

# **SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

Your privacy and confidentiality are my primary concerns, and so I have developed this Social Media Policy for your protection and safety in our therapeutic work together. It represents the stance I take in relation to engaging with cyberspace and Social Media.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me to discuss them.

## **Social Media as Part of Daily Life**

I engage with a range of social media platforms – Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+ to name just a few. It seems that few of us don't these days, so the possibility of our coming into contact with each other outside of the consulting room is significant.

## **Managing Social Media Activity to Maintain Confidentiality and Privacy**

I keep a Facebook page, LinkedIn page, as well as Google+ and Twitter accounts for professional purposes. You are welcome to look at these and make comments. I will not however, reply to comments made, "follow", or accept "friends" requests from current or former clients. I take this approach for two reasons:

- I believe that to have conversations with each other on social media can compromise your confidentiality and our respective privacies.
- Having conversations in spaces outside of the consulting room sets up a Dual Relationship which can have a detrimental effect of blurring the boundaries of our therapeutic relationship

## **Blogs, Directories and Websites: Follows, Comments, Ratings and Reviews**

I maintain a blog on my website, and am sometimes featured on blogs on other websites. I am also listed in a range of professional directories, some of which allow, and even ask for, reviews and ratings of the individuals and organizations listed.

Please be aware that this is NOT a request by me for you to post a review or give a rating. The request is made by the directory or website you are visiting. You can of course write a review or give a rating if you would like to but I will not be able to reply for the reasons of confidentiality and privacy mentioned previously. It is also important to understand that if you do write a review, you will be sharing your personal information in a public space. (unless of course you choose to use a pseudonym in order to protect yourself from being identified).