

Adult Sex Offender Management & Juvenile Registration

September 21, 2015

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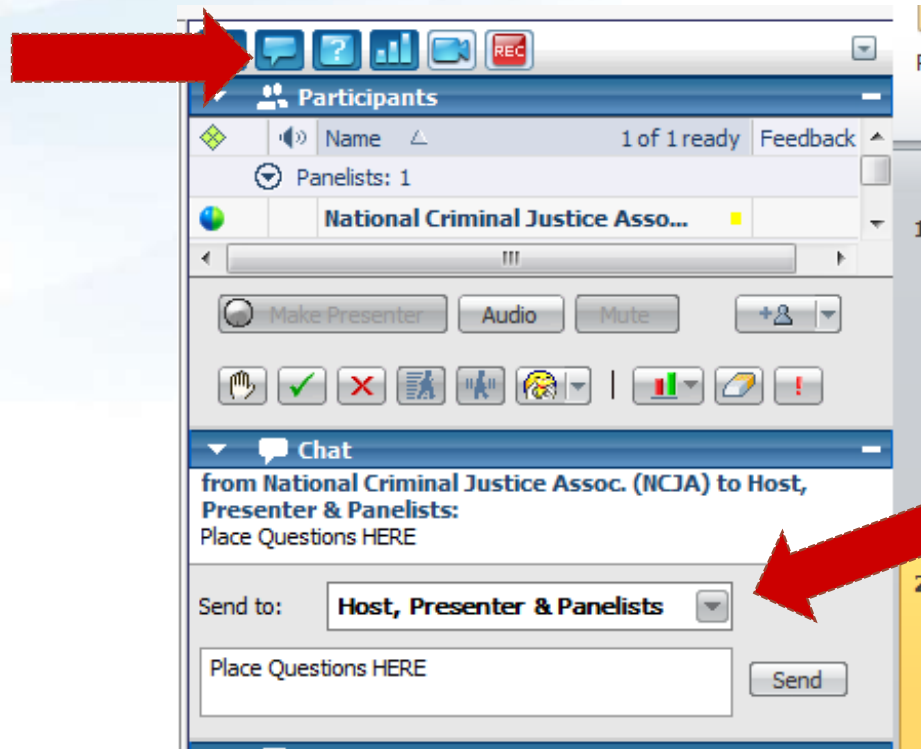
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Presenters

Luis C. deBaca

Director

Office of Justice Programs, SMART Office

Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky

Consultant

Combating Sexual Offending and Victimization



- Practitioners and policymakers have a common goal: to protect the public from sex offenders and prevent sexual violence
- A variety of policies and programs exist
- Little known about “what works”
- Programs are more likely to be effective when based on scientific evidence

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Role in Combatting Sexual Offending and Victimization



- Established in 2006 by AWA
- First federal office devoted solely to sex offender management-related activities
- Responsible for assisting with implementation of SORNA, and for informing about a broader scope of sex offender management activities needed to ensure public safety
- SOMAPI: identify evidence based practices, current gaps/needs of the field, and provide guidance to states and locals

SMART Office Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative



- Goal is to identify research-supported programs for replication across the U.S.
 - Inform OJP funding decisions concerning sex offender programming and research
- Assess the state of research and practice of sex offender management
 - Work conducted by subject-matter experts through NCJA
 - Review of the literature on sexual offending and sex offender management
- 2012 Discussion Forum involving national experts

SMART Office Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative



Literature reviews on 8 adult and 5 juvenile topics

Important to distinguish between adults and juveniles

Adult Topics

Incidence and prevalence
Etiology
Typologies
Risk assessment
Recidivism
Internet offending
Treatment effectiveness
Management strategies

Juvenile Topics

Etiology/typologies
Risk assessment
Recidivism
Treatment effectiveness
Registration and notification

SMART Office Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative



- Key products:
 - Summaries of the research available online at:
<http://www.smart.gov/SOMAPI/index.html>
 - Findings, policy implications, future research needs
 - Research briefs
 - Targeted conference presentations
 - Webinars
 - National Symposium

Literature Review Methods

- Source materials identified using abstract databases, internet searches, outreach to relevant organizations and subject matter experts
- Primarily studies conducted within the past 15 years
- Emphasis on individual studies that employed scientifically rigorous methods, as well as on synthesis studies – such as systematic reviews and meta-analyses

Sex Offender Management Strategies

Summary of Research Findings

Intensive Supervision Research - General

- No support for ISP with criminal offenders¹
- Support for treatment oriented ISP²

Containment Approach

- Developed based on research of best practices at the time
- Collaboration between officers, treatment providers, & polygraphers³
- Research supports effectiveness⁴
- But is not conclusive⁵

Circles of Support & Accountability (COSA)

- Community volunteers (e.g., faith based)
- Provide resources
- Typically post-supervision
- Developed in Canada, and now in U.K., Europe, and U.S.

