#digitaldeviance
Understanding Online Sexual Offense Behavior

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1

Online Sexual Offending (Seto, 2013)

➡ Online sexual offending is another version of CSO

➡ Online sexual offending is a new form of sexual offending that requires the development of new explanatory models

➡ Online sexual offending is the result of factors associated with problematic internet/technology use

➡ Online sexual offending is the result of factors associated with sexual compulsivity/hypersexuality

(Seto, 2013)

➡ In 2024…

2

What's In a Name

- Child Pornography Offender
  - CP Offender

- Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offender
  - CSEM Offender

- Child Victim Image Offender
  - CVI Offender

- Child Sexual Abuse Media Offender
  - CSA Offender

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3

Online Sex Offenders
vs
Sex Offenders Online

4

Terminology

- Pedophilia
  - Prepubescent (Exclusive/Non-exclusive)

- Hebephilia
  - Pubescent/Just Beginning Into Sexual Maturity Process
  - Tween

- Teleiophilia
  - Sexual Mature Body (Adult & Adolescent)
  - Post Pubescent Teen

5

Risk/Needs/Responsivity

- Risk/Needs/Responsivity Principles
  - Level of Risk
    - The intensity of the intervention should be matched to risk
      - The Risk Principle **

  - Factors (Needs) that Lead to Offending
    - Changed through interventions, and when changed, are associated with changes in risk and recidivism.

  - Responsivity
    - Relationship/Learning Styles/Engagement

6

Risk Principle

➥High Risk = High Intensity Consequences/Treatment

➥Low Risk = Low Intensity Consequences/Treatment

➥The risk for recidivism increases
      if the risk principle is not followed

7

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8

DRF Offline Sexual Offending

ANTISOCIALITY
Criminal Attitudes/Beliefs
Relationship Instability
General Social Rejection
Lack of Concern for Others
Impulsivity
Poor Problem Solving
Negative Emotionality
Negative Social Influences

SEXUAL DEVIANCE
Deviant Sexual Interest

Emotional Congruence w/Children

Hostility Toward Women

Sexual Drive and Preoccupation

Sexualized Coping

9

Treatment Issues (CSAM Non Production Offenders)

- **Emotional Regulation** (Middleton et al., 2006; Laulik et al., 2007; Beech & Elliott, 2009; Marshall et al., 2012; Barnett & Mann 2013)
- **Social Skills/Intimacy Deficits** (Middleton et al., 2006; Laulik et al., 2007; Beech & Elliott, 2009; Marshall et al., 2012; Barnett & Mann 2013)
- **Deviant Arousal** (Beech & Elliott 2009, Seto et al., 2006; Seto, 2013; Babchishin et al., 2015)
- **Online Hypersexuality** (Kaplan & First, 2009; Seto, 2013)
- **Problematic Internet Use** (Quayle et al., 2003; Beech & Elliott 2009; Ray, Kimois, & Seto, 2014; Rimer, 2019)
  - *Psychology of Technology* (Suler,1999; Rimer, 2019)
  - *Victim Awareness* (Quayle et al., 2002; Burke et al., 2020; Seto, 2013; Meridian et al., 2018; Rimer 2019)

10

Risk/Needs/Responsivity

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    ➧Relationship/Learning Styles/Engagement

11

Popular SO Technologies

➧Peer to Peer / Torrents

➧Messenger Apps

➧Livestreaming

➧Gaming (consoles / PC)

➧Artificial Intelligence (AI)

