

# Sexual Offending:

## Prevention and Management for Families, Agencies and Communities

November 17, 2007 9:00am – 5:00pm

Boston College, Cushing Hall, Chestnut Hill, MA

with Keynote **Robin Wilson, Ph.D.**  
on **"Re-integration: The Canadian Approach"**



Robin J. Wilson

**Approved for 6 CE hours for Social Work.**  
Handicapped Accessible; For Directions, go to [www.bc.edu](http://www.bc.edu).  
**Free Parking** in the Beacon Street (Floors 3 and 4) in Commonwealth Avenue (floors 3 to 7) Parking Garages.

### Conference Schedule:

8:30 – 9am	Registration and Coffee
9:00 – 9:10am	Welcome and Introductions
9:15 – 10:30am	Morning Presentations
10:45 – 12:00	Morning Workshops
12:00 - 1:00pm	Lunch – to be provided
1:00 - 2:00pm	Keynote - Robin Wilson, Ph.D
2:15 – 3:30 pm	Afternoon Workshops
3:45 – 5:00 pm	Policy Panel

This conference aims to bring rational discussion and knowledge to a topic fraught with fear and misunderstanding. The program will include workshops relevant to participants who have interests in clinical and policy issues at all levels of practice.

Keynoter, Robin J. Wilson, is the foremost expert on Circles of Support and Accountability, a restorative justice approach to managing high risk sex offenders initiated in Canada and now in use in the United Kingdom, various cities across the United States, and other international jurisdictions.

The program begins with two presentations for persons with different levels of knowledge and experience. After two sessions of workshops, eleven in total, and a buffet lunch followed by the keynote, the day will end with a panel on policy issues. Welcome are social workers and allies in other fields. Please join us!

### Conference Program:

#### Morning Presentations

**A. Sex Offenders: Fact and Fiction - Barry Anechiarico, LICSW, Co-Executive Director, The Counseling and Psychotherapy Center, Inc.**

This presentation addresses many of the common misconceptions about sex offenders and the problems and policies derived from them. With the current wave of media and political attention, it can often be difficult to understand where hype ends and fact begins. This session intends to ground participants in evidence based practice and policies.

**B. Clinical Challenges in Treating Sex Offenders - Debra Baker, MA, LMHC and Malee Prete, LICSW, Network Counseling, Plymouth**

This advanced workshop is designed to present the challenges and differences in the treatment of sex offenders as opposed to other clinical populations. Focus will be on issues of confidentiality, assessing dangerousness, treatment planning, developing relapse prevention plans, and working with supervising agencies such as parole and probation. Have a troubling case? Lets talk about it!

#### Morning Workshops

**1. Sex Offender Treatment: Addressing Core Pathology - Barry Anechiarico, LICSW, Co-Executive Director, The Counseling and Psychotherapy Center**

Relapse prevention and cognitive restructuring have proved effective tools in treating sex offenders, but without addressing motivation, treatment may be incomplete. Whether the motivation is to overcome a history of shame and humiliation by the exercise of power or to indulge the fantasy that affection is reciprocal, treatment should involve empathy training, increasing communication skills, building trust and experiencing intimacy in a reciprocal versus exploitative relationship.

**2. A Public Health Approach To Preventing Sexual Violence - Melissa Gopnik, Managing Director, Boston Area Rape Crisis Center**

Prevention of the development of sexually perpertrative behavior is the ultimate goal for both potential victims and potential perpetrators. Efforts over the last three decades have rarely focused on the primary prevention of sexual violence. In this session we will build participants' knowledge and skills about prevention using a public health approach. This approach can be used by anyone interested in engaging individuals and communities in prevention work.

**3. Youth With Sexual Behavior Problems - Steven Bengis, Ed.D., New England Adolescent Research Institute, President Massachusetts Adolescent Sex Offender Coalition (MASOC)**

This workshop will explore current research and best practices for the effective management and treatment of youth who abuse sexually. Specific attention will be paid to risk management practices and individualized treatment interventions geared

to the youthful offender. Abuse-specific case management strategies will be examined, including safety planning, making appropriate referrals and placements, and collaborating with state agencies and courts.

4. **Public Safety and the Sex Offender Registry - Rebecca Young, Esq. and David Medoff, Ph.D.**

Government policies and funding for managing sex offenders in the community have focused on classifying offenders at 3 levels according to risk, but how much science is used in these classifications? What are the requirements, procedures, and policies of the SORB as it carries out its mandated duties of registering offenders, assessing risk and notifying the public of high risk sex offenders? What are the consequences of these policies for offenders, victims, neighbors, and for public safety? What alternative approaches merit consideration?

5. **What Non-Specialists Can Do To Support Sex Offender Recovery - Laurie Guidry, Psy.D., Department of Psychiatry, U Mass Medical School**

Social agencies are increasingly called upon to serve sex offenders with a variety of clinical needs. This workshop will explore the conflicting value-sets that can complicate the clinical response to sex offenders and offer practical strategies for supporting sex of-fender recovery. An informed frame of reference to help non-specialists to address risk factors associated with recidivism will be offered.

