

SEXUAL OFEENDERS ASSESSMENT BOARD

**Module 2**  
**Dynamics and Typologies**

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Transcript

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## Section 1: Introduction

Screen Number	Character	Narration
2001	<b>Judge:</b>	One of the questions sex offender containment professionals often hear is: “What causes someone to commit a sexual offense?” I wish I had an answer to give them. As <u>you</u> know, there is no simple answer. But <u>there</u> are researchers and other experts in this field who gather data and continue to research sex offending. What they’ve come up with is actually a <u>range</u> of answers, as you’ll see shortly.
2002	<b>Judge:</b>	Presently, we know this: the most plausible explanations for sex offending involve a combination of variables, including biology, conditioning, relationship history, mental health and possibly genetics.
2003	<b>Judge:</b>	<p>In this module, we’re going to examine standard typologies or classifications of sex offenders, and then look at some of the theories behind sex offending. Everyone who works with sex offenders should know this material. Here’s why: when we’re able to identify the characteristics of sex offenders, we can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• develop more effective containment plans</li><li>• anticipate the potential risks an offender may present when he’s released back into the community, and</li><li>• recognize the warning signs when an offender may be entering a re-offense cycle.</li></ul>

## Section 2: Removing Terminology Barriers

Screen Number	Character	Narration
2004	<b>Judge:</b>	Before we get into typologies and theories, we need to address the <u>language</u> or the terms we use in our work with sex offenders. Each discipline - treatment, law enforcement, victim services, and supervision – has a language of their own. And each of these disciplines <u>documents</u> their findings using their own unique language.
2005	<b>Judge:</b>	For example, a criminal complaint will contain the words required by law describing the criteria for arrest. While a police report will use FBI-related terms to describe the profile of the offender involved and the alleged offense. A police report will also record the words of the victim describing the offense and the offender. In contrast, a public record will contain the verbatim words captured by a court reporter in the courtroom. As you can see, they're all different.
2006	<b>Judge:</b>	So you need to be careful of the language you use when you document an offender's case. Here's why: some of the same terms may be used across different disciplines, BUT they might have different meanings. For instance, a "regressed pedophile" may mean one thing to you and something different to me.
2007	<b>Judge:</b>	We all want to try to avoid mislabeling. If you use a label or classification in your notes – <i>back it up</i> with a description of the behavior – especially if you aren't <u>qualified</u> to use labels, and even if you are. Always describe the behaviors. There's no confusion that way! Then, when someone else who <u>is</u> qualified is working with the offender's file, they can attach the appropriate label based on the noted behaviors. Labeling by typology or classification is only <u>one</u> way to communicate information about a sex offender. Describing behaviors is absolutely acceptable.

- 2008                    **State Parole Agent with Supervision:**    **Supervision** agents may use both treatment and law enforcement terms. We're in a kind of unique position: our job is partly law enforcement and partly social worker. So we need to know how these two groups communicate information about offenders and their offenses. In fact, one of the most critical partnerships in the sex offender containment model is between supervision agents and treatment providers. When a treatment provider is working with us in Supervision, they need to communicate information regarding the offender's behaviors, including what the offender's re-offense cycle looks like.
- 2009                    **Treatment Provider:**                    **Treatment Providers** use the actual clinical terms that are associated with offending. We are qualified to classify the sex offender. We start by reviewing the conviction. We don't rely on the terms we find there. We can't. Usually, the people who fill the sheet out don't know the typologies and the behaviors associated with them. Besides, we're less concerned with labels and more concerned with the offender's behaviors.
- 2010                    **Treatment Provider:**                    We need to get to know the person as an individual and then determine how we can help him not re-offend. Our approach involves using the offender's history, along with his classification, to determine his treatment. We have to look at: does he need medication? Does he need to be stabilized? Is he psychotic? If we suspect there's a mental health issue, we will do an assessment and determine if pharmaceutical intervention is appropriate. After we learn as much as we can, we can determine the kind of treatment best suited to the individual offender.
- 2011                    **Victim Advocate:**                    **Victim Advocates** need to understand the different languages of all the disciplines. For example, I need to know how to read a police report, so when I share the report of an offense with the victim, I can explain what certain terms mean. If a case is prosecuted, I can counsel victims about the clinical nature of legal documents and let them know that they may be referred to in an impersonal way, but that's because these documents have to be technical. By staying with the facts and terms that help describe an offense, the prosecution is able to build a more solid case in court.

