

TREATMENT CAN PREVENT FURTHER SEXUAL VIOLENCE

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Welcome!

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PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH ME

- We live in troubled times
- I may be provocative
- I have a sense of humor
- I come in peace and believe in human dignity
- I mean no harm
- Please take everything I say in the spirit in which it is intended

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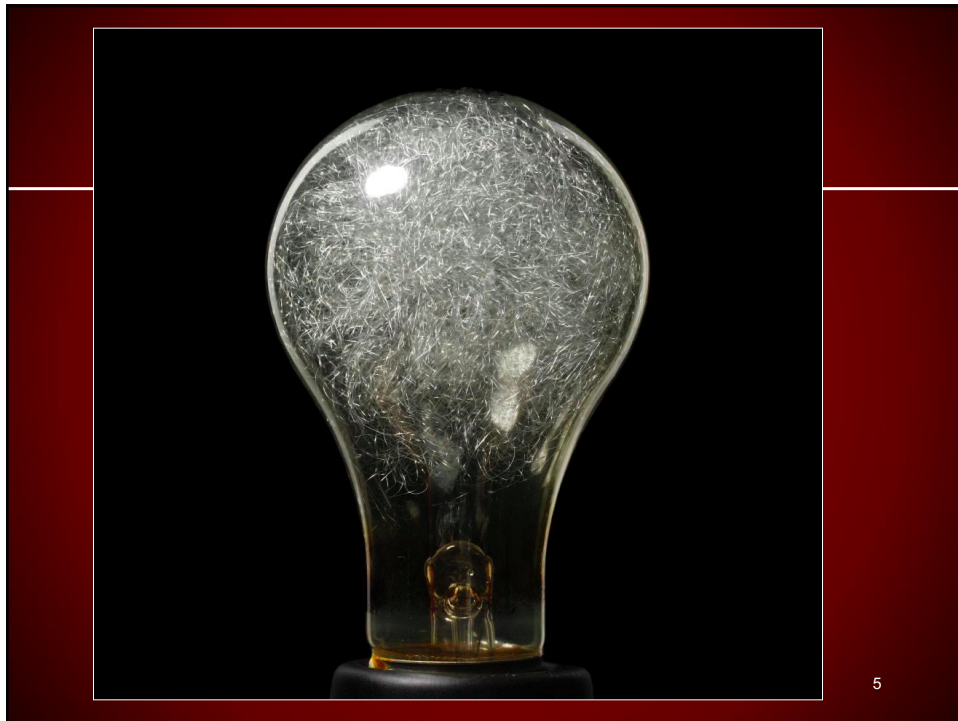


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TAKE-HOME MESSAGE

- Abuse is abuse
- Abuse is preventable
- Not all who abuse are the same
- Punishment-only responses don't reduce risk
- The right treatment can work
- The right treatment with the right accountability can work better.
- We're still not getting accountability right

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WHAT WORKS?

- Do we want them to do it again or not?
- What can we do?
- Who should we be?
- Is that enough?

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WHAT'S OUR GOAL?

- ❖ Stopping the behavior?
- ❖ Justice for those victimized?
- ❖ Preventing re-offense?
- ❖ Better lives for all?



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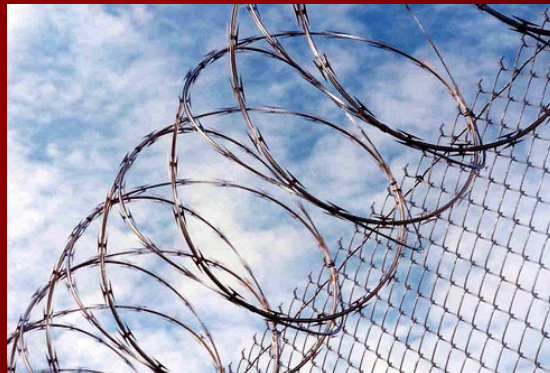
THE PROBLEM

- Smith, Goggin, & Gendreau, 2002
- Meta-analysis
- 117 studies since 1958
- 442,471 criminal offenders, including juveniles
- No form of punishment reduces risk!

