



**19th
Annual**

**Conference on Managing Juveniles
with Sexual Behavior Problems**

June 29–July 02, 2025 \ San Marcos, TX



Sunday, June 29 – Pre-Conference

1:00–5:00pm **GENERAL SESSION**

Room TBD

**Neurodevelopment Factors for Understanding, Assessing, and Treating Youth
with Problematic Sexual Behaviors**

Norbert Ralph, Ph.D., MPH, Private Practice

This presentation provides key information to understand, assess, and treat youth with problematic sexual behaviors, with an emphasis on neurodevelopmental or brain-based insights. It will focus on current statistics, recidivism rates, and relevant causes. The role of comorbid issues, such as trauma, psychiatric conditions, and nonsexual delinquency, will be presented. Special attention is given to female juveniles who offend, examining how they differ from their male counterparts. The talk outlines typologies and contrasts between offender subgroups, as well as what constitutes normal versus concerning sexual behavior in adolescents. The role of brain development and psychosocial maturity in adolescent behavior and decision-making will be described. It will address the impact of technology on teen sexual behavior, including exposure and access. The presentation also reviews standardized measures of psychosocial maturity, recidivism risk, and sexual interest. Attendees will learn about current juvenile justice guidelines and effective, easily implemented treatment approaches. Evidence-based treatment models and practical workbooks will be highlighted to support implementation in clinical and justice settings.

(3.5 Offender Hours)

Monday, June 30

8:00–10:00am **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Room TBD

Treating Sexual Behavior Problems from a Strengths-Based Approach: Case Study

Kevin M. Powell, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist, Trainer, Consultant

This workshop will present a challenging case involving an adolescent who was mandated to receive sex offense-specific treatment. Case conceptualization information will be described along with key strengths-based interventions, which were utilized to stabilize and effectively work with this youth. Specific challenges and barriers that occurred during the treatment process will be highlighted. A 20-year follow-up of this case will also be shared.

(3.5 Offender Hours)

10:00–10:30am Break

10:30am–12:00pm **KEYNOTE ADDRESS** (continued)

Room TBD

12:00–1:30pm Lunch (On Your Own)

1:30–3:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION I**

Room TBD

**Challenges in the Treatment of Youth with Problematic Sexual Behaviors:
A Presentation and Discussion**

Norbert Ralph, Ph.D., MPH, Private Practice

Mikaela Vidmar, MSc, Reg Psych (Canada), MA, Psy Assoc (California)

This session will provide an interactive and discussion-based format to address important topics related to youth with problematic sexual behaviors.

The session will focus on areas that providers currently may find challenging and will use vignettes and discussion to engage participants in considering challenges in key areas. Topics addressed will include:

- Risk assessment vignettes - How risky is this youth?
- Youth denying charges - Who me?
- Females in treatment - Don't leave them out.
- Length of treatment - The Goldilocks principle, not too much and not too little.
- Pedophilia in juveniles - Important that we look at this carefully.
- Autistic spectrum youth - Understanding behaviors from their point of view.
- How to talk about sensitive or embarrassing subjects - How to begin and more.
- Emotional challenges for the therapist and vicarious trauma.
- Trauma and stress of treatment for youth and their families.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

1:30–3:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION II**

Room TBD

Creating Strengths-Based Assessment Reports & Treatment Services

Kevin M. Powell, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist, Trainer, Consultant

Historically, psychological evaluations including sex offenses-specific risk assessments have primarily focused on problems, deficits, and diagnoses.

This workshop will provide participants with suggestions for how to create strengths-based assessments reports and services. A strengths-based orientation not only helps end harmful sexual behaviors, but it also assists in the development and reinforcement of skills for leading prosocial lives.

Strategies for how to increase openness and honesty during assessments will be highlighted.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

1:30–3:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION III**

Room TBD

Testifying in Court:

Practical Information for Courtroom Testimony for Professionals

Frances Doggett, TCHATT, Texas A&M University

What can help us when we were in the hot seat as a professional? What are some behavioral resources that we can utilize when we're in that position? What are some practical applications? This presentation will take a look at real world examples along with some professional reminders for when you find yourself testifying in courtroom situations.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

1:30–3:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION IV**

Room TBD

Sex Offender Testing Under American Polygraph Association Guidelines

Sabino Martinez, Jr., President, Veridicus Inc.