2012

**Law Enforcement:** **Law Enforcement** uses the terms from the FBI system of typologies. You'll hear more about this system in the next section. The FBI classification system provides profiles about the types of offenders we deal with. We use the typologies in two ways: to find offenders and to look for illegal behaviors associated with a specific crime. The typologies show us the characteristics of offenders and their behaviors. Then we – and the D.A.'s office - break down the typologies to determine what behaviors are chargeable. You may read about these typologies in an offender's file, but just be aware they aren't the kind of typologies associated with treatment. If you are interested in using a "quick look" reference sheet about specific behaviors that are associated with different offenses, you should checkout the Mistick's Sex Cheat Sheet. This document is available for you in the program library.

### Section 3: Clinical and Clinical – Forensic Approaches

Screen Number	Character	Narration
2013	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>There are distinct approaches to classifying sex offenders and understanding their behaviors. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clinical and Clinical-Forensic Approaches</li><li>• Theory-Driven Approaches, and</li><li>• Statistical Profiling Approaches.</li></ul> <p>In this section, we’ll explore clinical approaches, and then in the next section we will focus in on the theory-driven approaches.</p>
2014	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>A typology is a type of classification system. All of the approaches we’ll describe here use some kind of typology system. The word “typology” is defined as the “study of a class or group with common characteristics.” You should know that the typologies we use are not scientific classifications; they are <u>broad</u> classifications. We use them as a language to explain how an offender operates – his modus operandi or M.O.</p>
2015	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>In order to develop sex offender typologies, it helps to first understand the psychological nature of sex offending. The <b>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders</b> or DSM-IV tr is an American handbook, for mental health professionals. It lists different categories of mental disorders and provides the criteria for diagnosing them, according to the publishing organization the American Psychiatric Association. It is used worldwide by clinicians and researchers as well as insurance companies, pharmaceutical companies and policy makers. It also includes classifications of disorders that are related to sexual offenses. Of course, not <u>all</u> offenders will exhibit one or more of these sexual disorders – or <i>paraphilias</i>. But it <u>is</u> true that the presence of a paraphilia has been associated with sexually coercive or inappropriate behavior.</p>

2016	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>DSM-IV - tr defines <i>paraphilias</i> as recurrent, intense, sexually arousing fantasies, sexual urges, or behaviors which occur over a period of at least six months. They generally involve non-human objects, and the suffering or humiliation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oneself or one’s partner</li> <li>• Children, or</li> <li>• Non-consenting adults</li> </ul>
2017	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>In addition, these fantasies, sexual urges, or behaviors cause significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning. Finally, the frequency of these fantasies and the intensity of the urges may vary significantly at different periods of time.</p>
2018	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>Pedophilia is a type of paraphilia. The DSM-IV defines pedophilia as recurrent, intense sexually arousing fantasies, sexual urges, or behaviors involving sexual activity with a prepubescent child – “generally” 13 or younger. An individual is classified as a “pedophile” when he:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• acts on these sexual urges</li> <li>• manifests pedophilia-like behaviors for at least six months, and</li> <li>• is at least 16 years old – and at least 5 years older than the child.</li> </ul>
2019	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>Pedophilia is a type of paraphilia. The DSM-IV defines pedophilia as recurrent, intense sexually arousing fantasies, sexual urges, or behaviors involving sexual activity with a prepubescent child – “generally” 13 or younger. An individual is classified as a “pedophile” when he:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• acts on these sexual urges</li> <li>• manifests pedophilia-like behaviors for at least six months, and</li> <li>• is at least 16 years old – and at least 5 years older than the child.</li> </ul>

