## **Engaging Positive Behavior Support** in Sexual Violence Prevention

Robin J. Wilson, Ph.D., ABPP

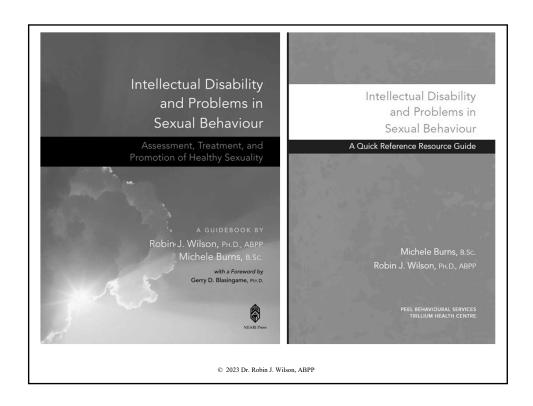
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#### **Disclaimer**

- ❖ During this presentation, there will be a few pictures of books authored or co-authored by Robin.
- ❖ He certifies that he receives no remuneration from the sale of these books.
- ❖ All proceeds of their sale go back into the clinic and are used for persons in care, or are used for a scholarship for students interested in working with folks with IDD.

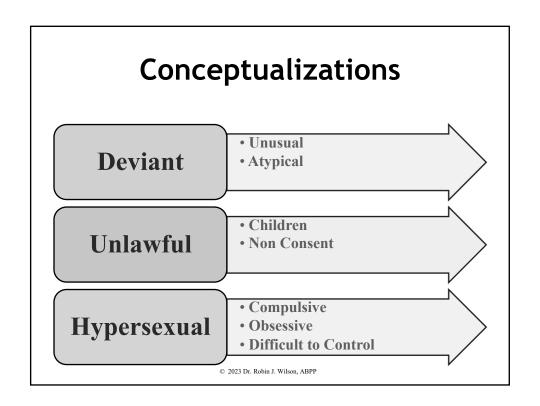


## Intellectual Disability and Sexual Offending

#### A judge in Canada observed:

Herein lies the problem relating to the commission of sexual offences. Having a mature body beyond his intellect, he has urges for sexual gratification which leads to impulsiveness and unpremeditated behaviour without using caution and with risk taking. This is followed by non-comprehension that the behaviour was inappropriate.

# Inappropriate Sexual Behaviors and "Deviance"



#### Inconsistency

- ❖ A lack of clarity remains regarding definitions for "inappropriate" sexual interests, preferences, and behaviors.
- ❖ One of the greatest hurdles to defining sexual deviance is a lack of clarity as to what actually constitutes offensive sexual behavior.
- ❖ What do you consider to be sexually offensive?
- ❖ How close do you think your answer might be to your family, friends, or colleagues?

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#### Consent

A particularly important concept to consider when looking at sexual offending is that of consent.

- ❖ What constitutes consent?
- ❖ Who can give it?
- Under what circumstances?
- ❖ Are there personal or situational variables that would impinge on consent?
  - ➤ Disability? Cognitive status?

#### More Inconsistency

In treatment, we tell people who have offended that it is not okay to fantasize about or have sexual relations with minors

Yet we, as a society, appear to be okay with...

- ❖ Young persons being sexually active
- ❖ Depicting minors in a sexually-charged manner

Many persons with intellectual disabilities have a harder time with age discrimination

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#### DSM-5 Paraphilias

#### Paraphilia

❖ Any intense and persistent (≥ 6 months) sexual interest other than sexual interest in genital stimulation or preparatory fondling with phenotypically normal, physically mature, consenting human partners.

#### Paraphilic Disorder

❖ A paraphilia that is currently causing distress or impairment to the individual or a paraphilia whose satisfaction has entailed personal harm, or risk of harm, to others.

#### **Counterfeit Deviance**

Counterfeit Deviance is observed in some people with disabilities, in which the behavior looks "deviant," but may not be when you consider the circumstances.