COSA Research

- Two Canadian studies showed COSA effective in reducing sexual recidivism⁶
- MN DOC study showed reduction in any rearrest⁷
- U.K. study (n=60) showed favorable outcomes (e.g., 1 sexual recidivist, 5 reincarcerations)⁸

Polygraph Research

- Impact on disclosures (# of victims, offenses, offense categories, high risk behaviors, age of onset, duration, frequency)⁹
- Research mixed: containment approach may be effective; polygraph by itself questionable¹⁰

Polygraph Surveys

- Treatment providers and supervision officers believe the polygraph is helpful¹¹
- Sex offenders (n=95) also believe polygraph is beneficial - 72%¹²

Electronic Monitoring (GPS)

- Passive (radio transmitter device; GPS) and active (GPS – real-time location tracking)
- Exclusion zone and victim residence notification
- 47 states use GPS (6 – lifetime)¹³

Electronic Monitoring (GPS) General and Specific Research



- General offender research results mixed with some showing no benefits¹⁴ while others do show benefits¹⁵
- Sex offender research also mixed with some showing benefits¹⁶ while others don't¹⁷
- Laws have no impact on rate of rape¹⁸

Sexual Offender Civil Commitment (SOCC)

- 20 states and the U.S. government have civil commitment programs
- Detain high risk sex offenders with a “mental abnormality” as Sexually Violent Predators (SVPs) post-supervision

SOCC Research

- Very few released – less than 10 per program (n=16 programs)¹⁹
- No outcome studies of SVPs
- Study of almost-SVPs (referred but not committed) – 23% sexual recidivism in 6-year follow-up²⁰

SORN Research

- Research to date mixed on SORN effectiveness
- Some studies demonstrate no reduction in sex crime rate based on SORN²¹
- Others show reductions²²

SORN Research

- Most studies demonstrate no reduction in sex reoffense based on SORN²³
- A few show reductions²⁴
- Failure to register doesn't impact reoffense²⁵

SORN Surveys

- Public believes SORN beneficial²⁶
- Impact on sex offenders (physical assault or injury, property damage, threatened or harassed, job loss, loss of housing, a family member or roommate being harassed or assaulted, negative psychological consequences)²⁷

Residence Restriction Research

- No reduction in sexual reoffense³²⁸
- No reduction in sex crime rate²⁹
- No deterrence for sexual reoffenses³⁰
- Most offenders meet victims (not strangers) in private residence³¹

Residence Restriction Surveys

- Offenders report having to move, limited housing options, increased homelessness, loss of family support, & family hardship³²

Sex Offender Management Strategies

Research Limitations and Future Needs

Research Limitations

- Small # of studies on a given strategy
- Short follow-up periods
- Small sample sizes
- Different outcome measures
- Inability to isolate ind. variable
- Lack of generalizability
- Lack of scientific rigor in some studies

Survey Limitations

- Small response rates and sample sizes
- Self-selection bias
- Lack of corroboration of offender self-report

Research Needs

- Research using rigorous scientific methods be encouraged & supported
- Comparison studies with longer follow up periods
- Identify program components leading to positive results

Sex Offender Management Strategies

Conclusions and Policy Implications

Conclusions

- Treatment oriented specialized supervision appears to be effective
- COSA is a promising practice but more research needed
- Polygraph research is mixed; should only be used as part of comprehensive treatment/supervision approach

Conclusions

- More research is needed on SORN
 - Has broad community support
- Residence restrictions don't appear to be effective; should not be used
- Positive impact of strategies reliant upon RNR approach (not 1 size fits all)
- Policies should be evidence-based; allow for innovation and study

Notes

¹ Aos, S., Miller, M., & Drake, E. (2006); Petersilia, & Turner (1993).

² Aos, S., Miller, M., & Drake, E. (2006).

³ English, Pullen, & Jones (1996).

