexuality template. Fee is \$200 per person. You will receive a written report for each individual and if both partner's take the SEABI you will receive a couple's report.

Phone conversations with Dr. Terrell. Conversations over 10 minutes will be charged at the usual session fees in quarter hour increments.

Consultations, written or phone. Charged at the usual session fees in quarter hour increments.

Life Audit Review and written feedback. Charged at the usual session fees in quarter hour increments.

How do I pay for the sessions?

Credit card, cash, check, Zelle, PayPal (including PayPal processing of your credit card.) Payment is due at the end of the session, even if your insurance will be covering the services.

How long will the therapy last?

The average length of therapy is 10-12 sessions over the course of 6 months to 1 year. Quite a few couples get back on track in 6-8 sessions. These are only averages; your therapy course may be shorter or longer and you will always have the choice whether or not to continue.

Please note that Discernment Counseling sessions are structured and scheduled differently.

How often will my appointments be?

In the beginning your sessions will be more frequent, and then will taper off. After the initial consult and 100 or 150 minute session, a regular 50 minute appointment is usually scheduled 2-4 weeks later. You also have the option of continuing with the 150 minute intensive appointments. Some couples find that they prefer the 150 minute due to schedules, travel, and the amount of work it enables you to do at one time.

What is a No Show Fee?

You will be charged a No Show Fee when you fail to show up for a scheduled appointment and have not given notice. Proper notice is considered a phone call/email by at least 2 pm on the business day prior to your scheduled appointment. Please note that transportation issues, childcare and illness, unexpected travel, forgetting an appointment, or schedule conflicts that perhaps are not your fault, are nonetheless not a reason for exceptions.

Do you have evening appointments?

Yes, generally Monday-Thursday.

Do you have weekend appointments?

Yes, currently 1-2 Saturdays per month.

Do you offer concierge (at client's location) counseling?

Yes, please contact Dr. Terrell for details.

How do I use my insurance?

- Check with your insurance for your benefits. Most insurance companies will reimburse for my services because I am a Licensed Professional Counselor.
- I am unable to file insurance claims for my clients. I will, however, provide you with a statement that you can use to turn your claim into your company.
- Be sure to check with your company about their out-of-network benefits. Sometimes, they will not mention that they will pay a portion of the sessions for counselors who are not on their panels.
- Take time to be informed. It has been my experience that benefits are frequently denied incorrectly. It sometimes takes persistence and time to get claims processed correctly.
- Please see the information about how to contact the insurance commissioner if you feel that your insurance company is not being timely or giving a fair standard of care for your benefits.

Do I have to bring my spouse/partner?

If it is a marriage, intimacy, or sex issue, your spouse/partner deserves and needs to be there to work with you for the majority of the process. Infidelity or high distress couple's may choose the Session 2 option of 50 minute Individual session. After the sessions have progressed, the therapist may agree to individual sessions on a case-by-case basis.

Do you counsel individuals?

Yes, on a case-by-case basis. It will depend largely on what your goal for counseling is as to whether we will accept you as a client or refer you to another counselor.

What is the Intensive Session?

We suggest that most new couple clients schedule a 100 after the initial Consult. This intensive beginning has been the result of years of experience and an understanding of how we best work with couples. You can request a 150-minute session for an intensive (for serious crisis) or quick start to your work. In the long run it is not any different than having a 50-minute session 3 weeks in a row, and the results are often more satisfying.

How do my spouse/partner and I prepare for our first session?

- 1. Read through the registration packet.
- 2. Schedule an appointment.
- 3. Fill out and sign the necessary forms.
- 4. Bring the required forms with you to the first session. If you'd like to submit your forms prior to the appointment, you can email, mail or fax them. Sensovi Institute, 1820 East Blvd Suite 201, Charlotte NC 28203 | F: 919 400 4400 | E: Sensovia@gmail.com

What is the SEABI and how will it help me?

The Sexual Experiences and Behavior Inventory is an assessment and learning application that helps individuals and couple meet the challenge of Infidelity, Addictions, and Libido. It will help you discover your Erotic style and areas needed to improve your sex life. The assessment shows patterns from 12 Sexuality Components. Sexuality Components make up your Sexuality Template. Understanding your Template helps you understand the impact of sexual history/patterns, identify harmful patterns, renew or repair a committed relationship and build a healthy sexuality. It is available online at www.marriagetherapycharlotte.com under Resources. The fee is \$200 per person. Couples who both take the SEABI also get a Couple's report at no additional charge. Hard copy SEABI assessments are available upon request.

What actually happens in sex therapy?

No clothes come off. There is no sexual touching. I practice psychotherapy, which means that we are working with our minds, our words, and our process, as we understand it. We use discussion and process to work on sexuality issues.

What actually happens in marriage and couples therapy?

Similar to sex psychotherapy, marriage counseling means we use discussion and the dynamics of the relationship to help the couple become aware and have tools to make changes, helping their marriage to be more satisfying and grow in weak areas.

Open Secrets

Description: This is the description of what happens to information that you do not want to share with your partner. From time to time a partner may share something with the Counselor that their partner does not know. Dr. Terrell's philosophy is that trusting partners should "tell"—come completely clean including details. However, I believe it can be traumatizing if the details are discovered in the wrong way and at the wrong time. I will listen and give feedback on secrets, but it will be up to you to share them with your partner.

I also have the bias that it is the ultimate trust building foundation to be completely truthful. Examples of Open Secrets may include:

- Individual Appointments with Counselor and the topics discussed
- The extent of your involvement with someone other than your partner
- Your concerns about your partner

Please note that if you share a history or intent to mortally or violently harm any person, I am required by the state of North Carolina (and have the ethical duty) to report your statements to local authorities.