- Dave Hingsburger

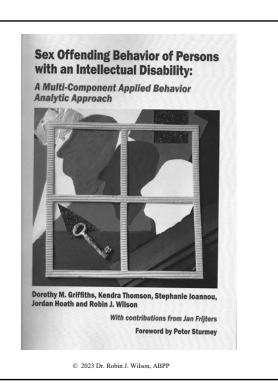
(Makes a great argument for employing Applied Behavioral Analysis)

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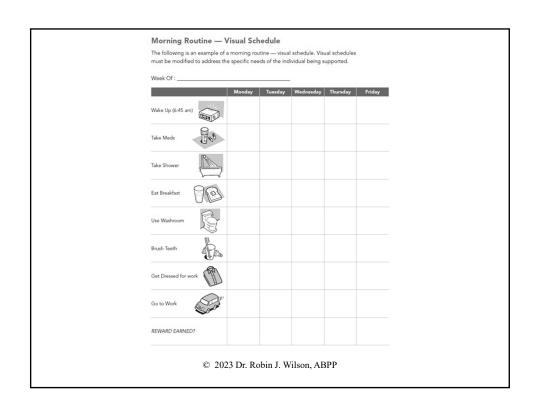
#### **Applied Behavioral Analysis**

We certainly don't want to "excuse" inappropriate behavior in a person with an intellectual disability, but it is important to acknowledge that exploring the manifestations of sexual violence and other aggression in the people we serve requires a different approach.

❖ ABA approach to understanding sexual misbehavior in individuals with IDD is gaining favor



Roadblocks (Problems)	What are these roadblocks or problems?
Ways to meet goal (Means)	This problem is about the way people try to meet their goals – what they actually do that either doesn't work or that causes problems.
Too Narrow or Too Broad a Good Life Plan (Scope)	This problem happens when people don't have enough goals in their lives, or when they have too many or their goals are too general. Their Good Life Plan is too narrow and focused on short-term happiness or too broad and unfocused.
Conflict between goals	This problem happens when different goals in life don't complement one another, or when meeting one goal means that other goals can't be met.
Lack of Skills	This problem happens when people don't have the skills or strategies to meet their goals.
Lack of opportunities	This problem happens when people don't have the opportunities to meet their goals because outside factors stop them from doing so.



#### **Assessment**

#### Formal Risk Assessment

- Includes consideration of static (historical) and dynamic (day-to-day) variables
- ❖ Facilitated by use of actuarial risk assessment instruments like Static-99R
  - ➤ Augmented by formal consideration of dynamic risk factors or "criminogenic needs" using ARMIDILO-S or SOTIPS, VSR:SO, or Stable-2007

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#### Dynamic Risk & ID

Clearly, many persons with intellectual disabilities and sexual behavior problems are at a disadvantage in regard to many dynamic risk variables (e.g., relationship histories, emotional congruence, same sex victims)

❖ Differential diagnosis and individualized case planning can be difficult

#### **ARMIDILO-S**

Assessment of Risk and Manageability of Intellectually Disabled IndividuaLs who Offend Sexually

www.armidilo.net

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#### Who can we use this on?

- ❖ The ARMIDILO-S is designed for males ages 18 and older who have committed sexually offending behavior and are either in the borderline region of intellectual functioning or are intellectually disabled.
- ❖ Sexually offensive behavior is defined as any sexual actions on the part of the individual that have been formally or informally sanctioned due to their inappropriate or illegal nature.

## Treatment & Supervision

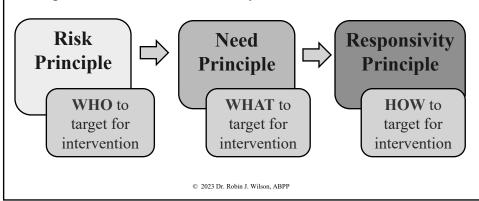
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### RNR Principles Bonta & Andrews, 2016



Through exhaustive research, Bonta & Andrews identified simple principles that, when followed, dramatically increase the potential for a person's success on community release.



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#### Responsivity

- Program materials must be presented in a manner that is simplified, concrete, and redundant
- ❖ Frequent review of topics covered is important, as is sufficient time for practice and repetition
- ❖ Given the increasing diversity of the people we serve, programs must be culturally relevant, holistic, and community-based

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## How do we Ensure Rights in a Culture of Risk while Managing Risk in a Culture of Rights...\*

\*...without driving the persons we serve batty and losing our own minds in the process?

