

# **How Do We Measure Sexual Offence Paralleling Behavior in Men in Custody? Exploring What Constitutes Risky Behavior, and How It Can Be Identified and Managed.**

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In order to assess the risk of sexual reoffending it is important to be able to recognise behavior which may be indicative of offence paralleling behaviour (OPB). This presentation adds to the existing research by discussing the behaviour that is exhibited in a custodial setting and how it links to empirically developed risk factors. A case study will be used to illustrate how current levels of sexual interest (assessed on a newly developed psychometric measure of current sexual interest, Current Sexual Interest Measure: Akerman, Bishopp & Beech in prep) link to sexual OPB. The use of the CSIM and Sexual Offence Paralleling Behaviour Checklist (SOPBC: Akerman & Beech 2013) in assessing and managing sexual OPB will also be discussed. Preliminary findings indicated that the individual in the case study was self-reporting his sexual interests on the CSIM in a way that was largely consistent with the observed OPB. The findings suggest that it is possible to identify the behaviour highlighted as predictive of risk in the custodial setting, but it is important to know which behaviour is relevant so more systematic case management plans can be developed. The limitations of observing such behaviour in custody will also be discussed.

# Treating Child Sex Abusers

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This presentation uses the case study method to examine a man convicted on the basis of his actions in an internet chat room, where he discussed the plan of kidnapping a child for sexual purposes, and had taken steps to purchase chloroform. The issues of being convicted on the basis of sexual fantasy, the difficulty of divulging such fantasies, and how they can be managed are discussed, along with how risk can be assessed in such circumstances. In order to triangulate the data findings, reports from court, the treatment team on this individual's previous programs, psychometric data, self-report (derived from recent research into his current sexual interest on the Current Sexual Interest Measure), and his current offense paralleling behaviour as identified by independent observers, namely staff, (using the Sexual Offense Paralleling Behaviour Checklist), will be presented. Recommendations for further treatment will be explored.

*4<sup>th</sup> presentation of symposium "Targeted Sex Offender Interventions – A Case Study Approach" (see also: Phil Rich; Tanya Garrett; Dawn Pflugradt)*

*This symposium explores what we can learn from case studies in sex offender treatment. The diverse nature of sexual offending can raise challenges for forensic practitioners who are looking to deliver effective and individualised interventions. This symposium seeks to draw from the knowledge and experience of established figures in the field of sex offender work who, using case examples, will describe the assessment methods, cast formulation and treatment techniques that have proven useful when working with sexual offenders who have presented with unique needs. Such case studies, which involve a detailed analysis of work undertaken with a single individual or a specific group, can provide a rich and useful source of information for practitioners on how they might best deal with similar cases in their own professional work.*

# **Using Groups and Psychodrama to Facilitate Change with Men Who Have Offended in a Sexual Manner**

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This presentation will describe the work undertaken at HMP Grendon with men who have committed sexual and violent offences, discussing how we use a range of methods to help them to understand their behaviour and develop skills to prevent further offending. Group processes and psychodramatic techniques will be explained reporting how they are used in the context of a prison-based therapeutic community. Furthermore, brief details will be presented on the Grundtvig European Project: a learning project which involves personnel working in prisons and related areas in Romania, Lithuania, France, Italy and the UK and two training organisations, the Romania Psychodrama Institute of Psychodrama and the London Centre for Psychodrama group and individual practice. HMP Grendon is the host prison in the UK and has received European funding for its support. By using creative learning methods the project aims to raise the inmates' involvement in the learning process in prison, setting the foundation for further development, lifelong learning, as well as successfully social integrating after release.

# Family and Community Victim Crossover in Young People Who Display Harmful Sexual Behaviour

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Practitioners working with children who display harmful sexual behaviour are often asked to decide whether children who have abused in the community can remain living at home with siblings, and whether children who have abused siblings may present a risk to the wider community. This presentation will report findings from a Scottish study which sought to address these questions (Yates, P., Allardyce, S. and MacQueen, S., 2012). Drawing on Zilberfein et al.'s (2001) method of 'clinical data mining', the case files of 34 boys who had displayed harmful sexual behaviour were analysed to make comparisons between four groups: Those children who had abused only siblings; those whose abuse included family members other than siblings; those who had abused only in the community; and a crossover group of children who had abused both siblings and in the community. The study found differences across the four groups in terms of age of onset of the abusive behaviour, the abuse experiences of the boys, and the boys' motivation to abuse. The presentation will highlight the implications of the study for risk assessment and risk management with respect to future victim selection, and will point to areas of possible further research.

