

Adolescent Sex Offenders

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Adolescent Sex Offenders

30 to 50% of child molestations

20% of rapes

(Murphy & Page, 2000)

Adult Sex Offenders with No Juvenile Charges

33%

Committed undetected sex offenses

(Knight and Prentky, 1993)

**Adult Sex Offenders
& Age of Onset**

**1/3 to 1/2 began offending
In adolescence**

(Prentky et al., 2000)

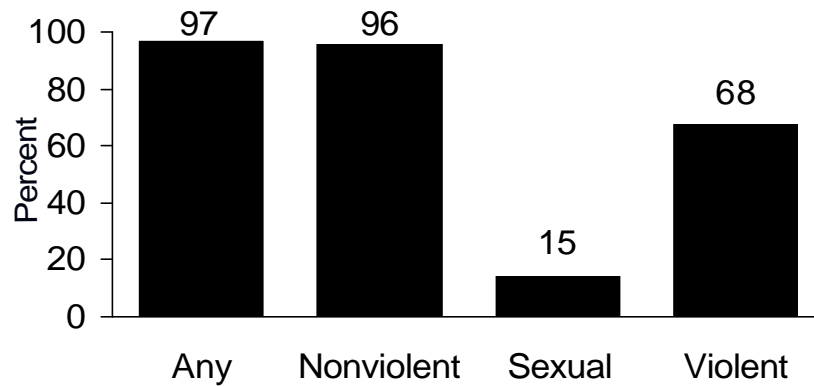
10-Year Follow-Up of Adolescent Court Referrals

N = 157 male adolescents

- Referred by the courts for psychological evaluation
- Age 12 to 18
- Confessed or convicted on one or more violations
- Pre-sentence
- Mean PCL:YV score = 22.9 (SD = 7.0)

(Gretton, 1998)

Recidivism Rates for Sample (Gretton, 1998)



Adolescent Sex Offenders

Arousal

or

Criminal Behavior

**Juvenile Sex Offenders
Age of Onset**

Begin Offending Under Age 12

46%

(Burton, 2000)

Adolescent Sex Offenders

Committed a non-sex offense 86%

(Jacobs et al., 1997)

Recidivism of Adolescent Sex Offenders

N = 46 (44 males; 2 females)

All Swedish youth sex offenders

Referred for court ordered assessment

Bizarre elements or signs of mental disorder

9 reoffenders

1988 – 1995

Ages 15 – 20

FU average 5 years

**Adolescent Sex Offenders
Sex Offenders or Criminals?**

Recidivism in Adolescent Sex Offenders

N = 46

Follow-up = average 5 years

General 65%

Violent 22%

Sexual 20%

(Langstrom & Grann, 2000)

**Adolescent Sex Offenders:
Sexual vs. General Recidivism**

FU up to 6 years

Recidivate

Sexual 7.5 to 14

General Criminal 40 to 60

(Langstrom & Grann, 2000)

Deviant Arousal or Antisocial

4 variables correctly classified 77% reoffenders

Involvement with delinquent peers

Crimes against persons

Attitudes towards sexual assault

Family normlessness

(Ageton, 1983)

Deviant Arousal or Antisocial?

Involvement with delinquent peers
Correctly classified 76% reoffenders
(Ageton, 1983)

Deviant Arousal and Adolescent Sex offenders

Most likely found among child molesters
“Greater fluidity” of offense patterns
Less connection between arousal & offense histories
(Hunter et al., 1994)

Female Adolescent Sex Offenders

**Female Adolescent
Sex Offenders**

N = 67
Community/residential

Mood Disorder > ½
PTSD nearly ½

(Matthews et al., 1997)

**Female Adolescent
Sex Offenders**

	Female	Male
Number of molesters	4.5	1.4
No. w/ more than 1 molester	75%	10%
Gender of molester		
Male only	58%	80%
Female only	4%	13%
Both	38%	7%

(Matthews et al., 1997)

Female Adolescent Sex Offenders

More severe abuse

Abuse started earlier

More experienced force

(Matthews et al., 1997)

Comparison of Female & Male Adolescent Sex Offenders

Offending behaviors

Similar

Frequency & Magnitude

(Matthews et al., 1997)

**Female Adolescent
Sex Offenders**

Repetitive patterns of offending

Multiple victims

Used force as frequently as males

(Matthews et al., 1997)

**Female Adolescent
Sex Offenders**

Sex of Victims

Males only 45%

Females only 24%

Both sexes 31%

(Matthews et al., 1997)

**Risk Assessment
of
Adolescent Sex Offenders**

**Juvenile Sex Offenders:
Risk Assessment**

I Sexual Drive/Preoccupation

II Impulsive/Anti-social Behavior

III Clinical/Treatment

IV Community Adjustment

(Prentky et al., 2000)

Juvenile Sex Offender Risk Assessment

N = 96

FU = 12 months

	N
Sexual Reoffense	3
Nonsexual, victim involved	4

(Prentky, 2000)

