

Workshop #1

What Are We Up Against?: Measuring Sex Offender Entrenchment

(Workshop #6 is the second part of Workshop #1 – if you select #1 you must also select #6)

Presenter: Dr. James Tanner (KB Solutions, Boulder, CO)

Workshop Description: Investigating, prosecuting, supervising and treating sex offenders is like herding cats; it's hard to keep your eye on everything you should. Sex offenders groom not only victims, but professionals as well. They routinely "hold their breath", "throw bones" and demonstrate short term change that can muddy an investigation, prosecution, supervision and treatment. This session provides attendees with an approach and a free tool which helps keep the larger view in focus. Originally designed as a treatment review tool, the Structured Sex Offender Treatment Review (SSOTR) has also proven valuable to investigators, prosecutors, child protection workers, and supervising agencies. Participants will learn how to use the SSOTR (available free on the Internet) as an aid in ensuring public safety is enhanced during the investigation, prosecution, supervision and treatment of sex offenders.

Workshop #2

New York State Probation Sex Offender Management Practitioner Guidance

Presenters: Laura Zeliger and Gary Govel (New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, Albany, NY)

New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DCPA) is pleased to present its recently released Probation Sex Offender Management Practitioner Guidance which was developed in cooperation with probation and treatment professionals. The guidance represents New York State's comprehensive approach to sex offender management. This interactive presentation includes a summary of findings and recommendations and a forum for discussion. This session is designed to reinforce the collaboration between probation, treatment and polygraph professionals.

Learning Objectives:

- To provide and review the New York State Probation Sex Offender Management Best Practice Guidance.
- To foster and enhance the collaborative relationship between probation, treatment and polygraph professionals in order to ensure the effective management and supervision of sex offenders in the community.

Workshop #3

Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse in New York: A Forward Approach

Presenters: Michele Harrington (NYS Office of Sex Offender Management) and Dawne E. Amsler, MA (NYS Board of Examiners of Sex Offenders)

New York has taken many steps to protect our children from sexual victimization. This presentation will highlight existing laws, such as the Sex Offender Registration Act and will focus on recent changes in the law and new initiatives designed to prevent child sexual abuse.

Learning Objectives

- Participants will leave with a better understanding of The Sex Offender Registration Act and how the registry can be used most effectively based upon current research
- Participants will learn about new laws and initiatives designed to protect New York's children

Workshop #4

Juvenile Sex Offenders: Implementation of Best Treatment Practices in a Community Based Program

Presenters: Shoshanna Must, Ph.D., Kenneth J. Lau, LCSW, Rhonda Donat, LCSW, and Christy Olezeski (Westchester Jewish Community Services, Hartsdale, NY)

New research in the field of adolescents with sexual aggressive problems suggests significant changes in the evaluation and treatment of these youth. Implementing these changes to a community mental health clinic serving these youth is salient and necessary, however, requires significant shifts in new directions. This workshop will focus on how a community mental health clinic is making these shifts given the paradigm and parameters of outpatient services, and limited resources.

The workshop will divide the presentation into different sections: the first will describe our program. This section will discuss the demographics of the population we treat, and what treatment “used” to address. New research that suggests best practice for evaluation and treatment of these youth will be presented. This research centers on the increased inclusion of family into treatment, the measurement of risk, and their profile as more similar to juvenile delinquents than to emerging adult sex offenders. The presentation will then present new evaluation and treatment recommendations based on this new research. The discussion will then address the various challenges that the program faced incorporating the new research into the evaluation and treatment of these youth, and how the problems have been addressed. The presentation will finish with future steps of the program, based on success and challenges to integration.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will have a comprehensive vision of how best to incorporate Best Practice in their work with work with juvenile sex offenders in community.
- Participate will be able to learn how to develop a sustainable parent support group.

Workshop #5

I Know I Don't Like This Guy, But I Can't Put My Finger on Why: The Assessment & Use of Psychopathic Traits in the Management of Sex Offenders

Presenter: Kenneth Duszynski, M.Ed., C.R.C. (Mid Erie Counseling & Treatment Services, Buffalo, NY)

Offenders in treatment manifest a number of psychopathic traits. Many of these traits are easily misunderstood and misinterpreted by individuals we maintain in treatment for several years at a time. The workshop will seek to help clinicians identify salient offender traits and use them appropriately to develop and maintain appropriate treatment relationships over time. It will also seek to assist individual clinicians develop and maintain appropriate boundaries between clients and themselves to make their jobs healthy and enjoyable.

Workshop #6

This is the second part of Workshop #1. See Workshop #1 for details.

Workshop #7

When the Containment Approach Works!

Presenters: Brent Williams Warberg, LCSW, Paula Cristina Reis, and Louis Criscella (Warberg & Company, LLC, Morganton, GA)

This workshop is the culmination of a detailed study of the use of sexual history polygraph examinations in several treatment programs within the state of New York.

The study examined the information given to therapists and parole/probation officers in the form of self-reports provided by clients and/or investigations.

