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The Good Lives Model in Offender Treatment: Risk-Needs and Good-Lives Assessment

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The Risk-Needs-Responsivity (RNR) model has been among the most influential theoretical foundations of offender intervention programs in recent years. Extensive meta-analyses support the effectiveness of RNR-oriented treatment in various offender groups (Andrews & Bonta, 2010. doi:10.4324/9781315721279; Hanson, Bourgon, Helmus, & Hodgson, 2009. doi:10.1177/0093854809338545; Koehler, Lösel, Akoensi, & Humphreys, 2013. doi:10.1007/s11292-012-9159-7).

A relatively new model of offender rehabilitation is the Good Lives Model (GLM). The GLM is based on the premise that offenders have similar core values to all other human beings (Ward, Mann, & Gannon, 2007. doi:10.1016/j.avb.2006.03.004; Ward & Marshall, 2010. doi:10.1080/13552600412331290102). The authors of the GLM emphasize that a GLM-orientation in treatment would improve the effectiveness of treatment above and beyond the treatment organized according to the RNR principles (Ward, Yates, & Willis, 2012. doi:10.1177/0093854811426085; Willis, Ward, & Levenson, 2014. doi:10.1177/1079063213478202). Although the GLM has been widely accepted in forensic clinical practice, studies investigating the effectiveness of GLM-based treatment are still scarce. The core constructs of the GLM (i.e., *primary goods* in terms of life goals and *secondary goods* in terms of resources needed to achieve these goals in treatment) lack a reliable empirical basis (Andrews, Bonta, & Wormith, 2011. doi:10.1177/0093854811406356).

Therefore, the present study was conducted to investigate the relationship between life goals and resources according to the GLM and their influences on changes of risk factors in sexual and violent offenders ($N = 195$ adult men; 101 sexual and 94 violent offenders). The offenders who were incarcerated in correctional treatment facilities in Berlin, Germany, were assessed at three time points (i.e., at incarceration, pre-treatment, and during treatment) using the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R; Andrews & Bonta, 2000. URL: <https://www.mhs.com/MHS-Publicsafety?prodname=lsi-r>). The LSI-R is one of the best validated and most frequently used instruments addressing the *Risk* level and *Need* factors.

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Furthermore, the LSI-R allows registering changes in the course of treatment. The *primary* goods were assessed by therapists following the definition by Ward and Laws (2010; doi: doi.org/10.1080/14999011003791598). The *secondary* goods were defined according to the conceptualizations for resources from the Structured Assessment of Protective Factors for Violence Risk (SAPROF; de Vogel, de Ruiter, Bouman, & de Vries Robbé, 2009. URL: <http://www.saprof.com>). A multivariate analysis of covariance (MANCOVA) was conducted to visualize differential changes in LSI-R risk factors over time with GLM goods as covariates among sexual and violent offenders. Preliminary results suggest that the GLM *secondary* goods influence reductions in LSI-R risk factors significantly, regardless of offender group (sexual or violent). The current study highlights the benefits of exploring GLM goods above and beyond the classic RNR assessment.

Dahlmyn Yoon, commonly known as Luna(r), finished her Ph.D. at the University of Hamburg, Germany, with her dissertation on "*Resource-oriented Risk Assessment and Intervention in Sex Offenders*". She has been primarily working in the field of assessment and treatment of sexual and violent offenders. She is currently working at the Department of Psychology at the FernUniversität in Hagen (University of Hagen) in the unit headed by Professor Andreas Mokros, Ph.D. Among Lunar's research interests are: Alternative concepts for assessing psychopathy and resilience factors against pathological personality development and delinquency. Her research focus is on developmental criminological research with sexual and violent offenders.