

Rate the following scenarios 1-4.

1. This is not something I would ever choose for myself. It would take considerable growth to be comfortable with this situation, but it is not out of the question. I would be considerably challenged by a situation like this.
2. I have general awareness of this situation, but have not thought at length about its complexities. I am on a learning curve in this situation but I want to understand it.
3. I have thought about this a lot. I have done considerable work to educate myself about it or to process my own feelings about it. I feel confident that I could show up in this situation without baggage. I am aware of my privilege in this situation regardless of how it intersects with my oppression.
4. I feel completely comfortable in a situation like this. I have experienced this situation myself and I feel that I can be a resource here. In this situation I am completely in my element.

You are providing support to a survivor of sexual assault who:

1	2	3	4	is under 18
1	2	3	4	is under 12
1	2	3	4	is a sex worker
1	2	3	4	is polyamorous*
1	2	3	4	has a cognitive disability
1	2	3	4	is under the influence
1	2	3	4	had consensual sex with her perpetrator at some time since the assault
1	2	3	4	is a parent of a child survivor of sexual assault
1	2	3	4	has strong religious beliefs that conflict with your own
1	2	3	4	wants to have an abortion because the pregnancy was a result of rape
1	2	3	4	wants to have an abortion because being pregnant is triggering past trauma although it is not result of a rape
1	2	3	4	wants to carry the pregnancy that resulted from rape to full term and give the child up for adoption
1	2	3	4	wants to carry the pregnancy that resulted from rape to full term and keep the child
1	2	3	4	asks you for birth control resources because continued sexual assault feels inevitable
1	2	3	4	has sex with someone to avoid sleeping on the street or becoming homeless
1	2	3	4	talks about suicide and self-harm
1	2	3	4	is of a different gender than you
1	2	3	4	is lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer
1	2	3	4	is asexual**
1	2	3	4	is transgender or gender non-conforming

1	2	3	4	wants to get a vasectomy or hysterectomy and does not have children
1	2	3	4	does not want to take Plan B to prevent a pregnancy
1	2	3	4	has had an abortion in the past unrelated to sexual assault
1	2	3	4	has multiple children from different fathers
1	2	3	4	swears and is very loud and angry about your services
1	2	3	4	does not want to have a medical examination related to the sexual assault
1	2	3	4	does not want to engage with Western Medicine and prefers traditional / cultural practices of healing
1	2	3	4	does not want to report the sexual assault to law enforcement

*The philosophy or state of being in love or romantically involved with more than one person at the same time.

** A person who is not interested in or does not desire sexual activity, either within or outside of a relationship. Asexuality is not the same as celibacy, which is the willful decision to not act on sexual feelings.

Considerations on your "scores"

1. Is this something that you want to work on understanding or becoming fluent with? Be honest with yourself and with those you work with about where you are at on this. See if there is someone within your network who can support your growth and learning here.
2. It's ok not to be perfect. Be honest with yourself and those you work with about where you're at. Work with the complexities and seek understanding without intrusion and offer yourself compassion in your learning curve but remain committed to it.
3. This is a really great place to center your practice and allow growth. Remain committed to growing your edges with this issue, as everyone is different. Notice how you handle this situation when it comes up and debrief with other advocates. Celebrate the work that it took to be fluent with this situation and remain committed to learning more about its complexities each time you encounter it.
4. It is likely that you can be a tremendous resource for this person. Remember that each individual's experience is unique. Remember not to project your personal experiences on to the survivor.

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