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Kintsugi: How a Japanese art form brought us together

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Psychiatrists and mental health providers are often looked to for answers regarding complex social questions. These are often difficult to discuss, as they can be controversial, timely to explain, and intersect with political and legal issues. More so, trainees are not always aware how the many national psychiatric organizations stand on certain issues (APA, AACAP, for example). At present, there is a deficiency in the education of psychiatry trainees to adequately equip them with the appropriate knowledge or background to discuss these topics with peers and patients. Active learning via engagement in debate has been studied as an effective tool in enhancing critical thinking, comfort level with topics, as well as improving tolerance of differing viewpoints. We introduced a "didactic by debate" series that includes participation from experts in the field and department members. Specifics topics included The Goldwater Rule, cannabis, gun control, and physician assisted death. We then used surveys with both qualitative and quantitative measures to assess the benefit, interest, and degree of learning among attendees.



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