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Don’t Offend:
The German Approach to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and the Use of Child Abuse Images in the Dunkelfeld

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Child Sexual Abuse: Typology of Offenders

Approx. 40% pedophilic offenders - an erotic preference for prepubescent minors define the sexual arousal pattern

Approx. 60% non-pedophilic offenders, for whom the sexual abuse of the child serves as a surrogate for a sexual relationship with partners of similar age

K.M. Beier: Follow-up study of previously expert-appraised child molesters
Int J Legal Med 1998; 111: 131-141
Non-pedophilic Offender („surrogate type“)

1. sexually unexperienced adolescents
2. mentally handicapped persons
3. offenders with antisocial personality disorder
4. offenders within generally traumatizing family constellations, including physical, emotional and sexual abuse (e.g. father, stepfather, brother, stepbrother)
Sexual Preference Structure

• Fate and not choice!

• Preferences for gender, (developmental) age of the „partner“ and desired practices become manifest during puberty and remain stable

• It is not changeable and an expression of a fixed structure
Child Sexual Abuse: Recidivism Rates

Pedophilic offenders: 50 – 80 %

Non-pedophilic offenders
(using a child as “substitute”) 10 – 25 %

Beier 1998: Follow-up study of previously expert-appraised child molesters
Int J Legal Med 111: 131-141
Sexual Preference, Child Sexual Abuse, and Detection Status

Pedophilia
(Sexual Preference)

CSA
(Sexual Behavior)

Pedophilic offender
non-pedophilic offender

Dunkelfeld: cases not officially registered; Hellfeld: officially known cases
Prevalence of child sexual abuse

Prevalence of self-reported sexual victimization in Europe

13.4% of the girls and 5.7% of the boys become victims of child sexual abuse

Willingness to officially report

Only 11.7% to 18% of cases of child sexual abuse are reported to the judicial system

most of the offenses remain undetected = Dunkelfeld

(WHO Regional Office for Europe (2013), Stoltenborgh, van IJzendoorn, Euser, & Bakermans-Kranenburg (2011))
Long-term Effects of Child Sexual Abuse

Childhood adversity, including sexual abuse, dramatically increases the risk for developing a wide range of psychiatric disorders (e.g. mood and anxiety disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, substance abuse disorder etc.)

Enduring effects of childhood abuse on the developing brain and its regulatory outflow systems, the autonomic, endocrine and immune systems, likely contribute to disease vulnerability (e.g. cardiovascular diseases, obesity, diabetes)

Good reasons to invest in primary prevention!
Primary Prevention

Because pedophilic inclination perseveres during lifetime, clinically relevant distress is more likely to be expected than in the surrogate offender type.

The prevalence of pedophilia is in Germany – according to a population-based study – approx. 1%

Prevention Projekt Dunkelfeld (PPD) started 2005 in Berlin: Supporting Institutions
lieben sie kinder mehr als ihnen lieb ist?

es gibt hilfe! kostenlos und unter schweigepflicht. institut für sexualmedizin der charité,
Project Participants Berlin site
July 2005 – September 2017

2583 participants initially contacting the PPD
1078 baseline assessment
522 participants fulfilling the inclusion criteria
PPD: Sociodemographic Data

- Age (years): 38.28
- Education: 317 (45.1%) school with >10 grades
- Employment: 437 (62.3%) employed
- Relationship: 440 (62.6%) currently single
- Fatherhood: 232 (33%) have children

Have already abused children: approx. 45%
Have already used child abusive images: approx. 75%
Prevention Network in Germany (11 branches)

- 07/2005 Berlin
- 03/2009 Kiel
- 09/2010 Regensburg
- 10/2011 Leipzig
- 03/2012 Hannover
- 04/2012 Hamburg
- 01/2013 Stralsund
- 12/2013 Gießen
- 06/2014 Düsseldorf
- 07/2014 Ulm
- 05/2015 Mainz
Project Participants Network „Dont-offend“ until September 2017

- 8479 participants initially contacting the PPD
- 2655 baseline assessment
- 1418 participants fulfilling the inclusion criteria
- Treatment eligibility
PPD: Principles of Treatment Program

• Combination of cognitive-behavioral, sexological and pharmacological options

• A change of the pedophile preference is not possible, but control of the impulses is

• Focus lies on self-motivated behavior control. Goal is complete abstinence of child sexual abuse and the use of child abuse images
Evaluation revealed that the PPD

• reduces risk factors for child sexual abuse

• prevents sexual offending against minors and reduces the number of contact offences

• reduces frequency and severity of the use of child abuse images

The Use of Google Adwords for the German “Prevention Project Dunkelfeld” (since 2012)

The Idea:
Guide potential users of child abusive images to the therapeutic offer of the PPD by using typical search keywords.

How it works:
By entering specific keywords the user get presented one of the ads mentioned down

Preteen porn
Child pussy
Kids porn
Sex with children
Children having sex
Preteen rape

Since 2012 more than 4.5 Mio Ad Impressions and more than 550.000 Clicks
Primary Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse by Juveniles (PPJ)

Funded by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth

Institute of Sexology and Sexual Medicine
Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin

Clinic of Child- and Adolescence Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics
Vivantes Klinikum im Friedrichshain
PPJ: Status Quo (February 2017)

Since November 2014:

– 134 interested adolescents; $M_{Age} = 15;6$ y ($SD = 1.58$)

– sex: male

– 20% of the juveniles contacted the project themselves, the others were introduced by parents/clinical professionals/guardians/social workers
New Milestone: German Legislation 2016

On November 10th 2016 the German Parliament voted for a legislation to finance specialized treatment services for self-referred pedophilically inclined individuals through the health insurance system. The law is in force since January 1st 2017.

The aim is, to help adults and juveniles achieve constant behavior control and not to act out their impulses towards children. They could use this service anonymously.
1. Pedophilia is a part of human sexuality and we can assume, that it is to be found in every culture all over the world.

2. The use of child abuse images (so called “child pornography”) is a topic of international concern because of the worldwide web and the accessability in nearly every country.

3. In every country a huge dunkelfeld can be assumed.
Countries with Mandatory Report Laws

- could at least focus on pedophilically inclined **potential offenders** in the Dunkelfeld for preventive purposes

- Pedophilia is a **diagnosis** (ICD-10) and **not** a crime

- There should be **no contradiction** between law enforcement and the promotion of preventive strategies – both can be done
„Troubled Desire“ New Online Prevention

**WHY**
- Internet-based *self-management tool for assessment and treatment* to prevent child sexual abuse, the use of child abuse images and *to arrange contacts* to therapists according to the law in each country.
- **Worldwide useable**, even in countries with mandatory reporting laws
- Now available in **English** (other languages planned)

**WHO**
- **Adults and adolescents** with sexual interest in children
- Their *acquaintances*
- **Professionals**, who work with this particular patient group

**HOW**
- **anonymous, confidential, free of charge**, no conflict of interest and entirely non-profit
- Data will be saved without being allocated to a person but with a randomly generated PIN
Reaching the target group

• cooperation with Microsoft and Google
  – users searching for CSAI-specific keywords receive a
    ... short message containing a direct link to “troubled desire” (Bing)
    ... link to a landing page with reference to “troubled desire” (Google)
  – additional use of AdGrants (Google), to address a broader range of
    keywords associated with CSAI

• cooperation with Facebook
  – advertising grant for Facebook, Instagram, Messenger and the
    Facebook Audience Network
  – detailed targeting possibilities
    • inclusion of demographic factors
    • individualized campaigns
www.dont-offend.org
www.just-dreaming-of-them.org
www.troubled-desire.com
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