Effective Use of Polygraph: Pre-Test Preparation and Processing

Presenter: Rhonda Meacham, LCSW

While there is debate across disciplines regarding the ethics of using polygraph examinations and the reliability of results is frequently in question, polygraphs continue to be a commonly used treatment/monitoring tool for individuals on probation, parole, and in civil commitment programs. Understandably, participating in polygraph examinations tend to be anxiety provoking for the clients and often result in supervising agents and treatment providers questioning the appropriate response/intervention when clients show reactions. This workshop is intended for professionals that currently use the polygraph as part of programming or are considering incorporating it into programming. The workshop will provide information regarding strategies to create a supportive polygraph environment, appropriate use of the tool, effective pre-test preparation, supportive post-test processing, and responding to client resistance.

Humanizing the Victimized Offender: The Experience of Identity Development

Presenter: Toni Crocilla, Psy.D.

This presentation will focus on the clinical and societal utility of humanizing those individuals who commit crimes of a sexual nature. Participants will evaluate the findings of a recent narrative study that investigated how victimized sex offenders—individuals that were sexually abused as children that later sexually abused others—experience their identity. Four men and two women who committed sexual offenses against children were interviewed to explore how their self-concepts were impacted after experiences of personal sexual victimization and offending.

The narratives were analyzed through humanistic and relational theoretical perspectives, resulting in five general themes: a need for protection and validation, compulsive behavior, negative self-schemas, posttraumatic symptoms, and identification. This presentation will highlight the clinical benefit of including trauma and offender narratives in treatment for increased insight and the reduction of additional sexual abuse victims.
Good Groups Promote Good Lives: Using Group-Centered Techniques to Actualize GLM Primary Goods

Presenters: Shan Jumper, Ph.D., Jerry Jennings, Ph.D.

Although the Good Lives Model has become a mainstream approach, the GLM literature has failed to recognize that group therapy is the ideal treatment vehicle for exploring, discovering, and developing “primary goods.” A fully engaged therapy group can activate all of the “primary goods” and all aspects of good living experience—emotional, intellectual, social, and spiritual. Group provides opportunities to develop a healthier sense of “social interest” (community feeling in which the offender feels he belongs) and “relatedness” (feeling actively and meaningfully connected to others). Group experiences can build self-confidence and self-esteem, provide chances to cooperate and relate to others, and practice in regulating emotions— all of which promote excellence in agency, work, and play, inner peace, knowledge, community, and more primary goods. Using actual vignettes, participants gain practice in identifying primary goods in the group context, along with group-centered techniques to promote cohesion and therapeutic climate to foster good lives.

Project Off the Record: Sex Offender Registration Termination

Presenter: Teretha Lewis, LCSW

The clinical base for “Project off the Record” involves the level of risk and the appraisal of skills and competencies that the individual has achieved and demonstrated during and after their tenure of treatment. Behavioral characteristics include but are not limited to; personal stability in the different areas of functioning that may include housing, employment, and the ability to remain offense free either delinquent or sexual up to the current time. This also includes mental and emotional stability and how the client achieves these goals to accomplish their security.

Pharmacological Treatment of Paraphilic Disorders

Presenter: Abdi Tinwalla, M.D

Learn about the use of SSRIs and anti-androgen treatment for paraphilic disorders.

Registration is open to all professionals! You DON’T HAVE TO BE AN ATSA MEMBER TO ATTEND!
Clouded Boundaries: Analyzing the Impact of Culture on Sexuality And Sex Offending

Presenter: Michelle Evans, DSW, LCSW, CADC

Culture impacts every level of the therapeutic encounter. How do underlying cultural factors impact the client and therapist's understanding of sexuality and intimacy, and ultimately client outcomes? In this presentation, cultural and historical influences on sexuality will be examined. The impact of culturally generated perspectives on sexuality will be discussed, and specific guidelines on best practices in integrating an awareness of culture into treatment and risk assessment will be discussed.

