

## ***BETTER TOGETHER***

2018 ATSA Conference | Friday October 19 | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

**F-20**

### **The Use of Risk Assessment with Child Pornography Offenders Under Federal Supervision**

Symposium Chair: Ida Dickie, PhD  
Spalding University

The number of arrests in the U.S. for child pornography offences has tripled between 2000 and 2009 (BJS, 2007). Although child pornography offenses account for only a small percentage of the overall federal court caseload, the rapid increase in the number of child pornography cases on supervision has major implications for law enforcement, criminal justice, correctional, and clinical agencies responsible for detecting, managing and treating the problem (USSC, 2009; Kaiser and Spohn, 2014). Risk assessment is essential aspect of accurate decision making at any point in the legal process with offenders. However, the only risk assessment tool developed for use with child pornography offenders is the CPORT. The following symposium will discuss the results from a cross validation study using the CPORT in a sample of 65 child pornography offenders who were under the supervision of the KY United States Probation Office between 2010-2016. Results will be discussed in terms of implications for assessment, treatment, and supervision strategies with child pornography offenders.

#### **Risk Profile of Child Pornography Offenders Under KY Federal Supervision**

Nakiia Roebeson, BS  
Anatasia Wehri, BA  
Spalding University

The KY UPSO identified a need to utilize a risk profile for sexual recidivism to guide their treatment and supervision strategies with child pornography offenders under federal supervision. The following presentation discusses the profile generated using the CPORT with a sample of 65 child pornography offenders. The risk profile will be discussed, as well as other characteristics that were assessed including sexual deviance and anti-sociality. The child pornography risk profile will be compared to the risk profile of 48 contact sexual offenders under KY federal supervision using the Static 99-R. There will be a significant focus on the profiles ability to distinguish between child pornography offenders who are at higher risk of escalating to contact sexual offenses.

## ***BETTER TOGETHER***

2018 ATSA Conference | Friday October 19 | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Participants will learn the ability of the CPORT to predict sexual recidivism in a sample of offenders under federal supervision in KY.
- Participants will learn the differences between the risk profile of child pornography and contact sexual offenders.
- Participants will learn the relationship between the CPORT risk profile and sexual deviance and anti-sociality in a sample of child pornography offender under federal supervision in KY.

### **Treatment Recommendations for Child Pornography Offenders**

Marissa Bykowski, MA  
Ashley Pilsbury, MA  
Spalding University

Currently treatment providers have limited direction when treating child pornography offenders. Often they are sent to the same treatment programs that contact sexual offenders. The following presentation will discuss recommendations for treatment with child pornography offenders based on the risk profile generated by the CPORT. Recommendations will be consistent with risk, need and responsivity principles. The presentation will also discuss recommendations for treatment providers taking into consideration offender characteristics such as impression management, antisociality and various sexual disorders.

### **Learning Goals:**

- Participants will learn the complexities of treatment with child pornography offenders.
- Participants will learn recommendations for treatment for child pornography offenders based on a risk profile generated by the CPORT.
- Participants will learn different treatment recommendations for child pornography offenders who have different levels of anti-sociality and sexual deviance.

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### **Supervision Strategies with Child Pornography Offenders**

Gabriela Lisette Diaz, MS, MA

Spalding University

Victor Hack

US District Court - Western District of Kentucky, Louisville

The very low “progression rate” among illegal pornography offenders to contact child sexual offenses, and their low rate of even repeat pornography offenses suggests community sentences may be an appropriate way to manage the risk of child pornography offenders (Goller, Jones, Dittmann, Taylor, Graf, 2016). However, the large numbers of child pornography offenders in the community on federal supervision are posing difficulty for supervising officers. Although the research suggests there is a low risk of child pornography offenders escalating to contact offenses, it is essential to understand what specific factors predict escalation. This presentation will discuss various supervision strategies with child pornography offenders under supervision in KY. Recommendations will be consistent with the risk, need and responsivity principles and based on the risk profile produce by the CPORT.