# Offending Begins at Home: Working Differentially / Effectively? with Young People who Display Harmful Sexual Behaviour in Different Settings

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Assessments of children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviours need to consider, at a broad level, the safety of other children at home, in the wider family, and in the community (Calder, 2001). Research has shown that up to a half of sexual abuse perpetrated by children and young people involves siblings or close family members as victims (Beckett, 2006; Shaw et al., 2000; Worling, 2001). To date, however, issues of victim selection have been marginalised in the relevant literature. This workshop will use case study material which reflects the heterogeneity of this client group in order to discuss the complexity of the application of recent research findings about intra- and extra-familial sexual abuse (Allardyce and Yates, 2013). The workshop will consider suggestions for good practice in assessment and intervention in order to enhance sensitivity to the needs and risks of young people who abuse in different settings.

# Planning and Conducting a Meta-Analysis in Forensic Psychology

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Meta-analysis has become the gold standard for summarizing research in psychology. However, different researchers have conducted meta-analyses examining the same research question and produced different answers. This demonstrates that meta-analyses range in quality and require considerable forethought and conscientiousness in finding, coding, and analysing effect sizes. The purpose of this workshop is to teach participants how to conduct a comprehensive meta-analysis, including establishing inclusion criteria and searching for studies, selecting and coding the best effect size (including transforming data to different effect size metrics), aggregating the findings, and conducting moderator analyses. Participants will learn the basic concepts behind the statistical formulae and how to run the analyses in SPSS and Comprehensive Meta-Analysis. Both fixed-effect and random-effects meta-analyses techniques will be covered. Detailed handouts including sample SPSS syntax will be provided.

## Cyber-Harassment, A New Risk for Teenagers

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Social networks have become the assembly point of a whole generation, 87% of 13-17 year olds possess a Facebook account and find themselves on the Web without supervision. Sexuality is omnipresent in our society, most notably on the Internet. Access to pornography, sexualized advertising and erotic music videos shows that anyone can see everything, in addition to showing anything. It is a virtual atmosphere where what an individual shows will be validated or rejected by peers. Some young people are tempted to unmask their intimacy in more and more provocative ways in hopes of peer validation. Their vulnerability makes them the pray of cyber-harassers. The harasser manipulates the exposed person with their suggestive photos to obtain sexual favors, money or simply damage them.

We conducted a study on adolescent use of the Internet and its potential of serving as a medium for escalating sexual behavior. The study was conducted in the 2013/2014 school year and involved 617 high school students in Montpellier (France). In this study 14% were victims of cyber-harassment, 40% were not able to speak about it, 14% needed help on this subject. We shall evoke the complete results of this study and its links with the sexual cyber-harassment.

# Reacting Fast, Imagining Slow: The Dual-Process Model of Sexual Thinking

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Sexual fantasies have long played an important role in understanding and treating sexual offenders (Abel & Blanchard, 1974). However, an evaluation of the literature, along with an appraisal of the existing theoretical accounts, indicates that sexual fantasy is not a well conceptualised construct. For example, it is defined as almost any form of mental imagery (Leitenberg & Henning, 1995), yet there is a lack of research that investigates sexual fantasy from a mental imagery perspective. Thus, drawing upon relevant cognitive paradigms and constructs (e.g., mental imagery, associative/controlled processes, working memory, episodic remembering/imagining) and knitting them with research on sexual fantasy, a new theoretical model was developed; namely, the *Dual-Process Model of Sexual Thinking* (DPM-ST). This model states that associative processes are involved in the generation of automatic sexual thoughts, whereas controlled processes are responsible for the deliberate, effortful, and goal-oriented act of sexual fantasising. In this presentation, the development and content of the DPM-ST will be described, along with research findings that provide initial support for the model. Moreover, the DPM-ST has the potential to generate new research avenues, as well as novel treatment strategies for offenders with deviant sexual fantasies, which will also be discussed.

