

## **BETTER TOGETHER**

2018 ATSA Conference | Friday October 19 | 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

**F-49**

### **Typologies of Adolescents**

#### **Updating Typology Research of Adolescents Who Have Engaged in Sexually Abusive Behavior**

Tom Leversee, MSW, LCSW

This “paper” will seek to summarize and synthesize the typology research to date on adolescents who have engaged in sexually abusive behavior (ASO’s). Research methodology has explored to what degree subtypes of ASO’s can be differentiated based on victim age, delinquent history, and personality characteristics. There appears to be a convergence in the research that differentiates Specialists (Psychosocial Adjustment) vs. Generalists (Generally Delinquent History/Orientation). These subtypes will be differentiated based on offense patterns, clinical characteristics, and treatment/supervision needs.

#### **Learning Goals:**

- Participants will be informed of the updated Typology research methodology and results
- Participants will describe clinical characteristics that differentiate Specialists (Psychosocial Adjustment) vs. Generalists (Generally Delinquent History/Orientation)
- Participants will identify and describe differential areas of treatment for Specialists (Psychosocial Adjustment) vs. Generalists (Generally Delinquent History/Orientation)

**Tom Leversee, LCSW**, worked for 34 years in clinical and administrative positions in the Colorado Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) prior to retiring as a state employee in 2008. Tom currently has a private practice focused primarily on consultation, training, and clinical services for at risk youth. This includes providing offense specific therapy at a DYC secure residential facility. Tom is an adjunct professor at the University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work. His numerous publications include co-editing/authoring *Juvenile Sexual Offending: Causes, Consequences, and Corrections, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*, (Jossey-Bass Publishers) with Gail Ryan and Sandy Lane. Tom also served as co-chair of the committee that formulated the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) Adolescent Practice Guidelines in conjunction with the ATSA membership and Board. He was presented with the National Adolescent Perpetration Network’s “Pioneer Award” in 2005

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for his “21 years of unique contributions to prevent perpetration of sexual abuse”. Tom was also presented with the 2010 Gary Burgin Leadership Award by the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board. He is also an ATSA Fellow.

### **An Empirically Derived Typology of Adolescents Accused of Sexual Misconduct**

Michael F. Caldwell, PsyD  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  
KiDeuk Kim, PhD  
Urban Institute's Justice Policy Center

Adolescents who are accused of sexual misconduct are a diverse population who rarely persist in the inappropriate behavior as they mature. Treatment programs for these youth have been largely rationally derived, or have elements borrowed from adult sex offender treatment. The current study employed an Classification and Regression Tree (CART) model to a large data set of adjudicated youth to develop an empirically derived typology that can be used to formulate treatment plans and organize treatment programs. The project placed a particular emphasis on dynamic factors that may be responsive to treatment. The symposium will describe the study and the clinical application of the results.

#### **Learning Goals:**

- Participants will become familiar with the existing typologies.
- Participants will learn the advantages of applying a CART analysis to these data.
- Participants will learn the typology that emerged from this study.

**Michael F. Caldwell, PsyD** is a Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, and a Senior Staff Psychologist and co-developer of the Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center. He serves as Past President of the Wisconsin Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers. Dr. Caldwell has conducted research into risk assessment methods and the effectiveness of treatment interventions. He worked as a psychotherapist for 35 years, specializing in treatment refractory patients. He is a Co-Investigator with the MIND Research Network, and has served as a consultant to the MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Juvenile Justice, and the National Academy of Sciences Sackler International Scientific Forum on Neuroscience and the Law, Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law at Arizona State University, the Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas, the Mitchell Hamlin School of Law in St. Paul, among many others.

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**KiDeuk Kim** is a Senior Research Associate in the Urban Institute's Justice Policy Center, where he examines an array of issues related to crime and criminal justice policy. He is also a Visiting Fellow at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Statistics, working on topics related to the lifelong involvement of young offenders in the criminal justice system. His research focuses on identifying risk factors predictive of the extent and nature of criminal careers. Prior to joining the Urban Institute, he served as a senior researcher for the State of New York and provided research oversight to several taskforces on criminal justice issues. His work has been sponsored by several branches of the Department of Justice, local governments, academic/scientific institutions, and a private enterprise. He has published research in *Criminology* and *Justice Quarterly*.