

THE EFFECT OF CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION MATERIAL OFFENDER AGE,
MOTIVATION FOR USE, AND TREATMENT INTEREST ON PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF
OFFENSE AND TREATMENT

by

Beth C. Kliethermes
Bachelor of Science, University of Missouri, 2005
Master of Arts, University of North Dakota, 2015

A Dissertation

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty

of the

University of North Dakota

in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

for the Degree


Doctor of Philosophy

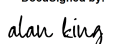
Grand Forks, ND

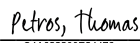
August
2021


Name: Beth C. Kliethermes
Degree: Doctor of Philosophy

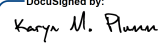
This document, submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree from the University of North Dakota, has been read by the Faculty Advisory Committee under whom the work has been done and is hereby approved.

DocuSigned by:

2C877E791A994CE...
Joseph Miller

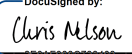
DocuSigned by:

FEB3F7715EAD449...
Alan King

DocuSigned by:

C4A022288E24476...
Elizabeth Legerski

DocuSigned by:

2B19287CA439431...
Thomas Petros

DocuSigned by:

43FB96EAOB1F482...
Karyn Plumm

This document is being submitted by the appointed advisory committee as having met all the requirements of the School of Graduate Studies at the University of North Dakota and is hereby approved.

DocuSigned by:

2E0A7088C733403...
Chris Nelson
Dean of the School of Graduate Studies

7/21/2021
Date

PERMISSION

Title The Effect of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offender Age, Motivation for use, and Treatment Interest on Public Perceptions of Offense and Treatment

Department Clinical Psychology

Degree Doctor of Philosophy

In presenting this dissertation in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a graduate degree from the University of North Dakota, I agree that the library of this University shall make it freely available for inspection. I further agree that permission for extensive copying for scholarly purposes may be granted by the professor who supervised my dissertation work or, in his absence, by the Chairperson of the department or the dean of the School of Graduate Studies. It is understood that any copying or publication or other use of this dissertation or part thereof for financial gain shall not be allowed without my written permission. It is also understood that due recognition shall be given to me and to the University of North Dakota in any scholarly use which may be made of any material in my dissertation.

Beth C. Kliethermes
July 6, 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES	vi
LIST OF TABLES	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	viii
ABSTRACT	ix
CHAPTER	
I. INTRODUCTION	1
The Effect of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offender Age, Motivation for Use, and Treatment Interest on Public Perceptions of Offense and Treatment.....	1
The Problem of Child Sexual Exploitation Material	2
Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offenders are Different	3
Diagnoses of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offenders	5
Public Perceptions of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offenders.....	8
Purpose.....	12
II. METHOD	15
Participants.....	15
Materials	19
III. PROCEDURE.....	28
IV. RESULTS	29

Offensive Severity	29
Appropriate Punishment	30
Preventability	33
Treatment	34
Future Risk to Community.....	37
Re-offense Risk.....	38
Being a Pedophile	39
Treatment Support	40
Mandatory Reporting	45
Additional Analyses.....	51
V. DISCUSSION.....	53
Limitations	59
VI. CONCLUSION.....	62
APPENDICES	63
REFERENCES	77

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
1. Participants' Level of Agreement for Incarceration as Punishment.....	32
2. Participants' Level of Agreement for Support for Government Funding for Self-Help Resources.....	44
3. Participants' Level of Agreement for Mandatory Reporting for Intent to View	51
4. Participants' Level of Agreement with Paying More in Taxes to Provide Treatment	52

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1. Participant Descriptive Characteristics	16
2. Participants' Sentence Recommendations	19

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my sincerest gratitude to Dr. Joseph Miller and Dr. Richard Ferraro, who have provided me with guidance and encouragement, and have been excellent mentors throughout my graduate school career. I would also like to thank the members of my advisory Committee for their guidance and support. Lastly, I would like to thank my family and friends who have graciously offered their wisdom and support.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of the present study was to better understand factors that may influence public perceptions related to child sexual exploitation material offenders. Specifically, the current study aimed to examine the impact of offender age, motivation for use, and treatment seeking on public perceptions of the offense of child sexual exploitation material possession, as well as treatment implications. Furthermore, public perceptions regarding mandatory reporting of viewing and possessing child sexual exploitation material were explored. The study utilized a vignette in the style of a criminal case describing a situation in which a man is charged with possession of child sexual exploitation material. The vignettes were identical, apart from manipulations of offender age, motivation for use, and treatment seeking desire prior to arrest. Participants' perceptions of the situation were measured using a series of questions in relation to the vignette. Results suggest that extralegal factors, such as offender age, partially influence observers' perceptions and decisions in cases of CSEM even though the law does not specify or discriminate based on these extra-legal factors. Participants were more likely to agree that the offender should face prison time when the offender was 65 years old compared to the offender that was 15 years old. Participants did not appear to have a preference for when the offender participated in treatment as there was minimal support for treatment while awaiting trial, during incarceration, and upon release in the community. Implications are discussed.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The Effect of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offender Age, Motivation for Use, and Treatment Interest on Public Perceptions of Offense and Treatment

Internet sexual offending behaviors, particularly online child sexual exploitation material offenses, have been the focus of increased societal and professional concern and federal policy decision-making (Mears, Mancini, Gertz, & Bratton, 2008; Middleton, Mandeville-Norden, & Hayes, 2009; Motivans & Kyckelhahn, 2007; U.S. Department of Justice, 2010). Despite a lack of research concerning the role of pornography and sexual offending, policy makers have become more aggressive in their policies towards child sexual exploitation material offenders. Understanding child sexual exploitation material offenses must be put in the context of public opinion about sex crimes and related policies (Mears et al., 2008). A better understanding of public opinions related to child sexual exploitation material offenses and child sexual exploitation material offenders may help to shed light on how laws should be shaped, as well as how to develop successful interventions and prevention programs for such offenders and more broadly, adults with sexual interest in children.

Rates of contact child sexual offenses have steadily decreased over the last 20 decades (Mishra & Lalumière, 2009; Finkelhor & Jones, 2012). During this same timeframe, Internet child sexual exploitation material-related offenses have increased at an unprecedented rate, also certainly linked to increased efforts and advances in law enforcement detection of online

offending. Between 2001 and 2009, the national arrest estimates in the United States for Internet-facilitated sexual offending tripled (Wolak, Finkelhor, & Mitchell, 2011; Wolak, Finkelhor, Mitchell, & Jones, 2011). Of these Internet-facilitated sexual offenses, the largest majority involved child sexual exploitation material possession or distribution.

Child sexual exploitation material is not a new phenomenon. However, the emergence and growth of online and digital technologies has facilitated unprecedented distribution and access to images of child sexual abuse (Beech, Elliott, Birgden, & Findlater, 2008; Jenkins, 2001; Motivans & Kyckelhahn, 2007; Wolak, Finkelhor, & Mitchell, 2011; Wortley & Smallbone, 2012). With increasing portability of devices with internet access (e.g., smart phones, tablets), Internet-related sexual offenses are only likely to increase due to this widespread accessibility, affordability, and assumed anonymity describes by Cooper (1998) as the “Triple-A Engine” effect. In response to societal concerns about the availability of online child sexual exploitation material and concerns for child safety, political and law enforcement policies have made efforts to regulate and police Internet-related sexual offenses, including child sexual exploitation material. Accurate estimates of online child sexual exploitation material offending are difficult to ascertain.

The Problem of Child Sexual Exploitation Material

Offenses related to child sexual exploitation material represent the largest proportion of federal child sexual exploitation cases in the United States (Motivans & Kyckelhan, 2007). Accurate estimates of national child sexual exploitation material-related offenses are difficult to ascertain for there is no national system that facilitates integrating relevant information at the state-level. A further complication is due to inconsistencies and variations in applicable laws

from state-to-state. In the United States, the National Juvenile Online Victimization Study conducted in 2000, 2006, and 2009 found national arrests for Internet-facilitated sexual offenses tripled during that period (Wolak, 2012; Wolak, Finkelhor, & Mitchell, 2011). According to a report by the U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Justice Statistics, there were 6,026 “pornography/obscene material” offenses in 2012. The offenses involved 6,031 victims and 5,962 known offenders (U.S. Department of Justice, 2012).

Arriving at a global, unified definition of child sexual exploitation material is complicated. Definitions differ from nation to nation and state-to-state. Researchers and national laws differ in the terminology used for images (i.e., pictures and videos) depicting child sexual abuse. Common terms utilized include child sexual exploitation material, child sexual abuse images, child sexual exploitation materials, and indecent images of children. Although the term “child sexual exploitation materials (CSEM)” more accurately reflects the nature of image content, child sexual exploitation material is used in this paper because it is the term used in U.S. federal laws. Furthermore, the terminology used for illegal images produced by minors under the age of 18 also varies, including self-generated child sexual exploitation material, self-produced pornography, and youth-produced pornography. These terms are often used within the context of “sexting,” the process of sharing explicit.

Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offenders are Different

Individuals viewing and possessing child sexual exploitation material offenders create the demand that perpetuates the cycle of sexual abuse and are generally thought by the layperson to either have already committed or will commit a contact offense. One proposed reason for the thought that all individuals are contact offenders is the assumption that those who consume child

sexual exploitation material have pedophilic disorder (Seto, 2013). Using phallometric testing to evaluate sexual arousal response, Seto, Cantor, and Blanchard (2006) determined pedophilic interests could be diagnosed in individuals possessing child sexual exploitation material. Given these findings and the common beliefs of the public, an area of interest for research is assessing risk, specifically evaluating the risk of engaging in a future contact offense. In an effort to study if child sexual exploitation material offenders would later go on to commit contact offenses, Seto and Eke (2005) utilized police databases and public records to identify 201 adult males convicted of child sexual exploitation material offenses. A review of their prior criminal records was performed and potential predictors of subsequent offending were identified. The authors then monitored databases to see if and when new charges and convictions occurred. A comparison of the individuals' initial offense was then compared to their subsequent crime to see possible indicators. After a 30-month period following the initial identification, 17% of those sampled offended again in some way. The recidivism rate for child sexual exploitation material offenders was 6%, and 4% were charged with a new contact sexual offense (Seto & Eke, 2005). It was determined a significant factor in an individual's likelihood of reoffending and the types of crime they committed was their criminal history. Child sexual exploitation material offenders with prior criminal records were significantly more likely to offend again, either generally or sexually, compared to those without a prior criminal record. Contact sexual offenders with a prior or concurrent crime were the most likely to commit any offense, generally and sexually (Seto & Eke, 2005).

Seto, Hanson, and Babchishin (2011) performed a meta-analysis assessing the risk of child sexual exploitation material offenders escalating contact sexual offenses. A combined

sample of 2,630 online sexual offenders was analyzed. Results showed that 3.4% of online offenders reoffended with another child sexual exploitation material offense. Furthermore, 2% of online offenders reoffended with a contact sexual offense. Overall, this research suggested that most child sexual exploitation material offenders present as low risk, allowing clinicians to focus treatment on offenders with a high risk to commit a contact offense (Seto et al., 2011).

Interestingly, even though data does not support that non-contact offenders (e.g., child sexual exploitation material offenders) will become contact offenders, public attitudes in general have not supported these findings. In addition, while these studies shed some light on child sexual exploitation material offenders and contact offenses, they do not provide information on whether or not the act of viewing child sexual exploitation material affected risk.

Diagnoses of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offenders

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) outlines three conditions when diagnosing pedophilic disorder in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (5th ed.; *DSM-5*; American Psychiatric Association, 2013). The initial criteria for pedophilic disorder is an individual that has experienced “recurrent, intense sexually arousing fantasies, sexual urges, or behaviors involving sexual activity with a prepubescent child or children (generally age 13 years or younger)” for a minimum of six months. Next, those individual need to have “acted on these sexual urges, or the sexual urges or fantasies cause marked distress or interpersonal difficulty.” For the final criteria, the individual being diagnosed needs to be at least 16 years of age and be at minimum of five years older than the child(ren) referred to in the initial criterion (APA, 2013).

The release of the *DSM-5* introduced a distinction between paraphilias and paraphilic disorders, implying a destigmatization of consenting adults engaging in unusual sexual behavior.

However, it remains illegal for individuals with a pedophilic sexual preference to act upon their desires in any way that involves sexual abuse of a child. According to *DSM-5* diagnostic criteria, pedophilic disorder is the only paraphilic disorder without an “in remission” and an “in a controlled environment” specifier.

The prevalence of pedophilic disorder is estimated to be approximately 3-5% (APA, 2013). Social stigma and fears of being charged with a crime hinder the ability to accurately gauge how prevalent individuals with sexual interest in prepubescent children is amongst the general population. For these reasons, existing research has been limited to criminal populations (Seto, 2008).

Select research has tried to examine nonclinical and nonforensic adults’ sexual interest in prepubescent children. In an early study, Briere and Runtz (1989) surveyed 193 college undergraduate men. Results revealed 21% of the men reported sexual attraction to children at varying levels with 9% having sexual fantasies involving children, and 5% having masturbated to such fantasies. Of those sampled, 7% approved to some degree the likelihood that they would have sex with a child if discovery and/or punishment could be avoided (Briere & Runtz, 1989). The data collected provided some insights however researchers failed to collect specific data on the participants’ pornography use, interest in child sexual exploitation material or their age(s) preference of the children. More recently a community-based study of 367 German men was conducted by Ahlers and colleagues (2011) to examining the prevalence of sexual fantasies and found that 10.4% of the men ranging in age between 40 - 79 years old reported having had fantasies involving pedophilia (Ahlers et al., 2011). To the author’s knowledge, no such community-based studies have taken place in the United States in recent years.

In Canada, a nonclinical online survey was conducted by Dawson, Bannerman, and Lalumière (2014) to determine paraphilic interests, including pedophilic disorder within a general population. A sample of 305 men and 710 women showed that 0.6% of men and no women recognized sexual arousal to prepubescent children (i.e., “below the age of 12”). Dawson and colleagues (2014) also found that when asked about sexual arousal to adolescent children between the ages of 12 to 14, 0.9% of men and 0.1% of women responded affirmative. Overall, the response of “very repulsive” for both genders was standard to aversion/arousal for having sex with prepubescent and pubescent children. Although there were a large number of participants, it lacked diversity and was comprised mainly of Caucasian (88%) university students (75% of men and 88% of women). The study only assessed sexual interest in children within the context of contact sexual activities (e.g., “You are having sex with a boy [age 12-14]”; Dawson et al., 2014). Homogenous sampling and researchers decisions to utilize different measures may account for discrepancies.

Davis et al. (2002) defined Problematic Internet Use (PIU) as a behavior “focused on a particular online activity or application, such as online pornography or online gambling” (Davis et al., 2002, p. 332). In a study to determine 18 to 26 year olds acceptance and use of pornography, 813 college students from six United States based universities were sampled (Carroll et al., 2008). Viewing pornographic material was indicated to be acceptable by 67% of men and 49% of women. Carroll et al. (2008) also found 87% of men and 31% of women endorsed the use of pornography. Interestingly 20% of men sampled believed viewing pornography an unacceptable behavior but endorsed its use suggesting that there is a portion of men that experience mental conflict as a result of pornography consumption.

Although the majority of individuals who consume pornography-related materials experience no negative consequences, pathological consumers are far more likely to experience depression, anxiety, relationship difficulties and other consequences as a result from their uncontrollable behavior (Cooper, Delmonico, & Burg, 2000; Twohig, Crosby, & Cox, 2009). Problematic pornography use and Internet addiction are not currently recognized as mental illnesses (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

“Problematic internet use” was first used to describe the model of pornography consumption or pornography addiction as a mental illness by Quayle and Taylor in 2003. The proposed hypersexual disorder that has yet to be recognized by the APA and the preoccupation with pornography appear to have comparable conditions (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). The phases of addiction to pornography use detailed by Bensimon (2007) are strikingly similar to those illustrated in the DSM-5 to both substance dependence and impulse control disorders.

Young (2008) also attempted to detail a cycle of discovery, experimentation, escalation, compulsion, and hopelessness to the addiction of Internet pornography. Similar concepts of behavioral escalation and the inability to stop the behavior are presented in these proposed models of online sexual addiction. These concepts are consistent with the present theories of behavioral addictions.

Public Perceptions of Child Sexual Exploitation Material Offenders

Although it is clear from the literature that the public has negative attitudes towards contact sexual offenders in general, relatively little research has explored beliefs about non-contact sexual offending, like child sexual exploitation material-related offenses of possession

and distribution (Lam et al. 2010). To the author's knowledge, no research has examined Americans' perceptions of child sexual exploitation material offenses or offenders, particularly the non-contact offense of possession. Considering that public opinions are very influential in the making of public policy and law, this is a relevant question because it is possible society views the non-contact nature of possession of child sexual exploitation material differently from contact sexual offenses against children and adults.

In an attempt to estimate United States citizens' comprehension of child sexual exploitation material laws and evaluate feelings towards those laws, McCabe (2002) studied community members knowledge of child sexual exploitation material laws. Of the 261 surveyed, 92.3% were aware that possession of sexual material involving a minor was illegal and a slightly higher percentage (95.4%) affirmed that dissemination of child sexual exploitation material was illegal. McCabe (2002) showed gender to be a significant factor with more males perceiving transmission of child sexual exploitation material as legal. When participants were asked if they thought that downloading child sexual exploitation material from an online newsgroup was legal, almost a third (32.2%) responded yes (McCabe, 2002). When asked about viewing computer-generated children, 92.3% believed it to be an acceptable practice even though at the time of the study, this activity was illegal (McCabe, 2002). McCabe's study was the first to assess public knowledge of child sexual exploitation material laws and attitudes towards related offenses and offenders. Further research is needed to determine if the public in the United States has similar perceptions today.

