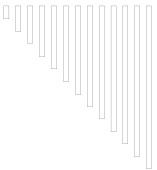


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## Working with Parents of Juvenile Sex Offenders

Terri Bauer, LCSW, LSOTP  
Monty Faison, LCSW, LSOTP

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### About us.....

- Collin County Juvenile Probation
- Working with juvenile sex offenders since mid 90's
- Operating separate programs for parents and offenders
- Both inpatient and outpatient settings
- Literally hundreds of kids and parents

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### Sex Offenders/ Pedophiles

- Stigma associated with Sex Offenders
- Predatory, Perverted, and Untreatable
- **LOWEST FORM OF LIFE IN MOST SOCIETIES**
- They elicit outrage and disgust
- How do YOU feel about Sex Offenders???

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**STIGMA DRIVES TREATMENT**

- Parents and Offenders are SCARED TO DEATH!!!!
- We MUST be sensitive to this.....

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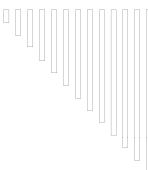
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**ADAPTATION**

**ADAPTATION and COPING**

**Homeostasis (steady state)**

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**My Son Did What?????**

- Immediate denial based on STIGMA
- Protecting child from label
- Protecting self from being Bad Parent
- Anger, Outrage, Blaming
- Anything to undo this!!!!!!

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**Allowing Denial**

- Let them feel their feelings...
- Let them tell their story...
- Don't confront them
- Confronting them will only cause the parents to "dig in"
- Confronting will delay the opportunity to build a working relationship

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**OMG!!! My kid is a pervert!!!!**

- How could he do such an awful thing?
- He hurt my daughter/son!!!!
- He can never come back into my home!!!! I mean it!!!! I must to protect my other children!!!!
- He didn't learn that type of behavior from us!!!!
- I'm so angry, I could hurt him!!!!

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**Total Chaos!!!**

- What will people think????
- Will people banish us from our neighborhood????
- He abused my sister's child also!!!!
- My God!!! What else could he have done????
- Where did we fail as parents????
- Will he/she be on the internet????

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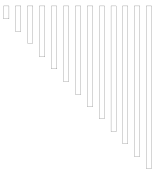
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## SAFETY PLAN ADHERENCE

**MUST BE ENFORCED REGARDLESS OF  
PARENTAL BELIEFS REGARDING GUILT  
OR INNOCENCE!!!!!!**

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## Supervision

**If Parents Don't Believe their  
son/daughter has committed a  
sexual offense, they won't  
supervise them!!!!!!!!!!**

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## Educating Parents

- There is a DIFFERENCE between pedophiles and kids that make poor sexual choices
- Sexual arousal patterns.... Set/Not set
- Reasons children become objects of sexual acting out
- Role of Pornography
- ADAPTATION\*\*\*\*\*
- MOST ALL SPECIES BREED AT PUBERTY!!!!!!
- Same sex victim does not mean Homosexual

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### Twelve to Twenty (most turbulent phase of life)

- Puberty process (all species breed at Puberty)
- Individual identity
- Developing ability to have relationships
- Process of individuation (weaning)
- Not a child anymore...but not yet adult

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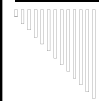
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### Provide Typical Characteristics

- Average age of Juvenile Offenders
- Average age of Victims
- MOST Offenders have ADDITIONAL Victims
- Self-Perception/SOCIAL DEFICITS/Mental Health Issues
- Difficult Situations
- Access to PORNOGRAPHY!!!

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### Calm before the STORM!!!

- Parents begin to relax and understand that their kid is probably not a PEDOPHILE (stigma)
- Recognize treatment providers are not their enemy...
- Not happy...but "we can do this..."
- Bonding with group begins...

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**Narrative Examples**

Stories about how a youth comes to commit a sexual offense.....based on actual de-identified case examples.....

Helps parents begin to understand how this COULD have POSSIBLY happened....(still no confronting)

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**From Porn to Offending**

- Arousal/Masturbation
- ADAPTATION\*\*\*\*
- Seeking original arousal levels
- OBJECTIFYING
- Wanting to see the "real thing"
- Wanting to "touch the real thing"
- Sexual Offense is Committed!!!!

