



## Moral Injury in Service Members

October 17, 2024

A Live, Interactive Webinar

### **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: 3

Total Contact Hours: 3

### **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 am – 10:10 am



#### Online Support Tech Overview & Introductions

10:10 am – 11:30 am

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

11:30 am – 11:40 am

Break

11:40 am – 1:20 pm

Interventions & Treatments for Moral Injury

Breakout Groups  
Case Discussion  
Future Directions,  
Final Discussion Questions on Community Support & Prevention

1:20 pm – 1:30 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, 2022 – May 19, 2025. Social workers completing this course receive 3 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](mailto:aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu).

**Participate:**

Online Platform: Zoom

**Date:** 10/17/24

**Time:** 10:00 am – 1:45 pm Eastern

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

<https://deploymentpsych.ce21.com/item/moral-injury-service-members-129740>

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

**Cancellations/Questions:** Please contact [aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu](mailto:aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu) 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 [aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu](mailto:aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu) 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 [aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu](mailto:aric.bowie.ctr@usuhs.edu) 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 [amanda.stanley-hulsey.ctr@usuhs.edu](mailto:amanda.stanley-hulsey.ctr@usuhs.edu).

**Instructor Biographies:**

**Paula Domenici, Ph.D.**, is one of the Directors of Training and Education at the Center for Deployment Psychology (CDP) at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) in Bethesda, Maryland. She manages and implements CDP training programs for enhancing mental health providers' knowledge of military culture and evidence-based treatments to help address the unique needs of military members, veterans and their families. This includes helping to oversee Star Behavioral Health Providers (SBHP), a training and referral program



developed with the Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University, that is expanding Army and Air National Guard members' access to behavioral health care from trained civilian providers across the country. She also presents workshops to clinicians on military-related behavioral health topics. Dr. Domenici specializes in trauma and the treatment of PTSD using Prolonged Exposure Therapy. When she first joined CDP in 2006, she worked at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland in the outpatient clinic and inpatient casualty care unit. Earlier in her career, she was an APA Congressional Fellow in Washington, DC, as well as a Staff Psychologist at the San Francisco VA Medical Center in California.

**Debra Nofziger, Psy.D.**, is a Military Behavioral Health Psychologist and certified Cognitive Processing Therapy Trainer with the Center for Deployment Psychology (CDP) at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. Located in Albany, Oregon, she develops, maintains, and conducts virtual and in-person training related to military deployments, culture, posttraumatic stress, and other psychological and medical conditions Service members and Veterans experience. Dr. Nofziger is the CDP Army POC, providing outreach and support to Army Behavioral Health training programs, behavioral health leadership, and individual military providers.

From 2007 to mid-2020, Dr. Nofziger served as the CDP Military Internship Behavioral Health Psychologist at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) in San Antonio, TX. She assisted with managing multiple behavioral health training programs, including the Clinical Psychology Internship Program, Psychology Residency, Social Work Internship Program, and multiple post-doctoral psychology fellowships.

Dr. Nofziger was an active duty Army psychologist with assignments at BAMC and the U.S. Army School of Aviation Medicine. She was also deployed for a year to Iraq as a Brigade Psychologist with the 4th Infantry Division. Her variety of Active Duty assignments included positions as a staff psychologist in medical settings, at a community behavioral health clinic for soldiers in training, and in an aviation school environment where she was the training director for the Army's Aeromedical Psychology Training Course.

Dr. Nofziger earned her masters and doctorate degrees from Forest Institute of Professional Psychology in Springfield, Missouri. Her interests continue to be providing support to Service members, Veterans and their families through the training of military and civilian medical and behavioral health providers. Her particular interest areas are in the treatment of trauma and moral injury.

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