

Culturally Sensitive Mediation

Brain-Storming Session on Developing a Mediators Guideline “Code of Conduct”

SESRIC

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On Cultural Diversity

1. Diversity as Fact – *salience & complexity*
2. Persons and Communities
 - Beliefs, Customs/Traditions, Practices
3. Issues
4. Culture per se v Life-style
5. Culture in situational analysis
6. Culture as approach

Obstacles for Effective Practice

- Understanding (situational, norms, etc.)
- Engagement (composition, method & timing)
- Communications
- Design
- Confidence & Trust

Guidelines?

- Professionalism
- Choice of Mediator
 - character, experience/record, esteem
- Support Team
 - = composition and training
- NB essential political nature = problematical
- Standards? Assessment? Accreditation?
 - Which? Whose? Who decides & controls?
- “Guidelines” at most?