

i. Sexual Offending, Current Knowledge and Science

Helping rehabilitate sex offenders is controversial – but can prevent more abuse

John Howard Society of Canada (Article)

Brief summary document detailing the importance of honouring the needs of survivors and victims of sexual crimes, while also supporting those who have sexually offended to ensure no further harm is perpetuated. Details strategies that in the past have not worked, and highlights community involvement as a key factor in preventing sexual harm.

Source: <https://johnhoward.ca/blog/rehabilitate-sex-offenders-prevent-abuse/>

Published: March 19, 2019

Sex Offenders

You're Wrong about... (Podcast Episode)

Podcast regarding sex offenders and sex offender registries. Explores taking a more human approach to sexual harm and separating the offence from the human. Touches on victimization, child abuse, sex offender registries, sexualization of female bodies, etc. Focused on telling the “unlikeable” story.

Content warning: Does include explicit language (sparse but noticeable) and describes detailed sexual offences.

Source: <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/michael-hobbes/youre-wrong-about/e/63069715>

Published: August 2019

The Inequity of Sex Offender Registries

The Takeaway (Podcast Episode)

Discusses the history of sex offender registries, the utility of these, and the inequality they invoke. Considered from an American perspective, however, much of the information is useful in any context.

Source: <https://www.wnycstudios.org/podcasts/takeaway/segments/inequity-sex-offender-registries>

Published: July 2019

I, Pedophile

CBC News (Documentary)

A CBC documentary aimed at understanding pedophilia, the treatment of this, and this can help lower instances of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Touches upon current societal practices aimed at keeping children and vulnerable populations safe from sexual offenders, and how these can be both problematic and greatly increase instances of victimization.

Source: <https://gem.cbc.ca/media/firsthand/season-1/episode-12/38e815a-00b1d606222>

Published: September 2016

What it's like being a registered sex offender in Canada: “For me, it's a sickness”

CBC News (Article/Podcast)

Details the story of a man who has sexually offended at different points in his life, his experience in jail, forgiveness, restrictions in the community, and his desire to not to harm sexually again.

Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/outintheopen/blacklisted-1.4275292/what-it-s-like-being-a-registered-sex-offender-in-canada-for-me-it-s-a-sickness-1.4275582>

Published: September 8, 2017

Born that way?

CBC News (Documentary)

A documentary detailing the various methods used to help treat those who have sexually offended, and varying perspectives on if recidivism is inevitable. Documents perspectives from psychologists, offenders, doctors and professionals.

Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2453778243>

Published: 2014

Can Bad Men Change? What It's Like Inside Sex Offender Therapy

Time Magazine (Article)

Discusses the various treatment methods utilized to treat those who have offended sexually and includes firsthand perspectives of some of these methods. Touches upon the difficulty most have with the idea of sex offender treatment or rehabilitation, and societal tendencies to “cast away” or “write off” the possibility of rehabilitation in this regard.

Source: <https://time.com/5272337/sex-offenders-therapy-treatment/>

Published: May 14, 2018

A Community Based Approach to the Reduction of Sexual Reoffending: Circles of Support and Accountability

Stephen Hanvey, Terry Philpot and Chris Wilson (Book)

This book explains this pioneering approach to managing the behaviour of sex offenders in the community. It provides an overview of sexual abuse, sex offenders and their management, and the Circles approach. The authors set out the development of Circles since they were first started in Canada, the principles of Circles and how they work in practice, and evidence and evaluation of their effectiveness. The use of Circles is brought to life by testimonies from four sex offenders and four volunteers who tell, often movingly, why they joined a Circle, their experiences, and the effects upon them.

***Note that this is not a free resource, the link below will direct you to the book description, reviews, and purchasing options.**

Source: https://books.google.ca/books/about/A_Community_based_Approach_to_the_Reduct.html?id=y2USBQAAQBAJ&source=kp_book_description&redir_esc=y

Published: 2011

ii. Impacts of Sexual Harm

After: Surviving Sexual Assault

BBC (Podcast Series)

Host Catriona Morton speaks with fellow survivors of sexual assault and abuse. They share their stories of what happened in the first episode entitled “Then” and detail how they have healed and coped in the episode entitled “Now”. This podcast delves into the realities of sexual assault and abuse, and the difficulties and opportunities for growth in coping with victimization.