➧ TOR / Cloud Storage

12

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13

http://www.piratebay.org

14

Popular SO Technologies

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- Livestreaming
- Gaming (Consoles / PC)
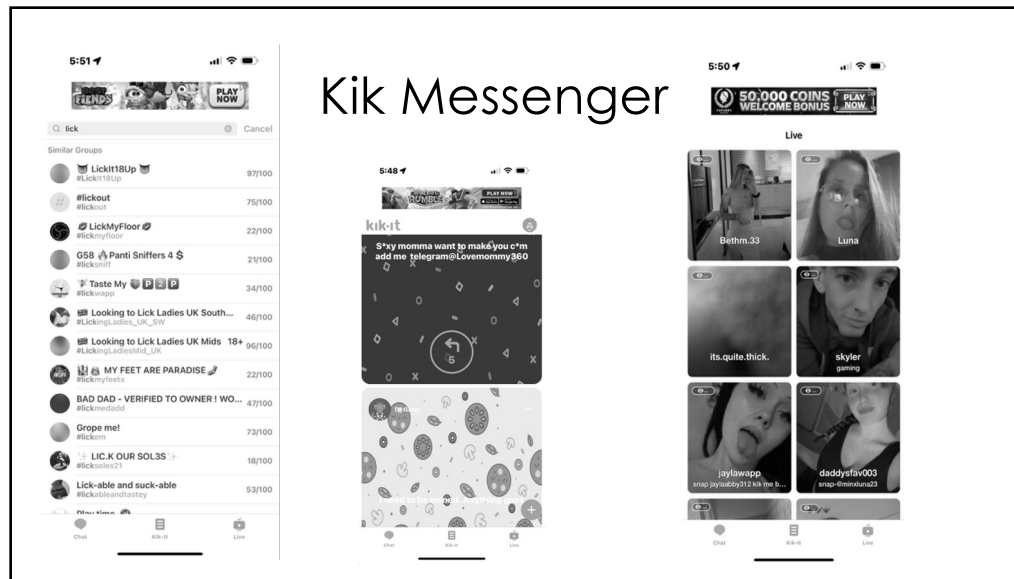- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- TOR / Cloud Storage

15

Messenger Apps

- **Kik**
- WhatsApp
- Telegram
- WeChat
- SnapChat
- Signal
- Line
- Viber
- Messenger
- **Discord**
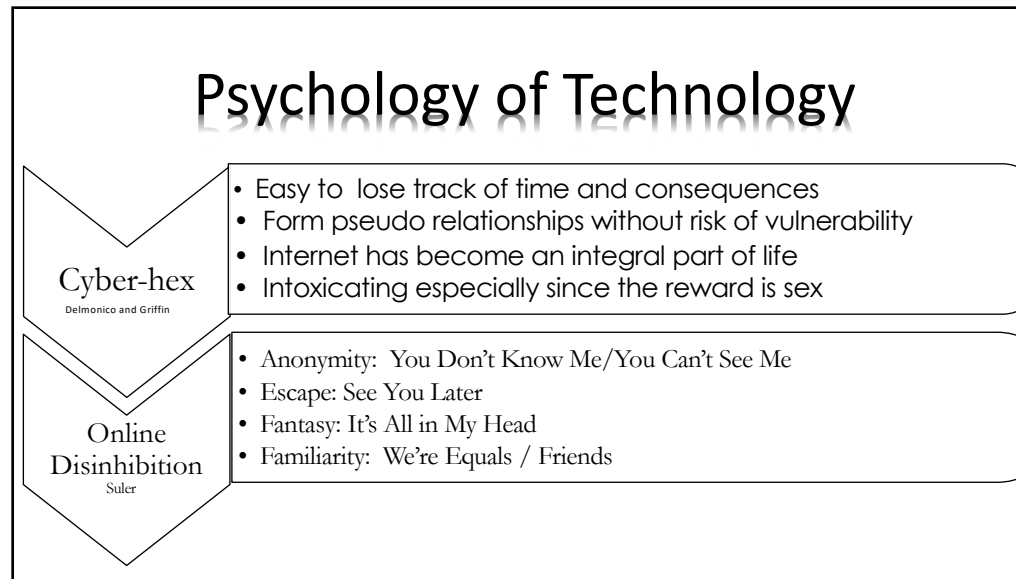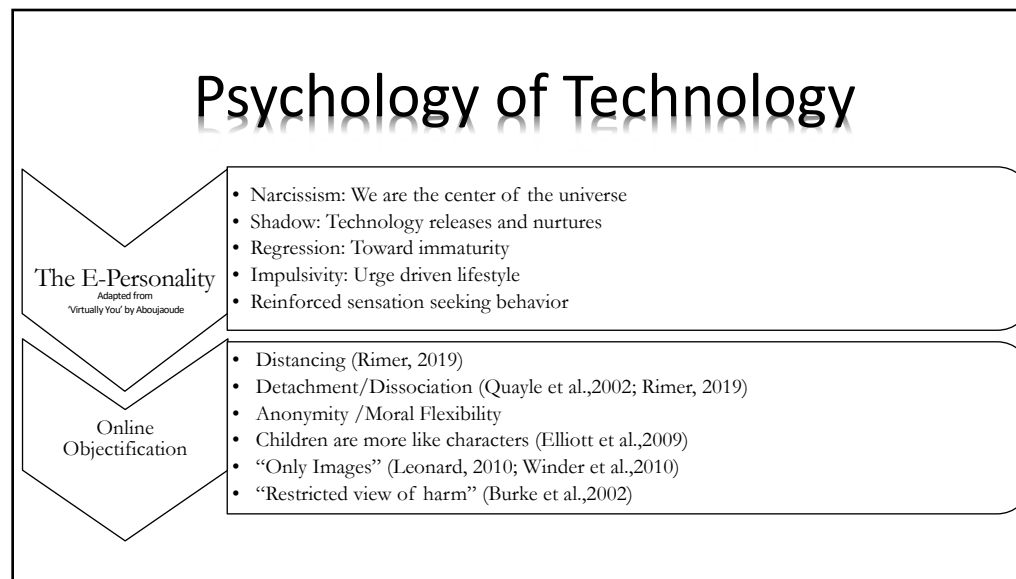 - **Messenger for Gamers**

