

BLENDING VOICES. STRENGTHENING LIVES.

2020 ATSA Conference | Wednesday October 21 | 9:00 AM – 1:15 PM

WED-AM-01 & WED-MID-01

Introduction to the Assessment and Treatment of Adolescents Who Have Sexually Offended

James R. Worling, PhD, CPsych
Private Practice

This seminar will provide an introductory overview to the assessment and treatment of adolescents who have sexually offended, with an emphasis on how strengths and protective factors impact our goals and approaches. This seminar will focus on providing practical information and strategies for clinicians, probation officers, juvenile justice workers, program administrators, and other interested professionals new to the field. The seminar will include lecture, case studies, discussion, demonstration, and detailed resource materials. Major topic areas will include the following:

- Common, erroneous assumptions regarding adolescents who have sexually offended
- Diversity among adolescents who have sexually offended and the importance of the assessment
- Limitations of commonly used risk prediction tools and approaches
- Emerging research regarding the importance of protective factors
- Importance of therapist characteristics and self-care
- Detailed tips and strategies for talking with clients about difficult issues
- Brief overview of assessment/treatment tools (e.g., viewing time measures, PPG, psychological tests, polygraph)
- Common treatment targets (and intervention strategies) including enhancing healthy sexual arousal and sexual attitudes, increasing accountability, developing sexual offense-prevention plans, and enhancing awareness of the impact of sexual offending behavior
- Brief overview of treatment outcome research

This seminar is rated: Youth | Preliminary

Learning Goals:

- Upon completion of this educational activity, learners should be better able to appreciate the considerable diversity among adolescents who sexually offend and the need for comprehensive assessment.
- Upon completion of this educational activity, learners should be better able to understand the limitations of the popular risk prediction tools and see the importance of considering protective factors.
- Upon completion of this educational activity, learners should be better able to feel comfortable talking with adolescents about sensitive topics.
- Upon completion of this educational activity, learners should be better able to describe the pros and cons regarding various tools (e.g., viewing time, ppg, psychological tests).
- Upon completion of this educational activity, learners should be better able to apply approaches and techniques for addressing common treatment goals, such as

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enhancing healthy sexual interests and attitudes, developing offense-prevention plans, and enhancing awareness of the impact of sexual offending behavior.

- Upon completion of this educational activity, learners should be better able to understand the research focused on treatment outcome for youth who have sexually offended.

James R. Worling, PhD, CPsych is a clinical and forensic psychologist in full-time private practice who has worked extensively with adolescents who have sexually offended, and their families, since 1988. He has also works with children and adolescents who have been sexually abused and with children under 12 who have engaged in harming sexual behaviours. Dr. Worling has presented many workshops locally and internationally, and he has written a number of professional articles and book chapters regarding the etiology, assessment, and treatment of adolescent sexual aggression. Dr. Worling is a fellow of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual abusers, and he serves on the editorial board for their journal, *Sexual Abuse*.