Men Who Molest Boys: Perhaps the Most Persistent of all Child Molesters

Chief Bill Carson * Maryland Heights PD

Introduction – Speaker Background

- Police Experience
  - 36 years as a police officer
  - 16 years in criminal investigations
  - St Louis Area Major Case Squad
  - MO State Child Fatality Review Panel
  - MO Governor’s Task Force on the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

- Research / Academic Experience

Modified Child Molester Motivational Continuum

Situational ←———> Preferential

Regressed
Morally Indiscriminate
Sexually Indiscriminate
Sexually Inadequate

Pedophile
Hebephile
Pedohebephile (new DSM-V)

Situational Offenders

- Opportunistic & impulsive
- Thought-driven as opposed to fantasy
- Criminal sexual behavior tends to serve basic sexual needs such as lust, or nonsexual needs such as power & anger
- Do not prefer children, but they may settle for children
- Children are substitutes
- Usually have a limited number of victims

Child Molesters

Situational ←———> Preferential

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Preferential Child Molesters

- Quite simply, they PREFER children
- Fixated
- Very specific sexual interests
- Behavior is persistent & compulsive
- Well developed techniques
- Primarily fantasy-driven
Pedohebophilic Disorder (DSM-V)

Age-of-Object Subtyping Options:

- Pedophilic Type – Sexually Attracted to Prepubescent Children (generally younger than 11)
- Hebephilic Type -- Sexually Attracted to Pubescent Children (generally age 11 through 14)
- Pedohebophilic Type -- Sexually Attracted to Both

Pedohebophilic Disorder – cont.

Gender-of-Object Subtyping Options:

- Sexually Attracted to Males
- Sexually Attracted to Females
- Sexually Attracted to Both

Abel and Harlow Child Molestation Prevention Study (2001)

- 3,952 admitted male child molesters
- Child Molesters match the U.S. population in education, percentage married or formerly married, and religious observance
- Pedophilia is the most significant cause of child molestation – people with pedophilia: 1. molest 88 percent of all child sexual abuse victims, and 2. they commit 95 percent of the sexual acts against children

Abel and Harlow Study - continued

Early Onset
- 43 percent of offenders in the Abel study molest before they reached age 15
- 76 percent molested before age 20
- 12 percent started their offending as teenagers by molesting younger sibling(s)
- Dr Joe Sullivan – 81 percent of his patients started offending as children

Abel and Harlow Study - continued

Sexually Abused Boys
- Are at greater risk of becoming molesters
- Sexually abused boys that do become molesters start molesting at an earlier age
- Severely sexually abused boys that do become molesters have triple the number of victims when compared molesters that were never themselves molested

Abel and Harlow Study - continued

Sexual Orientation
- 70 percent of men who molest boys consider themselves to be predominantly heterosexual
- 8 percent consider themselves to be exclusively homosexual
- Majority of men were married, divorced, widowed, or living with an adult partner
- Only 7 percent indicated no sexual interest in adults
Abel and Harlow Study - continued

Sex of Victims
- More men molest girls
- Men that molest boys have significantly more victims *
- Some offenders molest both boys & girls

* An earlier 1983 Abel study of 232 child molesters indicated that male-target child molesters had 7½ times the number of victims compared to female-target child molesters.

Harris & Hanson, 2004
Sex Offender Recidivism Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>1st Offense</th>
<th>2nd Offense</th>
<th>3rd Offense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before 1980</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-1989</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-1999</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2004</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Child Molester Recidivism
- Numerous studies have shown that male-target child molesters have significantly higher recidivism rates when compared to female-target child molesters.
- Recidivism rate for male-target v. female-target is "roughly double" (DSM-IV-TR).
- Unmarried, male-target pedophiles with non-family victims are more likely to re-offend than any other sex offender, they are the highest risk to re-offend - 52%-77% *

* expert testimony - Dr. Kent Jarvis

Types of Pedophiles
- Moral Conflict Pedophile
- Social Conflict Pedophile
- Sociopathic Pedophile


My Prison Interviews - Year One
48 Male-Target Offenders

- Majority considered themselves to be heterosexual in their orientation
- 87% reported having past sexual relationships with adults
- 61% had been married at least once
- 29% had fathered at least one child

My Prison Interviews - Year One
Men Who Target Boys

- 78% claimed that they were sexually molested as children
- 13% not molested, but were involved in sexual acting out with other boys (peers) prior to adolescence
- 9% reported no molestation or sexual acting out with peers as a child
Finding a Vulnerable Child
Where do offenders find their victims?

- 34.2% are family members
- 56.7% are acquaintances
- 7.0% are strangers

Howard M. Snyder, "Sexual Assault of Young Children as Reported to Law Enforcement: Victim, Offender, and Offense/Characteristics" (Washington: Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2003)

My Prison Interviews - Year One
Men Who Target Boys

26% had occupations giving them legitimate access to children, including:

- 4 school teachers
- 1 school bus driver
- 1 school librarian
- 2 youth pastors
- 1 child care worker (children’s home)
- 1 sports club manager

My Prison Interviews - Year One
Men Who Target Boys

- 39% had volunteer affiliations with youth organizations such as Boy Scouts, YMCA, BBBS, Little League Baseball, church, etc.
- Combined, 48% had legitimate access to children through employment and/or volunteer work

My Prison Interviews - Year One
What Do They Look For?