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16

8

Kik Messenger

17

Psychology of Technology

➡ Psychology of Technology (1997)

➡ Individual do/say things online they would never say/do in offline world

➡ When online more difficulty to recognize consequences

➡ Online environment impairs empathy

18

Psychology of Technology

Cyber-hex
Delmonico and Griffin

- Easy to lose track of time and consequences
- Form pseudo relationships without risk of vulnerability
- Internet has become an integral part of life
- Intoxicating especially since the reward is sex

Online Disinhibition
Suler

- Anonymity: You Don't Know Me/You Can't See Me
- Escape: See You Later
- Fantasy: It's All in My Head
- Familiarity: We're Equals / Friends

19

Psychology of Technology

The E-Personality
Adapted from
'Virtually You' by Aboujaoude

- Narcissism: We are the center of the universe
- Shadow: Technology releases and nurtures
- Regression: Toward immaturity
- Impulsivity: Urge driven lifestyle
- Reinforced sensation seeking behavior

Online Objectification

- Distancing (Rimer, 2019)
- Detachment/Dissociation (Quayle et al.,2002; Rimer, 2019)
- Anonymity /Moral Flexibility
- Children are more like characters (Elliott et al.,2009)
- "Only Images" (Leonard, 2010; Winder et al.,2010)
- "Restricted view of harm" (Burke et al.,2002)

20

Psychology of Technology

➡ It is recognized that these features of technology **cannot be ignored** as a factor in sexual offense behavior in the online world. (Quayle et al., 2010; Seto, 2013; Rimer, 2019)

➡ Function of the Internet is a crucial aspect of some types of online sexual offending (Merdian et al. 2016; Sheldon and Howe, 2007; Surjadi, 2010)

21

Why Do People View CSAI Images

(Beech et al., 2009; Marshall et al., 2012; Seto 2013; Steely et al.,2018; Knack et al.,2019)

Accidental	Curious
Pedophilic/Hebephilic	Attraction to Innocence
Anxious, Depressed	Bored, Loneliness
Hypersexuality	Sensation Seeking/Thrill Seeking
Antisociality	Substance Addiction
Autism Spectrum Disorder	OCD/ Hoarding
Intellectual / Developmental	Intimacy/Sexual Deficits
Lack of Victim Awareness	Problematic Technology Use

22

$E = mc^2$

Psychology of Technology + Contributing Factors = Perfect Storm

23

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N

24

Livestreaming

- Chaturbate (stripchat, jerkmate, flirt4free)

- YouNow! (non-sexual)

- Twitch (for gamers)

- Zoom

- **Chatspin**/Chat Roulette

- Facebook / Instagram / Kik Live

- Oovoo / Skype

- BeReal

http://www.chatspin.com

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25

Two Major Questions

Do CSAM Offenders have histories of contact offenses?

Are CSAM Offenders likely to have a contact offense in the future?