*4<sup>th</sup> presentation of symposium "Cognition and Sexual Interests/Behaviours: New Theoretical, Assessment, & Treatment Insights"*  
(see also: Perkins, Merdian & Bailey; Boillat, Spielmann, Deuring, Lemoine, Graf & Pflueger; Hogue & Perkins)

*For over a decade, researchers have become increasingly interested in trying to understand the role of cognition within human sexuality (Janssen, Everaerd, Spiering, & Janssen, 2000). This same interest has also emerged as a prominent goal within the field of sexual offending. For example, researchers and clinicians are continuously discovering more about the cognitive structures and processes that underlie deviant (and, indeed, non-deviant) sexual behaviour (Ó Ciardha, 2011). Much of this research involves adapting and applying various cognitive methods to the assessment of sexual interests in child abusers (Thornton & Laws, 2009), with new insights being made at an impressive rate (Snowden, Craig, & Gray, 2011). What is now needed is for this research to be applied to other offence types (e.g., Child Sexual Exploitation Material offences, rape offences); for newer methods to be tried and tested; and for the findings to be understood from a sound theoretical standpoint. Thus, this symposium will present new results from a number of research projects that: 1) target cognitive structures and processes linked sexual behaviour; 2) involve a range of cognitive methods; and 3) use both offender and non-offender samples. The theoretical and practical implications of these projects will be emphasised throughout.*



# The Implicit Theories of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offenders

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It has been proposed that sex offenders (i.e., child abusers, rapists, sexual murderers) hold a set of distorted entrenched beliefs about themselves, others, and the world. Termed *implicit theories* (Ward, 2000), these constructs have been useful for conceptualising the development and treatment of cognitive distortions, as well as the aetiology of sexual offending (Ó Ciardha & Gannon, 2011). In recent years, there has been an increasing interest in child sexual exploitation material offenders (CSEMOs), with research indicating they are distinct from contact child abusers (Babchishin, Hanson & VanZuylen, 2014). Thus, it is hypothesised that CSEMOs will possess their own set of implicit theories that guide their interpretation of intra- and interpersonal information. In this paper, a preliminary conceptualisation of the implicit theories held by CSEMOs will be presented. Drawing upon the empirical and theoretical insights within the literature, it is proposed that CSEMOs hold a set of core implicit theories that are linked to their offending behaviour. The content of these implicit theories will be outlined, as well as their relation to other criminogenic factors. Also, it is proposed that particular implicit theories will be associated with different CSEM subtypes. Practical and research implications will also be discussed.

*4<sup>th</sup> presentation of symposium ““And yes, they ARE different!” (Treatment) Needs of Offenders who use Child Sexual Exploitation Material”*  
(see also: Perkins & Merdian; Kettleborough & Merdian; Bartels, Delahaye, Spielmann, Graf & Pflueger)

*Consumers and producers of Child Sexual Exploitation Material (CSEM) have been described as “one of the fastest growing groups in the criminal justice system” (Hernandez, 2009, p. 2). The increase in CSEM offenders (CSEMOs) has resulted in ad-hoc responses from correctional institutions and treatment providers, such as the Internet Sexual Offending Treatment Programme (i-SOTP; Hayes & Middleton, 2006). Central to these movements is the question of whether conventional assessment and treatment programmes, developed and validated for contact sex offenders, can be successfully applied to CSEMOs or if, in Sheldon and Howitt’s (2007) words, “[the internet] has created, in effect, a new category of sex offender” (p. 2), which emphasises the need for a different approach to assessment and treatment. Systematic empirical research is crucial to identify potential differences and similarities between contact and non-contact sex offenders. Furthermore, if these offender groups are found to be substantially different, assessment and treatment components that were, by default, considered relevant for CSEMOs require empirical validation. The symposium will present the current state of the art on what is known about CSEMOs and how they differ from contact sex offenders.*

## Perceptions about Child Sexual Abuse

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The current literature describe as empirical evidence, the existence of mechanisms that change the way determined as the individual sees reality and legitimizes certain type of behavior. These cognitive distortions appear to have a close relationship with the maintenance and/or transition to the abusive act, and is often dynamic Gifts association with other cognitive variables. This study seeks to assess the presence of cognitive distortions in general population in order to verify the existence of parallel association with beliefs, empathy, low self-esteem and sexual attitudes. Participated in this study in 1193 subjects aged between 18 and 74 years, of which 45.3 % were male (n = 541) and 54.6 % were female (n=651). The results indicate differences in the level of sex where males have higher levels of distortion. These distortions tend to diminish after 45 years of age. Finally, we note the existence of significant relationships between cognitive distortions and beliefs legitimating, empathy, sexual attitudes and perceptions of a dangerous world. With our study, we aim to contribute to a better understanding and an increase in the quality of intervention programs applied to forensic population.