2020	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>Now that we know what behaviors classify someone as a pedophile, let's look at a case study:</p> <p>Bob is a 50 year old married man with two biological children and a step-daughter. He has been married for more than 25 years. He is accused of molesting his 7 year old niece by having her sit on his lap while he was aroused, as well as giving her a bath and touching her genital area during the bath. The molestation took place over a weekend when he and his wife were babysitting. The couple routinely baby-sits when the child's parents are both scheduled to work. The offender has no prior record, sexual or otherwise. Furthermore, there is no evidence of urges, fantasies, and pedophilia-like behaviors over a period of six months, or in his history.</p>
2021	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>Based on this information, would you consider Bob to be a pedophile? Many people would assume that he is, because he is an older man and he molested a child. However, he did not have any sexual urges, fantasies, or pedophilia-like behaviors. This means that Bob's behaviors do not match the behaviors required to be classified as a pedophile. Therefore, classifying him as a pedophile would be inaccurate, because his behaviors do not match the label.</p>
2022	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>This is an excellent example of why only qualified professionals should attach labels to offenders. It also illustrates why it is important to provide a description of what the behaviors are and what they aren't.</p> <p>Now that you have heard a short summary of the psychological background to sexual disorders. Let's see how these disorders are used to help classify sex offenders. First, the FBI typology system...</p>
2023	<b>Law Enforcement:</b>	<p>The first is: <b>Situational Child Offenders</b>. These offenders do not have a well-defined interest in children. Subtypes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regressed immature</li> <li>• Mentally indiscriminate</li> <li>• Sexually indiscriminate, and</li> <li>• Inadequate</li> </ul>

- 2024            **Law Enforcement:** The second child molester subgroup identified by the FBI is: **Preferential Child Offenders**. These offenders are the opposite of the situational offender – they do harbor a strong sexual interest in children. Subtypes include:
- Seductive
  - Introverted, and
  - Sadistic
- 2025            **Law Enforcement:** Let's refer back to our case study with Bob. Remember how there was no evidence of urges, fantasies, and pedophilia-like behaviors over a period of six months, or in his prior history? Based on this information, his sexual offense and behaviors seem to be more consistent with the situational child offender subtype. His behaviors do not seem consistent with the preferential child offender subtype because he does not appear to harbor a strong sexual interest in children. However, more information is needed about the behaviors to determine which subtype is appropriate.
- 2026            **Law Enforcement:** Now let's switch gears and look at rapist typologies. The FBI's rapist classifications were developed by former agent Roy Hazelwood, one of the original profilers in the Behavioral Science Unit at the FBI. For over two decades, he focused his work exclusively on sexual crimes. His typology system classifies rapists in these six subtypes:
- Power-reassurance
  - Power-assertive
  - Anger-retaliatory
  - Anger-excitement
  - Opportunistic, and
  - Gang rape
- 2027            **Law Enforcement:** **The Power-Reassurance Rapist.**
- This rapist does not consciously intend to either degrade or emotionally traumatize the victim. He uses forced sexual activity to obtain reassurance of sexual adequacy and masculinity.

- 2028                    **Law Enforcement:**    **The Power-Assertive Rapist.**
- This rapist uses the assault as an expression of dominance over the victim. These offenders do not doubt their sexual adequacy or masculinity, and typically display a detached, macho attitude. He is often athletic, consumes alcohol, is self-centered, has been married more than once, and presents as conceited and arrogant.
- 2029                    **Law Enforcement:**    **The Anger-Retaliatory Rapist.**
- The anger-retaliatory rapist feels anger toward women in general and uses sex as a weapon to degrade and punish them. The assaults are committed for revenge against women for actual or perceived wrongs. The anger-retaliatory rapist often presents as an alcohol abuser; lacks a sense of humor; mistrusts others; exhibits intense, explosive anger; acts impulsively in all facets of life; makes derogatory remarks about women; and typically seems nervous and anxious.
- 2030                    **Law Enforcement:**    **The Anger-Excitement (Sadistic) Rapist.**
- The anger-excitement rapist derives sexual arousal and pleasure from the victim's suffering, fear, and submission. This type of sadistic offender is rare.
- 2031                    **Law Enforcement:**    **The Opportunistic Rapist Typology.**
- The opportunistic rapist assaults the victim by gaining chance access to them while committing another crime. The assault is primarily motivated by sexual desire. While committing an offense such as robbery, this type of rapist may come upon a vulnerable victim, such as a woman alone, and use the opportunity to obtain sexual gratification. This type of rapist should not be confused with a rapist who consistently rapes while committing other crimes, and whose motivation for the assault is power, anger, etc., rather than primarily sexual satisfaction.
- 2032                    **Law Enforcement:**    **The Gang Rape Typology.**
- Gang rape is a coerced or brutally inflicted sexual assault committed by two or more offenders. Typically, one of the offenders emerges as the leader and the others follow. In assaults involving three or more offenders, one of the perpetrators may emerge as a reluctant participant and may be described by the victim as more protective or helpful.

