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## **Marriage Counseling Service : 1980s brochure**

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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MARRIAGE COUNSELING  
SERVICE



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St. Petersburg  
Florida 33709

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## AVAILABLE SERVICES

Individual Counseling

Joint Counseling

Group Counseling

Family Counseling

Pre-marital Counseling

Awareness and Communication Classes

Parent - Child Relationships Classes

Referral Services

Speakers

Feel free to inquire about any of the above services by calling our office and/or asking your counselor.

Wives, husbands, and young people planning marriage have used our marriage counseling service since it was started in 1949. This folder has been prepared to anticipate some of the questions people often ask.

## WHAT IS MARRIAGE COUNSELING?

Marriage counseling is a professional service to help people who have problems in their relationships with their husbands, wives, or children. *It is not giving advice or telling people what to do.* The counselor has no legal authority to require you or anyone else to do anything.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Anyone residing in Pinellas County who is married, divorced or planning to marry may use this service. Since this service is in behalf of children, persons beyond the childbearing age and without children under age 18 are referred to other organizations.

## DO BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE HAVE TO COME IN?

Our experience clearly shows that the best results are possible when both husband and wife see the counselor and continue to work on their problems together. If your spouse is unwilling to come, the counselor will, of course continue to see you. Sometimes ways of involving the unwilling husband or wife can be discussed with the counselor.

## IS WHAT I SAY KEPT IN CONFIDENCE?

Yes. Information you give the counselor will never be released or discussed with anyone, including your husband or wife, without your expressed permission.

## IS THERE A CHARGE?

No. You pay for marriage counseling through your County taxes, a portion of which goes to support this and the other services of the Juvenile Welfare Board. Contributions are welcomed from persons using this Service in order that we can meet the special needs of children for whom we are responsible. Some of these special needs include unusual medical and dental care, musical instruments for school bands, summer camp funds, etc.

## HOW LONG DOES MARRIAGE COUNSELING TAKE?

You may see the counselor, on a weekly basis, for interviews which usually last an hour. The number of times you see the counselor varies with each individual situation. You may, of course, terminate counseling whenever you wish.

## WHAT IS THE POLICY FOR CANCELLATION OR CHANGING APPOINTMENT?

It may be necessary at times for you to cancel or change an appointment, and if this happens, please give at least 24 hours notice, if possible, as a courtesy to your counselor. Someone else may be able to use the time.