#### **Rights**

There has been much talk recently about "rights for persons with disabilities"

#### I agree...

#### ...but would note that these rights include:

- ❖ A right to competent and individualized risk assessment
- ❖ A right to evidence-based treatment and risk management
- ❖ A right to safe and secure social interaction
- ❖ A right to live offense-free

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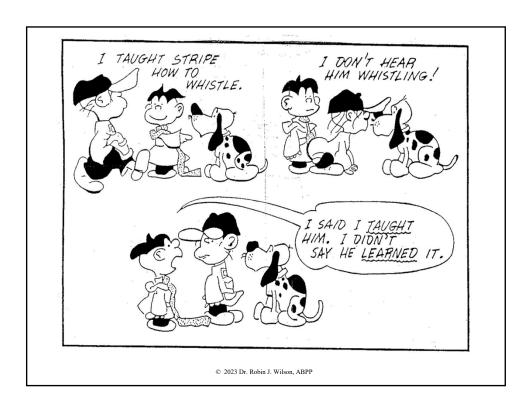
#### Agents of Change

As clinicians and other concerned practitioners, our goal is to assist all persons in the development of a

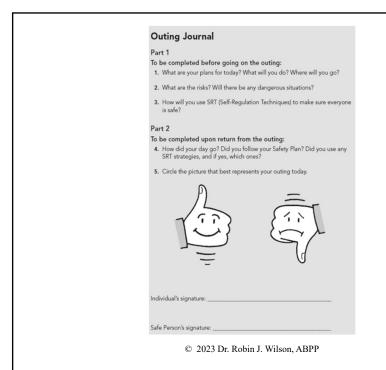
#### balanced, self-determined\* lifestyle.

Contemporary research in our field suggests that learning to live a "good life" is inconsistent with continued engagement in antisocial behavior.

\*within reason, and always with safety in mind



# Generalized Safety Plan 1. Before very outing in the community, I will read, understand, and accept the details of my shelp Plan. I will do this in from for the staff or other support person(s). 2. Before I go into the community, I will make our what I am in a good/positive mond. If I am not in a good monotif will do comerbing relation and carming before I go out. I MUST BE CAMM AND POSITIVE BEFORE I GO OUT 1. I have already completed the first part of ing publication of the rost when I get back. 4. An add with oils aware of my subely and or the gott back. 4. An add with oils aware of my subely and those payportains and step places where there will be very few or no PVP (Folethally Vulnerable Persons). 5. When I go into the community, I will choose appropriate and step places where there will be very few or no PVP (Folethally Vulnerable Persons). 6. It is my responsibility to use a many of the following strategies as I can to stay safe in the community. \*\*Stay focused on my task.\*\* \*\*Choose places that are safe for me to attend.\*\* \*\*Discuss my fellowing or otherapies with staff when it is safe to do so. \*\*All all ware from any problem analy.\*\* \*\*Lock away from any problem and provided and provid



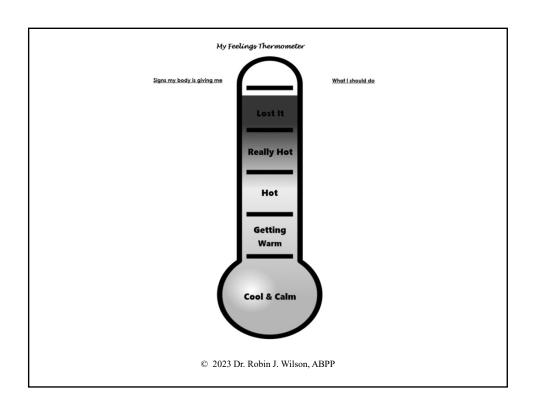
#### **Modifying Interventions**

#### **Treatment modifications include:**

- \* Reduced reliance on verbal materials
- Increased use of visuals and modeling
- Increased use of practice
- \* Sexual education
- Increased supervision and structure
- Emphasis on predictability, clarity
- Use active teaching/explicit instruction
- Medication may be necessary
- Focus on rules and consequences

## A little more behavioral than cognitive?

- ❖ Often, we have to consider the extent to which the "disability" interferes with a person's ability to function in the cognitive realm
- Some persons with IDD will require a stronger behavioral focus, including applied behavioral analysis
  - > Requires development of a structured plan and collection of data
  - > Attempt to gain better understanding of the function of the behavior



#### Good Lives Model (GLM)

The basic premise of the Good Lives Model is the development of a "balanced, self-determined lifestyle".

