



Specialist Treatment Organisation for
the Prevention of Sexual Offending

You can add in your name, contact details, qualifications or whatever
here

Specialist Treatment Organisation for the Prevention of Sexual Offending

-  StopSO is a not-for-profit organisation
-  It is creating a national network of professional therapists
-  StopSO works with people who are at risk of sexual offending or re-offending... and their families

Every client we work with asks for help

- 🌀 They may have troubling thoughts
- 🌀 They may have been caught by a partner
- 🌀 They may have just been arrested
- 🌀 They are VERY open to change at this moment, so an intervention is likely to have a bigger impact than later in the process

StopSO works with all kinds of sexual offenders:

-  Viewing indecent images of children
-  Voyeurism
-  Exposure
-  Stalking
-  Child abuse
-  Sexual grooming
-  Sexual assault
-  Rape
-  Bestiality

Does Therapy for Sex Offenders Work?

- Combining and evaluating research studies of sex offender treatment (2, 3) showed:
 - A 42% (2) or 27% (3) reduction in the reconviction rate for treated offenders compared to untreated offenders
 - And a 37% reduction in non-sexual re-offending

StopSO is Unique

- 🌀 StopSO is the only organisation in the UK offering one to one therapy for all kinds of sex offenders
- 🌀 Clients tell us that they've exhausted all the traditional avenues, and have not been able to find the sort of help we can provide
- 🌀 We offer training courses and are building our therapist pool
- 🌀 We now get 17 referrals a month (288 from June 2013 – mid Aug 2016)

Paedophilia

- 🌀 A paedophile is a person who finds themselves sexually attracted to minors
 - 🌀 It is not a crime to have this desire
 - 🌀 It becomes a crime if it is acted upon
- 🌀 A paedophile is mostly aroused by pre-pubescents (<11y)
 - 🌀 About 3% of males (1, 2014)
- 🌀 A hebephile is mostly aroused by pubescents (11-14y old)
 - 🌀 About 16% of males (1, 2014)

Sexuality

- 🌀 Nobody 'chooses' their sexual age-preference
- 🌀 May be paedophilic from pre-birth
- 🌀 May have been brought on by childhood trauma
- 🌀 Because of society's response they keep it hidden
- 🌀 They feel shame and may present with suicidal feelings (6)

Sexuality

- 🌀 Paedophiles are not guilty because of their sexual desire
- 🌀 Many manage their feelings and are **not** offenders
- 🌀 Some are non-contact offenders
- 🌀 Some are contact offenders

Risk Factors for Sex Offending:-

- ④ Sexual pre-occupation
- ④ Sexual preferences
- ④ Seeking emotional intimacy with children rather than adults
- ④ Lack of emotional intimacy with adults
- ④ Poor problem solving
- ④ Using reckless solutions (violence, aggression, drink, drugs, sex)
- ④ Offence-supportive attitudes
 - ④ Resistance to rules
 - ④ Criminal friends
 - ④ Hostile beliefs against women
 - ④ Impulsive lifestyle
 - ④ Grievance against others
 - ④ Lack of concern for others

Topics we cover in therapy

-  Acceptance of responsibility for past & future
-  Restructuring cognitive distortions
-  Awareness of factors that led to offending
-  Coping skills and problem solving
-  Developing empathy and seeing other perspectives
-  Self-esteem
-  Increase social functioning
-  Self-monitoring and protective measures

Prevalence

- 🌀 90% of sex offenders are male
- 🌀 17% people in prison have committed a sexual crime
- 🌀 86,000 total people in prison today
- 🌀 750,000 men have a sexual interest in children (National Crime Agency)
- 🌀 There is no space to lock all sex offenders up...

Re-offending Rates

- 🌀 In 2012-3 the re-offending rate for theft was 40%
- 🌀 What do you think it was for sexual offences?
- 🌀 12.1%
- 🌀 And for serious sexual offences? What would you guess?
- 🌀 According to UK government figures it was 0.4%
- 🌀 So our focus needs to not only be stopping the re-offending
- 🌀 Our focus should be to stop the FIRST offence

Crime Prevention

-  Our focus is crime prevention
 -  tackle sexually inappropriate behaviour early-on
 -  we are especially interested in stopping the **first** crime
 -  36% of people approaching StopSO have not come to the attention of the authorities
 -  We want to ensure that more feel safe enough to come forward and ask StopSO for help

Therapist's Reporting Clients

-  We encourage therapists to have a proportionate response to reporting as this will encourage clients to seek help
-  There is no mandatory duty to report child abuse under English Law
-  In Germany it is illegal to break confidentiality and this has enabled a project to offer therapy to paedophiles (Project Prevention Dunkelfeld)

Ian Johnston: when Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent, talking about StopSO

-  Said, “Projects such as this one, which have rehabilitative qualities at their core, play a vital role in supporting offenders to break free from the cycle of reoffending. It’s important to note that every £1 invested in interventions saves £33 in tackling crime overall”
-  Prison costs approx. £75,000 per year per person

Subsidies for Client Therapy needs Funding

Some can afford to pay privately for therapy, many others cannot:-

- 🌀 They may be on a low income
- 🌀 If recently arrested they may have:-
 - 🌀 legal fees
 - 🌀 had to leave their partner and fund a second home
 - 🌀 lost their job

Funding

- 🌀 Since 2012, we have received around only £75,000
 - 🌀 admin costs
 - 🌀 training subsidies
- 🌀 We need money to keep StopSO going!
 - 🌀 Grants, sponsorship...?

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**If we stop just
one sex offender
we may prevent many people
from becoming victims**

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Prevention of Sexual Offending

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References

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