Source: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p07fzbg8/episodes/guide>

Published: 2019

Scout's Honour

CBC News/The Fifth Estate (Documentary)

In this investigation coordinated between the LA Times and The Fifth Estate, investigators take a deeper look into the many incidences of sexual abuse and assault within the Boy Scouts of America organization and Scout's Canada. Furthermore, investigators delve into Scouts Canada's controversial system of recording the names of sex offenders who have been involved in the organization and have since been removed. This documentary aims to seek if the proper legal authorities have been notified in all cases, or similar to incidences within the Catholic church, matters have only been addressed internally within the organization.

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-1GO1WcsEE>

Published: September 8, 2014

Nuns Sexually Abused These Women for Years, Now Survivors Speak Out

Huffpost (Documentary)

In the wake of the #MeToo movement, two survivors detail their experiences of being sexually abused by Catholic nuns. This short documentary details the experiences of both survivors, and the difficulty of having been abused by women, and the stigma and shame associated to these experiences. While it is widely known that many priests have offended sexually, very little has been shared regarding sexual abuse perpetrated by nuns, these survivors intend to help shed light on this underreported issue.

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQcblLOcHtg>

Published: April 11, 2019

Understanding Sexual Assault

Institut national de sante publique Quebec (Internet Resource)

Describes various consequences of sexual abuse and sexual assault on victims of various ages. Provides information regarding immediate and long-term effects of sexual harm. A quick guide to the varied and complex ramifications of sexual harm at all life stages.

Source: <https://www.inspq.qc.ca/en/sexual-assault/understanding-sexual-assault/consequences?themekey-theme=mobile>

Child Sexual Abuse - A Mental Health Issue

Canadian Mental Health Association (Internet Resource)

An important internet resource detailing how mental health can be deeply impacted by sexual assault and abuse, especially during childhood. Details how these experiences and effects might differ between genders and ages, and any associated signs to look for.

Source: <https://cmha.bc.ca/documents/childhood-sexual-abuse-a-mental-health-issue-2/>

Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse

Saskatchewan Sexual Assault & Information Centre (Internet Resource)

This website contains useful information in relation to the effects of sexual harm, as well as how to cope with victimization. Describes both the short and long-term impacts of sexual assault and abuse, and how these manifest over time. Highlights the importance of supportive environments, and healing.

Source: <https://ssaic.ca/learning-resources/adult-survivors-of-childhood-sexual-abuse/>

Understanding the #MeToo Movement: A Sexual Harassment Awareness Guide

Maryville University (Internet Resource)

A guide to help readers understand the origins of the #MeToo movement, the facts surrounding sexual harassment, assault and violence, and options available for those who have been sexually harassed or assaulted. Aims to educate on the movement, the prevalence and impacts of sexual violence and changing views related to this.

Source: <https://online.maryville.edu/blog/understanding-the-me-too-movement-a-sexual-harassment-awareness-guide/>

Male Survivor Stories

The Bristlecone Project – 1in6 (Internet Resource)

The *Bristlecone Project* was created to showcase testimonies of men who were sexually abused and/or assaulted (as children or adults). Victims of sexual assault and abuse often feel isolated and stigmatized by their experiences, especially as males. This project aims to give a voice to those feeling like they are not being heard, and to help other victims and survivors know that they are not alone. This website features both written and video testimony from male survivors and is part of the organization "1in6". Many resources can be accessed through their website.

Source: <https://1in6.org/get-information/male-survivor-stories/#2>

The Apology

Eve Ensler (Book)

Like millions of women, Eve Ensler has been waiting much of her lifetime for an apology. Sexually and physically abused from the age of 5 by her father, Eve has struggled and suffered her whole life from this betrayal, longing for an honest reckoning from a man who is long dead. After years of work as an artist and anti-violence activist, she decided she was no longer waiting; an apology could be imagined, by her, for her, to her. This book, *The Apology*, written by Eve from her father's point of view in the words she longed to hear attempts to transform the abuse she suffered, with unflinching truthfulness, compassion, and an expansive vision for the future.

***Note that this is not a free resource, the link below will direct you to the book description, reviews, and purchasing options.**

Source: <https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/43198851-the-apology>

Published: May 14, 2019

No Tears for My Father: A True Story of Incest

Viga Boland (Book)

Trapped in a web of deceit and confusion spun by her father from the age of 11, the author shares her true story of incest in the hopes that by coming out from under years of sexual abuse, other victims will be encouraged to do the same. This is an important, no-holds-barred book complete with graphic scenes and language because "that's the way it happened and that's how it must be told. Victims' own voices are the best weapons against child sexual abuse." This 291-page story comes with a "trigger warning advisory" as it details the mental, physical, and sexual abuse inflicted on the author by her biological father. Victims of similar abuse need to realize this story could cause flashbacks of their own as they identify with scenes and language that mirror their own experiences. Those who have never suffered sexual abuse may be shocked by what the author's father put her through and the utter control he had of all areas of her life until she finally got away.