- ❖Borrows from self-psychology and Life Skills model
- ❖Treatment approaches are multi-modal and holistic

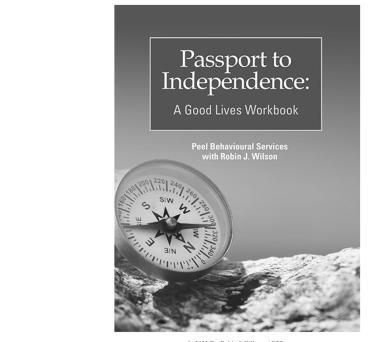
The GLM asserts that successfully treated persons strive to lead lives that are healthy, productive, and free of risk as a natural consequence of the stability that comes with leading a "good life."

❖ What is a good life, and how will persons with IDD know what it is when they see it?

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#### **Primary Human Goods**

- Life (including healthy living and functioning)
- Knowledge (how well informed one feels about things that are important to them)
- ❖ Excellence in play (hobbies and recreational pursuits)\*
- Excellence in work (including mastery experiences)\*
- Excellence in agency (autonomy, power and self-directedness)
- Inner peace (freedom from emotional turmoil and stress)
- \* Relatedness (intimate, romantic, and familial relationships)
- Community (connection to wider social groups)
- Spirituality (broad sense of finding meaning and purpose in life)
- Pleasure (feeling good in the here and now)
- Creativity (expressing oneself through alternative forms)



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## Challenges

Promoting healthy sexuality while maintaining safety

#### **Meeting Sexual Needs**

Individuals with intellectual disabilities may lack certain social and relationship skills; however, they all have the same desire for social comfort, personal relationships, and meeting of sexual needs in appropriate ways.

- Gerry Blasingame

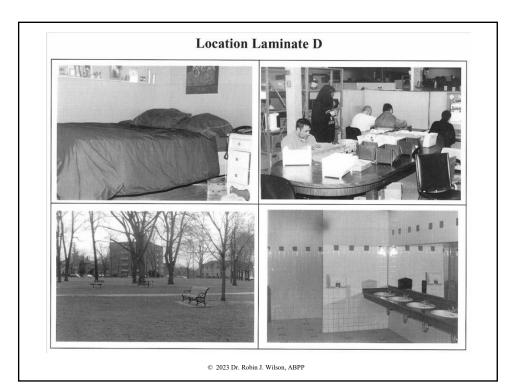
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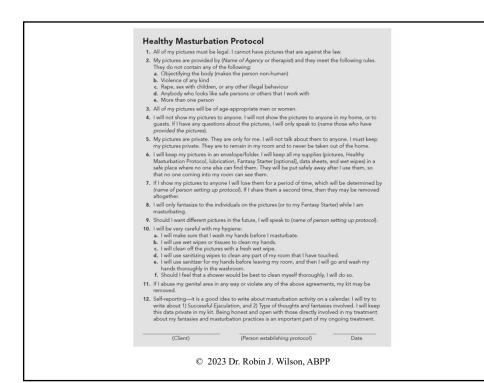
#### **Promoting Healthy Sexuality**

- Attitudes of professionals can greatly influence persons in care
- This may lead to unhealthy ideas and beliefs about sexuality and their bodies
- Harsh words and consequences are common forms of overt pressures from staff
- ❖ Subtle expressions of disapproval such as facial expressions, body posture, etc.
- ❖ Persons in care pick up on these subtle gestures and begin to develop their own beliefs about sexuality

#### Challenges

- Persons with IDD often have fewer opportunities for privacy or for finding a meaningful intimate relationship
- ❖ Few individuals are taught the difference between appropriate and inappropriate sexual behavior
- Many agencies institute policies prohibiting any sexual expression within their program