**Juvenile Sex Offenders
Risk Assessment**

Sexual Drive/Preoccupation	Weak
Impulsive/Anti-social Behavior	Stronger

**Adolescent Sex Offenders:
Sexual Recidivism**

Any previous sex-offending behavior

Poor social skills

Male victims

2 or more victims in index offense

(Langstrom & Grann, 2000)

**Adolescent Sex Offenders:
Sexual Recidivism**

Any of these 4 factors:

3.5 times more recidivism

(Langstrom & Grann, 2000)

Adolescent Sex Offender Recidivism

Any previous sex-offending behavior

Poor social skills

Male victims

2 or more victims in index offense

1 point each

$r = .45$

**Adolescent Sex Offenders:
General Recidivism**

Signs of conduct disorder before 15

Any violent convictions

3 or more previous convictions of any type

PCL-R score >25

Use of death threats or weapons at index sex offense

(Langstrom & Grann, 2000)

**Adolescent Sex Offenders:
Sexual Recidivism**

Impulsive/Anti-social Behavior

Involvement with Delinquent Peers

Any previous sex-offending behavior

Poor social skills

Male victims

2 or more victims in index offense

**Adolescent Sex Offenders:
Any Recidivism**

Signs of conduct disorder before 15

Any violent convictions

3 or more previous convictions of any type

Use of death threats or weapons at index sex offense

Denial in Adolescent Sex Offenders

N = 204 males

Community-based treatment

Tx Compliance	Denial (%)		
	None	Some	Complete
No	27	49	71
Yes	73	52	29

(Hunter & Figuerdo,1999)

Polygraph and Adolescent Sex Offenders

	N	Collateral	Intake	Polygraph
Child	60	1.52	1.87	2.85
Offenses	51	27.18	20.65	76.59

(Emerick & Dutton, 1993)

Polygraph and Adolescent Sex Offenders

	Intake	Polygraph
Pornography	27%	78%
Voyeurism	29	49
Rape	15	29
Fetish	12	24

(Emerick & Dutton, 1997)

Typology

Typology of Adolescent Sex Offenders

**Naive Experimenters
Undersocialized child exploiters
Sexual aggressives
Sexual compulsives
Disturbed impulsives
Peer-group influenced**

(O'Brien 1986)

Naive Experimenters

**Usually younger (12 - 15)
No previous acting out
Adequate social skills
Rarely victims themselves
Few isolated events - opportunistic
Remorseful and embarrassed
No force or threats
Stable families**

(O'Brien 1986)

Undersocialized Child Exploiters

**Chronic pattern
Manipulation or trickery
Socially isolated
Gravitates to young children
No other antisocial behaviors
Rarely alcohol or drugs
Often withdrawn or depressed
Family intact but disengaged**

(O'Brien 1986)

Sexual Aggressives

**Use of force or violence
Assaults against younger or older
Disorganized, abusive families
Adequate social skills, may be charming
and gregarious
History of antisocial behaviors
Alcohol and drugs**

(O'Brien 1986)

Sexual Aggressives

**Difficulty handling aggressive impulses
Uses sex to express anger, humiliate,
dominate or control
Fantasizes about rape or sadism
Uses denial and projection
Can't accept criticism
Basically character-disordered, anti-social**

(O'Brien 1986)

Sexual Compulsives

**Highly repetitive sexual behaviors
Usually hands-off offenses
Quiet and withdrawn
Over-achieving and perfectionistic
Emotional constriction and anxiety
Families often enmeshed
Families often repressive or fundamental religious**

(O'Brien 1986)

Disturbed Impulsives

**Acute reality disturbance
Single act or pattern of bizarre/ritualistic acts**

(O'Brien 1986)

Peer-Group Influenced Offenders

**Acts out in response to peer pressure
Desire for peer attention
Afraid of ridicule
Normal background
No previous history of antisocial acts**

(O'Brien 1986)

Relapse Prevention with Adolescent Sex Offenders

**AVOID
PLACES THAT ATTRACT CHILDREN**

**IF YOU ARE IN THIS SITUATION
ESCAPE**

IF YOU CAN'T

GET SUPPORT

DISTRACT

(Murphy & Page, 2000)

IF YOU HAVE A DEVIANT FANTASY

CONSEQUENCES

ESCAPE

DISTRACT

**THOUGHT
STOPPING**

(Murphy & Page, 2000)

Maps

Non-Offending

Offending

(Murphy & Page, 2000)

Thoughts

Alternatives

Feelings

Alternatives

Behaviors

Alternatives

Precursors

What Makes You Want to Do It

Giving Yourself Permission

Getting Access to the Victim

Making the Victim Go Along

(Murphy & Page, 2000)

Individualized Chains

Telling the Tale

Drawing the Tale

**3 Rules for Adolescent
Relapse Plans**

1) Simplify

2) Simplify

3) Simplify

Identifying Slippage

To Him/herself

**Thoughts
Feelings
Behaviors**

To Others

Behaviors