Patriarchal Tree Model: Mental Health

A tree with arrows pointing at different parts.

Roots: Core Principles

A man icon stands next to this text:
- Obsession with Control
- Male Domination
- Male Identification
- Male Centeredness

Mental health example: Women are stereotyped as emotionally unstable when they are having their period.

Trunk: Institutions

Icons illustrate each of the following institutions:
- Health Care Systems
- Family
- Government
- Economy

Mental health example: Mental health services are not well-funded, especially for oppressed people.

Branches: Social Interactions

An icon of people talking to each other represents hospitals, schools, mental health clinics, families, communities, groups, and teams. Mental health example: Simon Biles didn't compete on gymnastics team due to mental health issues.

Leaves: Individual Behavior

An icon of two people shaking hands represents the individual who participates in systems. Mental health example: Trans women experience more mental health challenges than cis women.

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Based on the idea of the patriarchal tree by R. Roosevelt Thomas Jr., developed by Esther L. Danielson and Allan G. Johnson in *The Gender Knot: Unraveling our Patriarchal Legacy* (Temple University Press, 1997). All images are public domain/CC0. Mental health examples by Kimberly Puttman and Kathryn Burrows are licensed under CC BY 4.0.