

**Executive Summary
Contra Costa County**

Course Title: Sex Offenders: Dispelling the myths

Synopsis

As of February 2010, 11,143 registered sex offenders were living in Bay Area Counties. More than 10% are transient. They are our neighbors, fathers, grandfathers, brother, uncles and even our mothers or sisters. They are adolescents and senior citizens. And, the numbers only represent those caught and convicted. It is estimated that juveniles (who do not have to register unless they are sent to CYA) commit up to one fifth of all rapes and almost one half of all cases of child molestation.

Reports of sexual offending behavior pervade all domains of public media. A decade ago, stories of incest, clergy abuse, or adolescent date rape were notorious and scandalous - today they are commonplace. We are unable to watch television, listen to the radio, read a newspaper or magazine without hearing yet another story of sexual abuse... a child abducted, a sexually abusive priest uncovered, a case of incest in one's own neighborhood, a sports hero accused of rape, an actor divulging sexual abuse in his/her childhood. Moral outrage accompanies any disclosure of child sexual abuse, sex offenders being released into the community or an adolescent group home designed to treat sex offenders opening in suburbia. The media hype and sensationalism provide little in the way of accurately reporting the risk, assisting prevention efforts or making our community safer.

This multi-media workshop will focus on child molestation, cutting through the media hysteria, to provide accurate information to professionals working with sexually abused and abusive individuals.

Outline of Training: This multi-media workshop will focus on the crime of child molestation, cutting through the media hysteria, to provide accurate information to professionals working with sexually abused and abusive individuals.

Time	Topic	Delivery
9:9:15	Welcome & Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Who are you in the matter – thoughts beliefs and attitudes	Conversation
9:15-10:15	The demographics – What do we actually know about those who commit sexual crimes against children <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sexual thoughts about children – Different from the general	Lecture, power point & video

	<p>population?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Are incest offenders a danger to other children? ▪ Do exhibitioners and voyeurs commit hands on offenses? ▪ Do men who molest girls pose a danger to boys? 	
10:15-10:30	BREAK	
10:30-11:30	<p>The dynamics of sexual offending – Why do they do it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of sexual deviance ▪ Moral deficiency ▪ Attachment deficits 	Lecture, power point, video
11:30-Noon	<p>The cycle of sexually abusive behavior – myth or reality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do molested children go on to become children with sexual behavior problems, adolescent and adult sexual offenders? <p>Were adults who molest children, child victims of sexual molestation?</p>	Lecture, power point
Noon-1PM	LUNCH	
1:00-1:45	Panel Presentation – Question and answer with local sex offender treatment providers	
1:45-2:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do adolescents sexual offenders differ from adult sexual offenders? ▪ Is child pornography dangerous – a gateway to child molestation? ▪ Can we distinguish “budding pedophiles” from sexually misbehaving youth ▪ Should adolescent sex offenders be treated in groups, family or individually 	Lecture, power point
2:15-2:30	What do we know about females who sexually offend against children?	Lecture, power point, video clip
2:30—2:45	BREAK	
2:45- 3:15	<p>Is treatment effective?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the standards ▪ Recidivism risk ▪ Reunification possibilities 	Lecture, power point
3:15-3:40	Community management of sex offenders – SAFETY FIRST	Lecture, power point

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ W&I code 355.1 ▪ A sex offender that you know is safer than one in hiding ▪ Registration - does it make us safer? ▪ Collaboration 	
3:40-4	Resources and Wrap up	

Participants will be given a thorough bibliography including web sites, lists of state, local and national resources for sex offender management and treatment, and copies of power-point slide presentation

Target Audience: *Community safety is not solely a child protection issue. Rather it depends on a solid working relationship between agencies and professionals. This is intended for all professionals working with sexually abused or abusive individuals including mental health clinicians, health care providers, teachers, day care and foster care providers, home visitors and supervisors, child welfare workers, CASA volunteers, judges, attorneys, and policy makers .*

Outcome Objectives for Participants:

As a result of this training, participants will:

- 1. be able to distinguish what they think and believe about sexual offenders from what is known through empirical research.*
- 2. be able to identify a continuum of sexual behavior in children, from normal developmentally appropriate to abusive and requiring intervention.*
- 3. be able to distinguish the terms pedophile, child molester, and predator*
- 4. understand "crossover sexual offending"*
- 5. become familiar with recidivism risk factors*
- 6. be able to identify the components of effective family and community management of sexual offenders*
- 7. be able to individualize developmentally appropriate treatment interventions for adolescents who sexually offend.*