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Working With Juveniles Who Have Sexual Behavior Problems

Treating Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems

- Research indicates that treatment with juveniles who offend sexually is highly effective

- Recidivism with juveniles who successfully complete treatment tends to be between 10% and 15%

- Juveniles are different from adult offenders

Treating Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems

- Sex offender treatment as a profession

- Treatment of juveniles is even newer

- Very little research has been done on treating the juveniles who offend sexually

- Assessment tools for evaluating juveniles are generally inappropriate and/or invalid (although, research is emerging)

Treating Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems

- Developmental issues:
 - Juveniles are not mini-adults 🌱
 - Still developing identity, empathy skills and moral compass 🌱
 - Most are still in need of sexual education 🌱
 - Education plays a big part of treatment for juveniles 🌱

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- Techniques to use when working with juveniles
 - Visual
 - Use Pictures instead of just words for assignments
 - Video Clip (Freedom) Video Clip (Troy)
 - Create your own metaphors
 - Have clients draw their own pictures/metaphors

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- Techniques to use when working with juveniles
 - Auditory
 - Song or story telling 🌱
 - Using a variety of songs to discuss issues 🌱
 - Have the kids come up with their own songs/raps for assignments 🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱🌱
 - www.lyrics-songs.com & *The Green Book of Songs by Subject* by Jeff Green

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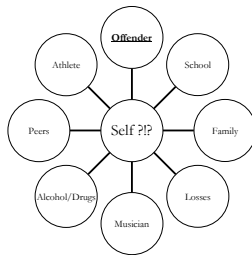
- Techniques to use when working with juveniles
 - Kinesthetic – Behavioral – Activity Based
 - [Video 1](#) or Demonstration
 - [Video 2](#)
 - Using role play with kids 🎭 🎭 🎭
 - Using art, toys, and various mediums (clay, sand, paint, water, chalk, etc)
 - Remember, we are teaching life-skills (problem solving, coping, etc.) 🎭

Treating Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems

- 🗑️→ concepts for you to remember:
 - “If the bum is numb... the brain is the same!” 🎭
 - Get up, move around, have clients move around and be active (doesn't have to be directly related to topic). 🎭
 - Make frequent state changes

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- Don't forget, treat the whole child, not just the “offender” part of the child. Look for all patterns over their lifetime, not just offenses.



Treating Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems

- Treatment Tips
 - Always keep kids within eyesight (supervision issues)
 - Always have them keep their hands within eyesight
 - Bumping into others and other boundary violations need to be addressed immediately (frottage)
 - Remember, one of the most powerful tools of an offender is secrets
 - Polygraphs as a treatment tool
 - Involve family system in treatment (remember, the family is a victim also)

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- Treatment Tips
 - Be victim centered
 - Be aware of grooming and address it in the moment
 - Address Hyper-vigilance
 - Groups vs. Individual therapy
 - Have boys tuck their shirts in and wear a belt at all times
 - Healthy skepticism (trust your gut)
 - Role of supervision (decreasing access & opportunity)
 - Be aware of how you dress and how the boys look at you
 - Keep all members of the treatment team communicating (probation officer, caseworker, therapist, parents, etc.)

Treating Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems

- On a final note, to more effectively help others, we need to take care of ourselves. (Adapted from 2005 or 2006 conf.)
 - Learn to recognize the signs of burn-out:

If your days used to feel like this...

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But now look more like this...



You may be experiencing burn out !



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- If your Tivo or VCR is set to record only:
 - CSI
 - CSI: Miami
 - CSI: New York
 - Law & Order
 - Law & Order: SVU
 - Law & Order: Criminal Intent
 - Criminal Minds
 - Numb3rs
 - Close to Home
 - Court TV...

You might be experiencing burn out !



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- If some man from your church or neighborhood compliments your children, and you begin to interrogate him....



- You might be experiencing burn out !

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- If you recommend that every client you have be registered...



- You might be experiencing burn out !

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- And finally, if your home page is set to:
records.txdps.state.tx.us/soSearch/soSearch.cfm



- You might be experiencing burn out !

Treating Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems

- Take care of yourself !
 - Take breaks between clients/groups
 - Talk with friends/colleagues about **ANYTHING BUT** sexually offending behaviors or high risk situations !
 - See some clients with “adjustment” problems !
 - Take a vacation with your family and/or friends !
 - Get into therapy for yourself ! Put your therapist on speed dial !
 - Remember, not everyone is a predator and not everyone is out to deceive or manipulate you !

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References and Resources

- [Activities That Teach](#) (1993), and [More Activities That Teach](#) (1995), Tom Jackson, Red Rock Publishing, Cedar City, UT.
- www.csom.org – Center for Sex Offender Management
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- [Impact Teaching: Ideas and strategies for teachers to maximize student learning](#) (2001), R. H. Allen, Allyn & Bacon, Boston, MA.
- [Paths To Wellness](#) (2001), and [New Hope for Youth](#) (2003), Robert Longo, NEARI Press, Holyoke, MA.
- therobhart@hotmail.com – Robert Hart, LPC, LSOTP e-mail
- www.whytry.org – Why Try? curriculum information

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