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**Examples of Difficult Situations (more education)**

- Family Issues/strategies\*\*\*
- Substance Abuse in Family/Mental Health
- Financial Hardships
- Abandonment/Enmeshment
- Social Difficulties\*\*\*
- Distortions\*\*\*
- Any situation causing extreme stress\*\*\*
- Sexual Abuse Victims Themselves\*\*\*

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**Perception vs. Reality**  
(giving parents an out!!!)

- Johnny's dad loves him because he spends evenings playing ball with him
- My dad is never home, always working, therefore he doesn't love me
- (the truth is...Dad works a great deal because he DOES love him !!
- Everybody HATES me!!!!

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**Limited ability to COPE** (adapt)  
(The Perfect Storm)

- ADHD/ impulse control problems
- Immaturity below expected level
- Parents demonstrate maladaptive coping strategies\*\*\* (family problems)
- Withdrawn/ Class Clown (social difficulties)
- Mental Health Issues
- Victim of Sexual Abuse

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**THE STORM HITS!!!**  
(polygraph)

- Additional Victims!!!
- Parents are devastated...
- Trust in child is GONE...
- Identity of victims...
- My child has also been sexually abused!!!
- Very Deviant Sexual Behaviors Reported

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**Complicating Factors**

- Youth looked parents in the eye and swore to the "whole truth"
- Parents have spent thousands of dollars in defense of their child
- Parents have blamed many factors and people for the false accusation
- MAJOR CROW EATING TIME!!!

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**Why Did my Kid Lie To Me?**  
I FEEL LIKE I DON'T KNOW MY OWN CHILD

- Stigma
- Hoped against hope (stigma)
- Social Suicide
- Did not want to disappoint parents
- Parents may have "dug in" and reinforced resistance

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**Finding your family on the Continuum**

- Who are we?
- Chaotic/Disengaged vs. Rigid/Enmeshed
- No rules vs. Military Type
- Our Attitudes toward sex\*\*\*\*\*
- What are our family issues???

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### Finding your child on the continuum

- Withdrawn vs. Outgoing
- Aggressive vs. Passive
- What are his struggles
- Self-esteem vs. Poor self concept
- Frustrated? Angry?
- Has life dealt him a "Bad Hand?"

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### Parenting Styles

- Enabling
- Inconsistent
- Verbally abusive
- Approaches to discipline
- Critical of Children

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### Discipline Without LOVE

- Causes resentment
- Causes frustration/ANGER
- Creates NO bond

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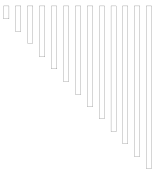
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## OFFENSE CYCLE

Teaching Parents exactly what an  
**OFFENSE CYCLE IS!!!**

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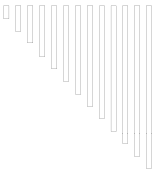
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## Offense Cycle

Thoughts, Feelings, Behaviors  
leading to sexual abuse of a  
child.....

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## Offense Cycle Presentation

- What child says during offense cycle is not necessarily the truth.....
- Perception vs. Reality (again)
- Youth will tell details of offense(s)
- Do NOT defend yourself at this point
- LISTEN!!!!!!

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### Offense Cycle Presentation

- Youth Will Share Their Perceptions
- Discuss Difficult Situations of their Lives
- May Confront Parents
- May Ask for Explanations
- MYSTERY OF WHY OFFENSE OCCURRED WILL BE SOLVED!!!!!!
- DEFINING MOMENT!!!!!!

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### Making The Necessary Changes

- ACCEPTANCE
- Changing Environments
- Changing Attitudes
- Understanding How Parental Factors Have Influenced Youth
- Becoming Healthy (youth/family)
- YOUTH MUST DEVELOP HEALTHY SOCIAL LIFE!!!!!!!!!!

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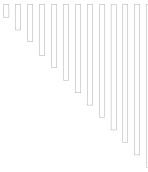
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### Reunification Process

**Offender makes amends to victims only when appropriate.  
Family is reunited in a new spirit of cooperation and understanding when appropriate.**

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**Furlough Process**

- Safety Plans...
- Home evaluation...
- Incremental in length...
- Purpose is to demonstrate ability to incorporate learned skills and knowledge into daily living...
- Furlough evaluations...

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**Maintenance**

- Ongoing weekly treatment (parents and offenders)
- Maintenance Polygraphs
- Family sessions
- Continues until completion

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**To Contact Us.....**

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- Monty Faison, LCSW, LSOTP
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