2033

**Law Enforcement:** Now that we have covered the FBI's rapist classifications, let's look at a rape case study and see which subtype it represents.

A 27 year old male was on the city bus, when a 19 year old female boarded the bus at a sheltered workshop. She was carrying a lunch pail and walked with a slight limp. When she exited the bus, the offender immediately exited as well. He followed the victim until she approached an alleyway, where the offender broke off a limb from a nearby sapling, grabbed the victim from behind, and pushed her into the alley. Then he knocked her over the head, pulled her pants off, and vaginally sexually assaulted her with the tree branch. During the assault he verbally degraded the victim and insinuated that she deserved to be punished.

The victim and offender were strangers to each other. The offender has 1 disorderly conduct charge, 2 prior aggravated assault convictions, 1 conviction for Indecent Assault, and a juvenile history of fire setting. He is a single alcoholic, who has had few work experiences, and has been fired, from his last two jobs.

2034

**Law Enforcement:** Which rapist subtype do you think classifies this rapist? Opportunistic? Power Assertive? Anger Retaliatory? If you were thinking the offender is an anger retaliatory rapist, you are correct. Based on the information presented in the case, the offender's behaviors most closely represent the behaviors associated with the Anger-Retaliatory Rapist typology. The offender exhibited anger towards women and used sex as a weapon to degrade and punish the victim. In addition he is an alcohol abuser, who has a history of intense, explosive anger.

2035

**Law Enforcement:** So far our discussion has focused on male offender typologies. And while the majority of sex offenders are males, females also commit acts of sexual violence. These female offenders have their own typology and include these main subtypes:

- **Teacher/Lover.** This offender initiates and carries out the abuse of an adolescent – usually a male.

- **Male-Coerced or Male-Accompanied.** This offender participates in sexual abuse which is influenced by a male cohort.

- **Predisposed.** This offender usually victimizes her own children.

Sometimes, a 4<sup>th</sup> subtype is described: the **Angry/Impulsive.** This offender acts alone in an angry and impulsive manner against an adult male victim.

For more information about the characteristics of female offenders, a Female Sex Offender document is available for you in the program's library.

2036

**Law Enforcement:** Let's look at a case study involving a female sex offender and then compare it to these sub-types.

The offender is a 24 year old, recently married female, who operates a babysitting service in her home. She is charged with the sexual assault of three toddlers, all male, in her care. In each instance, she is accused of sexual touching, having rubbed each penis between her fingers and orally manipulated the penis of at least one of the boys. The daycare provider is seen on videotape carrying out all behaviors with the boys, as well as dancing by herself in sexual and seductive poses, while disrobing.

**Law Enforcement:** If you are comparing these behaviors, you've probably noticed that the behaviors displayed in this specific case do not fit into the behavioral criteria for any of the 4 female offender subtypes. The offender does not represent the teacher/lover or angry/impulsive subtypes because her victims are toddlers, not adolescents or adults. Since she participated in the offenses alone, the male-coerced subtype is not applicable as well. Finally, this case does not represent predisposed because the offender did not victimize her own children. Based on the information presented in this case you cannot attach a female typology label to the offense. Remember, in situations like this you should describe the behaviors, and then someone else can attach the appropriate label.