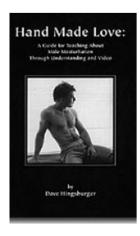


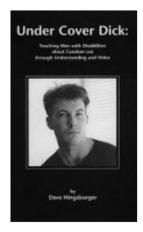


#### Dave Hingsburger

Diverse City Press







#### **Media Contracts**

- ❖ All forms of media must be reviewed for appropriate content dependent on the needs of the person in care
- ❖ TV, internet, video games, books, magazines, newspapers, catalogues, Play Station 3, Wii systems, iPods, etc.
- ❖ TV programs need to be monitored for type of individuals in the media, (e.g., children, women), amount of nudity, amount of violence—what is fine for one person is another person's pornography—for example, diaper commercials

This agreement also applies to the Internet-capable device in any loc	outlines (individual's name)'s obligation to use wireless-capable devices in a safe and responsible manner. Wii wireless game system and any other wireless- or ation. This includes all gaming devices, watches with memory cameras and clightal picture frames.
	computer are limited to(designated safe password, which is required to add, remove, or change has disabled capacities to burn CDs and connect to the Internet.
	devices such as memory cards, memory-sticks, CDs, DVDs, game cartridges, are not permitted.
and must have all viewable (n (designated saf	ected to use the computer in a safe and responsible manner on-recordable) media i.e., VCDs, CDs, or DVDs screened by person) before purchasing and/or viewing. The user is also at they have written in word processing programs to be of
capable device on home visit	it is not safe to take her/his computer or any wireless- s or anywhere outside the home unless special permission is designated safe person).
wireless device spot check an	e person) reserves the opportunity to do a computer or d view the device's contents to ensure that it contains it has been used appropriately and safely.
computers and wireless devic selling, or acquiring any data includes all data files such as	at forth in the media agreement for the house also apply to es. This means that the lending, borrowing, trading, giving, or data storage device from anyone is not permitted. This pictures, video, music, etc. Purchasing music/data from online ill be supervised by a designated safe person.
	ny violation of this contract will result in the suspension s for an amount of time determined by the safe person/
Individual	Safe Person

Rules for Keeping My Pictures
<ol> <li>All of my pictures must be legal. I cannot have pictures that are against the law.</li> </ol>
2. I cannot have pictures that:
a. objectify the body (make the person non-human),
b. show pain or hurting,
c. show rape, sex with children, or any other illegal behaviour,
d. resemble staff or others that I work with, or  a. have more than one person in them.
3. All of my pictures will be of age-appropriate men or women.
All of my pictures will be of age-appropriate men or women.      I will not show my pictures to anyone. I will not show my pictures to anyone in my home
I will not show my pictures to anytone, it will not show my pictures to anytone in my nome or to guests. I will not show my pictures to anytone at work. If I have questions about my pictures, I will speak only to
5 must approve my pictures.
My pictures are private. They are only for me. I will not talk about them to anyone.  I must keep my pictures private.
7. I will keep my pictures in the following safe place:
where nobody else can find them. I will put my pictures back in the safe place after I finish using them, so that nobody coming into my room will see them.
If I show my pictures to anyone, I will lose them for a period of time to be determined by      [support person]  . If I show them a second time, they may be removed altogether.
If I am practising inappropriate masturbation in my bedroom with my pictures (for example, if I am uninating or harming myself), I will lose them for a period of time to be determined by
10. I will fantasize about the individuals in the pictures only while I am masturbating.
11. If I want different pictures in the future, I will speak to [support person]
Client Support Person
Date Support Person

#### Challenges

What if the sexual practices of the person in care are *unusual* or *abnormal*?

## An incredibly brief summary ...

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## Tips to Maximize Case Management Efficacy

- ❖ Follow the RNR principles
- ❖ Be data driven and remember those data when setting policy and practice guidelines
  - ➤ Evidence-based decision-making, not decision-based evidence-making
- ❖ Collaborate (in your work and advocacy)
- ❖ Involve the community-at-large; they can help
- ❖ Engage in knowledge transfer whenever possible
- \*Responsivity, Responsivity

#### **Contact Information**

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