Challenges of BIPOC in Working With Those Who Have Caused Sexual Harm

- Being a part of “The System” when The System cannot be trusted
- Fear of recidivism compounded by societal view of BIPOC offenders= Community Vs. Individual
- Balancing need for accountability with understanding of disproportionate punishment/consequences
- Push to incorporate discussion of cultural views of healthy sexual expression within context of standard programming

We Are Human

Push for “rational/research-based” conversation on treatment, but not immune to “emotional” response if recidivism happens

We also “rank” harm---even if it is subconsciously

Hearing About Client Recidivism is Traumatic

- Second-guess self
- Sleepless nights
- Staff grief at someone else being harmed
- Try not to become “harsher” in service provision
- Successes don’t matter in the moment

Stages of Grief After Client Reoffends

By Dr. Tyffani Dent

1

Shock

- How did this happen?

2

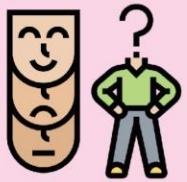
Self-doubt/blaming

- What did I forget?
- What did I miss?
- Where was my Crystal Ball

3

Depression

- **"I"** caused someone else to be harmed
- The world is less safe
- People don't change



4

Anxiety

- Will others blame me
- Are "others" out there causing harm that I treated
- For BIPOC clients--- will society view them as more dangerous

5

Recognizing own humanity

- We do the best we can
- We are not mindreaders
- We provide support/tools, and each person gets to choose whether or not to use them

6

Reset/Learning

- What lessons I learned
- How do I check-inwith supports /colleagues
- How do I continue to support my clients