### Reintegration of convicts Class 13

## Sex Offenders in Prison

#### Academic year 2021/2022

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## Introduction

- A sex offender (sexual offender, sex abuser, or sexual abuser) is a person who has committed a sex crime.
- Some of the serious crimes which usually result in a mandatory sex-offender classification are sexual assault, child sexual abuse, incest, rape and sexual imposition.

# Introduction

Typologies are based on theories postulating that sex offenders specialize:

- Child abusers (The majority of children and teen victims know the perpetrator)
- Rapists (Perpetrators of rape are often serial criminals, Men commit the majority of violent acts against women.)
- Females (teacher lover/ heterosexual nanny)
- Internet Sexual offenders (The most common sexual offences committed online are related to the possession and distribution of child pornography, or soliciting youth for in-person sexual contact)

#### Moreover, there are three types of sex offenders:

- First offenders: that have no previous record and with quick intervention their recidivism rate can be reduced significantly.
- Chronic offenders: Offenders may have a mental condition that can usually mentally slow, inept and impulsive, usually beyond the standards treatment methods and require more intense treatment be treated with medication
- Controlled chronic offenders: have sexual fantasies that they like to play out, serial offenders and are considered to be cold and calculating in their actions, antisocial

### Introduction

- Someone who has a sexual interest children or gets sexual pleasure from violence has some form of mental illness
- There has been an increase in the amount of people being sentenced for violent sexual assault.
- Since 1980 there has been a 15 % increase in rape. This is one of the fastest increases of any violent crime.
- Treatment can reduce recidivism rate in half for child molesters and rapists (in comparison to non treated offenders)

- Prison treatment for sex offenders can be an effective.
- Intense prison treatment can reduce recidivism and enhance community safety.

#### Treatment Obstacles

- The public wants to see these people locked up and punished
- Society causes obstacles because they are not willing to provide money for these types of programs
- Most of the money provide money for these types of programs goes for community based programs
- This leads to untreated sexual offenders being released back into society without any treatments.

There are different types of treatment programs. The three main types of treatment that have been used the majority of the time are

> Behavioral Cognitive & Medical

The cognitive method- is a little more mental. This approach tries to get the sexual offender to change the way they view their sex life and the world around them. It also focuses on how they interact with other people. They basically need to learn new roles and ways to function in society. One important lesson to learn from this type of treatment is to learn to recognize the danger signs of an impeding victimization and find ways to direct those feelings in a different, more positive position.

The Medical method- medication is used to reduce the amount of testosterone in the sexual offender. The goal of medication treatment is to reduce or suppress the deviant sexual urges or fantasies. The medication only works while the drug is being taken.

Castration- it is also one of medical ways. By surgically removing the testicles of a sexual offender this will take away the sexual urge.

Behaviourism emphasises the role of learning and external environmental factors in shaping behaviour rather than the unconscious processes of the mind as enshrined in the principles of psychoanalysis.

The behavioral method- psychological treatment focuses on more positive things. It was found that adopting a more positive approach and focusing on the offender's strengths produced better results.

- It' is believed that the offender need to be taught certain skills in order to reform. Some of the skills that are focused on in a more positive approach are self-esteem, acceptance of responsibility, relationship skills, coping and mood management, sexual interests and having a self-management plan.
- It's vital that the sexual offenders has a desire to change their behavior and develop a normal sexual drive or at least be able to control their urges.

#### **Social Isolation**

#### **Among Sex Offenders**

# Sex offenders are often found to face difficulties forming meaningful relationships with other individuals.

- Many sex offenders describe themselves as "loners," reporting feelings of loneliness and social isolation as a common experience Therapeutic and rehabilitation activities are focused also on social readaptation.
- The literature has revealed that social isolation can affect the rehabilitation of sex offenders after serving their sentence.
- Sex offenders may experience stigmatization by fellow prisoners and correctional staff that can result in being treated negatively. They report more social isolation during imprisonment compared with nonsex offenders.
- Criminological theories outline the importance of having meaningful relationships, because strong social bonds have been found to reduce offending

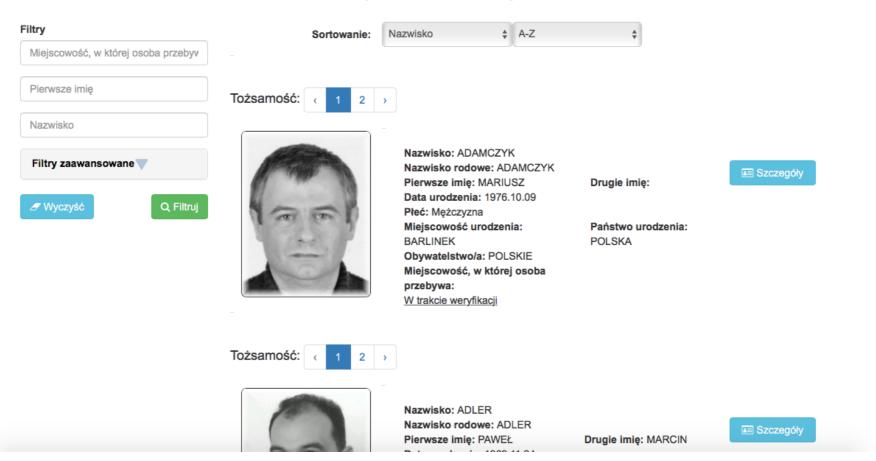
In Poland there is a Sex Offenders Register. It consists of the Public Register and the Restricted Access Register. <<u>rps.ms.gov.pl</u>>.