# **Sexual Abuse of Persons Incapable of Resistance: Perceptions of Sexual Offenders**

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Sex offenders reveal a set of beliefs, attitudes and interpersonal deficits, which vary in form and content, depending on the target victim (Keenan & Ward, 1999; Marshall et al., 2009; Auburn, 2010; Marshall & Marshall, 2010). Most studies on cognitive distortions in sex offenders (e.g. Burn & Brown, 2006; Drake, Ward, Nathan, & Lee, 2001; Ward & Keenan, 1999) suggest the existence of beliefs about themselves, their victims and the environment, which have a legitimizing function of sexual abuse, although it was not consensual if they play a predisposing or maintenance of aggression function. Although in Portugal, the number of shares of sexual aggression among criminal police to remain stable, there is a tendency for the increase in this type of crime against persons incapable of resistance (General Secretary of Homeland Security, 2014). However, few studies have focused on any specific psychological processes and characteristics of such attackers. This study is part of a broader line of research that aims to deepen understanding of the cognitions and behaviors of sexual offenders against persons incapable of resistance, by reason of mental and / or physical disabilities, relating them to other categories of sexual abuse.

# **The Assessment of Clinically Meaningful Treatment Change Among Sexual Offenders, and the Relationship Between Change and Risk**

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The past two decades have seen great gains in the field of sex offender risk assessment. However, comparatively little attention has been given to the assessment of treatment change (i.e., the extent to which a sex offender has successfully addressed their specific needs through the process of treatment). This talk will explore the different ways that treatment change has previously been conceptualised and assessed in the literature, and some common pitfalls for clinicians. Questions will be raised regarding the relationship between treatment change and risk, drawing on clinical examples to illustrate concepts. Finally, exciting recent developments will be reported on involving structured and validated ways to measure change across treatment, and the integration of change assessments with risk.

## Denial as a Predictor of Sexual Recidivism

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Denial is often discussed as an important factor in effective treatment of sexual offenders. Sexual offenders who deny their offences are often considered unmotivated and at higher recidivism risk than offenders admitting their offences. The purpose of the current study is to investigate the relationship between denial and sexual recidivism among 445 subjects, who underwent a formal forensic psychiatric evaluation (FPE) for the court at the Department of Forensic Psychiatry, Aarhus University Hospital, or at the Clinic of Forensic Psychiatry, Ministry of Justice in Copenhagen, Denmark, between 1 January 1978 and 31 December 1992. A total of 114 men were categorized in the denial group. The sample was followed for 10-25 years. Results do not confirm denial as a risk factor for sexual recidivism or severe sexual recidivism. No interacting effects were established between denial and severe sexual offending, offender type and actuarial risk.

## **So-Called „Legal Porn” with High Forensic Impact**

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The legality of material showing posing children in sexualized context was in public discussion in Germany after a politician ordered such material. The definition border to illegal material seems blurred and asks for adaption of laws. But there are many more types of pornography spread on the internet where the possession is not explicit forbidden but the production mirrors clearly sexual offences. The forensic impact of the other paraphilias like voyeurism, exhibitionism and frotteurism leading to bizarre sexual behaviors and video production based on hidden spy cams will be discussed.

# **“It Would Have Been Easier if I Murdered Her” Making Sense of Denial in Sexual Offenders and the Implications for Treatment**

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Most sex offender treatment programs devote significant time to overcoming denial and “accepting responsibility”. In many jurisdictions, denial operates as an organizing principle of treatment and it remains a controversial issue for forensic practice. Part of the ‘problem’ regarding denial in sexual offenders is that there has been a paucity of empirical work that has sought to understand denial in sexual offenders and the role denial plays in maintaining a coherent sense of self. This presentation will focus on the findings of two in-depth qualitative and repertory grid studies. The first study focused on the experiences and perspectives of ‘ex-deniers’ in order to gain an insight into the qualitative processes underlying both maintaining and leaving denial. The second study aimed to explore the experience and construing of sexual offenders categorically denying their offending. The analyses revealed the narrative, relational, and self-reconstructive properties of denial. The studies found that denial was a resource for identity management and revealed the importance of allowing deniers the latitude to construct desirable identities. The results also highlight that instead of viewing deniers accounts as false or as something to be challenged we should construe their accounts as a form of meaning making. The studies presented demonstrate how clinically relevant treatment targets can be elicited without disclosure. It is concluded that viewing denial as a barrier to treatment impedes constructive work with offenders and that denial should not be considered the endgame in sex offender treatment.

