



MENTOR
FORENSIC SERVICES

UNDERSTANDING SEX OFFENDERS:

A FOUNDATION COURSE IN BEHAVIOUR ANALYSIS



CONTENT

What do sex offenders really think, say and do?

If we can better understand the problem we can improve the way we protect children and manage offenders. This two day training course utilises current research, clinical experience and offenders' own accounts to help practitioners build their knowledge of critical safeguarding issues.

Through exploring the psychology of child sex offenders and providing participants with a practical framework for recognising and correctly interpreting offender behaviour. The course arms professionals with key learning points necessary to engage more effectively with offenders via behaviour analysis.

Sex offenders are not a homogenous group and Mentor's training demonstrates how the problem transcends age, culture and gender. Our organisation is increasingly working with women who sexually abuse children. The course allows participants to listen to women who are sexually aroused to children and explores this complex circumstance.

Over the two days the training also looks at the complexities of the internet in respect of the sexual exploitation of children. In addition, it examines the facts behind organised groups of sex offenders and how this dynamic works.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE

- The role of behaviour analysis
- Myths and facts about child sexual abuse
- Introduction to behaviour analysis
- Theoretical perspective – the spiral of sexual abuse
- Motivation to offend
- Justifications for offending
- Role of fantasy
- Grooming and manipulation
- Abuse and sexual exploitation of children
- Travelling sex offenders
- Women who sexually abuse children
- Organised groups of sex offenders
- Internet child sexual exploitation-implications for those that safeguard children

THE BENEFITS

The course is designed so that participants will feel better able to ask the "right" questions, challenge denial more effectively and evaluate behaviour in a critical light. Our knowledge of how to maximise engagement with those convicted or suspected of sexually exploiting a child can be continually improved upon as new research and techniques are developed. This course brings an interface between the practical and the theoretical to ensure that defensible decisions and proficient working skills are prioritised. Issues such as motivation, justifications and prevalence underpin sex offender behaviour, and understanding them from the offenders' perspective is a skill that will pay dividends.

BY THE END OF THE COURSE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Understand the prevalence of child sexual abuse and the degree to which criminal records reflect a perpetrator's pattern of sexual offending
- Recognise the myths and facts about child sexual abuse
- Comprehend the role which behaviour analysis can play in facilitating a better understanding of offender behaviour
- Identify common characteristics of offending behaviour
- Plan for more effective offender interviews & meetings
- Use behaviour analysis tools to create accurate risk assessments
- Understand how offender motivations and justifications create a 'spiral of abuse'
- Better decide what are the important questions to ask each offender
- Recognise grooming & manipulation more readily
- Understand the key features and issues related to women who sexually offend
- Distinguish the importance of identifying those offenders who travel to facilitate the sexual exploitation of children
- Identify the prevalence and key features of offenders who engage in group based child sexual exploitation
- Comprehend the risk factors related to sex offenders who view/download indecent images of children.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This course is essential for all those who work with children and have a safeguarding responsibility and want to develop a culture of safety within their organisation. It provides core knowledge and skills for those who work either directly or indirectly with offenders and their families. Feedback has shown us that those who work with victims and their families have benefitted hugely from this training.

METHODS USED

Knowledge delivery and direction from the course leader using analysis of filmed interviews with perpetrators of sexual crimes against children, case study review, instruction in the use of practical tools, detailed handouts and the opportunity to raise questions in respect of your own work.

"Protecting children is a complex and important job, which requires deep thought and consideration. [We must] help professionals move from a compliance culture to a learning culture" (Munro 2010)

DURATION AND STRUCTURE

This course will last for 2 days and will contain a total of 16 hours of learning. The course teaching content will be supported by handouts and course reading materials to enhance the participants' understanding of the topic areas. All participants will receive a Mentor Certificate of Completion.

Participants should be aware that the course content includes video. The video material is confidential and some details of case studies have been changed to protect victims. The course is designed for personal professional development only, the video material may not be audio and/or video recorded. The course materials are subject to copyright and may not be distributed. It is Mentor policy to request proof of identity and professional credentials from all delegates; we reserve the right to refuse individuals on our training courses at our own discretion.

We provide a full refund for cancellations notified more than ten working days prior to the event. After this time we require full payment for the course.

Bookings can be made via our website www.mentorforensics.com or by email to training@mentorforensics.com

If you wish to discuss running one of our courses in your area we have special rates for block bookings and are happy to design a training event customised for your agency's specific needs.

FEEDBACK FROM PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS

"Videos were amazing. Such perfect insight. Excellently delivered"

Probation officer

"Brilliant! A real eye opener" Industry

"As always captivated by Joe Sullivan's style of delivery and content. Extremely interesting and invaluable in my world of MAPPA" Police Officer

"Nothing before has helped me understand my clients' world like this training has. Invaluable, thank you!" Child Advocate

"More than 6,000 victims of child sexual exploitation were identified by police in the last year. This is almost 1,000 more than the year before and experts believe the extent of the problem is getting worse" (Barnardos 2011)