A brief look at American Polygraph Association Standards of Practice. During this presentation we will discuss differences in testing outcomes, Diagnostic vs. Screening and reporting the results to providers. The Model Policy for Post-Conviction Sex Offender Testing will be covered, the types of examinations and their uses as well as recommendations for treatment providers in using difference polygraph questions.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

3:00–3:30pm Break

3:30–5:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION I**

Room TBD

Developmentally Appropriate Reintegration:

Strategies for Supervising Youth Who Sexually Offend

Danielle T. Cooper, Ph.D., CPP, Assoc Professor, Tow Youth Justice Institute

By the end of this session, you will have assessed old and developed new strategies for engaging youth who display sexual behavior problems and have been restricted, removed from, or placed into a separate setting. Research, policy, and practice have asserted that most people—but especially youth—are deserving of a second chance, regardless of the nature of their behavior. The goal of reintegration back into social groups and environments after a conflict or offense requires that young people be supported to move past their problematic behaviors using responses that take into account their age and maturity. Unfortunately, some approaches increase shame and other negative emotions, reduce communication and clarity, and isolate/stigmatize the youth. Developmentally appropriate reintegration is achieved through strategies that allow for positive engagement with reflection, relationships, and responsibility. Overall, it is essential for young people's ongoing growth that steps be taken by supervising adults to include them and affirm their worth, especially after acts of violence or aggression have been properly resolved.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

3:30–5:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION II**

Room TBD

Project Safer: An Approach to Diversion, Family Preservation & Public Safety

Jim Davidson, Case Work Supervisor, Tarrant County Juvenile Services

Shana Hazzard, LCSW-S, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Fort Worth

Courtney Landes, LCSW, ASOTP, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Fort Worth

Jessica Theriot, Tarrant County Assistant District Attorney

Project Safer is a diversion program for children aged 10-14 who have been referred to the Tarrant County Juvenile Court for offenses involving sexual behavior problems. These are serious charges that can carry heavy consequences and that can cause irreparable rifts within families. Through a 23-week program involving therapeutic groups for both the child and the parent or guardian, Tarrant County is able to divert youth from the juvenile justice system, promote the preservation of the family or household, and increase public safety by nearly eliminating recidivism. This program began in 2015 based on the research of Dr. Jane Silovsky at the University of Oklahoma and has successfully diverted dozens of children, with a 90%+ success rate. Courtney Landes and Shana Hazzard will provide education on Dr. Silovsky's research, the therapeutic modalities, coping skills, and supervision tools that are provided to youth and caregivers, and how the program was launched. Jessica Theriot and Jim Davidson will provide education on the court process, from referral to intake and through the adjudication hearing, supervision, and eventual dismissal and sealing. We welcome questions from the attendees!

(1.5 Offender Hours)

3:30–5:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION III**

Room TBD

Trust Base Relationship Intervention - TBRI

Luis M. Gonzalez, Jr., TBRI-Engagement Coordinator, Harris County Juvenile Probation

TBRI® is an attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention that is designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children. TBRI® uses Empowering Principles to address physical needs, Connecting Principles for attachment needs, and Correcting Principles to disarm fear-based behaviors. While the intervention is based on years of attachment, sensory processing, and neuroscience research, the heart-beat of TBRI® is connection.

TBRI® is designed to meet the complex needs of children who have experienced adversity, early harm, toxic stress, and/or trauma. Because of their histories, it is often difficult for these children to trust the loving adults in their lives, which often results in perplexing behaviors. TBRI® offers practical tools for parents, caregivers, teachers, or anyone who works with children, to see the “whole child” in their care and help that child reach his highest potential.

TBRI® is used worldwide in homes, residential facilities, group homes, schools, camps, schools, juvenile justice facilities, courts, with survivors of sex trafficking and drug use, in faith communities, courts, with law enforcement, in clinical practices and beyond.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

3:30–5:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION IV**

Room TBD

Sibling Sexual Abuse: We Each Have a Role in Safety & Healing

Jacqueline Page, Psy.D.

Sibling sexual abuse is considered the most prevalent form of intrafamilial sexual abuse. These cases are often viewed as “some of the most complicated and anxiety provoking that we may encounter in our work.” (Kambouridis and Flanagan). Regardless of our profession, we each have a role in ensuring safety, supporting well-being, and promoting healing.