# **Dealing with Sexual Offenders in the Czech Republic: From Research to Legislation and Back**

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Since 2009 the legislation introducing the institute of “security detention” as a new kind of penal sanction, designed for mentally disturbed dangerous offenders (including violent sexual offenders), has been in force in the Czech Republic. The change resulted from a long-standing research and discussion of experts on how to deal with dangerous violent offenders suffering from certain types of mental disorder (incl. paraphilia) or serious personality disorder (i.e. ASPD) in the criminal justice system. Five years after the introduction it seems that the implementation goes smoothly and the security detention has become an established component of sanction system but the attention should be paid also to certain legislative and practical aspects that could produce problems in the near future. The paper summarizes findings of the research into the implementation of this measure in the Czech Republic, explains different legal and practical problems, describing the way of its application through the analyses of the full sample of the offenders under the security detention.



## **ARMIDILO: More Than Just a Great Acronym**

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The Assessment of Risk Manageability for Individuals with Developmental and Intellectual Limitations who Offend Sexually (ARMIDILO-S) was developed by D. Boer and colleagues to provide a comprehensive risk evaluation of sexual offender with an intellectually disability. The instrument allows the evaluation of the client's risk and protective issues, as well as the risk and protective features of the environment around the client. The ARMIDILO-S also allows users to describe risk levels for re-offending in different contexts and helps users derive treatment or management plans accordingly. This workshop will examine the utility of the ARMIDILO-S format in terms of providing consistency and structure in assessment while facilitating communication about risks and risk factors.

# **Is There a New Generation of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Users? First and Preliminary Results of the Basel MIPS-Study (Commensurable Indicators of Paedophilic Offenders - Switzerland)**

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Previous research provides evidence for Child Sexual Material consumers (CSEM) as belonging to a high functioning and skilled subpopulation. Additionally, it reveals more cognitive deficits in Child Sexual Abusers (CSA) than in CSEM. Currently, the availability and access of computer and internet has become much easier, reducing the demand on cognitive resources with implications for the identified CSEM offenders. Thus, the aim of the present study was to investigate whether the population of CSEM offenders has changed in terms of personality traits and cognitive capabilities. We compared CSA, CSEM and a control group regarding demographic, personality, traumatic experiences and neuropsychological functions. Preliminary results suggest that CSEM offenders were more seriously affected by cognitive and personality aberrations compared to CSA. From the results, it is concluded that CSEM offenders do not show superior capabilities as formerly suggested. This could be due to a more unbiased selection of identified CSEM offenders or to an expansion of this subpopulation because of simplified internet access and availability.

*2<sup>nd</sup> presentation of symposium "Cognition and Sexual Interests/Behaviours: New Theoretical, Assessment, & Treatment Insights"*

*(see also: Perkins, Merdian & Bailey; Hogue & Perkins; Bartels, Beech & Harkins)*

*For over a decade, researchers have become increasingly interested in trying to understand the role of cognition within human sexuality (Janssen, Everaerd, Spiering, & Janssen, 2000). This same interest has also emerged as a prominent goal within the field of sexual offending. For example, researchers and clinicians are continuously discovering more about the cognitive structures and processes that underlie deviant (and, indeed, non-deviant) sexual behaviour (Ó Ciardha, 2011). Much of this research involves adapting and applying various cognitive methods to the assessment of sexual interests in child abusers (Thornton & Laws, 2009), with new insights being made at an impressive rate (Snowden, Craig, & Gray, 2011). What is now needed is for this research to be applied to other offence types (e.g., Child Sexual Exploitation Material offences, rape offences); for newer methods to be tried and tested; and for the findings to be understood from a sound theoretical standpoint. Thus, this symposium will present new results from a number of research projects that: 1) target cognitive structures and processes linked sexual behaviour; 2) involve a range of cognitive methods; and 3) use both offender and non-offender samples. The theoretical and practical implications of these projects will be emphasised throughout.*

# **Characteristics of Sexually Abused Children and Children Exhibiting Problematic Sexual Behaviors: Use of Variable- and Person-Oriented Approaches to Distinguish.**

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Although a significant overlap exists between sexually abused children and children exhibiting sexual behavior problems (SBP), as evidenced by similar intervention programs proposed to these children, the literature is scarce to describe the specific characteristics of sexually abused children, children exhibiting SBP and children with both issues.

