

SHAPING THE FUTURE

2019 ATSA Conference | Thursday November 7 | 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

T-31

Evaluating Your Practice with Sexually Abusive Adolescents

Tom Leverage, MSW, LCSW
University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work

Clinical Practice with Sexually Abusive Adolescents is a dynamic and evolving field. Creating and maintaining a dynamic clinical practice that is responsive to the emerging research and literature is a challenge. Whether the clinical work is in the context of a private practice or agency, it's difficult to take a step back and evaluate how we are doing regarding an evidence based practice. How do we systematically evaluate our practice based on research, literature, and clinical expertise? If we are able to evaluate our practice and we've identified strengths and needed areas of change and development, what research, literature, and resources are available to enhance our clinical work?

This social worker has an extensive amount of experience in the field that includes clinical work, guidelines and standards formulation, policy work, and program evaluation. This workshop will utilize a comprehensive evaluation protocol developed by the presenter to identify and discuss specific guidelines to evaluate their clinical/agency practice. The primary resources utilized to formulate this evaluation protocol include the following:

- ATSA (2017). *Practice Guidelines for Assessment, Treatment, and Intervention with Adolescents Who Have Engaged in Sexually Abusive Behavior*
- Colorado Sex Offender Management Board. *The evaluation, assessment, treatment and supervision of juveniles who have committed sexual offenses*. Denver, CO: Division of Criminal Justice
- Other relevant best practice literature and research

The clinical practice evaluation areas will include foundational points/guiding principles, treatment and supervision planning, treatment targets, treatment modalities, and ongoing assessment. These areas will be operationalized into specific, practical application statements and questions designed to facilitate practice evaluation. Examples include the following:

- What foundational points/guiding principles inform an evidence based conceptual framework for practice?
- To what degree do CBT and multi-systemic/caregiver involved frameworks and methods underlie ongoing assessment, treatment, and continuum of services/care?
- To what degree are the dynamic risk factors/treatment targets in treatment plans reflective of the research? To what degree are treatment and supervision plans targeting these factors?

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- Is your clinical/agency practice supporting opportunities for learning appropriate social, courtship, and dating skills, and assisting youth in overcoming social anxiety?
- What process, protocols, tools, if any, do you use for ongoing assessment as it relates to readiness for step down, successful completion/discharge from treatment?

Workshop participants will also be encouraged to share case examples, clinical expertise, and practice wisdom.

Learning Goals

- Identify foundational points/guiding principles that underlie interventions with adolescents who engage in sexually abusive behavior
 - Objective- Identify the components of an evidence-based conceptual framework for practice
- Explore to what degree treatment planning and intervention are targeting empirically supported dynamic risk factors/treatment targets
 - Objective- Identify specific goals, objectives, and methods associated with dynamic risk factors/treatment targets
- Identify specific evaluation target areas in which my clinical/agency practice is in need of improvement
 - Objective- Identify specific goals/action plan steps to address areas of need as it relates to enhancing clinical/agency practice

Tom Leversee, LCSW, worked for 34 years in clinical and administrative positions in the Colorado Division of Youth Corrections (DYC). He currently has a private practice focused on consultation, training, and clinical services. Tom is also 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, 3rd edition*, with Gail Ryan and Sandy Lane. Tom is a former member of the board of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA) and is also an ATSA Fellow. He is co-chair of the National Adolescent Perpetration Network and also a member of the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board. Tom was presented with the National Adolescent Perpetration Network's "Pioneer Award" in 2005 for his "21 years of unique contributions to prevent perpetration of sexual abuse" and the 2010 Gary Burgin Leadership Award by the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board.