#### **Learning Objectives:**

- Participants will learn the perspective of a supervising officer responsible for child pornography offenders who uses risk assessment to guide his work.
- Participants will learn how risk assessment is used to supervise child pornography offenders including the CPORT.
- Participants will learn how polygraphs are used in conjunction with risk assessment to supervise child pornography offenders.

**Dr. Dickie** is a Forensic Psychologist who has a broad range of academic, clinical, training and consulting experience disseminating evidence based practice within an interdisciplinary legal system. Academically, Dr. Dickie developed and directs the Forensic Psychology graduate and Restorative Justice Minor undergraduate program at Spalding University. Clinically, over the past 17 years, she has worked with various justice involved populations in both the Canadian and American criminal justice systems. Locally, she currently runs her own evidence based treatment program for male offenders at a 225 bed private community correctional facility, as well as a community re-entry 17 bed residential program in Louisville, KY.

## ***BETTER TOGETHER***

2018 ATSA Conference | Friday October 19 | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

**Nakiia Robeson** is a doctoral practicum student in Clinical Psychology with a Forensic emphasis at Spalding University. Her academic interest in the criminal justice system developed as she was getting her BS in Criminology and minoring in Psychology at George Mason University. Her research interests are largely forensic based with current projects centering around perceptions and bias toward sex offenders. Nakiia aspires to assess and provide treatment to those in correctional settings.

**Anastasia Wehri** developed a passion for working with underserved communities, specifically offender populations as an undergraduate student at Saint Louis University. Through the application of psychological theories and the understanding of criminal justice perspectives, Anastasia gained a deeper understanding of offenders in the academic setting. Anastasia's interest in forensic psychology led her to Spalding University's School of Professional Psychology where she is currently a doctoral practicum student with a forensic emphasis. Anastasia is passionate about providing assessment and treatment services to those involved in the justice system. She has an overall interest in understanding how the bias associated with criminal offenders impacts their well-being and how incarceration impacts the lives of offenders. Additionally, her research interests pertain to the involvement of correctional officers in the lives of offenders and how the responsibilities of those who work within the criminal justice field affects the offenders they are working with.

**Marissa Bykowski's** passion for the forensics field originated in college while she attended the University of New Haven, where she double majored in Criminal Justice and Psychology. After graduating in 2013, she went on to attend Roger Williams University, earning a Master's of Arts degree in Forensic Psychology in 2015. Currently, Marissa is a doctoral practicum student at Spalding University working towards a doctorate degree in clinical psychology with a dual forensic-adult emphasis. Her professional interests lie primarily within the field of corrections, with a specific focus on the treatment and assessment of sexual offenders. She aspires to further understand the stigma that surrounds sexual offenders in both correctional and community settings and how that perceived stigma affects their psychological wellbeing.

**Ashley Pilsbury** is a clinical psychology doctoral practicum student at Spalding University concentrating in the forensic emphasis area. Currently she is in her second year of the program. Ashley received her undergraduate degree in Psychology from West Virginia University in 2011. Through coursework and volunteer opportunities during her undergraduate studies, Ashley first developed her interest in working with the forensic population. In 2015 Ashley received a Master's of Arts degree in Forensic and Legal Psychology from Marymount University. In the future she aspires to provide treatment and assessment services to offenders within the correctional setting. While Ashley hopes to work with a variety of offenders in the future, specifically she desires to further understand the complex experiences of sexual offenders within institutions and in the community, largely due to the disapproval they face based on their crimes. Her overall interests include further understanding the unique obstacles faced by inmates and the impact of these

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obstacles on mental health, effects of long-term incarceration, and ways to improve re-entry programs and services for offenders.

**Gabriela Lisette Diaz, MS, MA** is a doctoral practicum student in Clinical Psychology with a Forensic emphasis at Spalding University. Gabriela's professional development began at San Jose State University in California where she obtained a B.S. in Psychology and Philosophy. Gabriela has several years of experience working within corrections and community mental health providing risk assessments, intervention, and group therapy to justice-involved adults.

**Victor Hack** is USPO, Special Offender Specialist Western District of Kentucky- Louisville. Mr. Hack implements evidence-based practices in his work as a supervising officer of sex offenders.