

# **Moral Injury in Service Members**

June 24, 2026

## A Live Interactive Wehinar

### **Description:**

Moral injury may develop from exposure to events (acts of commission or omission) that transgress an individual's deeply held values and beliefs, leading to negative psychological, spiritual, and social consequences. Morally injurious events can erode core beliefs about what is right and wrong in oneself or others—about goodness, trustworthiness, and benevolence. While it is an ancient concept that battlefield transgressions may inflict emotional harm on the warfighter, there has been growing interest in moral injury in the mental health field and other circles. Some experts suggest that the extended operations in Iraq and Afghanistan may have increased service members' risk for developing moral injury, given the ambiguous nature of the operations, including unconventional guerrilla warfare and changing rules of engagement. More recently, researchers have reported on moral injury experienced by first responders and health care providers from COVID-19-related moral and ethical stressors.

This training will explore where morality comes from, define moral injury and describe how it develops, identify incidents that may contribute to it, and examine various assessment and treatment methods. The focus will be on moral injury in the military population, while recognizing that it also occurs in the civilian population. The presenter will encourage participants to consider challenges they face in identifying and treating moral injury, including how to create a nonjudgmental, safe space for clients to talk about it, and how to distinguish moral injury from common co-occurring problems such as PTSD. Military cases will be introduced to demonstrate approaches for assessing and addressing moral injury. This training is aimed at behavioral health providers and trainees working with service members and veterans as well as clinicians interested in trauma (Litz et al., 2022; Richardson et al., 2020; Rozek & Bryan, 2021).

Total CE Credits: 4
Total Contact Hours: 4

## **Learning Objectives:**

Following the training, attendees will be able to:

- 1. Distinguish moral injury from morally injurious events and common co-occurring problems
- 2. Use appropriate assessment tools and measures to evaluate clients for moral injury
- 3. Apply effective strategies for the treatment of moral injury

Target Audience: For behavioral health providers who treat military personnel, veterans, and their families.

Instructional Content Level: Introductory/Beginner

## Agenda:

10:00 pm - 10:05 pm



Online Support Tech Overview

10:05 pm - 11:55 pm

Definition of Moral Injury & Types of Morally Injurious Events Where Does Morality Come From & How Does Moral Injury Occur Assessment Tools & Questions to Identify Moral Injury

11:55 pm - 12:10 pm

Break

12:10 pm – 2:20 pm

Interventions & Treatments for Moral Injury

**Breakout Groups** 

Case Discussion

Future Directions, Final Discussion Questions on Community Support & Prevention

2:20 pm - 2:30 pm

Wrap Up & CEs

Total Training Time: 3 hours 30 minutes (includes a 10-minute break plus 20 minutes for the introduction period and CE wrap-up)

## **Continuing Education:**

**Course Completion Requirements:** Participants are required to attend the entire training. Non-instructional time includes a 10-minute break plus 20 minutes for the introduction period and CE wrap-up. Partial credits cannot be issued. Attendance is taken through the use of electronic logs, and a post-training evaluation form must be completed in order to receive ACE social work CE credits. For other CE credits, completion of the evaluation is strongly encouraged, but if you do not wish to complete the evaluation, please contact the training event's POC after the training event.

There is a 30-day time limit post-training to complete all CE requirements. CE Credit Certificates will be accessible via CE21 within 30 days after all course requirements have been completed.

#### **American Psychological Association Sponsor Approval:**

The Center for Deployment Psychology is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Center for Deployment Psychology maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

## Association of Social Work Boards Approved Continuing Education Provider Approval:

The Center for Deployment Psychology, #1761, is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved as ACE providers. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. The Center for Deployment Psychology maintains responsibility for this course. ACE provider approval period May 19, 2025-May 19, 2028. Social workers completing this course receive 4 Live, Interactive Webinar continuing education credits.

## New York State Education Department's State Board for Psychology Provider Approval:

The Center for Deployment Psychology is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Psychology as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed psychologists (#PSY-0178).

New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work Provider Approval:



The Center for Deployment Psychology is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers (#SW-0744).

Inquiries regarding CE credits may be directed via email to Aric Bowie at aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu.

## Participate:

Online Platform: Zoom

Date: 6/24/26

Time: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm Eastern

**Registration Information:** Registration will be held via CE21, and can be found here:

http://deploymentpsych.ce21.com/item/moral-injury-service-members-138533

**Registration Deadline:** Registration will close one hour before event start time.

Cancellations/Questions: Please contact <a href="mailto:aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu">aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu</a> if you have any questions or need to cancel

your registration.

**Registration Cost/Refunds: Price \$25** 

Registration fees will be refunded to participants who send a written cancellation via email to <a href="mailto:aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu">aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu</a> no less than 2 weeks before the training. No refunds will be made after the training.

**Instructional Format:** This live webinar is fully interactive. Attendees may ask and answer questions throughout the presentation and participate in instructor-led discussions.

#### **System Requirements:**

#### Zoom:

- Internet connection
- Operating System: Windows 7 or higher, Mac OS X with MacOS 10.9 or higher
- Web Browser: Internet Explorer 11+, Edge 12+, Firefox 27+, Chrome 30+, Safari 7+
- Hardware: 1Ghz processor or higher

**Special Accommodations**: If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact Aric Bowie, at <a href="mailto:aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu">aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu</a> 4 weeks prior to the training so that we may provide you with appropriate service.

**Grievances:** For any grievances or concerns with this training including those related to course content, non-receipt of certificate or other occurrences, participants may contact CDP's Continuing Education Director, Ms. Amanda Stanley-Hulsey, via email at <a href="mailto:amanda.stanley-hulsey.ctr@usuhs.edu">amanda.stanley-hulsey.ctr@usuhs.edu</a>.

## **Instructor Biographies:**

**Elizabeth Burgin, Ph.D.**, is a Licensed Professional Counselor serving as a Military Behavioral Health Child Counselor at the Center for Deployment Psychology (CDP) at the Uniformed Services University for the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. In this role, she supports the DoD Child Collaboration Study to identify best practices for enhancing and expanding accessibility to care for military-connected children and adolescents. Dr. Burgin completed her doctoral degree in counseling at the University of North Texas and her master's in clinical



mental health counseling at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. She earned her bachelor's degree from Marist College.

Prior to joining CDP, Dr. Burgin served as an Assistant Professor of Counseling, leading the Military & Veterans Counseling Program at William & Mary. Dr. Burgin's research has focused on evidence-based practices for military populations across the lifespan, including moral injury, adverse childhood experiences, and bereavement. Dr. Burgin has also worked across diverse clinical settings, including university counseling, home-based and community agency, and public-school settings. She has counseled individuals with addictions, serious and persistent mental health concerns, adults and children within the military community, and in foster and adoption systems of care. Dr. Burgin is a Certified Child-Centered Play Therapy Supervisor and is trained in Child-Parent Relationship Therapy, Internal Family Systems, and EMDR.

As a military spouse and mental health practitioner, Dr. Burgin experiences military life and navigates military systems of care daily, informing her work at CDP.

\*\*There is no commercial support or conflict of interest to report for these presenters.