Source: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/18273968-no-tears-for-my-father>

Published: July 29, 2013

iii. The Criminal Justice System and Sex Offenders

Current Practices in Canadian Sexual Abuser Treatment Programs - The Safer Society 2009 Survey

Public Safety Canada (Article)

This report is a summary of the findings of the 2009 "Safer Society Survey: Current Practices and Emerging Trends in Sexual Abuser Management".

Source: <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/2010-02-sss/index-en.aspx>

Published: February 2010

Sex Offender Management

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Details the purpose and utility of the Sex Offender Management Registry, the designated offences, and what information is collected.

Source: <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/sex-offender-management>

National Strategy for Managing Sex Offenders

Correctional Services Canada

This article examines two aspects of sex offender management: CSC's response to the increase in numbers of sexual offenders and societal responsibility in preventing sex offences.

Source: https://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/research/forum/e082/082k_e.pdf

iv. Sexual Violence Information

The Facts About Sexual Assault and Harassment

Canadian Women's Foundation (Article)

Provides an overview of gender-based violence in Canada, detailing statistics and prevalence of sexual assault and harassment, as well as dispelling myths regarding sexual assault and prevention.

Source: <https://canadianwomen.org/the-facts/sexual-assault-harassment/>

Published: 2020

Sexual Violence Against Women in Canada

Federal-Provincial-Territorial Senior Officials for the Status of Women

This report provides a comprehensive picture of what is known about sexual violence against women in Canada. This includes a discussion of some of the challenges associated with measuring the prevalence of sexual violence, as well as some of the broader historical, political, and social processes that contribute to sexual violence and shape public understanding of the problem.

Source: <https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/svawc-vcsfc/issue-brief-en.pdf>

Published: December 2015

Gender-based violence and unwanted sexual behaviour in Canada, 2018

Statistics Canada

This report provides a statistical overview of the initial findings of the Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces conducted in 2018. This report contains the most recent statistics regarding gender-based assault and harassment in Canada.

Source: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2019001/article/00017-eng.htm>

Published: December 2019

Statistics Canada: Almost 19% year over year increase in Sexual Assaults in Ontario *Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres*

This brief article outlines the steady incline of sexual assault and harassment reports made in Ontario from 2017 to 2018, demonstrating a steep incline in the wake of the #MeToo movement.

Source: <https://sexualassaultsupport.ca/statistics-canada-almost-19-year-over-year-increase-in-sexual-assaults-in-ontario/>

Published: July 29, 2019

Sexual Violence in the Lives of First Year University Women in Canada: No Improvements in the 21st Century

BMC Women's Health

This report summarizes the frequency, type, and context of sexual assaults on university campuses utilizing a large sample of first-year university women at three different Canadian universities.

Source: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12905-014-0135-4>

Published: November 5, 2014

Dis/Consent: Perspectives on Sexual Consent and Sexual Violence

KellyAnne Melinen (Book)

Sexual violence is prevalent in our society. We know this directly because of the courage survivors have shown in facing their perpetrators in courts, online and in the public eye. But society is hesitant, incapable or unwilling to hold offenders to account: they keep their jobs — or get promoted to powerful positions — and survivors frequently end up being on trial themselves. Furthermore, mainstream discourse and thinking about sexual violence and consent are limited to problematic op-eds, oversimplified viral videos or tweets. These will not end sexual violence.

***This is not a free resource, the link below will direct you to the book description, reviews, and purchasing options.**

Source: <https://fernwoodpublishing.ca/book/disconsent>

Published: April 2019

No: The Series

The Heart (Podcast)

Podcast host Kaitlin explores boundaries and consent; what these look like in different life stages, and the importance of respecting the “no”.