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26

Contact Offense History Among CSAI Offenders

Butner Study (Bourke & Hernandez, 2008)	80% (n=155)
Bourke Study (Bourke, et. al., 2014)	58% (n=127)
Dutch Sample (Buschman, 2007)	44% (n=43)
CAMH Sexology (Seto, 2006)	43% (n=100)
FBI Study (Owens, Eakin, Hoffer, Muirhead, Sheldon, 2016)	38% (n=251)
Police Cases (Eke, et. al 2011) `	30% (n=541)
Ontario Sex Offender (Seto, 2006)	24% (n=201)
NJOV study (Wolak, et. al., 2003)	10% (n=630)
New Zealand (Sullivan, 2005)	7% (n=202)

Average 39%

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27

2021 U.S. Sentencing Commission Report
CP Non-Production Offenses (N=1340)

➥20.8% previously convicted of a sex offense

➥11.9% convicted of prior non-production CP

➥9.9% convicted of prior contact sex offense

➥2.6% convicted of prior non-contact sex offense such as enticement or solicitation of a minor

➥0.4% convicted of prior production of CP

28

Risk for Sexual Recidivism

➤CSAM Internet Offenders
- ➤A contact sex offense – 2% (Seto & Eke, 2010)
- ➤A new CP Charge - 5% (Seto & Eke, 2010)
- ➤A contact sex offense 2.7%13 years (Elliott, 2019)
- ➤US Federal Bureau of Prisons 5.7% (Faust, 2009)

➤Prior/concurrent violent/contact sexual offense significantly more likely to be reported for a sexual re-offense (Eke et al., 2011)

29

2021 U.S. Sentencing Commission Report
CP Non-Production Offenses

➤1,093 Non-Production CSAM Offenders

➤27.6% Recidivism Rate

- ➤16.0% General Criminal Recidivism (No SO)

- ➤4.3 % Sexual Recidivism

- ➤7.3 % Failing to Register as a Sex Offender

30

2012 U.S. Sentencing Commission Report

- **The content of an offender's child pornography collection and the nature of an offender's collecting behavior (in terms of volume, the types of sexual conduct depicted in the images, the age of the victims depicted, and the extent to which an offender has organized, maintained, and protected his collection over time, including through the use of sophisticated technologies);**

- The degree of an offender's involvement with other offenders — in particular, in an Internet "community" devoted to child pornography and child sexual exploitation; and

- Whether an offender has a history of engaging in sexually abusive, exploitative, or predatory conduct in addition to his child pornography offense.

31

2021 U.S. Sentencing Commission Report
CP Non-Production Offenses

- In fiscal year 2019, non-production child pornography offenses involved a median number of 4,265 images, with some offenders possessing and distributing millions of images and videos.

- Over half (52.2%) of non-production child pornography offenses in fiscal year 2019 included images or videos of infants or toddlers, and nearly every offense (99.4%) included prepubescent victims.

- In 2019, 84% of non-production child pornography offenses involved sadistic or masochistic conduct of an infant or toddler.

32

2012 U.S. Sentencing Commission Report

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33

2021 U.S. Sentencing Commission Report
CP Non-Production Offenses

➡ The Commission cautioned that while the culpability of offenders may be affected by their degree of participation in online child pornography communities and their use of sophisticated technology to share child pornography....existing social science research was inconclusive regarding whether an offender's degree of community involvement was associated with an increased risk of committing other sex offenses.