A national telephone survey of 425 Americans was conducted to assess public evaluate public opinion of punishment for viewing and distributing child sexual exploitation material. Of

those surveyed, 89% supported terms of incarceration for individuals convicted of circulating child sexual exploitation material. In addition, 68% supported incarceration for individuals convicted of accessing child sexual exploitation material (Mears et al., 2008). There were several limitations with Mears and colleagues' (2008) findings. Telephone surveys can limit potential respondents and can exclude persons from certain demographics. Additionally, the survey only gauged opinions of punishment and failed to explore attitudes concerning the treatment of offenders. Additionally, research examining such areas in the context of varying characteristics of child sexual exploitation material offenses and offenders has not been published. At this time, current findings are mixed and further research is needed to better understand public perceptions toward child sexual exploitation material offenders.

To expand upon McCabe's (2002) research, Lam, Mitchell, and Seto (2010) sought to examine how age and gender of the depicted minor and offender influenced Canadian university students' perceptions of a child sexual exploitation material possession offense and the offender. In two studies, they utilized hypothetical crime scenarios followed by a series of questions to examine how age and gender of depicted minor and offender influenced university students' perceptions of a CSEM possession offense. Participants completed the study in person and recorded their responses on paper, submitting completed questionnaires in a blank envelope anonymously. Participants ($n = 492$) rated the perceived offense severity, appropriate sentence, probability of child sexual exploitation material reoffense, probability of past and future sexual contact with a minor, and probability that the offender is a pedophile. In Lam et al. (2010)'s first study, they examined how age and gender of the depicted minor victim influenced university students' perceptions of CSEM possession offense. The results showed no effect of the minor's

gender. They found the possession offense was rated as more severe if the depicted minor was younger, regardless of minor's gender. The offense was rated as more severe if participants believed offender was likely a pedophile (Lam et al., 2010). In a second study, Lam and colleagues examined whether the age and gender of the offender influenced university students' perceptions of CSEM possession offense. The hypothetical crime scenario presented a 20, 35, or 50 year-old man or woman who was charged with possession of child sexual exploitation material, with the images of a female minor, judged to be 11 years old on his or her personal computer. In this study, participants also rated perceived offense severity, appropriate sentence, probability of child sexual exploitation material reoffense, probability of past and future sexual contact with a minor, and probability that the offender is a pedophile. Lam and colleagues found offender age and gender had no effect on perceptions of offense severity, but male offenders were considered to be at higher risk for committing a future child sexual exploitation material offense. Again, the offense was rated as more severe if the participant believed offender was likely a pedophile (Lam et al., 2010).

Overall, Lam and colleagues (2010) concluded that lay perceptions are both congruent and incongruent with empirical knowledge about child sexual exploitation material offending. Participants thought a history of sexual contact with a minor predicted future sexual contact with a minor, which is consistent with previous research on sexual offenses against children. However, participants consistently reported higher probabilities of CSEM offender reoffense with child sexual exploitation material possession or future contact sexual offense with a minor than observed in current follow-up data. To the author's knowledge, no known research has focused on exploring these variables in American participants or utilizing a community sample.

Such information would provide valuable insight into how the average American citizen perceives child sexual exploitation material possession offenses and offenders. Additional research is needed to determine if Lam and colleagues' (2010) results are generalizable to the U.S. adult population. The present study on public perceptions of child sexual exploitation material offenses and offenders will build upon previous work done by Lam, Mitchell, and Seto (2010).

Purpose

Legal and clinical referrals for child sexual exploitation material offending are likely to continue increasing. Although a large volume of research has focused on public perceptions of sex offender policies (e.g., sex offender registration, community notification laws), less research has focused on assessing public attitudes and perceptions of sex offender treatment and intervention options. Furthermore, little research has explored public perceptions of non-contact sexual offenses, such as child sexual exploitation material possession. Previous research findings are limited to two studies by Lam and colleagues (2010) using Canadian college students. No known research has focused on American participants or utilized a community sample. Furthermore, examining public views of juveniles with child sexual exploitation material offenses is an area in need of further exploration given juveniles' young age, low general sexual recidivism rates, and the high possibility of negative consequences from the offense (i.e., having to register as a sex offender). Understanding perceptions of these cases are important because it can help shed light on areas in which public opinions differ from the empirical facts related to child sexual exploitation material offenders and offenses.

This research is needed to inform the public and professions of the known empirical evidence to spread appropriate attention based on offense type. In other words, these are not the individuals we need to be highly concerned with upon release because as a group they tend to have lower rates of general re-offense and sexual reoffense.

The principal goal of the proposed study is to better understand factors that may influence public perceptions of child sexual exploitation material (CSEM) offenders. The present study on public perceptions of child sexual exploitation material offenses and offenders built upon previous work done by Lam, Mitchell, and Seto (2010). Specifically, the current study aimed to examine the impact of offender age, motivation, and treatment seeking on public perceptions of the offense of child sexual exploitation material possession in a community sample, as well as perceptions of the offender. Secondly, this study aimed to examine the perceptions of CSEMO treatment and treatment options. In addition, this research also aimed to address participants' perceptions of mandatory reporting of child sexual exploitation material offenses. Finally, the study sought to examine participants' perceptions of different offense motivations for child sexual exploitation material viewing.

This project utilized a vignette in the style of a hypothetical criminal case describing a situation in which a man is charged with possession of child sexual exploitation material. The vignettes were identical, apart from manipulations of offender age, motivation, and treatment seeking. Participants' perceptions of the situation were measured using a series of questions in relation to the vignette. To investigate the connection between offender age, motivation for using pornography, and treatment seeking on public perceptions, this research employed a 3 (Age: 15/35/65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction/compulsive pornography use/risk-taking) x 2

(Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns/no treatment consideration) between subjects factorial design. In regard to the first objective, it was hypothesized that age will have an impact such that the younger offender will be viewed more leniently on offense severity, lower likelihood of reoffense, and more treatable than older offenders.

In regard to treatment and mandatory reporting, it was anticipated that offenders that are older, attracted to children, and had not considered treatment will be correlated with perceptions that treatment will be less effective and professions should be required to report child sexual exploitation material viewing.

It was further believed that attraction to children would result in perceptions that were more severe and less favorable. It was hypothesized that those that had thought about seeking treatment will be view treatment more favorably and more likely to be successful. In regard to treatment and mandatory reporting, it was believed that offenders that are older, attracted to children, and had not considered treatment will be correlated with perceptions that treatment will be less effective and professions should be required to report child sexual exploitation material viewing.

The dependent variables included participant perceptions of offense severity; punishment; treatment efficacy; risk to community; child sexual exploitation material reoffense; past sexual contact with a minor; future sexual contact with minor; being a pedophile; perceptions of treatment; and views of mandatory reporting.

CHAPTER II

METHOD

Participants

An a priori analysis using G*Power version 3.1 (Faul, Erdfelder, Buchner, & Lang, 2009; Faul, Erdfelder, Lang, & Buchner, 2007) was conducted to establish the appropriate sample size with alpha set to .05 and power set at .80, which indicated a minimum of 259 participants would be needed for this study in order to detect a small to moderate Cohen's *d* effect size of .175. A total of 399 participants were included in the analyses. The sample consisted of 221 men (55.38%), 176 women (44.11%), and 2 transgender males (0.5%). Participants ranged in age from 19-70 years ($M = 37.1, SD = 11.37$). Ethnicity was primarily Caucasian/European American ($n = 316$), with other categories including American Indian/Alaska Native ($n = 7$), Asian or Pacific Islander ($n = 11$), Black/African American ($n = 37$), Hispanic/Latino(a) ($n = 25$), and Multiethnic ($n = 3$). The majority of participants reported that they were heterosexual ($n = 306$). In regard to occupation, approximately one fifth of participants ($n = 71, 17.8\%$) endorsed working with sexual offenders in some capacity, and 72 participants (18.0%) endorsed working with victims of a sexual offense. In regard to personal experiences, 64 participants (16.0%) reported experiencing sexual abuse as a child. See Table 1 for a complete breakdown of participant demographics. Approximately one third of participants ($n = 135, 33.8\%$) reported that they have been concerned about their Internet pornography use at some point or that someone else told them that they are concerned about their Internet pornography use. Over one fourth of

participants ($n = 114$, 28.6%) reported they have known someone who has viewed pornography depicting an individual less than 18 years old. About one fourth of participants ($n = 102$, 25.6%) have known someone who was accused, charged, or convicted of a child pornography offense. See Table 2 for complete information regarding participants experience with Internet pornography use and child sexual exploitation material.

Table 1

Participant Descriptive Characteristics

Variable	<i>n</i> (%)	<i>M</i> (<i>SD</i>)	Range
Age (years)		37.1 (11.4)	19 - 70
Gender			
Male	221 (55.4)		
Female	176 (44.1)		
Transgender FTM	2 (0.5)		
Race/Ethnicity			
American Indian/Alaskan Native	7 (1.8)		
Asian/Pacific Islander American	11 (2.8)		
Black/African American	37 (9.3)		
Caucasian/European American	316 (79.2)		
Hispanic/Latino(a) American	25 (6.3)		
Multiracial/Multiethnic	3 (0.8)		

Table 1 cont.

