

## ADULT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Your decision to seek counseling means you want to improve your life. Our goal is to work with you to solve problems and gain a new perspective about yourself and how you relate with other people.

The more you share with your therapist about yourself and your life experiences, the better able he/she will be to help you. The following questions are designed to gather important information that can be utilized in the therapy sessions.

We know that this form seems long and none of us enjoy paperwork. It will take you approximately one hour to complete it. We understand that some of the questions may be difficult to answer briefly, and others may not apply. Feel free to write on the back of the form or add extra paper if necessary.

Your responses to the questions, like all aspects of psychotherapy, will be held confidential to the limitations of confidentiality as defined by the laws of Tennessee. The time you spend completing this form will allow you and your therapist to use the therapy sessions to focus directly on exploring in more depth the specific issues relating to your presenting problems

Thank you for your cooperation.

**Leave blank any questions you are uncomfortable answering.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SEX: \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TODAY'S DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**What leads you to seek therapy at this time?**

How long have these problems been troubling you?

What would you like to accomplish in therapy?

Have you been involved in counseling in the past? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

- What type of therapy? \_\_\_Individual, \_\_\_Marital, \_\_\_Family
- Name(s) of previous therapist? \_\_\_\_\_
- Was therapy helpful? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No
- Have you ever felt suicidal? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No
- Have you ever attempted suicide? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No When: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mental Illness**

Is there a history of mental health problems in your family? (Circle to indicate F=father; M=mother; S=sibling; O=other family member) None \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Depression: F / M / S / O: _____        | Anxiety: F / M / S / O: _____        |
| Bi-Polar Disorder: F / M / S / O: _____ | ADHD: F / M / S / O: _____           |
| Alcoholism: F / M / S / O: _____        | Drug Addiction: F / M / S / O: _____ |
| Other Addictions: F / M / S / O: _____  | Suicide: F / M / S / O: _____        |
| Other Problems: F / M / S / O: _____    |                                      |

**Alcohol Use**

How many drinks do you have in a typical day?

None\_\_\_ 1-2\_\_\_ 3-4\_\_\_ 4or more\_\_\_

What recreational drugs do you use/ have you used? None\_\_\_

Marijuana\_\_\_ Cocaine or Crack\_\_\_ Hallucinogenics\_\_\_ Opioids or Pain Killers\_\_\_  
Methamphetamine\_\_\_ Benzodiazepines or anti-anxiety\_\_\_ Ecstasy\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Are people in your life concerned about your drinking or drug usage? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Have you experienced any problems due to drinking or the use of other mood-altering substances? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ If so, please explain:

**MEDICAL INFORMATION:**

Are you being treated for any specific medical condition? If **yes**, please describe and give your primary care physician's name.

List any major illnesses, surgeries, or injuries, including head trauma.

List any allergies, including allergies to medication.

Are you menopausal or pre-menopausal? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

How would you describe your current physical health?

How many hours of sleep do you average per night? \_\_\_\_\_\

Do you use tobacco products? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_  
Cigarettes: \_\_\_ packs per day\_\_\_ other products\_\_\_\_\_

List all medications you are currently taking (both prescribed and over-the-counter), including dosage, frequency, and prescribing physician.

Drug	Dosage	Frequency	Prescribing Doctor

**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY INFORMATION:**

Are you married? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

If yes, how long have you been married? \_\_\_\_\_

How would you describe your present marriage relationship?

Have you been divorced? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ Widowed? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

How many times have you been married? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have children? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

What are the names, ages and sex of your children?

Name:

Age:

Gender (M/F):

Do your children live with you? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Is yours a blended family? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Describe your relationship with your children/step-children.

Is there a history of domestic abuse in this relationship or any previous relationship? Yes\_\_\_  
No\_\_\_ If yes, please describe the situation (s):

**EDUCATION:**

- Graduated High School Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_
- Graduated College Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_
- Completed Graduate School Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Do you have a history of learning disabilities? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ If yes, what type?

Client Name \_\_\_\_\_

How would you describe your academic experience?

**FAMILY BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Where did you grow up?

List the people who lived with you as you grew up (e.g. parent(s), brothers and sisters, grandparents, live-in help, etc.)

NAME:

RELATIONSHIP TO YOU:

Describe any significant problems you have had with any of the people listed above.

NAME:

NATURE OF THE PROBLEM:

Client Name \_\_\_\_\_

What words would you use to describe your father?

What words would you use to describe your mother?

How would you describe your home life while growing up (positive and/or negative qualities)?

Describe any childhood events you consider to be important in becoming the person you are now.

Did you experienced any physical, emotional, or sexual abuse in childhood? If **yes**, describe:

How were you treated by people outside your family?

Client Name \_\_\_\_\_

Did you make friends easily with your peer group? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

How important are friends to you currently? Do you feel that you have any problems (1) relating with others ;( 2) forming friendships; or (3) keeping friends?

What is your current occupation? How satisfied are you with your job?

Have you ever changed careers, been fired, or lost a job? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Have you ever experienced significant job stress or job-related problems? If **yes** please describe.

What are your leisure interests?

What do you consider to be your strengths and limitations?

Client Name \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had any legal problems? If so, describe.

Are you presently attending a church? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ If so, what church? \_\_\_\_\_

What role does your faith play in your day to day life?

Is there any other information about yourself that is not asked in this questionnaire which you would like your therapist to know about you?