



1



2



3


Sociocultural Background Context



4

What is Stigma?

- Socially constructed categories (norm follower vs. norm deviator).
- Dependent on cultural norms
- Stigma subgroups:
 - Reintegrative Shaming
 - Stigmatic Shaming
 - Courtesy/Secondary Stigma




Cubellis, Evans, & Fera, 2019

5

Understanding Sexual "Deviancy"

- Highly dependent on social norms: theological, legal, psychiatry.
- Disease or "biologically normal variants of sexual variation?"
- Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) continues to influence stigma




De Block & Adriaens, 2013; Turner-Moore & Waterman, 2022

6

Moral Panic & Societal Influence

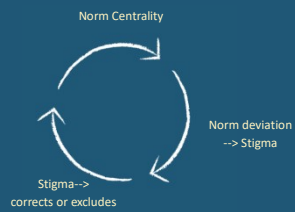
- What is moral panic?
- 1990's increase in media related to CSA
- Reported minor-attraction as homogenous--monsters.
- Community fear increases, legislation reactive to fear.
- Increases belief that MAP offending is inevitable.
 - Why bother with treatment?



Berryessa, 2021; Goodie & Ben-Yehuda, 1994; Lasher & Stinson, 2017

7

Norm-Centered Stigma Theory (NCST)



- Social power is required to create norms.
- Groups with power decide who is excluded
- Gate-keeps social currency.
- Maintains social power structures.

Worthen, 2020

8


Humanizing Minor- Attracted People

9

Who are MAPs?

- People who experience romantic and sexual interest in minors.
- ~3-9% of men and ~1-4% of women.
- Typically align with one of two DSM-5 diagnoses:
 - Pedophilia
 - Pedophilic Disorder (PD)
- Experience exclusive or non-exclusive interests.
- 50-60% of child sexual abuse convictions do not meet criteria for pedophilia/PD

American Psychiatric Association, 2013; Franke et al., 2019; Levensley & Lapworth, 2022; Seto, 2012




10

Minor-Attraction as a Sexual Orientation

- Studies reviewed MAP age of onset, sexual & romantic bxs, and stability over time—similar to all other sexual orientations.
- LGBTQ+ resistance to minor-attraction as orientation.
 - Conflation of healthy LGBTQ+ identities with harmful impacts of Childhood Sexual Abuse (CSA).

Seto, 2012; Walker, 2021; Walker & Panfil, 2017




11

Understanding

MENTAL HEALTH SXS	POTENTIAL RISK FACTORS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Suicidality• Self-hatred• Self-injurious behaviors• Substance dependence• Mood disorders• Anxiety/social phobia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intimacy & social skill deficits• Emotional dysregulation• Cognitive distortions• Distorted sexual scripts

Etchuk, McPhail, & Oliver, 2021; Grady & Levenson, 2021; Johnie, 2018; Seto, 2012; Stevens & Wood, 2019



12


Neurobiological & Behavioral Research

No Offending History

- Superior inhibitory control
- Better attentional control.

Offending History

- Experience of minor-attraction
- Poor behavioral control
- Temporal & prefrontal disturbances.
- Higher propensity to engage in offending bxs



Jordan, et al., 2018; Kargel, et al., 2017

13


Practitioner Stigma & Treatment Barriers



14

Fear of Liability: Mandated Reporting & Duty to Warn

- Confusion related to duty to warn requirements.
- What is reasonable decision making?
- Correlation between stigma & reporting decisions.
- Fear offending will happen if report is not made.
- Students request further ethics courses/trainings.




Ivers & Perry, 2014; Levesley & Lapworth, 2022; Stephans, et al., 2021; Walker, Butters, & Nichols, 2022

15

Popular Media & Misinformation

- Media leverage, higher ratings = increase fear/anxiety/reactivity.
- Influences help-seeking behaviors.
- Manipulation of pedophilia terminology.




Ischebeck, et al., 2021; Ma, 2017

16

Clinician Experiences of Trauma

- Vicarious trauma, Personal trauma hx, secondary stigma trauma.
- Avoidance of discussing sexual interests/harmful behaviors.
 - survivors vs folk who have perpetrated.
- Therapist trauma history/childhood abuse--75%.
- Fear of exclusion and ostracization.




Amen, 2003; Grady & Levenson, 2021; McInerney & Wayland, 2022

17

Treatment Competency

- Refusal to work with population due to lack of competency.
- Fear of making a mistake.
- Treater responsibility & NASW Code of Ethics
- Harm perpetrated by practitioners towards help-seeking MAPs; discontinuing tx (40%).

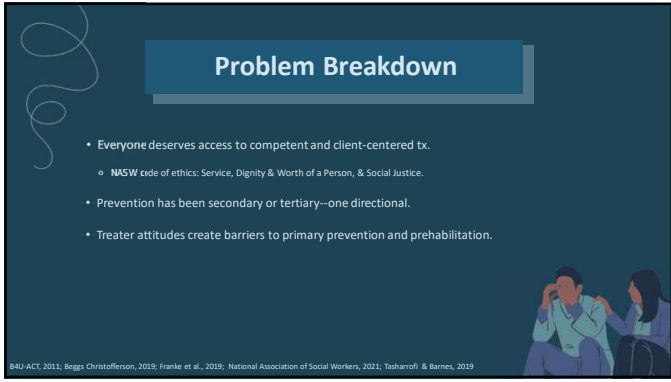


BAU ACT, 2011; National Association of Social Workers, 2021; Stiers-Glenn, 2010

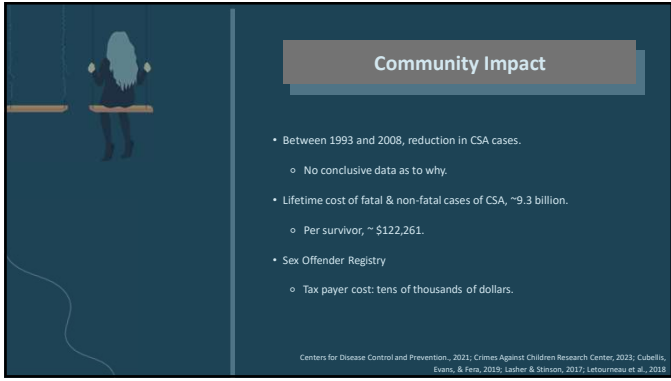
18



19



20



21

Alternative Approaches

- Germany & the Prevention Project Dunkelfeld (PPD or Dunkelfeld):
 - Rewriting social narratives related to minor-attraction.
 - Approached as sexual orientation (management not conversion).
 - Different mandated reporting/duty to warn laws.

Beegs Christofferson, 2019; Blier et al., 2014

22

Theoretical Approaches

Narrative Humanization Intersectionality

23

Narrative Humanization


- In-person, most effective:
 - Narratives directly from group members.
 - Difficult for highly stigmatized groups—too risky.
- Second option:
 - Narrative-based depictions and/or recording of interviews/discussions.
 - Support learner's needs and protects highly stigmatized MAPs.

Harper, Bartels, & Hogue, 2020; Harper et al., 2022; Jahnke, 2018; Walker, Butters,& Nichols, 2022 ; Wurtele, 2021

24

Intersectionality

- Individuals can only be fully understood by all their parts.
- Requires seeing beyond one identity
- Client-centered approach
- Additional marginalized identities?



Hill, 2019

25

Q&A



26