34

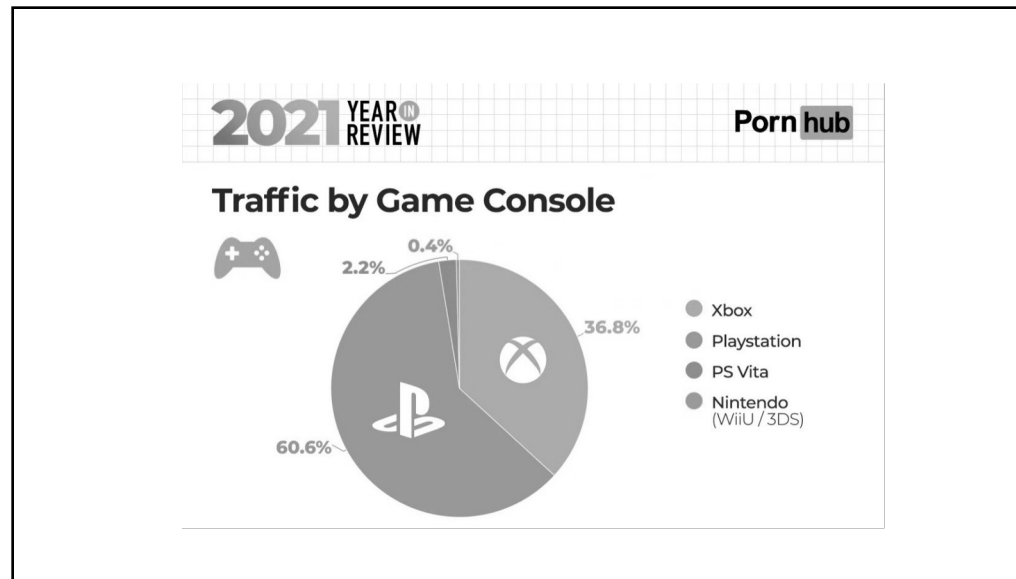## 2012 U.S. Sentencing Commission Report

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35

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- Peer to Peer / Torrents
- Messenger Apps
- Livestreaming
- **Gaming (Consoles / PC)**
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- TOR / Cloud Storage

36

37

Common Categories of Games

- Action/Adventure
- Shooters - First Person Shooters, or Third Person/Loot Shooters
- Role Playing Games (RPGs)
- Fighting/Sports/Racing
- Survival Horror

- Simulation
- Strategy
- Massively Multiplayer Online Role Playing Games (MMORPG)
- **OpenWorld/Sandbox**
    - **Roblox**
- Rhythm

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38

Pedophile Island (Roblox)

➤ Roblox

➤ Can create your own games (Sandbox)

➤ Play your games with others

➤ Targeted to younger children (Tweens)

➤ However, lots of adults there playing games

39

Online Grooming Process

Friendship Forming Phase
   Finding common interests and attitudes

Relationship Forming Phase
   Connecting, Complimenting, Amazon Wish List

Risk Assessment Phase
   What can I get away with? Will they tell?

Exclusivity Phase
   Isolate, Support, Creating pseudo-intimacy, messenger apps
   Sending $$$, cell phones, gifts *"You owe me!"*

Sexual Phase
   I care about you...I love you...you're special...what's the big deal?
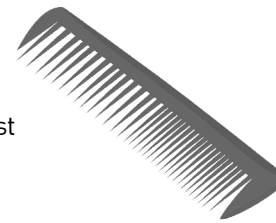
Tink Palmer

40

Benefits of Gaming

➤Gaming provides scaffolding for socialization

➤Immediate Relationship Building

  ➤Gamers speak common language

  ➤Easily build bonds with one another IRL (In Real Life)

➤Increases creativity

➤Improves understanding of failure, losing, and practice

➤INcreases frustration tolerance/Decreases impulsivity

41

Assessment Non Technology Related

➤Psychological Testing and Assessment
- Addictive Disorders
- Anxiety/Depression
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- ADHD/ADD
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (AQ-10, RAADS)
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (TSI-2)
- Antisocial Traits/Personality Disorder
- Schizophrenia/Schizotypal

42

Offline/Online Sexual Compulsivity Assessment

� Screening Offline Hypersexuality/Sexual Compulsivity/Sex Addiction

� Sexual Addiction Screening Test (SAST) (Carnes)
� Sexual Dependency Inventory (SDI) (Carnes)

� Sexual Behavior Inventory (SBI) (Garos)

� Hypersexual Behavior Inventory (HBI) (Reid, et al.)
� Pornography Consumption Inventory (PCI) (Reid, et al.)
� Hypersexual Behavior Consequences Scale (HBCS) (Reid, et al.)