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- No form of punishment reduces risk to abuse



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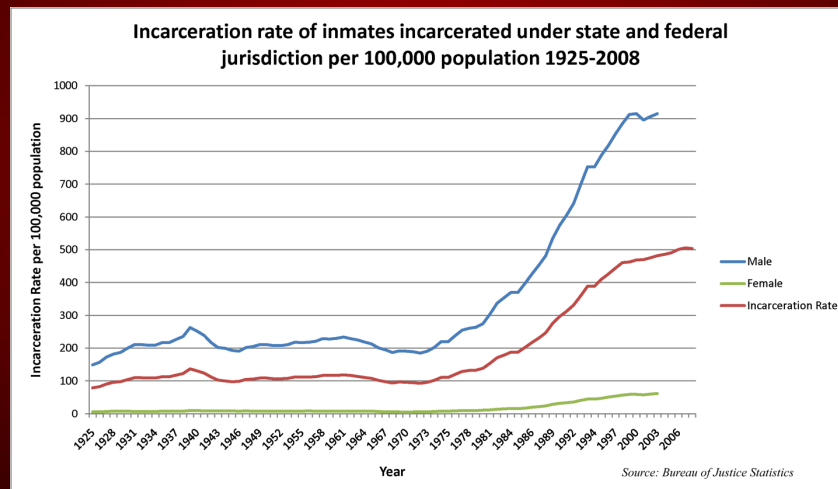
A REAL PROBLEM

- *Prisons and intermediate sanctions should not be used with the expectation of reducing criminal behavior.*
 - Includes intensive surveillance, electronic monitoring, DARE, Scared Straight, etc.
 - Some indication of increased risk for low-risk criminals
 - While incarceration serves a purpose, we must be clear about what it does and doesn't do

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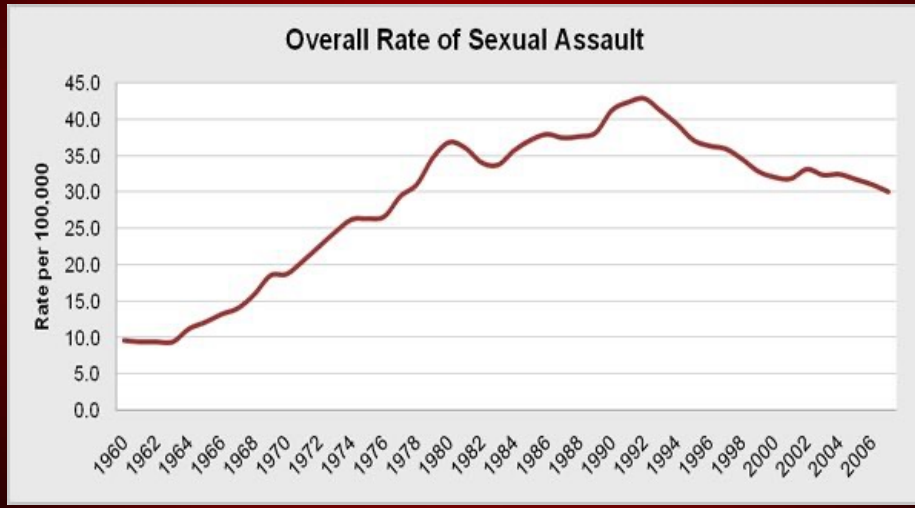
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INCARCERATION RATES



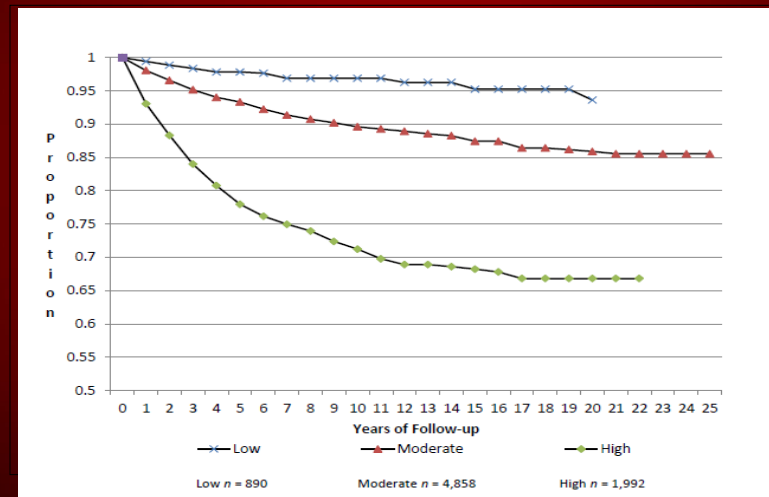
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SEX CRIME RATE