The objectives of this study are : 1) to determine whether children from three different groups (sexually abused children with or without SBP and children exhibiting SBP that were not sexually abused) differ in terms of their socio-demographic profile (age, gender), their prior victimization (physical abuse, psychological abuse and neglect) and their psychosocial profile (behavior disorder, sexual behavior, trauma-related symptoms and social skills), 2) to identify and describe different profiles of children exhibiting SBP and sexually abused children, based on the previous independent variables.

The sample is constituted of 158 children (63 % boys) aged 6 to 12 years and their parents. Results of regression analysis and latent class analysis will be presented. These results will inform clinicians about the specific characteristics of sexually abused children and those who exhibit SBP.

# **Sexual Behavior Problems in Children: A Systematic Review of Associated Factors and Typologies**

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The majority of children demonstrate sexual behaviors well before the onset of puberty. However, some children deviate from normative patterns of sexual development, by sexually victimizing other children. To date, none of the published reviews on factors associated with sexual behavior problems in childhood and typologies of children with sexual behavior problems employed a systematic review of literature. Accordingly, it is appropriate to question the validity of the conclusions of existing reviews.

This presentation will first summarize findings derived from a recent systematic review of literature on factors associated with sexual behavior problems of children 12 years and under and typologies of children exhibiting such behavior. The objectives of this presentation are 1) to determine the methodological limitations of the field, with particular attention to the definition and measurement of problematic sexual behaviors, 2) to determine the individual, family and social factors that distinguish children 12 years and younger who display problematic sexual behaviors from those who do not, and 3) to determine whether subgroups exist among children showing problematic sexual behavior. An overall assessment of the robustness of the evidence will be presented. This presentation will guide stakeholders to target specific assessment and intervention supported by empirical research.

# **Multisystemic Therapy for Youths with Problem Sexual Behaviors**

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Although youths who engage in criminal and other problematic sexual behaviors consume much of the resources of the juvenile justice, mental health, and educational systems, few empirically supported interventions exist to treat these youths. Indeed, usual treatment approaches do not have the capacity to address the broad array of risk factors related to sexual offending in youths and do little to promote youths' competencies in real world settings. Multisystemic therapy (MST) is a family-based based treatment model that originally was developed for youths who commit nonsexual crimes and that more recently has been adapted to the treatment of youths who commit sexual crimes and other problem sexual behaviors (MST-PSB). This presentation will describe the empirical, theoretical, and clinical foundations of MST-PSB and will discuss findings from MST-PSB outcome studies and community-based dissemination efforts. The theoretical and clinical foundations of MST-PSB draw upon empirical research regarding the multidetermined nature of youth sexual offending as well as upon social-ecological models of behavior. In three randomized clinical trials, MST-PSB has had positive effects on key factors associated with sexual offending in youths and has demonstrated long-term, cost-beneficial reductions in criminal activity and incarceration. In addition, MST-PSB has been successfully transported (using a comprehensive quality assurance and improvement system) to approximately 40 sites in the United States, England, and the Netherlands. The clinical effectiveness and transportability of MST-PSB have important implications for the optimization of positive outcomes with sexually offending youths and their families and for the reform of current mental health services for these youths.

# **Towards an Understanding of Situational Affordances in Internet Sex Offending Behavior: A Mixed Methods Analysis of the Situational Components of “Peer-to-Peer” Offending**

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Sexual offences have long since been established as a co-production of dispositional and situational factors, yet the situational or environmental components of Internet sex offending have received little attention in empirical research efforts. Extant research has maintained an explicit emphasis on the identification of innate, psychological characteristics of Internet sex offender populations and static risk factors for future offending. Notwithstanding the heavily mediated character of Internet sex offending, efforts to understand these behaviours or to assess, treat and otherwise manage this cohort have proceeded in a relative vacuum of empirical information about the situational factors that influence or impel problematic online behaviour, particularly those afforded by the Internet environment. Using combined thematic and correspondence analysis strategies, this paper seeks to bridge this empirical gap by adapting the theoretical tenets of Quayle and Taylor’s (2003) Model of Problematic Internet Use to the empirical identification of situational features of offence-related behaviours in a custodial sample of “Peer-to-peer offenders” – users of an online protocol that is internationally recognized as the most significant vector for child pornography exchange. This paper examines the psychological and offence functions of these situational factors, particularly their relationship with offender motivation, problematic cognitive and behavioural trajectories, and offending outcomes.