6. **Children With Sexual Behavior Problems - Mary Bettley, LICSW, Clinical Director, Baird Center, Plymouth**

This workshop will include guidelines to distinguish typical from problematic sexual behaviors in children. The causes, impact and treatment of children with sexual behavior problems will be explored, as well as relevant legal issues including mandated reporting, managing criminal charges, and risk assessment.

**Afternoon Workshops**

7. **From Victim To Perpetrator? The Role Of Shame - Linda T. Sanford, Asst. Professor, Simmons School of Social Work**  
Shame is a common sequelae to trauma and may also play a role in the etiology of sexual offending. Shame can also be the “glue” that holds families together. This workshop will explore the role shame plays in sexually abusive behaviors. Implications for inter-viewing and treatment approaches will be covered as well as the challenges to countertransference management represented by shame.

8. **How Community Agencies Can Work W/ Sex Offenders: The Containment Approach - Joel Skolnick, LICSW, Networks Counseling; Chief Operating Officer, Westborough State Hospital**

While sex offenders cannot be cured, offending behavior can be controlled or contained. The conventional containment approach includes the sex offender therapist, the parole officer and the polygrapher. When the offender is not under parole or probation super-vision, a containment team might consist of a sex offender therapist, family members, sometimes clergy, and mental health profes-sionals, as well as the client. How are these teams constructed, what are the challenges, and how do they impact the advocacy role of the social worker?

9. **Sex Addicts, Pornography, And Internet Crime - Maressa Orzack, Ph.D., Director of the Computer Addiction Study Center, McLean Hospital and Assistant Clinical Professor at Harvard Medical School. She will be presenting with an offender.**

The workshop will examine the widespread phenomenon of sexual activity on the internet and will consider who gets prosecuted and how. Differences between casual users, addicts, and predators will be discussed and differing treatment approaches presented. An offender who did time for child pornography will discuss his addiction, arrest, experience during and after prison and the process of treatment and recovery in which he is now engaged.

10. **Intrafamilial Abuse: Clinical And Policy Challenges - David d’Amora, MS, LPC, CFC, Director, Center for the Treatment of Problem Sexual Behavior, Middletown, CT**

This workshop will present the particular challenges which face families and social workers when sexual abuse occurs within the family. Issues of denial, shame, and blame and the impact of policies such as public notification and incarceration on families will be discussed, as well as controversies over family reunification. The workshop will conclude with ways to address intra-familial abuse using a strength-based approach.

11. **An Open Conversation Between Survivors Of Child Sexual Abuse, Family Members, And Recovering Sex Offenders - Joan Tabachnick, MBA, Moderator**

This is a unique opportunity to hear, participate in, and learn from those directly affected by sexual abuse. This event promises to be an emotionally powerful conversation that will enhance our understanding of the impact of child sexual abuse and its prevention. The workshop is moderated by Joan Tabachnick, nationally recognized as an expert in child sexual abuse prevention.

**Policy Panel**

This session will cover current trends and innovative initiatives, nationally and within Massachusetts. Recent and projected legisla-tive changes and advocacy activity will be covered. - **Timothy App, BS**, Executive in Residence, Northeastern University’s College of Criminal Justice and Director of Operations, Counseling and Psychotherapy Center; **Steven Bengis, Ed.D.**, New England Adolescent Research Institute; **Representative Kay Khan** (D-Newton); and **Larni Levy, Esq.**, Committee for Public Counsel Services

Contributing Co-sponsors: *Massachusetts Adolescent Sexual Offender Coalition (MASOC); Massachusetts Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (MATSA); Simmons College School of Social Work*

*Boston College Graduate School of Social Work; Boston University School of Social Work; Boston Area Rape Crisis Center; Criminal Justice Policy Coalition (CJPC);*

**Registration is available on-line! Go to [www.naswma.org](http://www.naswma.org)**



**EARLY BIRD FEES**  
☐ NASW Member \$60  
☐ Non-member \$90  
☐ Retired/Unemployed NASW Member \$40  
☐ Non Social Work Rate (No CEs) \$25  
☐ BSW/MSW Student Member \$10 / Non-members \$15.

- Registrations postmarked after **November 7th** or at the door are at regular rates. Add \$10 to each fee.
- Only email acknowledgements sent.
- Participants **MUST** attend 100% of the program to earn CEs CE Stamping will take place at end of each program.
- No refunds unless written request is received by 11/12. (A \$15 administrative fee will be deducted from all refunds.)
- If you require special accomodations, please submit a written statement by 11/5.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please print. Required to recieve email acknowledgement and directions.

☐ Check payable to NASW

For registrations of \$25 or more: ☐ Visa    ☐ Mastercard

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Workshop Choices** (Select one. See letters and numbers above and select one.)

Morning Presentation    A ☐    B ☐

Morning Session:    1 ☐    2 ☐    3 ☐    4 ☐    5 ☐    6 ☐

Afternoon Session:    7 ☐    8 ☐    9 ☐    10 ☐    11 ☐

**Mail with payment to: NASW, 14 Beacon Street, Suite 409, Boston, MA 02108 or register online at [www.naswma.org](http://www.naswma.org)**