## Section 4: Theory-Driven Approaches

Screen Number	Character	Narration
2038	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	Now that we've covered the clinical and clinical-forensic approaches, we're going to look at the most accepted <u>Theory-Driven Approaches</u> .
2039	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	The accepted 'godfather of typologies' is the well-known psychologist, Dr. A. Nicholas Groth. He developed a typology that divided child molesters into two categories: <i>fixated</i> and <i>regressed</i> back in the 1970s. Years later, the Massachusetts Treatment Center (MTC) created their own classification system that drew, in part, on Groth's typologies.
2040	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	The MTC typology also includes classifications for child molesters and rapists. But the particular strength of the MTC typology is its empirical scope. It is one of the rare theory-driven models that has been validated and developed on a large and diverse clinical population.
2041	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>The MTC typology includes systematic analysis of critical dimensions, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• levels of social competence or functioning</li><li>• primary motivation</li><li>• aggression</li><li>• sexual fixation</li><li>• impulsivity, <u>and</u></li><li>• past antisocial behavior</li></ul> <p>as differential characteristics in the classification of rapists or child molesters. Let's take a few minutes to explore the MTC <u>Child Molester Typology</u>...</p>

2042	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>The typology is called: <i>Fixation/Regression (Axis 1)</i>. Like Groth’s theorized, MTC proposes that offenders are either fixated or regressed. In the Axis 1 Grouping, offenders are categorized as having a “high fixation” if their sexual interests primarily involve children and a “low fixation” if they have normal or age-appropriate sexual interests. In addition, offenders are categorized as having high or low social competence, depending on their social and interpersonal skills. These individuals are then further subdivided into 4 subtypes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High fixation/High social competence</li> <li>• High fixation/Low social competence</li> <li>• Low fixation/High social competence</li> <li>• Low fixation/Low social competence</li> </ul>
2043	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>In <b>Axis 2</b> – which is another grouping consideration – MTC experts examined the amount of contact offenders have had with children. For offenders with “high contact,” two typologies emerged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High contact/Interpersonal</li> <li>• High contact/Narcissistic</li> </ul> <p>For offenders with “low contact,” four more complex typologies were created, based on the extent to which they caused physical injury to their victims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low contact/high physical injury/non-sadistic</li> <li>• Low contact/high physical injury/sadistic</li> <li>• Low contact/low physical injury/non-sadistic</li> <li>• Low contact/low physical injury/sadistic.</li> </ul>

2044

**Treatment  
Provider:**

Now that we have covered the two MTC axes, let's see how they can be applied to a case.

Dr. Tyler Hagen is a 48 year old unmarried man, with no children. He is a successful artist, who also works full-time as a university professor. He is accused of molesting his girlfriend's 13 year old son, during a weekend fishing trip. The offender forced the victim to touch his genitals until he ejaculated, but did not touch or physically injure the victim.

The offender does not have a prior record of molestation and limited contact with children. He is active in several adult organizations in the community. During the investigation the offender's girlfriend disclosed the fact that she and the offender have had a healthy sexual relationship for the past five years. A search of the offender's apartment and computer did not reveal any additional information.

2045

**Treatment  
Provider:**

Based on the information presented, let's determine where the offender may fit in the MTC typology. Axis 1 categorizes offenders according to regression/fixation and social competence. Due to offender's sexual history, it appears that he has a "low fixation" because his sexual interests are age-appropriate. In addition, he appears to be socially competent, because of his work history and involvement in the community. This means the offender fits in to the low fixation/high social competence subtype for Axis 1.

With respect to Axis 2, the offender may fit into the "low contact" category because he has limited contact with children. Furthermore, he could be specifically categorized as the "low contact/low physical injury/non-sadistic" subtype because he did not physically injure his victim.

2046

**Treatment  
Provider:**

Finally, the last typology classification we are going to discuss was developed by Finkelhor and Araji. Their theory uses four motivational factors to explain child molestation:

- Emotional Incongruence. This factor looks at why the offender finds sexual involvement with a child emotionally satisfying.
- Sexual Arousal. This factor addresses the reasons that an offender finds children sexually arousing.
- Blockage. This factor reviews why an offender can't get his emotional and sexual needs satisfied through relationships with adults.
- Disinhibition. This factor explains the process by which an offender overcomes or disregards the societal norms and legal consequences of molesting children.

2047

**Treatment  
Provider:**

One last thought about sex offender typologies: they are a tool to help you and your team with your sex offender management efforts. But with every case, you need to take into account individual differences. An offender may exhibit behaviors from two or more typologies. They may also engage in multiple paraphilias (or sexual disorders), and they may assault victims of different genders or age groups. In other words, as you've heard us say before, offenders usually don't fit neatly into any of the typologies we've described here. Rely on your own judgment and experience – and that of your team members – to develop the appropriate treatment and supervision plan for each offender.