This session highlights the realities of sibling sexual abuse and addresses key questions about separation and reunification. The focus of the session is a straightforward discussion about common challenges professionals encounter and questions they have when dealing with cases involving sibling sexual abuse. The importance of collaboration is emphasized including recognizing the differing roles and perspectives of professionals.

The session aims to offer tips and assistance for enhancing safety, well-being, and healing. The session is designed to be interactive and questions and discussion are encouraged.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

Tuesday, July 1

8:00–10:00am **GENERAL SESSION**

Room TBD

Fostering the Development of a Healthy Masculinity Among Youth: Obstacles and Opportunities

Alejandro Leguizamo, PhD, Professor, Psychology Department, Roger Williams University

Sexually abusive behavior has many precipitants and occurs in various contexts. Although sexual offenses are committed mostly by males, we have tended to ignore how societal norms with respect to masculinity contribute to sexual aggression.

In this session, we will explore how boys and teens develop a sense of masculinity, and the impact of societal norms and expectations and how they may encourage sexual aggression. We will also consider ways to counter these norms in order for juveniles to develop healthier and more adaptive masculinity attitudes and practices that could help them avoid further sexual aggression.

(3.5 Offender Hours)

10:00–10:30am Break

10:30am–12:00pm **GENERAL SESSION** (continued)

Room TBD

12:00–1:30pm Lunch (On Your Own)

1:30–3:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION I**

Room TBD

**Probation Officer Safety Training (P.O.S.T.):
Field and Home Safety Specialized Caseload**

Leo Perez, Jr., Hidalgo County Community Corrections and Supervision Department

The home becomes a focal point for adjustment to anyone who is experiencing community supervision for the first time. Conducting home visits offers a unique opportunity to discover a juvenile's adjustment to community supervision. Each home visit however can expose an officer to hazardous situations. The situation become even more enhanced when officers are managing juveniles with sexual behavior problems.

Officers can benefit from old and new techniques that will make their safety in the field a priority. This session will expose officers to areas of concern as well as provide new and up to date information from law enforcement agencies that is critical in ensuring a safe return to the office.

This session will discuss techniques on how to reduce the hazards of field / home visits and provide an outline of proper safety techniques to implement when dealing with juveniles with sexual behavior problems.

This session will also provide a general understanding of each officer's responsibilities during and after a visit.

P.O.S.T is designed to bring training to the field of probation, by a member of the same profession, because, "We are each other's greatest teachers." - Leo Perez Jr.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

1:30–3:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION II**

Room TBD

So, You've Been Sexually Assaulted: Now What?

Kim Basinger, S.A.F.E. Solutions

This session will work towards dispelling the myths of rape kit collection and who performs the exam.

This workshop is to help providers understand the process a possible victim goes through during the Medical Forensic examination of a patient that reports to the hospital or Children's Advocacy Center with a complaint of sexual assault or sexual abuse.

This session will also strive to provide an understanding of the two types of exams and the focus of each. It will also provide an understanding of the findings or lack thereof.

(1.5 Victim Hours)

1:30–3:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION III**

Room TBD

Ethics (Part I)

Kenda B. Dalrymple, Managing Partner, Dalrymple, Shellhorse, Ellis & Diamond, LLP

This program will provide a lively discussion of the most common situations that lead to conflict and dissatisfaction between clients and mental health professionals who are sex offender treatment providers. Special emphasis will be given to strategies for avoiding problems, tips for handling risks appropriately, and pragmatic suggestions for protecting your practice.

This program will incorporate a discussion of applicable Texas statutes and Board Rules.

(1.5 Ethics Hours)

1:30–3:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION IV**

Room TBD

How What We Know Now Impacts Our Work

Jacqueline Page, Psy.D.

No matter what your role, you will hopefully find this interactive session to be informative and helpful.

