

Salma

You are working with Salma, a young woman from Afghanistan who is accompanied by her parents to all meetings. Salma and her mother only speak when spoken to, and often refer to the father to answer for them. The father wants the daughter to become a nurse. During the session Salma agrees with this choice. Between sessions however Salma contacts you and states that she has no interest in becoming a nurse that she would prefer to be a chemist. The daughter will not share this information with her father for fear this will be disrespectful. You learn from the client that she comes from a culture where it is not at all unusual for fathers to choose the careers of their daughters and wives. She tells you that she is giving you this information in confidence and does not want it shared with her father.

- Do you continue working with Salma on a Plan that she has no interest in?
- Do you assist Salma with her interest in becoming an engineer and risk demonstrating disrespect for her father and disregard a cultural practice?
- How do you proceed?

What are the cultural considerations?

What are the ethical considerations?

What if your client had the same issue, but did not have a cultural difference?
