

Individuals Involved with Child Sexual Exploitation Material

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Overview

- Discussion of different aspects of child pornography offending.
- Integrating information about technology with offender behavior and characteristics – for example, how offences are committed.
- Overview/review and update on CPORT and CASIC.
- Use of terms - child pornography, child sexual exploitation material.
- Resources.
- Your time.

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Integrating the Tech Side Provides Context

- How offences are committed.
- How an investigation is conducted.
 - Limits.
 - Who is detected.
- What evidence may be available.
 - Also, the information commonly shared (or not shared).

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Integrating the Tech Side Provides Context

- The forensic evidence, can provide insight re: a specific individual.
 - Provide additional sources of information.
 - Provide additional avenues for inquiry.
- For example: evaluations (e.g., sexual preferences), risk evaluation/risk assessment, case management.

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Review and Update CPORT and CASIC

- Child Pornography Offender Risk Tool (CPORT)
- Correlates of Admission of Sexual Interest in Children (CASIC) scale
- CPORT Guide
- FAQ
- <https://www.researchgate.net/project/Child-Pornography-Offender-Risk-Tool-CPORT>

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Introduction to Online Sexual Offending

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Introduction to Online Problem

- Access/possession/distribution of CP
- Production of CP (“making” in Canada)
- Luring/solicitation of minors
- Access/exchange of other illegal pornography
- Facilitating sexual assault of adults
- Facilitating sex tourism and juvenile prostitution

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Defining Child Pornography (CSEM)

- Sexually explicit conduct with children, or obscene depiction of child w/o artistic or other merit (i.e., for a sexual purpose)
 - Child = someone under age 18
 - Engaged in or depicted as engaged in sexual acts
 - Or material in which the dominant characteristics include sexual organs or anal region of a child
 - Visual representations (photos, drawings, paintings, cartoon, animation, video)
 - Audio material
 - Text stories (describing sex, advocating sex with children)
 - Possession vs accessing

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Defining Online Solicitation

- Online technologies are used to communicate with minor for sexual purposes – arrange contact sexual offense.
- Cf. “grooming” offline: meet potentially vulnerable minor, gain trust, offer attention & gifts, escalate to sexual activity.
- Crimes Against Children Research Center, UNH

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How common is child pornography offending?

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Increasing Numbers

- More individuals in the criminal justice and clinical settings.
- Increase in reports to police, police investigations
- Similar findings (increase) in other countries
- High conviction rates; digital evidence.
- More clinical referrals, dedicated units, dedicated prosecutors.

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CP Offending Prevalence

- 20 million IP addresses in US in peer-to-peer CP trading (Operation Roundup).
- 4-5% of young Scandinavian men admit viewing adult-child sex (Seto et al., 2010).
- 10-18% of mainstream pornography users in non-representative surveys (Siegfried et al., 2011; Ray et al., 2014).
- Interpol – high percentage of DarkNet traffic.
- Interpol database of CSEM

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Potential Volume of Cases

- Webcrawling software highlights p2p sharing at any given time (trading networks).
- Website takedowns.
- Network interruptions.

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How are offenders detected?

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Detection: Background

- Most not reported/detected for their CP offences
- Undetected other offenses, among those charged (e.g., contact sexual offending)
 - Seto, Hanson & Babchishin (2011).
 - Post-meta research.
- Research often involves those known to police, or in a correctional setting (detected).

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Detection

- Minimal literature available.
- Increase in proactive p2p police investigations over time (Wolak et al., 2011)
- Those reported by others or self-referred ↑ in MMI, substance use disorders, Hx of CSA (Nielsen et al, 2011)

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Different Detection Methods

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- 336 men convicted of CP offenses.
- Examined how convicted adult males came to the attention of police.
- Four detection groups
- Many not detected due to online activity.

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Detection - Findings

- Detected online.
- Detected offline.

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How people commit their offenses (online)

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The Internet

- The symbol has always been “the cloud”.
- You are identified on the Internet by your IP address, which is associated with your service provider.

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If we look inside the cloud what we would see?