� Internet Sex Screening Text

43

Forensic Evidence

� Forensic Report/Descriptions

� Child Abuse Material Inventory (CAMI)
(Parsons, Honyara, Delmonico, & Griffin 2013)

� Focused on Forensic Evidence

� Developed Based on 2012 Research – Process of Revising

� **Boys versus Girls**/Larger versus Smaller Collections

� More Extreme Pornography/**Smaller Age Range versus Larger Age Range**

44

Pornography Factors Associated Contact Offending
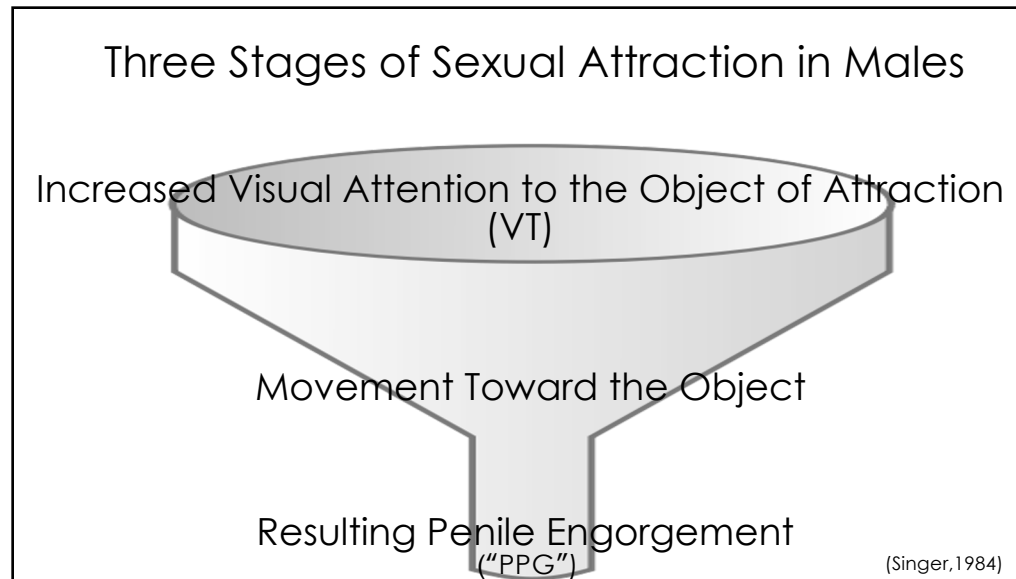### (McManus, Long, Alison and Almond 2015)

➥Contact Offenders (n=120)
- ➥Smaller age range of images

➥Non-Contact Offenders (n=124)
- ➥More likely to possess extreme pornography
- ➥Larger collections with larger age range of victim

45

Physiological Assessment

➥Lie Detection
- ➥Polygraph/Eye Detect
- ➥Past History of Contact Offenses
- ➥Most helpful for teaching people how to be truthful

➥Sexual Interest
- ➥Abel/Affinity/LOOK

➥Sexual Arousal
- ➥PPG (Limestone/Monarch

46

Three Stages of Sexual Attraction in Males

Increased Visual Attention to the Object of Attraction (VT)

Movement Toward the Object

Resulting Penile Engorgement ("PPG")

(Singer,1984)

47

Risk Assessments

➡Static-99R/Static 2002R

➡Cannot be used as reliable instruments for predicting sexual recidivism with CSAM possession/viewing only offenders

➡Typically over estimates risk (stranger/unrelated)

➡Not normed for Internet offenders of any type however…

➡Solicitation Offenders (Sting Offenders?)

➡Production Offenders

48

Risk Assessments

➡ Modified Risk Matrix 2000

➡ Scores on the modified version were a significant predictor of sexual recidivism for online offender (Wakeling et al., 2011)

➡ After 1 year 2.1%/After 2 years 3.1%

49

Child Pornography Offender Risk Tool (CPORT)

(Eke and Seto 2015)

➡ Offender age at time of the index investigation

➡ Any prior criminal history

➡ Any contact sexual offending

➡ Any failure on conditional release

➡ Admission or diagnosis of sexual interest in children
  ➡ Correlates of Admission of Sexual Interest in Children (CASIC)

➡ More boy than girl child pornography content

➡ More boy than girl other child-related content

50

Correlates of Admitted Sexual Interest in Children (CASIC)

- Never Married
- Child Pornography Videos
- Child Pornography Text Based Stories
- Evidence Interest in CP 2 Years or More
- Volunteering Role in High Access To Children
- Engaged in Online Communications with Children

51

STABLE 2007

- Brankley, A. E., Babchishin, K. M., & Hanson, R. K. (2019). STABLE-2007 demonstrates predictive and incremental validity in assessing risk-relevant propensities for sexual offending: A meta-analysis.