Results reflected that sexual history polygraph examinations provided detailed information concerning additional victims and paraphilias; both of which indicated higher risk by the offender in terms of additional victims and community safety. The study also reinforced the Containment Approach, as it was originally designed, as the best means to insure reduced risk and higher community safety.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the importance of work as a team in managing crossover as it applies to sexual offenders
- Understand the importance of crossover as it applies to treatment and supervision of recidivism.

Workshop #8

Assessment of Juveniles Who Commit Sexual Offenses: A Heterogeneous and Integrative Approach

Presenters: Tara Fleury, LMHC & Lori Richardson, MA (St. Anne Institute, Albany, NY)

Current best practice guidelines (ATSA) suggest that the risk of a sexual reoffense in juveniles should be taken in to consideration. However, there are no actuarial risk scales to estimate the risk of adolescent sexual reoffending. This leaves clinicians making an overall determination of risk using clinical judgment, through the use of risk assessment protocols and individual, family, and environmental variables. How can we integrate these protocols to assess the heterogeneous adolescents that we work with?

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will learn how to integrate protocols to aid in the determination of risk in juveniles who have sexually acted out.
- Participants will look further in depth at the variables to consider during the assessment process as well as the course of treatment.

Workshop #9

Multi-Family Group: Engaging & Cooperating with Families in Treating Juvenile Sexual Aggression

David Wallace, LCSW-R (LaSalle School) & Pamela Strassberg, LCSW, JD (LaSalle School, Albany, NY)

This workshop will outline the benefits and 'how-to' strategies of implementing a Multi-Family Group for sexually abusive aggressive youth and their families. Elements of theory, application, confidentiality and curriculum will be addressed.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will learn the theoretical foundation for using the Multi-Family Group as a treatment modality with sexually aggressive adolescents.
- Participants will discuss curriculum options and ways to modify to meet particular client and agency needs.
- Participants will identify barriers to successful implementation and methods of ameliorating these challenges.

Workshop #10

Addressing Sexual Behaviors of Adolescents with Developmental Disabilities

Presenters: Dr. Kristina Osborne-Oliver, Psy.D., NCSP; Katrina Emmerich, Psy.D.; Jennifer Brooks, Psy.D.; & Tylea S. Gebbie, MS (St. Anne Institute, Albany, NY)

This workshop includes an introduction and overview of the developmental needs of adolescents who have been diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and/or a related disability, as well as a summary of the existing literature regarding the sexuality and the sexual behaviors of these populations. It also will present recent research and evidence based practices of sexual offense assessment and highlight treatment components of programs tailored to adolescents with these types of disabilities.

Learning Objectives:

- Participants will gain an understanding of the diverse developmental needs of adolescents who have been diagnosed with an ASD, mental retardation, and/or a learning disability
- Participants will learn about evidence based practices of specific sex offense assessment and treatment with adolescents who have been diagnosed with an ASD, mental retardation, and/or a learning disability.

Workshop #11

Understanding and Treating Sexually Abusive Behavior in Children and Adolescents

(Workshop #16 is the second part of this workshop – if you select #11, you must also select #16)

Presenter: Phil Rich, Ed.D., LICSW

This presentation will describe and discuss current perspectives regarding the dynamics, development, and nature of sexually abusive behavior in children and adolescents, as well as characteristics of sexually abusive youth, common development pathways, and ideas about social relatedness and attachment. Building on this material, the presentation will review and discuss approaches to the treatment of youths who engage in sexually abusive behavior and the targets of such treatment, and the nature of the treatment environment and the treatment relationship in sexual abuse specific treatment. The presentation will include several brief case studies that highlight heterogeneity among sexually abusive youth, illustrate different approaches to treatment, and provide examples of formulations by which to understand sexually abusive youth.

Workshop #12

The Innocent Images National Initiative - Investigating & Capturing Cyber Sex Predators

(Workshop #17 is the second part of this workshop – if you select #12, you must also select #17)

Special Agent David C. Fallon (Federal Bureau of Investigation, Albany, NY)

FBI Special Agent David Fallon will discuss the FBI's Innocent Images National Initiative, an undercover operation in which he and other task force officers covertly conduct online activities in an effort to identify and apprehend those individuals who use the internet to lure and entice children to meet for sexual purposes and to distribute child pornography.

As part of the presentation, SA Fallon will discuss the behavioral characteristics of Internet sexual predators and their victims. SA Fallon will conduct a live demonstration via Limewire and America Online designed to show attendees the potential threat children face from Internet sexual predators and traders of child pornography.

Workshop #13

Lasting Effects of Sexual Abuse on Children

Presenter: Angela Baris, MSW (Northeast Parent & Child Society, Schenectady, NY)

The effects of child abuse are wide ranging and may effect many aspects of a child's development. This presentation will explore a variety of dynamics that result in lasting effects of sexual abuse. We will also explore the most common factors that affect the outcomes of child sexual abuse. Additionally we will explore key variables that assist in recovery for the child and family. Lastly, we'll view innovative interventions aimed at restoring hope.

Learning Objectives:

- to understand the underlying dynamics of childhood sexual abuse that may result in lasting effects to the child and his/her family
- to offer ideas and frameworks to assist and support the children and their families in their recovery process

Workshop #14

Ethical Treatment of Sex Offenders: A Hypocrites Oath?