- A hodgepodge of interconnected devices (e.g., computers, routers, cell phones, iPads).
- They all communicate using a defined set of protocols.
- There are tools commonly used by CP offenders (e.g., p2p networking, chat rooms, apps), that use some of these protocols

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Web Browsers and Search Engines

Finding websites

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Current Common Methods

- P2P
- Apps
- Chat rooms
- An individual may use multiple technologies.

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P2P stands for Peer-To-Peer

It is a type of communication that allows files and data sharing between computers over a network

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P2P

- Software program (rather than your browser) helps you find the files you're looking for by searching for them on other people's computers who are using similar software.
- Interpol - estimated as the majority of the way CSEM is shared.

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Software to Create Networks of Computers

- Network = computers linked together
- Two common forms
- In essence, download a software program (often free), use it to search for what you want on other people's computers.
- Not anonymous; your traffic can be followed.

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The TOR Network

The original project name was The Onion Router (TOR/Tor)

- Aim – to conceal user's identity and their online activity
- Does this by separating identification (IP address) and the route you take, online.
- Consists of a volunteer network
- The software enables anonymous communication
- Tor browser
- Hop around, so you are not identified as a sender.

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Indicators of Interest

- Search terms.
 - What does this person use, specifically?
- File sharing rules
 - girls only! aged 5-10 only! no adult!

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Popular Social Media Apps

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Key Points

- Offenders gain access to children online through these applications.
- Either through the child themselves.
- Or through their unsuspecting parents.

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Key Points

- Purpose of communications with youth and other offenders.
- May create age appropriate profiles to identify with children.
- Limited storage capacity, server locations and encryption capabilities within application makes it attractive for offenders.

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Chatrooms/Forums

- Different ways to access.
- Different types.
- Some available on TOR.

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Indicators of Interest

- User profile
- Handle
- Chat content, postings.
- Admissions re: sexual interests

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Latest

- Live streaming.
- Groups targeting youth online.

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Where is CSEM Stored

- Any device (anything capable of storing data)
- Used to be simple(r); warrant, search and seize
- Now storage can be outside the premises searched; including 'Cloud' storage.

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Collections and Content

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About Collections and Content Types of Material

- Images, text stories, video.
- What is most sought after? New material (and series)

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About Collections and Content Number of Images

- Common images
- Type of images: ratio – for age and gender
- 3 terabytes is not unusual
- Amount did not predict for CPORT, but may be relevant to sexual interest or focus on material.

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About Collections and Content Organization of Images

- Original question – if more organized = sexual interest in children, perhaps greater risk for recidivism?
- Maybe – but some downloaded in an organized manner (from websites, from p2p file sharing).
- Other things to consider.
- Did not predict for CPORT (how we measured it) - may be relevant to sexual interest or focus on material – time spent.

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About Collections and Content Gender

- Female content, more common.
- Greater male content; CPORT.

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About Collections and Content Other Images

- May be relevant for clinicians.
- But, many are not illegal.
 - May not be categorized

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About Collections and Content Other Images

- Child nudity
 - Relevant to CPORT
- Clothed images of children
- Other paraphilias
 - Voyeurism, non-consent, fetish
 - Did not relate for CPORT
 - Relevant re: clinical considerations.

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Categorizing Images

- How images are categorized by police or for research.
- Image often = definitely CSEM
- Full collection identified? Time, resources.

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Correspondence Between Content and Contact Victims

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Correspondence Between Child Pornography Content and Sexual Offences Against Minors (Eke & Seto, 2017)

- Intuitive re: what people collect, view relates to their interests.
- Examined various relationships with age and gender of child sex victims (contact, some also had sexual solicit)
 - Child content (cp and nudity) – related

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Other Sources of Information, Beyond Child Content

- Chat.
- Search words.
- Restrictions on file sharing.

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Risk Assessment with CSEM Offenders

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OPP Threat (Risk) Evaluations

- Risk evaluation
- Case management
- Sharing information with stakeholders.