- Link to Video discussing findings with CSAM only offenders can be found at www.internetbehavior.com/so2024

- Promising however more research is needed

- Doesn't address all of the treatment issues noted in the literature

52

Protective Factors
(de Vries, Mann, Maruna, and Thornton, 2015)

➥ Healthy Sexual Interests
➥ Capacity for Emotional Intimacy
➥ Constructive Social/Professional Support
➥ Goal Directed Living
➥ Good Problem Solving
➥ Engaged in Employment/Constructive Leisure
➥ Sobriety
➥ Hopeful, Optimistic, Motivated Attitude to Desistance
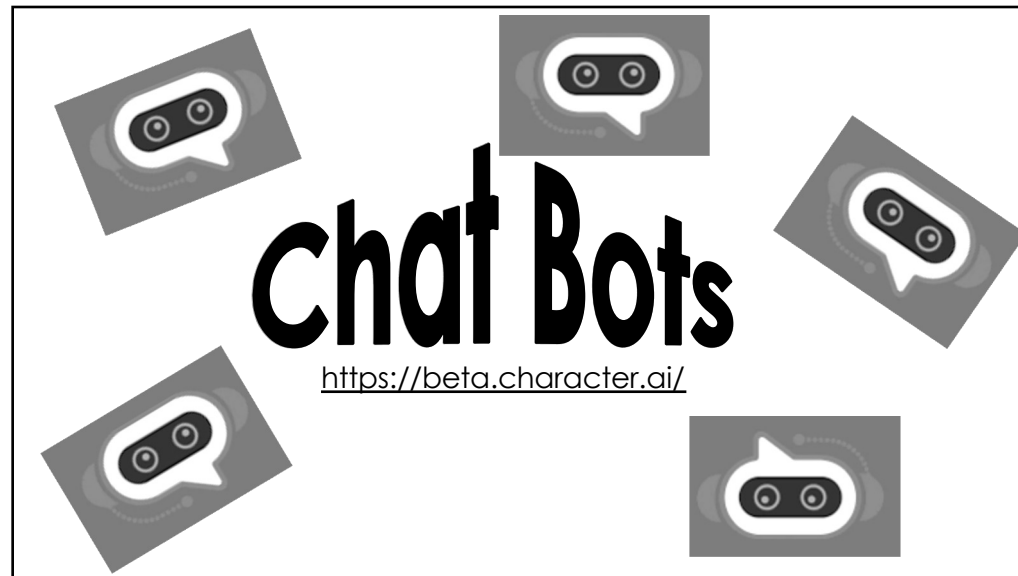
➥ SAPROF-S0

53

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➥**Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

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54

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Live

➥Fotor
  ➥https://www.fotor.com/

➥Cloth Off

➥ChatGPT
  ➥https://platform.openai.com/apps

55

chat Bots

https://beta.character.ai/

56

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- **TOR / Cloud Storage**

57

Deep Web

- Information that can not be indexed by traditional search engines

58

Dark Web

- Available through specialized anonymizing software (TOR)
- .onion is the domain host for TOR
- Addresses are 16 character, non-mneumonic and are comprised of alphabetic and numeric strings

59

Cloud Storage

- Google Drive

- Mega.io

- Box / Dropbox

- Thousands of others…

60

Problems with Zero Tolerance
(Chan McNeil, Binder 2016)

➧Banning SOs from digital devices doesn't reduce recidivism
- ➧Encourages Secret Keeping
- ➧Increases Social Isolation/Rejection/Disconnect
- ➧Decreases Business or Employment Opportunities
- ➧Interferes with Skill Development
  - ➧Managing Emotions/Boredom/Health Technology Use
- ➧Avoidance is not an Effective Strategy

61

Electronic Management

➧Electronic Management
- ➧Blocking Software/Filters

- ➧Monitoring
  - ➧Internet Probation and Parole Control (IPPC)
  - ➧Remote-Com
  - ➧Covenant Eyes

62