Treating Adolescents with Sexual Behavior Problems: Helping Families Heal

Presenters: Liza Simon Roper MSW, Jill Novacek MSW

The purpose of this workshop is to share the treatment model OHU has developed. Included in this discussion will be our focus on the whole child, their environment, and their experiences; incorporating family members as active parts of the treatment team; the use of psychoeducation with families; the use of a trauma lens incorporating the Attachment, Self-Regulation, and Competency (an evidence informed trauma treatment framework), recognizing that the legal consequences have also left a footprint on both the child and the family; the building of a collaborative team with juvenile justice personnel; a trauma informed psychosexual assessment to drive treatment; and elements of treatment that have been demonstrated in our practice to improve outcomes.

Retrospective data will be shared and supports the evolution of the program and its impact on reunification for these children and their victims.

A New Group Treatment Approach Towards Sex Offenders on the Autism Spectrum

Presenters: Harmony Goorley, MA, LCPC, Jennifer Block, Psy.D., Marisa Quinones, Psy.D.

Are you working with sexual abusers with autism and struggling to find research on how to treat this unique population? Have you found yourself contrasting the behavior of this population to that of the more personality disordered clients? This workshop will describe the development and discuss the impact of a pioneering treatment approach geared towards sex offenders on the autism spectrum.

Supplemental aspects which target skill deficits common to those with autistic conditions will be reviewed, as well as the guiding principles of and future directions for this new approach. While the goal is not to eradicate autistic behaviors, participants in this program are assisted in better ways of coping with and adapting to the world around them, thus improving overall social responsiveness and adherence to program requirements. The utilization of weekly didactic sessions, behavioral rehearsals of relational skills via modeling, roleplaying, daily graphing of personal goal achievement, and bi-monthly activities nurturing the special interests of the autistic individuals will also be discussed.
The field is rapidly changing with the integration of positive psychology via Good Lives Model (GLM) and emphasis on self-regulation model (SRM), dropping Relapse Prevention (RP), thus creating a gap in the field. The classical RP models were originally established to help clients maintain change from relapsing. Over the years, RP has been heavily scrutinized, as it became the primary treatment modality for many programs (Laws, 2003; Yates & Ward, 2009). Yates & Ward (2009) were in favor of replacing it with SRM/GLM. Proponents of the SRM/GLM models emphasized the need for some type of change maintenance. The lead presenter has developed a meta-change maintenance model integrating the best of RP/SRM & GLM, based on a holistic view. The presenters will discuss the details of the model and effectively applying it to clients. This model requires clients to learn effective ways to meet their needs & maintain a pro-social life plan/style, by helping clients differentiate between functional vs. dysfunctional patterns or states and developing effective coping responses. Wrap-around services are discussed in detail.

**Motivational Interviewing in the Treatment & Management of Sexual Offenders**

**Presenters:** Leslie Barfknecht & Ernie Marshall

Motivational Interviewing is an evidence-based therapeutic technique designed to help people identify their readiness, willingness and ability to make meaningful change in their lives. This evolving intervention continues to be applied and effective across multiple disciplines. It is specifically effective with resistant/coerced clients who traditionally were considered to be in denial or untreatable. This presentation is an overview of Motivational Interviewing for clinicians, community supervision officers and administrators to give a basic understanding of what MI is. Perhaps more importantly, why it matters to use Motivational Interviewing and how it affects positive change in the treatment & management of sexual offenders.

**The Implementation of Shame Resilience and Wholehearted Living Curriculum**

**Presenter:** Brook Seume, LMFT

This workshop examines the implementation of Shame Resilience and Wholehearted Living curriculum with sexual offenders at Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center. The concepts of shame, vulnerability, shame resilience, empathy, compassion, and wholehearted living are explored through the lens of Dr. Brown’s Daring Way Model.

Developing Shame Resilience starts with understanding shame, how it may be exhibited in people’s behavior, and how to be vulnerable in a healthy way. This presentation explores practical tools that can be used with patients in a group or individual format. Participants will learn strategies to navigate through shame within the treatment setting to promote living wholehearted lives. This presentation will include discussion on how addressing shame relates to sexual offender risk factors, protective factors and addresses potential responsibility barriers consistent with the RNR Model. In addition, assisting clients to address shame adheres to the principles via sharing patients’ feedback, perspective and experience on how they have described shame in relation to risk factors, how the curriculum is helping them facilitate meaningful and sustained change, and ideas for further evolvement of the curriculum.