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5-YEAR SURVIVAL RATES: HANSON ET AL. 2015



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NOT ALL WHO ABUSE ARE EQUALLY DANGEROUS

- Some are more dangerous; some are less
- Their risks vary
- Their treatment and supervision needs vary
- We need assessment-driven approaches

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TREATMENT

- People who complete treatment programs re-offend at lower rates
 - 26.3% reduction in the most recent/rigorous study
- Are they cured?
 - “Cure” is misleading
 - Rehabilitated/treated may be better words to use

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LEVENSON & PRESCOTT, 2009-14

Three published consumer satisfaction surveys

- People who have sexually abused think treatment is important
- Concerns around confidentiality
- Most important treatment targets:
 - Accountability
 - Understanding harm/Empathy

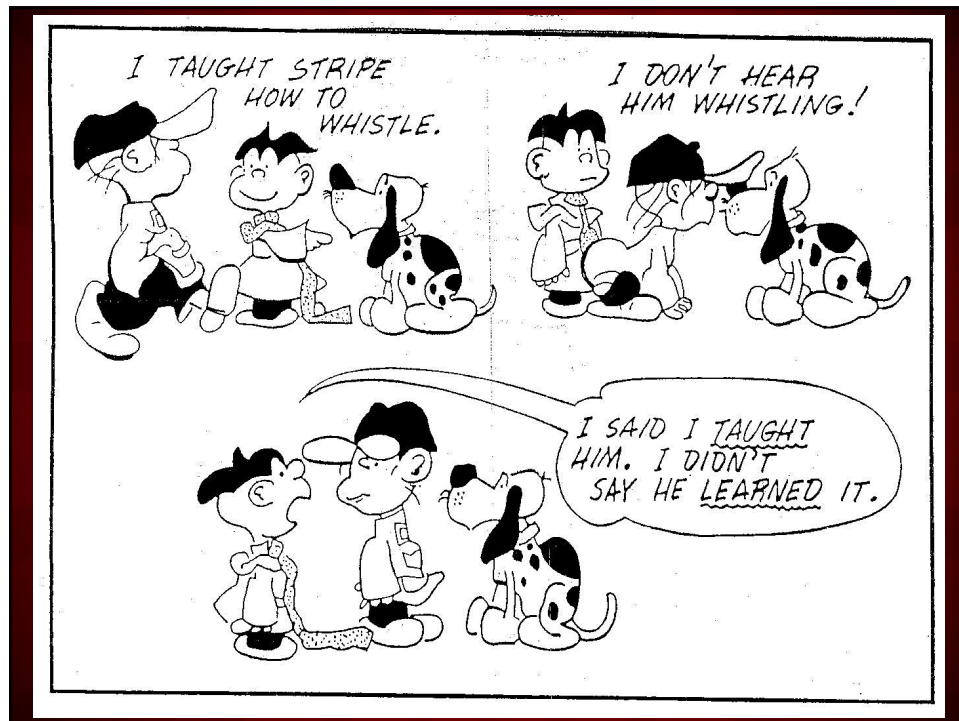
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TREATMENT CAN PREVENT SEXUAL RE-OFFENSE

- Cognitive-behavioral:
 - Change thought patterns and behavior
 - Development of pro-social/non-offending attitudes and beliefs
- Builds skills for managing risks
- Best over-arching goal: A balanced, self-determined lifestyle

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PROMISING TARGETS

- changing antisocial attitudes and feelings
- reducing antisocial peer associations
- promoting prosocial associations
- increasing self-control, self-management, problem-solving skills
- reducing chemical dependencies
- shifting rewards for behavior from criminal to non-criminal orientation
- develop a plan to deal with risky situations
- address personal barriers to change

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LESS PROMISING TARGETS

- Increasing self-esteem for its own sake
- Focusing on vague personal complaints not related to criminal conduct
- Improving living conditions without touching on higher risk individuals and families
- Working on personal goals without providing concrete assistance
- Making the client a better person, when being a better person is unrelated to propensity for crime

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INDICATORS OF QUALITY PARTICIPATION

- Attendance
- Engagement in program
- Completion (as opposed to premature program termination)
- Quality relationship with service provider
- Respect, positive attitude
- Showing change on the intermediate targets

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