⁴ Aytes, Olsen, Zakrajsek, Murray, & Ireson, (2001); Lowden, Hetz, Harrison, Patrick, English, & Pasini-Hill (2003); McGrath, Cumming, Livingston, & Hoke (2003).

⁵ Boone, O'Boyle, Stone, & Schnabel (2006); Stalans, Seng, & Yarnold (2002).

Notes

- ⁶ Wilson, Cortoni, & McWhinnie (2009); Wilson, Picheca, & Prinzo (2005).
- ⁷ Duwe (2013).
- ⁸ Bates, Macrae, Williams, & Webb (2011).
- ⁹ Ahlmeyer, Heil, McKee, & English (2000); Buschman, Bogaerts, Fougler, Wilcox, Sosnowski, & Cushman (2010); English, Jones, Pasini-Hill, Patrick, & Cooley-Towell, (2000); English, Jones, Patrick, & Pasini-Hill (2003); Grubin, Madsen, Parsons, Sosnowski, & Warberg (2004); Heil, Ahlmeyer, & Simons (2003); Hindman, & Peters (2001).
- ¹⁰ McGrath, Cumming, Hoke, & Bonn-Miller (2007).

Notes

- ¹¹ Cooley-Towell, Pasini-Hill, & Patrick (2000); McGrath, Cumming, Hoke, & Bonn-Miller (2007); Tubman-Carbone (2009).
- ¹² Kokish, Levenson, & Blasingame (2005).
- ¹³ Button, DeMichele, & Payne (2009); Nieto & Jung (2006).
- ¹⁴ Aos, Miller, & Drake (2006).
- ¹⁵ Padgett, Bales, & Blomberg (2006).
- ¹⁶ Bonta, Wallace-Capretta, & Rooney (2000).
- ¹⁷ Bonta, Wallace-Capretta, & Rooney (2000); Gies, Gainey, Cohen, Healy, Yeide, Bekelman, Bobnis, & Hopps (2012); Tennessee Board of Probation and Parole (TBPP) (2007); Turner, Jannetta, Hess, Myers, Shah, Werth, & Whitby (2007).
- ¹⁸ Button, DeMichele, & Payne (2009).

Notes

- ¹⁹ Jackson, Travia, & Schneider (October, 2010).
- ²⁰ Milloy (2007).
- ²¹ Holmes (Didwania) (2009; revised 2012); Walker, Maddan, Vasquez, VanHouten, & Ervin-McLarty (2006).
- ²² Letourneau, Levenson, Bandyopadhyay, Armstrong, & Sinha (2010); Prescott & Rockoff (2008).
- ²³ Adkins, Huff, & Stageberg (2000); Freeman (2012); Letourneau, Bandyopadhyay, Sinha, & Armstrong (2010); Letourneau, Levenson, Bandyopadhyay, Sinha, & Armstrong (2010); Sandler, Freeman, & Socia (2008); Schram & Milloy (1995); Zgoba & Bachar (2009); Zevitz (2006).

Notes

²⁴ Duwe & Donnay (2008); Washington State Institute for Public Policy (2005)

²⁵ Duwe & Donnay (2010); Levenson, Letourneau, Armstrong, & Zgoba (2009); Zgoba & Levenson (2012).

²⁶ Anderson & Sample (2008); Brannon, Levenson, Fortney, & Baker (2007); Lieb & Nunlist (2008); Phillips (1998); Zevitz & Farkas (2000).

²⁷ Lasher & McGrath (2012)

²⁸ Colorado Department of Public Safety (2004); Nobles, Levenson, & Youstin (2012); Socia (2012); Zandbergen, P.A., Levenson, J.S., & Hart, T. (2010).

Notes

²⁹ Blood, Watson, & Stageberg (2008); Socia (2012).

³⁰ Duwe, Donnay, & Tewksbury (2008).

³¹ Colombino, Mercado, & Jeglic (2009).

³² Barnes, Dukes, Tewksbury, & De Troye (2009); Chajewski & Mercado (2008); Levenson (2008); Levenson & Cotter (2005b); Tewksbury & Zgoba (2010).