Source: <https://www.theheartradio.org/no-episodes>

Published: 2017

v. Restorative Justice

The Little Book of Restorative Justice for Sexual Abuse: Hope through Trauma

Judah Oudshoorn, Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, & Michelle Jackett (Book)

Criminal justice approaches tend to sideline and re-traumatize victims, and punish offenders to the detriment of accountability. Alternatively, restorative justice centers on healing for victims, while holding offenders meaningfully accountable. Criminal justice responses tend to individualize the problem, and catch marginalized communities, such as ethnic minorities, within its net. Restorative justice recognizes that sexual abuse is a form of gender-based violence. The table of contents includes:

- Understanding Sexual Abuse
- Restorative Justice

- Victims: A Case Study
- Offenders: A Case Study
- Limits and Possibilities

***Note that this is not a free resource, the link below will direct you to the book description, reviews, and purchasing options.**

Source: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/24693851-the-little-book-of-restorative-justice-for-sexual-abuse>

Published: October 27, 2015

The Little Book of Restorative Justice: Black Lives, Healing, and US Social Transformation *Fania Davis (Book)*

This timely work will inform scholars and practitioners on the subjects of pervasive racial inequity and the healing offered by restorative justice practices. Addressing the intersectionality of race and the US criminal justice system, social activist Fania Davis explores how restorative justice has the capacity to disrupt patterns of mass incarceration through effective, equitable, and transformative approaches.

***Note that this is not a free resource, the link below will direct you to the book description, reviews, and purchasing options.**

Source: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34145663-the-little-book-of-race-and-restorative-justice>

Published: April 16, 2019

Restorative Responses to Sexual Violence: Legal, Social and Therapeutic Dimensions *Estelle Zinsstag & Marie Keenan (Book)*

Sexual violence, in all its forms, is a crime for which anecdotal accounts and scholarly reports suggest victims in their great majority do not receive adequate 'justice' or redress. The theory and practice of restorative justice is rapidly developing and offers some well-argued new avenues for dealings with crime in general. It has the potential to be extended to cases of sexual violence and a number of small scale programmes are already underway across the world.

Restorative Responses to Sexual Violence examines this innovative justice paradigm in more depth in the particular context of sexual trauma and violence in order to establish the empirical realities of restorative justice approaches in cases of sexual violence, and considers how such approaches could be developed adequately in the future. This book is divided into two parts, each representing a key area of research and practice: theoretical and conceptual frameworks, and justice and therapeutic perspectives.

***This is not a free resource, the link below will direct you to the book description, reviews, and purchasing options.**

Source: https://books.google.ca/books/about/Restorative_Responses_to_Sexual_Violence.html?id=5NfsjwEACAAJ&redir_esc=y

Published: 2017

Fumbling Towards Repair: A Workbook for Community Accountability Facilitators *Mariame Kaba & Shira Hassan (Book)*

Fumbling Toward Repair is a workbook by Mariame Kaba and Shira Hassan that includes reflection questions, skill assessments, facilitation tips, helpful definitions, activities, and hard-learned lessons intended to support people who have taken on the coordination and facilitation of formal community accountability processes to address interpersonal harm & violence.

***Note that this is not a free resource, the link below will direct you to the book description, reviews, and purchasing options.**

Source:<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/46010784-fumbling-towards-repair-a-workbook-for-community-accountability-facilit>

Published: June 18, 2019

vi. Other Resources

How to Listen to a Sex Offender's Story

Multimedia Perspectives in Sex Offender Treatment, Policy, and Research (Podcast Episode)

This podcast episode aims to provide listeners with additional insight into the practical application of sexual offender treatment, and how practitioners manage inner bias when working with and listening to individuals who have offended sexually.

Source:<https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly9hbmNob3luZm0vcy85ZTM2YWY4L3BvZG9hc3QvcnNz/episode/ZTA0YTk4MDQtYTgzMS0wNjQyLTc4ZmUtMGY5OWZhMDI2OGM4>

Published: March 17, 2019

Resources and Research

Canadian Centre for Child Protection

The Canadian Centre is committed to innovative research that helps us create tailored resources to support families and protect children through education and prevention material. You'll find various contemporary and relevant resource materials aimed at both education and information for educators, social service providers, parents, children, etc.

Source: <https://protectchildren.ca/en/resources-research/#resources>

Child Sexual Abuse, Sexual Offender Treatment & Vicarious Trauma

Social Work Me (Podcast)

This podcast episode aims to provide listeners with additional tools in managing and being aware of vicarious trauma associated to working with individuals who have perpetrated sexual harm, or who have been victimized sexually.

Source:<https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly9mZWVkc3VidXp6c3Byb3V0LmNvbS83NDkxMDgucnNz/episode/QnV6enNwcm91dC0yMzA2MTY4>

Published: December 17, 2019