

SHAPING THE FUTURE

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

T-04

Be an Informed Consumer of Sexual Violence Risk Assessments

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A sexual violence risk assessment is part of a decision-making process that emerges in a variety of legal and clinical contexts. Misinterpretation and/or misapplication of the information presented in the assessment may have harmful implications. This presentation will focus on how to inform your clinical, supervisory, and/or legal practice utilizing a sexual violence risk assessment. We will explore the purpose of a risk assessments, trends in the field, interpretation, and limitations. This presentation will also include a discussion on how to implement intervention, apply principles, and guide the decision making process.

Learning Goals:

- Summarize the utility of a sexual violence risk assessment in a clinical, supervisory, and legal settings.
- Understand how to interpret and recognize the limitations of a sexual violence risk assessment.
- Describe how sexual violence risk assessments can inform your practice.

Dr. Lauren Herbert is the Forensic Evaluation Department Director for the Minnesota Department of Human Services. In this capacity, she provides leadership and oversees the provision of sexual violence risk assessments completed on all of the civilly committed sexual offenders in the State of Minnesota. Dr. Herbert's training is in clinical and forensic psychology. Her work experiences have included psychological assessment and risk evaluation, neuropsychological assessment, and assessment with those who were referred for evaluation of competency and mental status at the time of offense. She has also provided forensic psychological consultation to both sworn and civilian police department employees, which specialized consultation to the sex crimes detail. In her private practice, Dr. Herbert provides clinical services, as well as expert forensic evaluation services. In addition to clinical work, Dr. Herbert serves on the leadership board for the Sexual Offender Civil Commitment Network, has been employed as an adjunct faculty, and provided numerous professional trainings in the areas of sexual offenders, sexual violence risk assessment, best practices in assessment, diagnosis, ethics, risk management, self-care. She also has published various research findings and received the Ted Blau Award for her research

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related to the discussion of a neuropsychological assessment profile of an agenesis of the corpus callosum.

Dr. Deirdre D'Orazio serves as a consultant to the CA Department of State Hospitals, where she has worked in various capacities for eighteen years including as a senior supervising psychologist, SVP forensic evaluator, and Director of Evaluation and Development Services, overseeing the treatment and forensic evaluation programs for the 'SVP' sex offender civil commitment program at Coalinga State Hospital. Her current duties focus on the SVP Conditional Release program, department wide consultancy on sexual offender services and policies, and as a member the CA Sex Offender Management Board (CASOMB). In her private practice, Dr. D'Orazio provides clinical services, expert forensic services, training, outcome evaluation, and program development. She serves on the leadership boards for the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, the Sexual Offender Civil Commitment Network, and the CASOMB. Dr. D'Orazio was awarded the Fay Honey Knopp award by the CA Coalition on Sexual Offending for positive and sustained contributions to the field of sexual offending. Dr. D'Orazio has published papers, professional trainings, or research projects in the areas of sexual offender risk assessment, diagnosis, deviant sexual interests, best practices in offender treatment, treatment program development and evaluation, and clinician development and supervision. She holds psychologist licenses in California, Minnesota, and North Dakota and is a certified trainer for the Static99R, the Structured Risk Assessment Forensic Version, and the Stable and Acute 2007.