## Section 5: Single Factor Theories

Screen Number	Character	Narration
2048	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	Knowing the typologies of sex offenders can help us treat them more effectively, <u>and</u> it can make us <u>think</u> about why individuals engage in sexually abusive behaviors in the first place. Experts in sex offending behaviors have several theories about the causes of sex offending.
2049	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	Some theories are based on a single factor, and others are based on multiple factors. In this section, let's take a brief look at some of the single factor theories. For a more in-depth explanation, you can access the Factor Theories Knowledge Document in the program's library.
2050	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<b><u>The Biological Factor.</u></b> Some researchers believe that biological factors, like hormones, contribute to why individuals engage in sex offending behaviors. The most common hormone within this category is testosterone. High levels of testosterone have been found to be associated with increased sex drive and aggression.
2051	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<b><u>The Behavioral Factor (1).</u></b> Some theorists suggest that sex offending behaviors develop from learning. In other words, just as it is believed that individuals "learn" appropriate or socially acceptable means of sexual behavior or sexual expression, behavioral theorists believe that <u>deviant</u> sexual interests or behaviors can also be learned. For example, a father who exhibits hostile and aggressive attitudes towards women in the home may prompt his children to act in similar ways.
2052	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<b><u>The Behavioral Factor (2)</u></b> A different type of behavioral theory involves <u>conditioning</u> . This is where, over time, an individual's sexual interests or arousal patterns are strengthened through certain types of experiences. It might work like this: let's say a person masturbates to deviant sexual fantasies. These fantasies tend to <u>strengthen</u> the person's interest or arousal for those unhealthy fantasies. Ultimately, this could lead to offending.

2053	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p><u>The Sociocultural Factor.</u></p> <p>Another explanation for sex offending looks at the impact of societal and cultural structures. It also looks at the impact of norms and messages. For example – and I know you’ve heard this one before – some theorists suggest that desensitizing messages of violence in television or video games may implicitly condone violence. Others argue that the ways in which women and children are portrayed as submissive and passive through advertisements, television programs, and films may contribute to sexual violence.</p>
2054	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p><u>The Attachment/Intimacy Factor.</u></p> <p>Yet another theory for sex offending centers on intimacy issues. Experts believe difficult attachments may lead individuals to have a variety of problems related to intimacy in adult relationships. Those intimacy problems may then lead individuals to engage in sexually abusive behavior.</p>
2055	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>These single factor theories and others continue to have significance for treatment and supervision today, but they’re no longer viewed in isolation. Experts now believe that no one single factor theory can fully explain why an individual engages in sex offending behaviors.</p>
2056	<b>Treatment Provider:</b>	<p>Naturally, many people would like to believe that we can recognize a single, easily identifiable characteristic or behavior that would allow us to “spot” a sex offender before they commit their first offense. But that’s not the case: the reasons a person offends are too complex. Tuck this one away: the reality is that researchers may <u>never</u> discover a single factor that causes individuals to offend sexually. BUT all of the research and theories put forth <u>have</u> paved the way for our continuing efforts to understand this problem.</p>

## Section 6: Multi-Factor Theories

Screen Number	Character	Narration
2057	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	<p>So now our thinking into the causes of sex offending has evolved to the point where experts believe it's actually a <u>combination</u> of factors that will lead someone to offend, rather than one single factor. Using this multi-factor approach, researchers have proposed more integrated and comprehensive theories – or models – about what leads to sex offending. We'll explore some of those models briefly in this section. A more detailed explanation of Multi-Factor Theories can also be accessed in the library, in the Factor Theories document.</p>
2058	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	<p><b><u>The Integrated Model.</u></b></p> <p>This theory proposes that sex offending behaviors are the result of a combination of biological, developmental, environmental and cultural influences, along with individual vulnerabilities, and situational factors. It suggests that negative developmental influences that occur early in life, such as abuse, neglect or exposure to violence in the home, have a significant impact on a person's ability to form close, meaningful relationships. In addition, problem-solving, emotional management, self-esteem, self-control, and other important coping skills are negatively affected as well. Through a complex interaction of these factors and others – both internal and external – individuals may ultimately act out in sexually aggressive ways.</p>