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CONTACT SEX OFFENCES AMONG CP OFFENDERS:
Sexual abuse of a child as part of history of the offender

Official statistics – about 1 in 8

- Meta-analysis – Seto, Hanson, & Babchishin (2011)
(21 studies, N = 4,464)

Self-report – over half

- Meta-analysis – Seto et al. (2011)
- Tactical polygraph – Bourke et al. (2014)

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CONTACT SEX OFFENCES AMONG CP OFFENDERS
Recidivism: Subsequent Sexual Offending

- Meta-analysis (Seto et al., 2011)
- Recidivism rates from our combined samples
- Dunkelfeld Project (Beier et al., 2014)
– Self-report

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**Capturing Recidivism
Outcome Measured**

- Ideal
- Most common
- Perhaps most restrictive – what results in a conviction

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Dual or Solicitation Offenders

- Static-99/R
- Risk Matrix 2000
- Risk assessment for CP offenders, no contact or attempted contact?

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Development of CPORT and CASIC

- Mental health and research partners.
- Criminal justice partners.
- The CPORT is free and noncommercially (publicly) available.
- The CASIC is free and noncommercially (publicly) available.

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CPORT and CASIC

- Child Pornography Offender Risk Tool
(Eke, Seto & William, 2011; Seto & Eke, 2015)
- Correlates of Sexual Interest in Children scale
(Eke & Seto, 2013; Seto & Eke, 2017)
- A Validation Study of the Child Pornography Risk Assessment Tool (CPORT) (Eke, Helmus & Seto, in press)
- Work with police investigators, prioritize investigations, suspects
- How best to share information across stakeholders (from investigation) – in IPV we have the DVRM

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CPORT and CASIC

- Guide - Published online, 15 DEC 2016, along with related information and research:
<https://www.researchgate.net/project/Child-Pornography-Offender-Risk-Tool-CPORT>
- Currently updating guide – Eke, Seto & Helmus
- FAQs also being updated

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Development Research Police Investigative Files

- Demographic information
- Criminal history and occurrence reports
- To a lesser extent, mental health information
- Computer content including CP
- Interviews with offender, family, witnesses
- Coding was based on what was known around the time of the offence, information available as part of the investigation.

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Assessed a Number of Potential Factors

- Variables we coded were static in nature.
- Not all relevant factors assessed.
- Pros and cons

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CPORT – Development Sample

- Sample of 266 - fixed five year period of opportunity.
- 7 variables combined to predict (detected) sexual recidivism in police case sample.
- Coded dichotomously, no weights so possible score of 0 to 7.
- M = 1.94 (SD = 1.57), ranging 0 to 7.
- AUC = .74 for “any sexual recidivism”

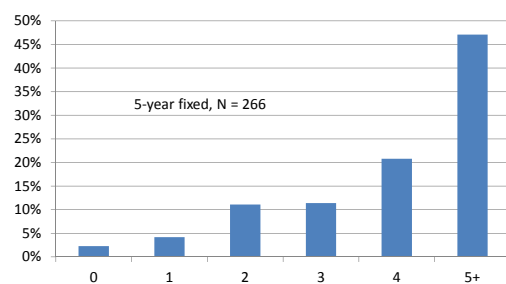
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CPORT Items

CPORT VARIABLE	% HIGHER RISK
Offender age 35 or younger at index offense	49%
Any prior criminal history	41%
Any prior or index conditional release failure	15%
Any prior or index contact sexual offending	18%
Evidence pedophilic/hebephilic sexual interests	40%
Boy >= girl content in child pornography	15%
Boy >= girl content in other child content	16%

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Probability of Any Sexual Recidivism



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CPORT VALIDATION

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Validation: Pilon (2016) thesis

- Accessed MCSCS database (any overlap?)
- N = 279
- Compared 5-item CPORT-M and LSI-OR
- CPORT-M
 - prior CHx based on convictions
 - age scored differently (remand or sentence date)
 - sexual interest coded based on luring, sexual interference
 - missing two content items
- Approx 3-year follow up
- Any new offending: CPORT ↑ than LSI-OR (non-sig)
- Did not predict sexual recidivism
 - Low base rate of sexual recidivism (2.9%), modifications?