Variable	<i>n</i> (%)	<i>M</i> (<i>SD</i>)	Range
Heterosexual	306 (76.7)		
Lesbian or gay	8 (2.0)		
Bisexual	85 (21.3)		
Marital Status			
Single/Never Married	91 (22.9)		
Married/Partnered	298 (74.7)		
Divorced/Separated	9 (2.3)		
Widowed	1 (0.3)		
Highest level of education			
High School/GED	17 (4.3)		
Some College	36 (9.0)		
Associate's Degree (2-year College Degree)	17 (4.3)		
Bachelor's Degree (4-year College Degree)	275 (68.9)		
Post-graduate Degree	54 (13.5)		
Political orientation ^a		4.23 (1.86)	1 - 7
Religiosity level ^b		4.48 (1.84)	1 - 7
Work with SOs			
Yes	71 (17.8)		
No	328 (82.2)		

Table 1 cont.

Variable	<i>n</i> (%)	<i>M</i> (<i>SD</i>)	Range
<i>Work with Victims</i>			
Yes	72 (18.0)		
No	327 (82.0)		
<i>Victim of Child Sexual Abuse</i>			
Yes	64 (16.0)		
No	335 (84.0)		
<i>Concern about Internet Pornography Use^c</i>			
Yes	135 (33.8)		
No	264 (66.2)		
<i>Acquaintance History</i>			
<i>Ever Known Someone who Viewed CSEM</i>			
Yes	114 (28.6)		
No	285 (71.4)		
<i>Accused, charged, or convicted of CSEM Offense^d</i>			
Yes	102 (25.6)		
No	297 (74.4)		

Note. ^a: 1= Strongly liberal; 7= Strongly conservative. ^b: 1= Not at all religious; 7= Very religious. ^c: “Have you ever been concerned about your internet pornography use, or has anyone ever told you that they are concerned about your internet pornography use?” ^d: “Have you ever known anyone who has been accused, charged, or convicted of a child pornography offense?”

Table 2

Participants' Sentence Recommendations

	<i>n</i>	%
No jail time	61	15.29
0-6 months	133	33.33
7-12 months	61	15.29
13-24 months	44	11.03
> 2 years-5 years	66	16.54
> 5 years	29	7.27
No response	5	1.25

Note. The average sentence length was 26.26 months.

The participants were recruited using Amazon's Mechanical Turk (MTurk) recruitment system, an online research management tool, where participants were provided a link to a Qualtrics webpage where they were able to complete the study. There were two inclusionary criteria for prospective participants. Specifically, participants had to be at least 18 years old and a resident of the United States. Each participant was randomly assigned to one of the 18 conditions. MTurk participants received monetary compensation (\$.50) in exchange for their participation.

Materials

Vignette. This study employed a 3 (Age: 15/35/65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction/compulsive pornography use/risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns/no treatment consideration) between subjects factorial design. After consenting (See Appendix A) to participate in the proposed research project, participants were randomly assigned to read one of 18 vignettes in which they were asked to consider a hypothetical crime scenario describing a child sexual exploitation material case involving the possession of CSEM (See Appendix C).

Using hypothetical crime scenarios in public perceptions of child sexual exploitation material offenses and offenders is a methodology utilized in previous research by Lam, Mitchell, and Seto (2010). To the author's knowledge, the research presented in Lam, Mitchell, and Seto's (2010) article are the only published studies that utilized vignettes to evaluate public perceptions of CSEM offenders. Therefore, the vignettes utilized in the current study were adapted from Lam et al.'s (2010) studies. The vignettes differed depending on the condition the participant was randomly assigned. The vignettes were identical, apart from the manipulations for the condition the participant is randomly assigned. An example of the scenario follows (changes depending on condition are notated in brackets):

John Smith is a [15/35/65] year-old male who was charged with possession of child pornography after police discovered several dozen images of female minors, judged to be 11 to 14 years old, on his personal computer. The minors were depicted as engaging in explicit sexual activity with an adult (not Mr. Smith). Mr. Smith was identified as a suspect by police following a larger investigation into a child pornography website. Mr. Smith also had adult pornography on his personal computer. He stated he accessed child pornography [because the material is sexually arousing to him/because of his compulsive pornography use/as a part of his pattern of general, nonsexual risk-taking behavior]. Mr. Smith has no prior criminal record and has never committed a contact (offline, real-world "hands-on") sexual offense against a minor or an adult. He is currently [in school/employed] full-time [at a local high school/at a local business]. Prior to this charge, Mr. Smith [wanted to seek treatment for his pornography viewing, but did not

due to fear that the professional would report him to the authorities/had not considered seeking treatment for his pornography viewing].

Following the vignette, participants were asked to answer questions about the scenario.

The rationale for the vignette choices and manipulations included several factors. First, most child sexual exploitation material offenders are male (Seto & Eke, 2005, p. 203). The majority of research in child sexual exploitation material offenders has focused on male offenders. Furthermore, the most clinical and research literature has focused on male pedophiles (Seto, 2008). Therefore, a male, Mr. Smith, was portrayed in the vignette to have greater ecological validity.

Offender ages (15, 35, and 65 years old) were intended to represent a juvenile, an adult, and an older adult. The decision to include a juvenile offender was made in order to examine if the public perceives them the same in terms of rehabilitation and general and sexual recidivism compared to adults. Based on the research, adult child sexual exploitation material offenders exhibit a willingness to learn and change. Most juveniles who have sexually offended do not go on to become adult offenders; thus, developmental changes combined with treatment indicate this age group is most willing to learn and to change, given the developing and changing nature of sexuality/decision making/impulsivity.

The vignettes utilized in one study by Lam and colleagues (2011) stated the offender had images of one female minor judged to be 11 years old. Available findings from analysis of child sexual exploitation material on the Internet indicates there are more female minors than male minors (Wolak, Finkelhor, Mitchell, 2011). The majority of child sexual exploitation material offenders were in possession of illegal material depicting more than one minor and more than

one age. Child sexual exploitation material possessions that typically included images portraying images of one minor at one age are more consistent with contact and mixed offenders rather than child sexual exploitation material only offenders (Wolak et al., 2011). Furthermore, available data from past possession offenses revealed that the majority of criminal cases involved illegal images of more than one age. Consequently, these components of Lam et al.'s (2011) vignette were not a realistic portrayal of the illegal images and videos resulting in possession of child sexual exploitation material charges. To increase external validity of the cases presented, the current study included a scenario in which the offender had several dozen images of female minors, judged to be 11 to 14 years old. Furthermore, Seto and Eke (2015) found that 90% of CSEM offenders had adult pornography. To increase the veracity of the vignettes, the presence of adult pornography on Mr. Smith's personal computer was included in the hypothetical case.

Manipulation check. Participants were given a manipulation check after reading the vignette to assure they understood the manipulation. Using multiple-choice questions, they were asked to identify the age of the offender, the gender of the minors in the images, and whether the offender considered seeking treatment prior to his charge (Appendix D). Only participants that correctly identified the offender's age, the victim's gender, and if the offender considered seeking treatment prior to his charge were included in analyses.

Vignette perceptions. After reading a hypothetical child sexual exploitation material case, participants were asked to answer a series of Likert-type scale questions regarding their perceptions of the offender and the crime (see Appendix E). These items were adapted from Lam, Mitchell, and Seto (2010). Items utilized a 7-point Likert-like scale ranging from 1 (*very strongly disagree*) to 7 (*very strongly agree*). To assessing perceptions of offense and offender,

participants were asked to answer eight items assessing perceptions of the offense of possession of child sexual exploitation material, as well as perceptions of the offender. These items, adapted from Lam, Mitchell, and Seto (2010), included offense severity rating, appropriate punishment/sentence, control over actions, treatment efficacy and options, future risk to community, likelihood of child sexual exploitation material reoffense, likelihood of future sexual contact with a minor, and likelihood of being a pedophile. Higher scores reflect a higher level of agreement with the item.

Perceptions of Treatment. Participants answered items assessing perceptions of treatment for child sexual exploitation material offenders (see Appendix F). All items utilized a 7-point scale ranging from 1 (*very strongly disagree*) to 7 (*very strongly agree*).

One section asked participants to complete two items that assessed participants' perceptions about (a) individuals concerned about child pornography use should seek profession treatment and (b) if they should be able to seek treatment without concerns about being reported to the authorities. Treatment seeking without authority involvement was assessed by collapsing these items to create into an averaged single score, $r = .41$. Higher scores indicate a greater support for individuals concerned about child sexual exploitation material use to seek profession treatment and to be able to seek treatment without concerns about being reported to the authorities.

Participants were asked to indicate their level of agreement with three items, which were averaged to create a single score (Cronbach's $\alpha = .755$), that assessed their level of belief that people who view child sexual exploitation material have (a) a sexual interest in, (b) a sexual

preference for, and (c) a sexual orientation towards prepubescent children. Higher scores indicate that participants had greater levels of agreement.

