

Management of Juvenile Abusers. Why ? Some Figures...

Yves Depauw, MD
Hôpital Vincent Van Gogh
Pierre Collart, PhD
University of Louvain, Belgium

Our EPCP Team is a team which developed in a psychiatric Hospital in **1995**, in Belgium. We dispense treatments to **sexual offenders (in our region: AICS = Auteurs d'Infraction à Caractère Sexuel)**, in connection with therapy subject to court orders. Cooperation agreements had been signed between the Department of Justice and the Department of Health to manage this type of patients.

1st Observation:

A high number of sexual offenders (AICS) that we managed and still manage, started abusing as they were still teenagers!

We have then made the following educated guesses: (I'd call this the **2nd Observation**):

- It was essential to start research so as to find the means to prevent these teenagers from becoming people who abuse children when they have reached adult age... and we have to admit today that we have failed to convince political people to allocate financial means to go this way.
- It seemed to us crucial to handle juvenile abusers, but also to refine our way of discriminating between what we could call an avatar of development and in addition, what could be the beginning of "the career of a sexual abuser".

3rd Observation:

We have implemented a research which consists in:

- Collecting systematically, in our different groups of management of adult sexual offenders, the age of the first sexual offence.
- Establishing the percentage of sexual offenders, who started abusing when they were teenagers.

During our presentation, we will explicit our observations and we will give the figures which underpin our approach of handling teenage abusers.

BETTER TOGETHER

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Doctor Yves DEPAUW: He was already working in psychiatry, before the opening of the “Hôpital Vincent Van Gogh”, in **1985**. In the beginning of **1996**, with the help of Pierre Collart, he installed in the hospital, shortly before the **Dutroux case** (which had led, in Belgium, to the **White March**), the handling of adult sexual offenders. It has to be said that at the time, the request of the Department of Justice, in the frame of Alternative Measures to Preventive Detention, was significant. In **2013**, it became obvious that it was crucial to manage the treatment of teenage sexual abusers, for whom not much existed in Belgium.

Prof. Pierre Collart: He is PhD psychologist, and sociologist. He is professor of psychology at the University of Louvain, Belgium. He works for more than 20 years with the Dr Yves Depauw in the Sex Offenders Treatment Team at the Charleroi Academic Hospital, Belgium.