

Using Our Code of Ethics To Guide Our Practice

Scenario

Professional- Client Relationship

You run a massage therapy business out of your home. It has worked out well until recently with one of your clients. You had been seeing Joan/Joe for about the last 4 months and now she/he has started to ask you out for coffee and you have declined saying that you are too busy.

You notice that when she/he is just coming into the room before changing for their treatment that they are now standing closer than before and you are now starting to feel uncomfortable.

At first you thought that if I just become more professional then this will solve the problem but it doesn't seem to be working.... in fact the more removed/professional you become the more persistent it seems are her/his advances.

A few days ago you called Joan/Joe to say that you needed to reschedule an appointment and she/he showed up unannounced at your home to see what was the problem. You had been involved in a massage when they arrived and found them sitting in your kitchen.....you thought that you had locked the door but obviously you hadn't and wondered what they had been looking at in your house when you were busy with another client.

1. What should you say to Joan/Joe as you find them in your kitchen ?
2. What are your thoughts about this professional relationship ?
3. What does the NHPCA Code of Ethics have to say about the client and practitioner relationship ?
4. After answering 1,2,3 how are you going to handle this situation ?