Participants were asked to indicate their level of agreement with four items, which were averaged to create a single score (Cronbach's $\alpha = .748$), that assessed their belief in treatment efficacy (i.e., "Psychotherapy [talk therapy, such as cognitive behavior therapy] is effective for decreasing the use of child pornography.", "Treatment would be effective for individuals that view child pornography.", "Treatment is more effective when individuals that view child pornography are motivated to participate.", and "Treatment would decrease the risk of an individual that has viewed child pornography from offending against a real person."). Higher scores indicate that participants had greater levels of agreement in treatment efficacy.

Participants were asked to indicate their level of agreement with two items, which were averaged to create a single score ($r = .525$), that assessed their belief in supporting government funding for help resources for child sexual exploitation material users (i.e., "I would support government funding to provide services for a hotline for individuals who view child pornography." and "I would be willing to pay more in taxes each year to provide treatment to individuals who view child pornography."). Higher scores indicate that participants had greater levels of support for government spending on self-help resources for child sexual exploitation material users.

Participants were also asked to indicate how much they supported a confidential, toll-free number that individuals who view child sexual exploitation material can call to be connected to professional treatment services related to their pornography use, as well as a confidential website that individuals who view child sexual exploitation material can visit to receive support from

others who want to live a crime-free life. These items were collapsed to create a single score, $r = .435$. Higher scores indicate a greater support for self-help resources for child sexual exploitation material users.

Mandatory Reporting Questionnaire. This section asked participants to answer seven items assessing perceptions of requiring mandatory reporting of viewing child sexual exploitation material (see Appendix G). Prior to being asked questions, participants were provided with the following information: “Some states require professionals to report child abuse and neglect. Recently, some states have required professionals to report people that access child pornography to the police. The following statements are referring to individuals who are viewing child pornography and are NOT engaging in creating material or having actual sexual contact with a minor.” All items utilized a 7-point scale ranging from 1 (*very strongly disagree*) to 7 (*very strongly agree*).

The first item asked participants to indicate their level of agreement that an individual should be allowed to confidentially seek professional treatment without fear of being reported for viewing child sexual exploitation material. Higher scores indicate a greater level of agreement that child sexual exploitation material viewing reported to professionals should be kept confidential and not reported to police.

The second item asked participants if professionals should be allowed to but not required to call the police about a client that reports viewing child sexual exploitation material in the past. Higher scores indicate a greater level of agreement that past viewing of child sexual exploitation material could be reported to the police but professionals are not required to report. Participants were then asked whether they believed professionals should be required to call the police about a

client that reports viewing child sexual exploitation material in the past. Higher scores indicate a greater level of agreement that past viewing of child sexual exploitation material should be reported to the police.

Next, participants were asked if they believed professionals should be allowed to but not required to call the police about a client that reports a desire to view child sexual exploitation material. Higher scores indicate a greater level of agreement that a desire to view child sexual exploitation material may be reported to the police if the professional thinks a report is necessary. Participants were asked if professionals should be required to call the police about a client that reports a desire to view child sexual exploitation material. Higher scores indicate a greater level of agreement that individuals reporting a desire to view child sexual exploitation material should be reported to police by professionals.

Participants were asked whether they believed professionals should be allowed to but not required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view child sexual exploitation material. Higher scores indicate a greater level of agreement that clients that disclose intent to view child sexual exploitation material can be reported to police if professions decide to make such a report. Finally, participants were asked if professionals should be required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view child sexual exploitation material. Higher scores indicate a greater level of agreement that professions be mandated to report clients to police if clients disclose intent to view illegal materials.

Demographics. Participants completed a demographic questionnaire (see Appendix H) in which they were asked to indicate their age, gender, ethnicity, education level, relationship status, sexual orientation, occupation, marital status, and religiosity. Participants were also asked

if someone they know has viewed pornography depicting an individual less than 18 years old,
and if someone they know has been charged with a child sexual exploitation material offense.

CHAPTER III

PROCEDURE

The proposed study recruited participants through Amazon's Mechanical Turk and was limited to individuals with a minimum age of 18 years that reside in the United States. An advertisement for the study was placed on Amazon's Mechanical Turk. Participants were redirected to Qualtrics, an online data collection software, where they completed the study electronically in exchange for a small financial incentive. Initially, participants read the instructions and agree to participate in the study by reading an agreement statement and clicking the link to the study. After obtaining informed consent, participants were randomly assigned to read one of 18 possible vignettes, varying the offender's age, motivation for child sexual exploitation material use, and desire to seek treatment prior to criminal charges. Following reading the scenario, the participants were given a manipulation check to determine that they have understood the case. Participants who passed the manipulation check were then asked to complete the questionnaires assessing their perceptions of the case. Next, participants were asked about their perceptions of treatment for child sexual exploitation material offenders and mandatory reporting of child sexual exploitation material offenses. Finally, participants were asked to complete a demographic questionnaire. After completing the study, the participants were thanked and given a completion code in order to receive compensation for their time.

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS

In none of the analyses described below were any of the two-way or three-way interactions significant.

Offense Severity

The perception of the severity of the offense was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) analysis of variance (ANOVA). Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 380) = 2.02, p = .134$. The means for the three levels of offender age were nearly identical (15: $M = 5.11, SD = 1.31$; 35: $M = 5.20, SD = 1.35$; 65: $M = 5.39, SD = 1.29$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .956$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.21, SD = 1.22$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.23, SD = 1.34$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.25, SD = 1.39$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .601$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for pornography viewing ($M = 5.20, SD = 1.32$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for his pornography viewing ($M = 5.27, SD = 1.32$).

Appropriate Punishment

Monetary Fine. Support for offender's punishment as a fine was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1, p = .528$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.46, SD = 1.67$; 35: $M = 4.68, SD = 1.78$; 65: $M = 4.39, SD = 1.86$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .412$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.61, SD = 1.72$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.35, SD = 1.82$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.58, SD = 1.78$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(1, 379) = 1.100, p = .295$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.60, SD = 1.739$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.40, SD = 1.820$).

Probation. Support for offender's punishment as probation was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 1.911, p = .149$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.03, SD = 1.40$; 35: $M = 4.66, SD = 1.74$; 65: $M = 4.64, SD = 1.82$).

The main effect of offender motivation was nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .533$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.90, SD = 1.47$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.62, SD = 1.83$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.81, SD = 1.68$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(1, 381) = 1.139, p = .287$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.88, SD = 1.63$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.65, SD = 1.72$).

House Arrest. Support for offender's punishment as house arrest was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 1.256, p = .286$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.69, SD = 1.66$; 35: $M = 4.31, SD = 1.71$; 65: $M = 4.36, SD = 1.83$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .457$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.54, SD = 1.59$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.26, SD = 1.88$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.57, SD = 1.71$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .346$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.56, SD = 1.69$) did not differ from offenders that had not

considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.31, SD = 1.79$).

Incarceration. Support for offender’s punishment as incarceration (i.e., prison) was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated there was a main effect for age, $F(2, 380) = 7.889, p < .001, \eta^2 = .040$, such that participants were more likely to agree that the offender should face prison time when the offender was 65 years old ($M = 5.18, SD = 1.48$) compared to the offender that was 15 years old ($M = 4.44, SD = 1.74$), neither of which differed from the offender that was 35 years old ($M = 4.73, SD = 1.64$) as determined by Tukey HSD ($p < .01$) (see Figure 1).