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Registration and Notification of Juveniles who Commit Sexual Offenses

Introduction

Juvenile SORN

- Wetterling Act allowed but did not mandate juvenile SORN
- 41 states register juveniles
- 30 states notify on juveniles
- Adam Walsh Act – 1st Federal juvenile SORN law¹

Juvenile SORN Assumptions

- High rate of juvenile sexual offending
- Juveniles similar to adults
- Juveniles are a heterogeneous, difficult to intervene with, and have high recidivism²

Juvenile SORN

- Iatrogenic effect on juveniles, families, and community
- Implemented in the absence of research

Registration and Notification of Juveniles who Commit Sexual Offenses

Summary of Research Findings

Juvenile SORN Research

- UCR Data from 47 states (1994-2009)
- Sex crime rates pre- and post-SORN
- No statistically significant decrease in juvenile sex crime arrests post-SORN³

Juvenile SORN Research

- N = 1275 juveniles between 1990-2004 in South Carolina
- SORN implemented in 1995
- 9 year follow-up
- No different in sexual recidivism pre- and post-SORN
- Non-sexual, non-assault recidivism rate higher for SORN juveniles⁴

Juvenile SORN Research

- N = 319 juveniles in Washington from 1995-2002
- 5 year follow-up period
- Level I or II – 9% sexual recidivism
- Level III (SORN) – 12% sexual recidivism⁵

Juvenile Disposition Research

- N = 18,068 juveniles who committed sexual offenses or robbery in South Carolina between 1990-2004
- Change in prosecutor decision-making post-SORN (1995), particularly if younger and fewer priors
- No change in decision-making for robbery⁶

Juvenile Disposition Research

- N = 299 juveniles in Michigan in 2006
- Cases pled to non-SORN case
- Ineligible for county-funded specialized treatment⁷

Juvenile vs. Adult Recidivism Rates

- Juvenile sexual recidivism rates between 7-13% over 5 year follow-up⁸
- Adult sexual recidivism rates 14% over 5 year follow-up, 20% over 10 years, and 24% over 15 years⁹
- Do juveniles and adults present the same risk?

Sexual Recidivism for Juveniles who Commit Sex vs. Non-Sex Offenses



- N = 2,029 juveniles released from secure custody
- 5 year follow-up
- Sexual recidivism = 6.8% for juveniles who commit sexual offenses
- Sexual recidivism = 5.7% for juveniles who commit non-sex offenses¹⁰

Research Needs

- More, more, more
- Research using rigorous scientific methods be encouraged & supported
- Larger sample sizes to overcome low base rate issue
- Impacts of SORN on juveniles and families

Registration and Notification of Juveniles who Commit Sexual Offenses

Conclusions and Policy Implications

Conclusions

- SORN questionable for juveniles
- Need more research before any further expansion
- Ensure support community safety and effective rehabilitation of the juveniles

Notes

- ¹ Holmes (Didwania) (2009; revised 2012)
- ² Chaffin (2008); Letourneau & Miner (2005)
- ³ Holmes (Didwania) (2009; revised 2012)
- ⁴ Letourneau, Bandyopadhyay, Sinha, & Armstrong (2009a)
- ⁵ Barnoski (2008)
- ⁶ Letourneau, Bandyopadhyay, Sinha, & Armstrong (2009b)
- ⁷ Calley (2008)
- ⁸ Alexander (1999); Caldwell (2010); Reitzel & Carbonell (2006)
- ⁹ Harris, A.J.R., & Hanson, R.K. (2004)
- ¹⁰ Caldwell (2007)

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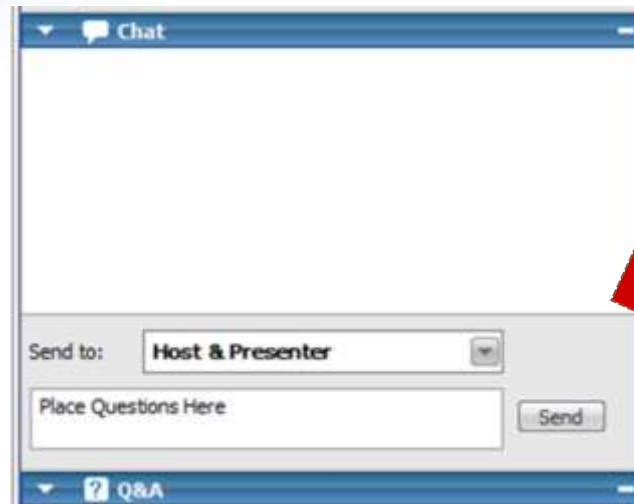
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Q & A

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Q & A



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Presenter:

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