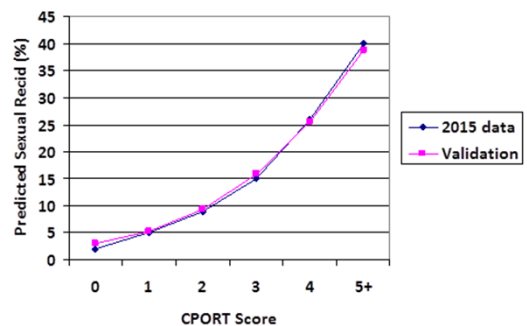
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Validation: Eke, Helmus & Seto (in press)

- Presented at ATSA 2016 (slides available on the ResearchGate page).
- 86 adult male convicted cp offenders, same geographic region; more recent sample.
- Scored CPORT.
- Coded without accessing collection content.
- Similar results ([link](#))

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Sexual Recidivism – Old and New Data Helmus, Eke, & Seto (ATSA, 2016)

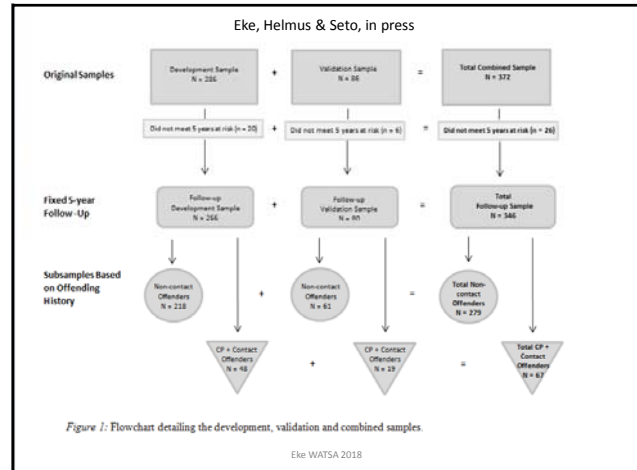


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Validation: Eke, Helmus & Seto (in press)

- Combined samples:
 - N=372
 - 77% from development, 23% from validation
- Divided into two offender groups

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Validation and Combined Data ATSA Slides

Helmus, Eke & Seto (2016)

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CORRELATES OF ADMISSION OF SEXUAL INTEREST IN CHILDREN (CASIC) SCALE

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Correlates of Admission of Sexual Interest in Children (CASIC) (Seto & Eke, 2017)

- Admission of sexual interest in children plays a role in:
 - the diagnosis of pedophilia (e.g., Seto, 2008, 2013).
 - assessing risk for recidivism among child pornography offenders (CPORT; Seto & Eke, 2015).
- Admissions are vulnerable - high stakes.
- CASIC can be used within CPORT.
- Also supports the goal of sharing investigative information.

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Proxy for CPORT Item 5

Problems with secure adult attachment:
Never married/common-law

Involvement in content:

Movies
Text
Accessing/collecting 2 years or longer

Opportunity, seeking access to children:

Volunteering
Online sexual communication with child or UC

- Coded all aspects of collection
 - organization, morphing, access to computer
- What could predict admissions (Item 5)?
- 6 item scale, dichotomous scoring
 - independent predictors, behavioural correlates
 - CASIC score associated with admission AUC .71
- Score of 3 or more, effective proxy

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Rater Reliability

- Strong, but only evaluated in a research environment.
- We engaged in a lot of training re: coding.
- Need other evaluations.
- Integrity in how the scale is used will assist in rater reliability, but as seen with other tools some variability is expected.

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Summary – Combined Samples

- CPORT predicts CP recidivism as well or slightly better than any sexual recidivism
- CPORT significantly predicts recidivism with CP+contact offenders, but not as well as for CP/NC offenders
- May need separate recidivism estimates for CP/NC versus CP+Contact offenders
- Outcomes based on official reported recidivism.

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Summary

- Many CPORT items have been supported as sexual recidivism factors in other research.
- Two new content items.
- The work provides initial empirical validation of risk factors.
- Does not include other potentially relevant risk or protective factors.

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Summary

- Some support for research
- Some support for prioritizing CP offenders
- Caution for modifying items
- Caution for reporting recidivism probabilities
- Development of percentile rankings? Categories?

- Real world application (vs sterile research context).
- Allegiance to good research, good science.

- Helpful for sharing information across stakeholders.
- More replication needed.

- Additional points.

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New Ongoing Research

- Validation research – includes information available in clinical settings, probation settings.
 - Modified coding, information coded from post-conviction data.
 - Additional items
 - Other tools (e.g., Stable 2007)
- Trajectory research

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