

## ***SHAPING THE FUTURE***

2019 ATSA Conference | Thursday November 7 | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

**T-03**

### **One Size Does Not Fit All: Latinx Sexual Offenders**

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Increased Latinx involvement in the criminal justice system is continuously cited in the media as a source of concern to National Security. Rather than promoting impending doom, this workshop provides an overview of the most recent literature available on the characteristics and patterns of offense related to Latinx sexual abusers. There are no easy answers when treating and discussing the management of this critical population. Latinx offenders involved in the U.S. criminal system are part of a racially and ethnically diverse population. Consequently, Latinx communities differ greatly from country of origin and cultural background. Effective treatment of Latinx sexual abusers should consider cultural factors discussed in this workshop which influence the evaluation and engagement of its participants. This workshop aims to provide mental health professionals, and community stakeholders with introductory concepts to assist them with their conceptualization and management of Latinx individuals with histories of sexual offending. Historically, sex offenders have been conceptualized as “evil and unsafe,” although this may be applicable for some cases, this workshop explores Latinx sexual offenders on a continuum varying on their index offense and potential for successful re-integration to the community. This workshop aims to promulgate meaningful dialogue and increased awareness on the ethnic and cultural differences among individuals who commit sex offenses.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- Participants will be able to name at least three obstacles related to working with patients of Latinx backgrounds with sexual offenses.
- Participants will learn at least two cultural factors that influence the evaluation and engagement of Latinx sexual offenders.
- Participants will be able to discuss at least three barriers Latinx sexual offenders encounter when attempting community re-integration.

**Ingrid Atilas, PsyD (Licensed Clinical Psychologist, FL & WY)** is a bilingual (Spanish-speaking), bicultural, licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in forensic and clinical psychology. Dr. Atilas received her B.A. from Rollins College, her M.S. and Psy.D. from Carlos Albizu University, American Psychological Association accredited program. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Wyoming State Hospital, specializing in forensic

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and clinical assessment in rural settings. For the last decade Dr. Atilis has worked clinically with adults, children, and families in inpatient, outpatient, and forensic settings. Her primary research interests include forensic and mental health assessment, at-risk, delinquent, and traumatized minorities, women issues, treatment of sex offenders and the intersection of psychology, law, and public policy. In addition to her consultant services and assistance to state agencies, Dr. Atilis is the founder of Atilis Psychological Network, LLC and conducts forensic and psychological evaluations in rural/underserved settings. Dr. Atilis strongly believes that interdisciplinary collaboration with multiple state and community agencies is crucial for social change and racial justice.