- The very first thing that catches their eye is physical attractiveness
- Personality traits mentioned by some include boys that are: needy, passive, lonely, innocent, naïve, neglected, looking for attention, low self-esteem, vulnerable,
- Some prefer boys from single-parent or dysfunctional families
- Some other offenders had a different perspective

My Prison Interviews - Year One
What Might Scare Them Away?

- Active involved parents
- Protective older siblings
- Kids that have very open lines of communication with their parents
- Certain physical characteristics – obesity was mentioned most often
- Certain personality characteristics
Degrees of Force

- No Force
- Persuasion
- Pressure
- Intimidation
- Threats
- Physical Force
- Deadly Force

Grooming

- A term used to define a variety of techniques used by offenders to access and control potential and actual victims before, during, and after sexual abuse.

Carla van Dam's Five Steps of Grooming

1. Identify a vulnerable child
2. Engage in peer-like involvement
3. Desensitize the child to touch through tickling, rough housing, etc.
4. Isolate the child
5. Make the child feel responsible

My Prison Interviews - Year One
The Grooming Process - Time

- Almost all offenders groom their victims for at least some period of time
- There can be a wide range of time depending on the offender
- Some can do it in a matter of hours, others may take days, weeks, months or even years to groom a child

My Prison Interviews - Year One
Engaging in peer-like involvement

- Based upon the age and interests of the child
- With adolescent boys, Dr. Jim Tanner calls it the 3-D's: drinking, driving, and dirty pictures
- Allowing the child to engage in “forbidden” activities - alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana, and pornography

My Prison Interviews - Year One
Engaging in peer-like involvement

- With younger pre-adolescent children, alcohol & drugs are less likely, but pornography can still be a useful tool
- Sports, video games, mini-bikes, ATV’s, swimming, waterparks, amusement parks & arcades
- Games such as “truth or dare”
My Prison Interviews - Year One
Desensitize the child to touch

- Attenuate a child's natural resistance
- Progressive physical contact
- Gradual sexualization of the child
- Acts which decrease boundaries
- Well developed techniques based upon the age of the child

My Prison Interviews - Year One
Sexual Acts Preferred

- Fondling
- Mutual masturbation
- Oral / fellatio
- Anal intercourse

Obsessive Compulsive Tendencies with some

- Some have described it an all-consuming addiction to boys
- Some may have certain fetishes
- Some may collect souvenirs
- Diaries or journals of actual events
- Some writings may be fictional (fantasy)

David L. Riegel 2007 Internet Survey

- Interesting internet survey of 517 "Boy-Attracted Pedosexual Males"
- Disclaimer: Data from this survey should be taken with a grain of salt. Riegel is an independent writer and researcher, author of several books and journal articles, but he is also considered pedophile advocate

Sources: Riegel, D. Multicultural and Behavioral Characteristics of Boy-Attracted Pedosexual Males: Validation of a Typology Using an Internet Survey (2007)
Riegel's Internet Survey Rationale

- Most research has been taken from clinical patients or incarcerated offenders (the low-hanging fruit)
- There is a perception that all pedosexual males fall into the “predator” or “molester” category
- Other research does not include those pedosexual males who do not molest

David L. Riegel 2007 Internet Survey
Awareness of Attraction to Boys

- Median age of awareness - 14
- 29.6% aware by age 13
- 73.1% aware by age 16
- 88.0% aware by age 18

Riegel's 2007 Internet Survey
Encounters with Law Enforcement

- 65.8% - None
- 21.7% - Suspected or questioned by police, but not arrested or charged
- 1.9% - Arrested, but not charged
- 0.6% - Arrested, tried, acquitted
- 10.1% - Arrested, convicted

Riegel’s 2007 Internet Survey
BPM Attraction Scale
1. Exclusively to boys - 23.8%
2. Primarily to boys - 48.6%
3. Equal to boys & others - 19.5%
4. Primarily to others - 7.0%
5. Almost exclusively to others - 1.2%

Riegel’s 7 Classes of BPM

All classes have a sexual attraction to boys (some may be repressed/rejected)
- Class 1 - They may have nonsexual relationships with boys, but there is an absolute belief that any sexual contact with a child is “wrong” (basis of morality, religion or other values)
- Class 2 - They may have relationships with boys, but fear of the consequences keeps him from acting out sexually

Riegel’s 7 Classes of BPM (cont.)

- Classes 3, 4 & 5 - They will all have sexual contact with boys, depending upon the circumstances (described below):
  - Class 3 - sexual activity that may be initiated by the boy
  - Class 4 - sexual activity initiated by the adult with the boy deemed to be a willing participant
  - Class 5 - sexual activity initiated by the adult and not opposed by the boy
Riegel's 7 Classes of BPM (cont.)

- Class 6 – Blatant attempts to seduce, coerce, bribe or pressure the child to have sex. Minimal bonding or mentoring, less concern about the needs or well-being of the child.
- Class 7 – Gross physical force may be used to have sex with a child.
Boylove Glossary

- AF – Adult Friend
- AOA – Age of Attraction
- BL – Boylove / Boylover
- GL – Girloverse / Girloover
- LBL – Little Boy Lover
- MAA – Minor-Attracted Adult
- MAP – Minor-Attracted Person
- TBL – Teen Boy Lover
- YF – Young Friend

Boylive Glossary

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