2059	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	<p><b><u>The Confluence Model.</u></b></p> <p>This theory suggests that a combination of three primary clusters of risk factors – motivators, disinhibitors, and opportunities – increase the likelihood that an individual will become sexually aggressive toward women. More specifically, the interaction of these risk factors results in two different pathways to sex offending: the sexually promiscuous pathway and the hostile masculinity pathway.</p>
2060	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	<p>The Confluence Model is similar to the Integrated Model in that it's based partially on the premise that adverse developmental experiences, such as physical or sexual abuse in childhood, have a detrimental impact on the ways in which individuals view themselves and their ability to form meaningful and healthy relationships.</p>
2061	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	<p>From that, experts propose that these offenders then adopt antisocial or delinquent behaviors. Depending on other situational or environmental influences, an offender will follow one of two pathways: either he develops into a person who uses sexual conquest and coercive tactics as a means of elevating his peer status and self-esteem (the sexually promiscuous pathway), or he develops into a person who uses sexual aggression as a means of domination, control, and humiliation, (the hostile masculinity pathway).</p>
2062	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	<p><b><u>Relapse Prevention Model.</u></b></p> <p>This multi-factor model will be familiar to you if you've worked in the sex offender management field for a while. For the past two decades, it's been the primary framework on which most sex offender treatment programs have been built. It describes not only the characteristics and factors that may predispose individuals to commit sex offenses, but also describes the <u>process</u> by which sex offending occurs.</p>

2063	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	Relapse Prevention suggests sex offending is the <u>end</u> result of a common chain of events that begins with an individual experiencing some type of negative emotional state. This is followed by deviant fantasies and the use of cognitive distortions to justify these fantasies. These then lead the individual to plan an actual offense. Finally, after putting aside any inhibitions, the individual carries it out.
2064	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	Interventions are designed to teach offenders to identify and address the risk factors that may be linked to their offending. Treatment also teaches offenders how to interrupt that predictable chain of events that leads to offending.
2065	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	While Relapse Prevention is still an accepted theory, in recent years, it’s been somewhat pushed aside in favor of two more useful models: the Self-Regulation Model and the “Pathways” Model. The primary reason for this is that experts are skeptical that the sequence of emotions, fantasies, thoughts, and behaviors is equally applicable to all individuals – which is what Relapse Prevention proposes.
2066	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	<p><b><u>Self-Regulation Model.</u></b></p> <p>This model is fast gaining ground with treatment providers and supervision officials. It uses four categories to explain the sex offending process for different individuals. There is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoidant–Passive</li> <li>Avoidant–Active</li> <li>Approach–Automatic</li> <li>Approach–Explicit</li> </ul> <p>This model is one of the more promising theories put forth in recent years as a means of addressing some of the shortcomings of the Relapse Prevention model.</p>

2067

**State Parole Agent with Supervision:**

**Pathways Model.**

This model is also a popular theory in use today. It specifically focuses on sex offending against children. This model recognizes that not all individuals follow the same “pathway” to offending. Each pathway is influenced by the unique interaction of emotional, biological, physiological, cultural, and environmental variables. The Pathways Model suggests there are four clusters of psychological problems:

- cognitive distortions
- emotional management difficulties
- intimacy and social skills deficits, and
- deviant or unhealthy sexual scripts

These clusters largely explain the primary reasons for sex offending behavior.

2068

**State Parole Agent with Supervision:**

Depending on what their main areas of need are, offenders may follow one of the following five pathways:

- Multiple dysfunctional mechanisms
- Deviant sexual scripts
- Intimacy deficits
- Emotional dysregulation, or
- Antisocial cognitions

## Section 7: Conclusions

Screen Number	Character	Narration
2069	<b>State Parole Agent with Supervision:</b>	<p>It is important to remember the reason why experts find the Pathways Model useful. This model actually considers the <u>diversity</u> of offenders. Therefore the Pathways Model reinforces the critical message of this program: one treatment and supervision plan does <u>not</u> fit all sex offenders.</p> <p>For more information related to this topic, you should check out the Sex Offender Dynamics and Typologies document in the program's library.</p>