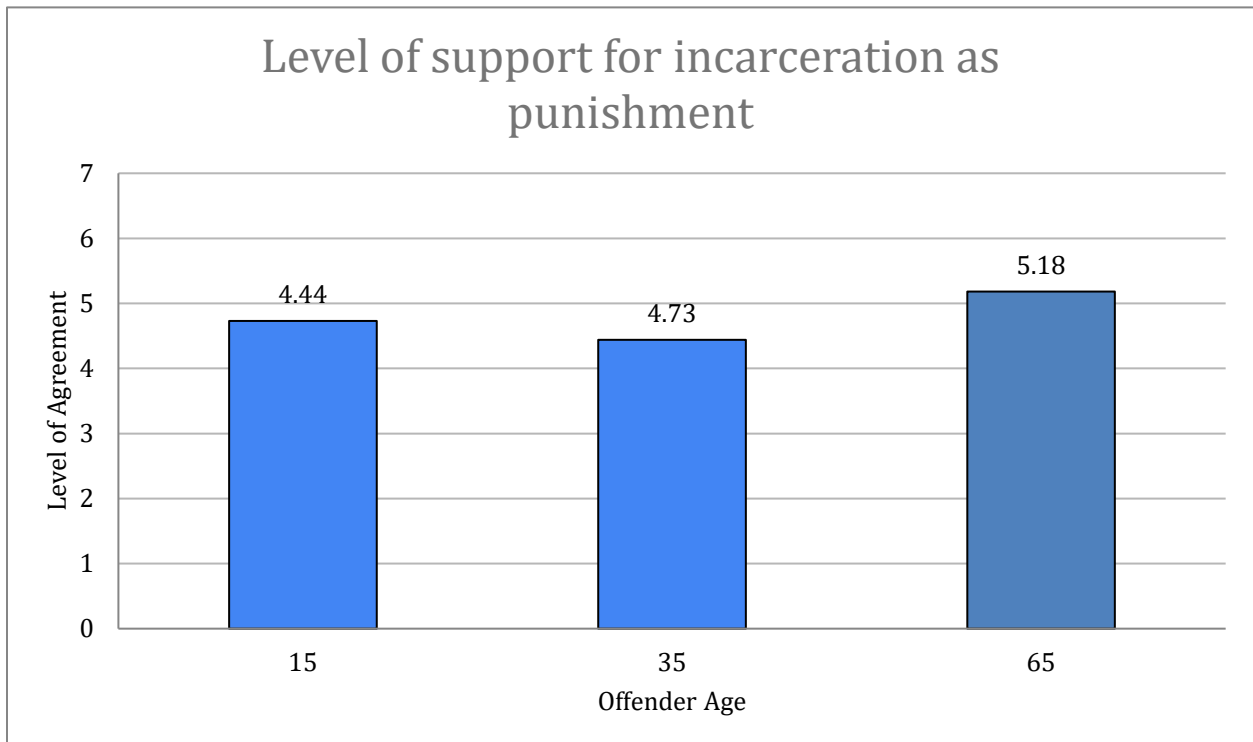


Figure 1. Participants’ level of agreement for incarceration as punishment.

Range: 1 “very strongly disagree” to 7 “very strongly agree”.

The main effect of offender motivation was nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .897$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.79, SD = 1.56$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.77, SD = 1.73$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.77, SD = 1.67$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .439$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.82, SD = 1.65$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.72, SD = 1.66$).

Sentence Length. Of the 399 participants included in the sample, 15.3% ($n = 61$) indicated that they did not recommend prison time for Mr. Smith. Participants who indicated that they would endorse jail or prison time for the perpetrator ($n = 333$) were asked to recommend a sentence length. Length of sentence recommendations varied from 1 month to 360 months. The average sentence length recommendation was just over two years ($M = 26.26$ months, $SD = 41.29$ months). The median was 12 months, and the mode was 6 months. See Table 2 for breakdown of sentence recommendations.

Preventability

Perceived control and offender preventability of the offense (i.e., “Mr. Smith could have prevented the situation.”) was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1, p = .538$. The means indicated a

nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.26$, $SD = 1.24$; 35: $M = 5.34$, $SD = 1.23$; 65: $M = 5.33$, $SD = 1.23$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .546$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.39$, $SD = 1.25$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.24$, $SD = 1.30$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.30$, $SD = 1.13$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .483$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.28$, $SD = 1.26$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.35$, $SD = 1.19$).

Treatment

Treatment Efficacy. Perception of treatment efficacy for the offender was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 2.697$, $p = .069$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.47$, $SD = 1.17$; 35: $M = 5.07$, $SD = 1.13$; 65: $M = 5.26$, $SD = 1.28$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(2, 381) = 1.042$, $p = .354$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated

by sexual arousal ($M = 5.27, SD = 1.17$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.17, SD = 1.32$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.37, SD = 1.11$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(1, 381) = 5.002, p = .026$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.39, SD = 1.16$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.10, SD = 1.23$).

Treatment while Awaiting Trial. Perception of whether the offender should receive treatment while awaiting trial and sentencing was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 380) = 1.819, p = .164$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.64, SD = 1.12$; 35: $M = 5.37, SD = 1.24$; 65: $M = 5.41, SD = 1.42$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .673$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.49, SD = 1.11$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.38, SD = 1.29$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.54, SD = 1.39$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(1, 380) = 3.293, p = .070$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.58, SD = 1.20$) did not differ from offenders that had

not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.33$, $SD = 1.34$).

Treatment during Incarceration. Perception of whether offender should receive treatment while incarcerated was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1$, $p = .795$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.52$, $SD = 1.20$; 35: $M = 5.38$, $SD = 1.29$; 65: $M = 5.47$, $SD = 1.32$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .860$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.51$, $SD = 1.11$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.43$, $SD = 1.28$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.43$, $SD = 1.41$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .686$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.49$, $SD = 1.22$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.41$, $SD = 1.33$).

Treatment upon Release. Perception of whether offense should receive treatment upon release in the community was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a

nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1, p = .932$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.40, SD = 1.19$; 35: $M = 5.40, SD = 1.32$; 65: $M = 5.40, SD = 1.33$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .718$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.39, SD = 1.27$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.47, SD = 1.18$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.34, SD = 1.39$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .625$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.43, SD = 1.24$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.35, SD = 1.33$).

Future Risk to Community

Perception of offender's future risk to community was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 380) = 1.688, p = .186$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.02, SD = 1.44$; 35: $M = 5.03, SD = 1.40$; 65: $M = 5.27, SD = 1.20$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .838$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual

arousal ($M = 5.03$, $SD = 1.30$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.12$, $SD = 1.37$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.16$, $SD = 1.40$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .366$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.05$, $SD = 1.32$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.17$, $SD = 1.41$).

Re-offense Risk

Child Sexual Exploitation Material Reoffense. Perception of likelihood of child sexual exploitation material reoffense was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1$, $p = .449$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.13$, $SD = 1.20$; 35: $M = 4.97$, $SD = 1.20$; 65: $M = 5.15$, $SD = 1.07$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .478$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.01$, $SD = 1.13$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.04$, $SD = 1.20$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.20$, $SD = 1.15$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .496$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.12$, $SD = 1.16$) did not differ from offenders that had not

considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.04$, $SD = 1.16$).

Risk of Future Sexual Contact with a Minor. Perception of the likelihood of the offender to commit a future sexual contact with a minor was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1$, $p = .946$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.71$, $SD = 1.36$; 35: $M = 4.65$, $SD = 1.42$; 65: $M = 4.65$, $SD = 1.40$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .553$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.67$, $SD = 1.40$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.76$, $SD = 1.34$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.57$, $SD = 1.45$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .823$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.68$, $SD = 1.46$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.65$, $SD = 1.30$).

Being a Pedophile

Perception of offender being a pedophile was assessed using a 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA. Results

indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 380) = 3.181, p = .043$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.92, SD = 1.52$; 35: $M = 4.96, SD = 1.37$; 65: $M = 5.33, SD = 1.23$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .851$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.01, SD = 1.37$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.06, SD = 1.42$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.14, SD = 1.38$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .508$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.10, SD = 1.36$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.02, SD = 1.43$).

Treatment Support

Confidentially Seek Treatment. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess perceptions of support for individuals concerned about child sexual exploitation material use to seek professional treatment and support for seeking treatment without concerns about being reported to the authorities. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1, p = .488$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.54, SD = .94$; 35: $M = 5.39, SD = 1.08$; 65: $M = 5.48, SD = 1.06$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .656$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.43$, $SD = 1.00$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.45$, $SD = 1.05$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.53$, $SD = 1.03$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .706$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.46$, $SD = 1.00$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.48$, $SD = 1.07$).

Sexual Interest, Preference, and Orientation. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess perceptions that people who view child sexual exploitation material have (a) a sexual interest in, (b) a sexual preference for, and (c) a sexual orientation towards prepubescent children. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 1.067$, $p = .345$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.40$, $SD = .95$; 35: $M = 5.21$, $SD = 1.00$; 65: $M = 5.25$, $SD = 1.01$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .943$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.30$, $SD = .95$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.27$, $SD = 1.04$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.29$, $SD = .99$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .557$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.27, SD = .99$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.31, SD = .99$).

Treatment Efficacy. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess perception of treatment efficacy (i.e., “Psychotherapy [talk therapy, such as cognitive behavior therapy] is effective for decreasing the use of child pornography.”, “Treatment would be effective for individuals that view child pornography.”, “Treatment is more effective when individuals that view child pornography are motivated to participate.”, and “Treatment would decrease the risk of an individual that has viewed child pornography from offending against a real person.”). Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 2.346, p = .097$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.46, SD = .88$; 35: $M = 5.22, SD = .85$; 65: $M = 5.23, SD = .98$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .607$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.37, SD = .85$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.24, SD = .96$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.30, SD = .92$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .723$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual

exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.33$, $SD = .90$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.27$, $SD = .92$).

Government Funding. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess perceptions of support for the use of government funding for self-help resources for child sexual exploitation material users (i.e., “I would support government funding to provide services for a hotline for individuals who view child pornography.” and “I would be willing to pay more in taxes each year to provide treatment to individuals who view child pornography.”). Results indicated a significant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 5.226$, $p = .006$, $\eta^2 = .027$, such that participants were more likely to agree with the use of government funding for self-help resources for child sexual exploitation material users when the offender was 15 years old ($M = 5.27$, $SD = .99$) compared to the offender that was 35 years old ($M = 4.81$, $SD = 1.28$), neither of which differed significantly from the offender that was 65 years old ($M = 5.01$, $SD = 1.33$) as determined by Tukey HSD ($p < .01$) (see Figure 2).