Renee Sorrentino, MD (Institute for Sexual Wellness & Harvard Medical School, Quincy, MA)

The issue of paraphilias as a psychiatric entity remains controversial. According to the American Psychiatric Association psychiatrist should not be involved in the treatment of sex offenders. Despite the academic debate concerning the inclusion of paraphilias as a psychiatric entity, there is a strong demand from the public for the treatment of sex offenders. As such clinicians must balance their duties to the patient with their responsibilities to the general welfare of the public. The most effective sex offender treatment consists of attention to both the patient and the public. Ethical dilemmas which commonly arise in the treatment of sex offenders include patient privilege versus confidentiality, informed consent and the potential to use double blinded, randomized controlled trials. In the first part of the workshop, the ethical issues that arise in the treatment of sex offenders will be discussed. In the second part of the workshop the audience will be invited to participate in a discussion of cases which illustrate the challenging issues that arise in the ethical treatment of sex offenders.

Upon completion of the workshop, participants will be familiar with the following core issues in the ethical treatment of sex offenders:

- a) Common ethical dilemmas faced by clinicians treating sex offenders.
- b) The legal and clinical obligations of sex offender clinicians.

Workshop #15

Effective Group Skills for Working with Adult Sexual Offenders

Presenters: Terri Maxymillian, Psy.D. and Shannon Forshee, Psy.D. (Central NY Psychiatric Center, Marcy, NY)

Workshop Description: This interactive workshop will provide a basic foundation in group theory/dynamics and then outline the skills and characteristics necessary for a clinician doing this work. The workshop will then offer a wide variety of strategies, approaches and tools for facilitating effective group work with adult sex offenders. Common difficult situations clinicians encounter with this population will be reviewed and therapeutic responses for managing these treatment opportunities will be presented. Workshop will close with a brief discussion of strategies for clinician self-care.

Learning Objectives:

- *Participants will understand the purpose and function of group process in working with sexual offenders.
- *Participants will develop additional skills for managing and facilitating effective group therapy.

Workshop #16

Understanding and Treating Sexually Abusive Behavior in Children and Adolescents

This is the second part of Workshop #11. See Workshop #11 for details.

Workshop #17

The Innocent Images National Initiative - Investigating & Capturing Cyber Sex Predators

This is the second part of Workshop #12. See Workshop #12 for details.

Workshop #18

Community Based Treatment for Youth who Have Displayed or Experienced Sexual Harm: A Systems Approach

Allison Young, LMSW, Melissa Woods, MSW, and Jaime Staiger, MS (Elmcrest Children's Center, Syracuse, NY)

This workshop will provide an overview of a community based out-patient therapeutic program which provides specialized individual, group, and family treatment to children who have sexually acted out/sexually reactive, children who have been sexually victimized and their family members. The workshop will focus on participants learning specific intervention tools that can be used with adolescents, parents, and other family members. Furthermore, participants will learn effective strategies in collaborating with other community resources.

Learning Objectives:

- provide therapeutic intervention tools to use an individual and family therapy sessions
- provide strategies effective in integrating the larger community system with the family experiencing sexual behavior issues in a community based treatment program

Workshop #19

Expertise in the Courtroom: Effective Courtroom Testimony

Renee Sorrentino, MD (Institute for Sexual Wellness & Harvard Medical School, Quincy, MA)

A number of individuals charged with sex offenses are referred to mental health clinicians for psychiatric evaluation. The types of evaluations commonly requested include evaluations to determine the most appropriate disposition of the offender and risk of sex offender recidivism. The responsibilities of the evaluator in a forensic assessment are distinct from the responsibilities of a treating clinician. In the role of expert witness, the clinician's task is to assist the trier of fact to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue. When serving as an expert witness, the evaluator should have an understanding of certain guiding principles. These guiding principles include report writing, familiarity with basic legal concepts and courtroom procedure. These principles will be introduced in the first part of the workshop.

In the second part of the workshop, the process of writing and defending a report will be reviewed. Sample reports will be presented to illustrate weakness in reports and strategies to produce a competent report. Next the role of the forensic evaluator in the court room will be discussed. Suggestions to enhance the effectiveness of the forensic evaluator will be illustrated by case examples or actual court room testimony.

- a.) Participants will become familiar with report writing for the courts.
- b.) Participants will learn the basic legal tenants of forensic evaluations.

Workshop #20

SIST vs. Confinement: What's An Evaluator To Do?

Presenter: Erik N. Schlosser, Ph.D. (Private Practice, Clinton, NY)

The Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act (2007) includes a provision indicating two dispositions in the event that a detained sex offender is found to have “mental abnormality”: strict and intensive supervision (SIST) and confinement. This workshop will explore the phenomenon of answering this question by reviewing court decisions in New York and other states, test instruments typically used in these evaluations, and issues pertaining to the challenges of providing evaluations as an independent evaluator.

Learning Objectives

- Identify the three parts of the definition for confinement and the one part most debated in court;
- Know the difference between internal and external assets that help to answer the question of risk to reoffend.