The session uses highlights of what we know from the current literature and research as well as examination of changes and shifts in our field as the foundation for our discussion. We'll discuss how what we know impacts our understanding of adolescents who have engaged in sexually abusive behavior and informs our approaches and interventions. It includes addressing the question about risk prediction assessment versus risk management assessment, examining what application of the risk-need-responsivity principles looks like and real-world barriers to their application and how we can incorporate what we know into the content and structure of safety plans, healthy life plans. We'll also examine how what we know directly impacts focus areas of treatment, our approaches and interventions. Discussion and questions are encouraged.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

3:00–3:30pm Break

3:30–5:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION I**

Room TBD

The Impact of Sexual Abuse: Working with Survivors

Grace Davis, LCSW-S, Journeys Counseling Services, PLLC

This workshop will provide information regarding the emotional impact sexual abuse has on survivors of any age. Attendees will be asked to participate in an exercise that is used with survivors in a clinical setting. Attendees do not have to be survivors of sexual abuse to participate and no one will be asked to self-disclose a history of sexual abuse.

(1.5 Victim Hours)

3:30–5:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION II**

Room TBD

Leaving Something Behind

David M. Walenta, M.S., LPC-S, LSOTP-S

Mr. Walenta will share some valuable tidbits of knowledge that he has learned and used to survive and provide quality treatment during his 50 years in the juvenile justice field. Using this historical expertise and experience, Mr. Walenta will also attempt to look into the future of our field and challenge us to anticipate and prepare for some changes we may encounter.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

3:30–5:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION III**

Room TBD

Ethics (Part II)

Kenda B. Dalrymple, Managing Partner, Dalrymple, Shellhorse, Ellis & Diamond, LLP

This program will provide a lively discussion of the most common situations that lead to conflict and dissatisfaction between clients and mental health professionals who are sex offender treatment providers. Special emphasis will be given to strategies for avoiding problems, tips for handling risks appropriately, and pragmatic suggestions for protecting your practice.

This program will incorporate a discussion of applicable Texas statutes and Board Rules.

(1.5 Ethics Hours)

3:30–5:00pm **CONCURRENT SESSION IV**

Room TBD

Beyond Compliance: Effective Treatment Strategies for Juveniles with Sexual Behavior Problems in Probation Settings

Kandys McKinley, DMFT, LPC-S, LSOTP-S, LCDCC, Clinical Lead for SOTP, Harris County Juvenile Probation

This session explores the critical intersection of specialized treatment and probation supervision for juveniles with sexual behavior problems (JSBPs). It will provide treatment providers, probation officers, and other professionals with evidence-based strategies to enhance engagement, compliance, and rehabilitation within a structured supervision framework. Attendees will learn how to integrate therapeutic best practices—such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Risk-Needs-Responsivity (RNR), and Trauma-Informed Care (TIC)—while addressing common barriers to treatment.

This session will also highlight collaboration strategies between probation and treatment teams to balance risk management with long-term behavioral change. Through interactive discussions, case studies, and practical interventions, participants will leave with actionable tools to improve outcomes for youth under probation supervision.

(1.5 Offender Hours)

Wednesday, July 2

8:00–11:30am **CLOSING SESSION**

Room TBD

Responding to Youth Who Sexually Offend by Adopting a Trauma-Informed Restorative Approach

Danielle T. Cooper, Ph.D., CPP, Assoc Professor, Tow Youth Justice Institute

When young people engage in problem sexual behaviors, the responses by authority figures can vary from very punitive to very lenient. How to strike the right balance is often unclear, but research and practice have provided us with guidance.

First, we must become trauma-informed in all that we are doing in service to youth and their families going forward. How supervising adults ask questions and make assumptions determines the services and supports provided to youth after they have sexually offended. In order to create positive behavioral changes, adults must pause to learn the necessary backstory and gain a shared understanding of the events and their consequences from the perspective of the youth.

Next, steps must be taken to promote truth-telling, confront conflicts, and assert future expectations and boundaries. Through these restorative and transformative justice approaches, the responses are more likely to be empathetic and strategically positioned to address the needs of the youth. The obligations to repair harms, including those done by and to the youth who sexually offended, are best achieved through approaches that increase communication, trust, and communal supports.

This presentation and lively discussion will focus on the intention and the impact of responding to youth who sexually offend. Restorative principles and trauma-informed practices can guide the decision-making, conversation strategies, and services/resources offered to youth and their families. Additional consideration for the unique strains experienced by adults supervising youth throughout the process are discussed. Participants will learn strategies relevant for working with youth and young adults, but applicable to all ages.

(3.0 Offender Hours)