The main effect of offender motivation was nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .820$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.00$, $SD = 1.10$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.02$, $SD = 1.33$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.07$, $SD = 1.22$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(1, 381) = 1.836$, $p = .176$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child

sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.11$, $SD = 1.20$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.92$, $SD = 1.24$).

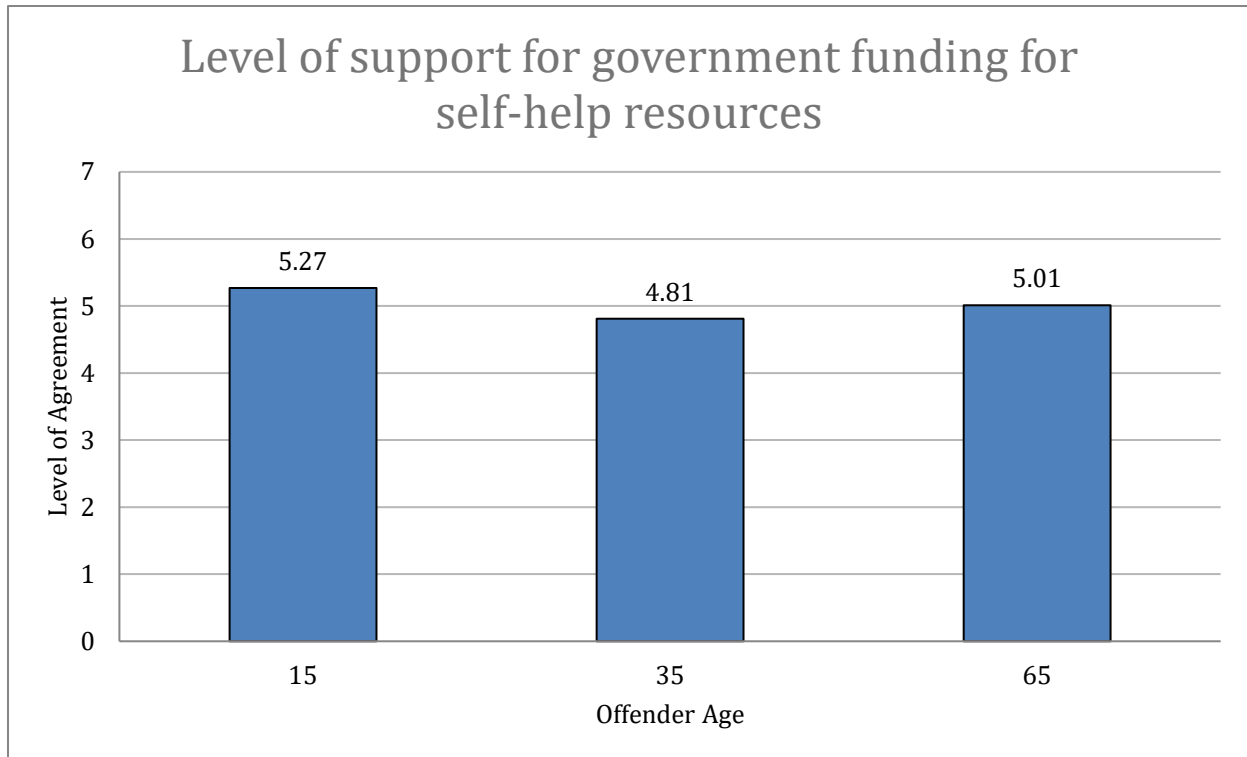


Figure 2. Participants’ level of agreement for support for government funding for self-help resources.

Range: 1 “very strongly disagree” to 7 “very strongly agree”.

Support for Self-help Resources. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess support for a confidential, toll-free number that child sexual exploitation material viewers can call to be connected to professional treatment services related to their pornography use, as well as a confidential website that child sexual exploitation material viewers can visit to receive support

from others who want to live a crime-free life. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1, p = .811$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.39, SD = 1.02$; 35: $M = 5.31, SD = 1.14$; 65: $M = 5.35, SD = 1.12$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(2, 381) = 1.282, p = .279$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.40, SD = 1.02$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.23, SD = 1.17$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.43, SD = 1.08$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .833$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.38, SD = 1.03$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.31, SD = 1.18$).

Mandatory Reporting

Confidential Treatment. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess level of agreement that an individual should be allowed to confidentially seek professional treatment without fear of being reported for disclosing viewing child sexual exploitation material. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 2.545, p = .080$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.57, SD = 1.12$; 35: $M = 5.24, SD = 1.19$; 65: $M = 5.40, SD = 1.35$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(2, 381) = 3.740, p = .025$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 5.54, SD = 1.07$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 5.17, SD = 1.40$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 5.51, SD = 1.16$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .660$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.46, SD = 1.15$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 5.33, SD = 1.32$).

Reporting Allowed but Not Required for Past Viewing. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess support for professionals being allowed to but not required to call authorities about a client that reports viewing child sexual exploitation material in the past. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1, p = .692$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.86, SD = 1.56$; 35: $M = 4.66, SD = 1.58$; 65: $M = 4.75, SD = 1.64$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .984$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.80, SD = 1.58$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.71, SD = 1.65$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.77, SD = 1.55$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(1, 381) = 4.366, p = .037$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.90, SD = 1.55$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.57, SD = 1.63$).

Reporting Required for Past Viewing A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess whether professionals should be required to call the police about a client that reports viewing child sexual exploitation material in the past. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1, p = .743$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.53, SD = 1.64$; 35: $M = 4.56, SD = 1.57$; 65: $M = 4.50, SD = 1.61$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .637$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.52, SD = 1.57$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.62, SD = 1.62$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.46, SD = 1.62$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(1, 381) = 4.347, p = .038$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.66, SD = 1.53$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.37, SD = 1.68$).

Reporting Allowed but Not Required for Desire to View. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess belief that professionals should be allowed to but not required to call the police about a client that reports a desire to view child sexual exploitation material. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 1.938, p = .145$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 5.00, SD = 1.50$; 35: $M = 4.70, SD = 1.42$; 65: $M = 4.68, SD = 1.71$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .984$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.81, SD = 1.46$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.78, SD = 1.59$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.79, SD = 1.60$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .582$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.83, SD = 1.56$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.74, SD = 1.54$).

Reporting Required for Desire to View. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess support for professionals being required to call the police about a client that reports a desire to view child sexual exploitation material. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of

offender age, $F < 1, p = .885$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.79, SD = 1.70$; 35: $M = 4.65, SD = 1.51$; 65: $M = 4.65, SD = 1.65$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .721$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.80, SD = 1.61$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.69, SD = 1.69$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.60, SD = 1.56$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F(1, 381) = 2.551, p = .111$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.81, SD = 1.59$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.55, SD = 1.66$).

Reporting Allowed but Not Required for Intent to View. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess support for professionals being allowed to but not required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view child sexual exploitation material. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 1.925, p = .147$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.98, SD = 1.42$; 35: $M = 4.62, SD = 1.48$; 65: $M = 4.61, SD = 1.59$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1, p = .683$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual

arousal ($M = 4.88$, $SD = 1.44$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.65$, $SD = 1.55$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.68$, $SD = 1.52$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .321$. The means indicated offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.81$, $SD = 1.44$) did not differ from offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.64$, $SD = 1.59$).

Reporting Required for Intent to View. A 3 (Offender Age: 15 vs. 35 vs. 65) x 3 (Motivation: sexual attraction vs. compulsive pornography use vs. risk-taking) x 2 (Treatment seeking: confidentiality concerns vs. no treatment consideration) ANOVA was used to assess support for professionals being required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view child sexual exploitation material. Results indicated a nonsignificant main effect of offender age, $F < 1$, $p = .986$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between the three levels of offender age (15: $M = 4.65$, $SD = 1.64$; 35: $M = 4.60$, $SD = 1.47$; 65: $M = 4.66$, $SD = 1.59$).

The main effect of offender motivation was also found to be nonsignificant, $F < 1$, $p = .408$. The means indicated a nonsignificant difference between offenders motivated by sexual arousal ($M = 4.64$, $SD = 1.52$), compulsive pornography use ($M = 4.77$, $SD = 1.61$), and risk-taking behavior ($M = 4.49$, $SD = 1.56$).

The main effect of treatment seeking was found to be significant, $F(1, 381) = 6.933$, $p = .009$, $\eta^2 = .018$, such that participant's support for professionals being required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view child sexual exploitation material was

significantly higher for offenders that considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.79, SD = 1.52$) compared to offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child sexual exploitation material viewing ($M = 4.43, SD = 1.61$) (see Figure 3).

