

Case Management Training Institute

Working with Sex Offenders



What is sexual Abuse?

- Sexually abusive behavior is defined as any sexual interaction between persons of any age that is perpetrated:
 - (1) against the victim's will;
 - (2) without consent; or
 - (3) in an aggressive, exploitative, manipulative, or threatening manner.

Laws

- In 2007/2008 more than 1500 sex offender-related bills were proposed in state legislatures and over 275 new laws were enacted.

Two key trends:

- Increase the length of sex offender incarceration;
- monitor, track, and residency restrictions once being returned to the community
- Since 2005, over 30 states and hundreds of local jurisdictions have embraced the concepts behind these policies and enforce such laws

Who is supervised as a Sex Offender?

- **Offenders statutorily subject to registration as required by CGS 54-250.**
- **Circumstances of the instant offense are sexual motivated, but the conviction is for an offense that is not subject to registration.**
- **The offender who has a prior conviction for a sex offense which is subject to registration**

The Offenders

Rapists:

- Anger
- Control/Power
- Sadistic

Child Molester:

- Fixated/Preferential (clinical pedophile)
- Regressed/ Situational

Anger Rapists

- Use sexual assault as a means of hurting and expressing contempt for the victim.
- Their offenses are often opportunistic and are usually committed in response to a precipitating stress.

Power Rapists

- **Use sexual assault as a means of exercising dominance, authority, and control over the victim.**
- **Their behavior is often compulsive and they often engage in elaborate fantasies and plans.**

Sadistic Rapists

- **Are the most disturbed and most dangerous of all the known sexual offenders.**
- **They torture, inflict pain, and degrade the victim in order to obtain sexual gratification.**

Preferential (Fixated) Child Molesters

- Are individuals who have been attracted to children throughout their lives, and often evidence strong patterns of deviant interest or preference; they are generally unable to attain or maintain psychosexual maturity.
- Pedophile – The focus of a child or children generally under the age of 13. Pedophiles often report they are attracted to children in a particular age range (DSM-IV).

Situational (Regressed) Child Molesters

- Are individuals who do not have a clearly established preference for children.
- They may turn to children during periods of stress, loneliness, and low self-esteem, or when cues are distorted or misinterpreted.

Child Pornography/Hands-Off Offenses/Internet

Two main categories of CP:

- Used the Internet to purchase or sell access to identified children for sexual purposes including CP
- Used the Internet to purchase or sell CP images they possessed but did not produce

Child Pornography/Hands-Off Offenses/Internet

- **Contact Driven Offender** – motivated to set up an offline meeting to engage in a physical sexual relationship
- Participants were classified as contact-driven if they scheduled a specific meeting time/place and agreed to meet at that location.
- **Fantasy Driven Offender** - The motivation was for the sexual climax to occur during online cybersex, as opposed to an offline encounter

Child Pornography/Hands-Off Offenses/Internet

- **Public Indecency**
- **Obscene Phone Call**
- **Stalking**

All Sex Offenders Are Not Alike

- Legal label implies similarities
- Reality = heterogeneous population
- There is no “profile”
- No “typical” offender exists

Sex Offenders Are Different

- **No stereotypical offenders or victims**
- **Single or multiple offenses?**
- **Known history or not?**
- **Force or manipulation?**
- **Empathy or indifference?**
- **Complete or partial denial?**
- **Motivations to offend?**
- **Motivation for treatment?**
- **Level of risk?**

Static Risk Factors

- Prior sexual offending
- Prior non-sexual offending/violence
- Prior non-contact sex offenses
- Prior treatment failure
- Male victims
- Non-related victims
- Stranger victims
- Age of onset
- Minimal cohabitation history
- Childhood behavior problems
- Separation from parents as child
- Antisocial personality disorder
- Prior violation of community supervision

Dynamic Risk Factors (Stable)

- **Non-compliance with treatment or supervision**
- **Sexual pre-occupation**
- **Emotional identification with children**
- **Intimacy deficits, conflicts in intimate relationships**
- **Substance abuse**
- **Pervasive anger, hostility**
- **Antisocial values, pro-offending attitudes**
- **Negative social influences**
- **Self-regulation deficits, impulsivity**
- **Employment instability**

Dynamic Risk Factors (Acute)

- **Emotional Collapse**
- **Hostility**
- **Substance Abuse**
- **Victim Access**
- **Sexual Pre-Occupation**
- **Collapse of Social Supports**
- **Rejection of Supervision and Treatment**