

Consent and Confidentiality

I, Dr. Pamela Reeves, offer psychotherapeutic services in accordance with California State Law.

I will use the most effective and efficient therapeutic methods known for your particular issues. I am here to serve you and will not do anything to jeopardize your healing and success. I am bound by law to report any mention of child abuse, elder abuse, or suicidal plans or homicidal plans to the police. I have extensive experience in Assessments for all of the above. My promise is to help you out of those thoughts before we need to call the authorities, if those thoughts should occur.

Expanded Information

California Law requires the therapy relationship to be both professional and confidential. What is revealed in this setting is protected by legal, professional, and ethical standards such that, with a few important exceptions, all material is confidential and not released without your written consent. Ethically and legally, however, if there is a reasonable possibility of harming others or yourself; then as a psychotherapist, I am responsible to inform others, in order to protect them or yourself.

Also, the State of California requires that if there is a reasonable possibility of **child abuse or elder abuse**, this must be reported to the proper protective service immediately. There is no statute of limitations according to California law, so conceivably a report might be required for an instance of abuse that occurred many years ago even if it is no longer occurring. Depending on the exact circumstances, this could result in an investigation of that possibility. Any investigation would determine if the law has been broken and if legal action is warranted.

If you come in as a couple, I do not hold secrets from each party and will not be a court witness in the case of divorce.