- Access to the Public Register is unlimited.
- It contains records of those offenders who were sentenced for violent rape of children younger than 15 years old and repeat criminals.
- There is no fee for providing information from the Sex Offenders Register.

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Rejestr Sprawców Przestępstw na Tle Seksualnym

**Rejestr publiczny** 



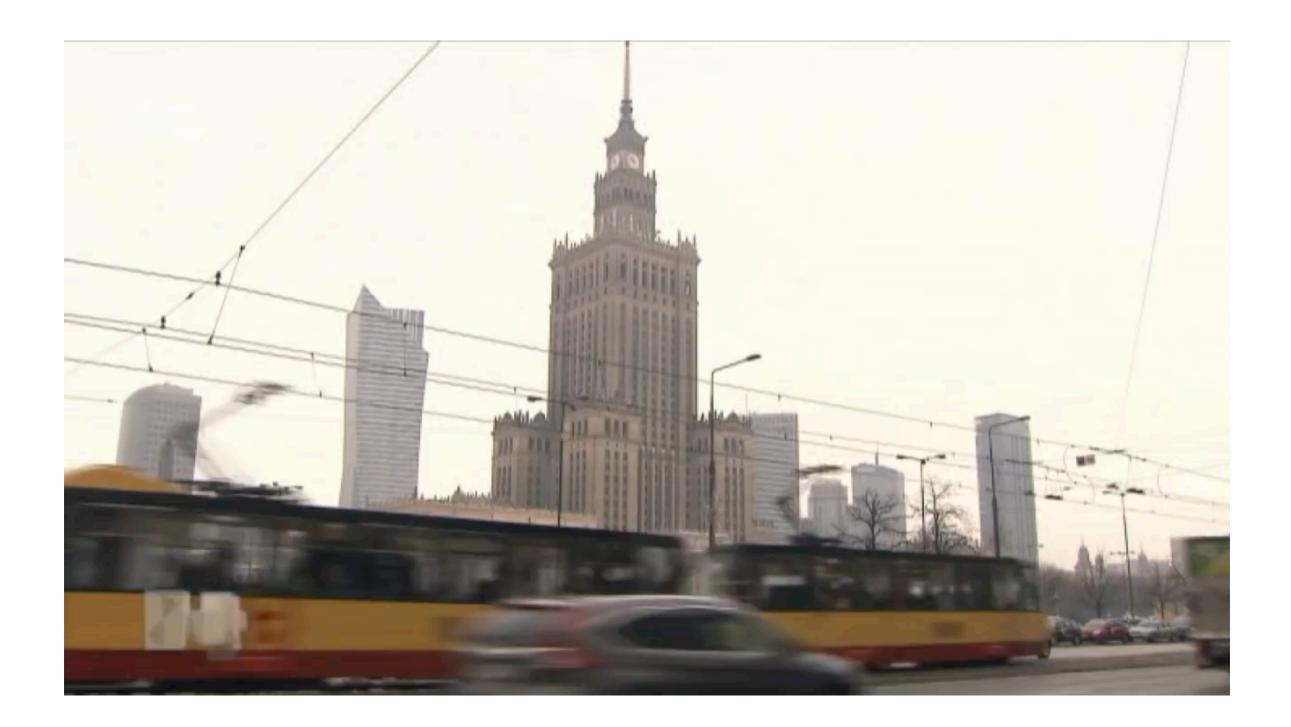
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- Obtaining information from the Restricted Access Register requires:
- 1. creating an account on the Restricted Access Register website <<u>rps.ms.gov.pl</u>> by
  - a) choosing the appropriate account:
    - individual user account
    - institutional user account
  - **b)** filling out the appropriate registration form.
- > The individual user account is activated immediately after submitting the form.
- The institutional user account is activated after submitting the form and after sending a written notification to the Ministry of Justice postal address. Detailed information can be found on the homepage of the Sex Offenders Register in the Help tab.
- 2. Generating a request and signing it with a qualified electronic signature or signature confirmed by an ePUAP Trusted Profile (Profil Zaufany).

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The Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights claims that "a public registry is not an effective instrument against the risk of sex crimes."

"We believe that access to such database should be limited to a narrow group of users," says the HFHR's secretary



- Sex offender registries are used in every jurisdiction in the United States, and these repositories provide online access to an array of information about convicted sex offenders and their sex offenses
- Most arguments supporting sex offender registries emphasize the assumed improvement of public safety, particularly the protection of children. Because Internet databases reveal the identity of sex offenders to the community, supporters of criminal registries maintain that this information reduces the opportunity for recidivism.

- If we can find an effective form of treatment which will reduce the recidivism rate of sexual offenses it will be a win situation for the public, for future victims, for the correctional facilities and the sexual offenders themselves.
- Treatment impact is not the same:
- 1. Those offenders who respond to treatment do better than those who do not respond well
- Effective programs do not just influence sexually motivated problem behavior; they also have a broader impact on criminality
- Sex offender treatment also has an effect on general recidivism