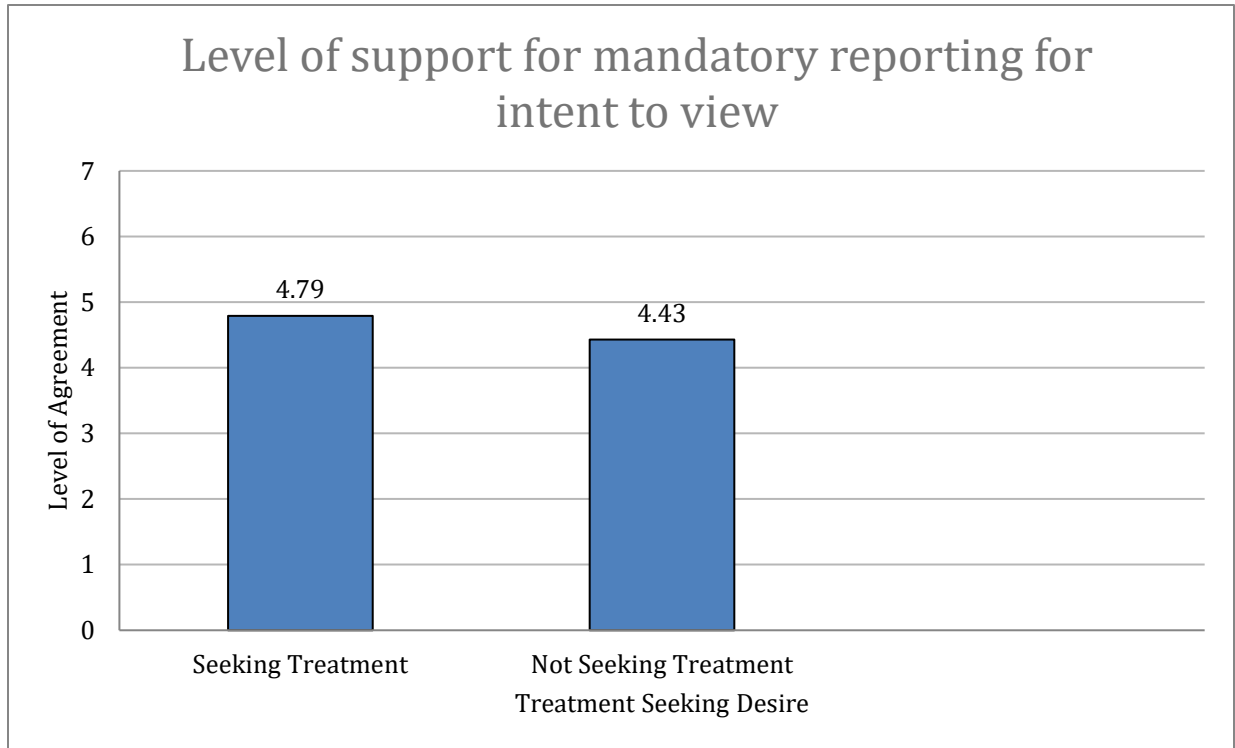


Figure 3. Participants' level of agreement for mandatory reporting for intent to view.

Range: 1 "very strongly disagree" to 7 "very strongly agree".

Additional Analyses

Because many of the DVs reported above were aggregate scores with somewhat low measured internal consistency, prior analyses were rerun using the constituent items as DVs, in case aggregating masked any main effects or interactions. Significant findings at threshold $p < .01$ are reported below.

Results for the item “I would be willing to pay more in taxes each year to provide treatment to individuals who view child pornography.” indicated a significant main effect of offender age, $F(2, 381) = 4.082, p = .018, \eta^2 = .021$, such that participants were more likely to agree with the use of government funding for self-help resources for child sexual exploitation material users when the offender was 15 years old ($M = 5.11, SD = 1.27$) compared to the offender that was 35 years old ($M = 4.62, SD = 1.51$), neither of which differed significantly from the offender that was 65 years old ($M = 4.87, SD = 1.60$) as determined by Tukey HSD ($p < .01$) (see Figure 4).

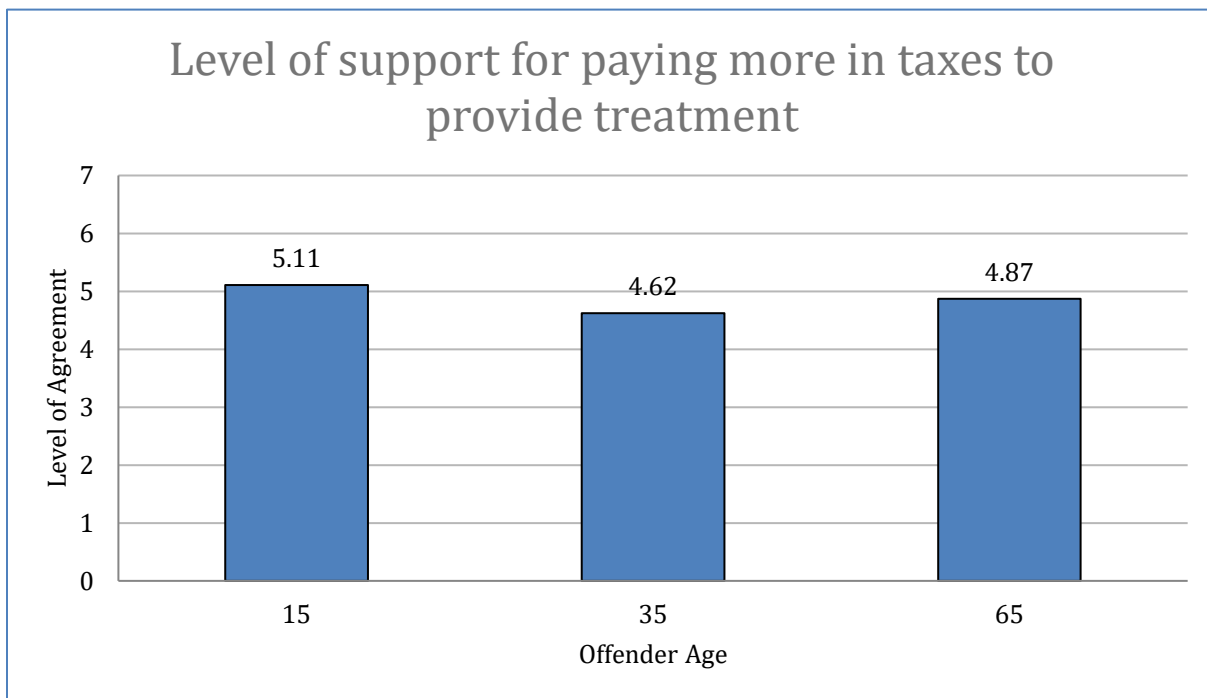


Figure 4. Participants’ level of agreement with paying more in taxes to provide treatment.

Range: 1 “very strongly disagree” to 7 “very strongly agree”.

CHAPTER V

DISCUSSION

This research explored the effects of offender age, motivation for using pornography, and treatment seeking in a hypothetical criminal case concerning a child sexual exploitation material offender. Hypotheses derived from four areas: perceptions of child sexual exploitation material offense and offender, perceptions of treatment and treatment options, and perceptions of mandatory reporting of child sexual exploitation material offenses. If child sexual exploitation material offenders are viewed negatively, it may hinder support they receive during reintegration into society, and even possibly influence legal ramifications for the offender. Additionally, it is important to understand if extra-legal factors, such as offender age, motivation for accessing child sexual exploitation material, and desire to seek treatment prior to criminal charges, alter perceptions of guilt and/or recommended legal consequences. If these extra-legal factors, which should theoretically be irrelevant, influence perpetrator culpability, it may result in some perpetrators receiving lesser punishments for their crimes (e.g., serve less jail time or ordered to pay a smaller fine) and other perpetrators receiving increased punishments for their crimes.

The hypothesis that offender age would have an impact such that the younger offender will be viewed more leniently on offense severity than older offenders was not supported. Participants did not differ in the perception of offense severity based upon any of the manipulations of age, motivation for offense, or treatment seeking desire prior to charge. Overall, participants agreed that this crime was a serious offense.

Appropriate punishment was assessed in the current study by examining support for monetary fine, probation, house arrest, and prison. Support for offender's punishment as a monetary fine, probation, and house arrest did not differ based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire. Overall, endorsements for support for monetary fine and house arrest as punishment were neutral. This neutrality for a monetary punishment is somewhat reflective of current practices. According to the U.S. Sentencing Commission, the federal court in 2019 sentenced 77 of 1,368 (5.6%) child sexual exploitation material offenders to pay an average fine of \$23,583. The median fine for those offenders that year was \$5,000. The federal court sentenced child sexual exploitation material offenders to make restitution in 544 cases in the average amount of \$19,820 and a median of \$8,000 (U.S. Sentencing Commission, 2019).

In regard to the current study's support for offender's punishment as prison, participants were more likely to agree that the offender should face prison time when the offender was 65 years old compared to the offender that was 15 years old. This endorsement may be reflective of less punitive views towards juvenile offenders in general, but it is possible that this is specific to juvenile child sexual exploitation material offenders. Participants were neutral towards juvenile offenders serving prison time, while their endorsement showed minimal support for prison sentencing. This may indicate that more individuals are becoming familiar with the prosecution of child sexual exploitation material offenses and consequently have a better understanding of the crime. In 2019, the average federal sentence length for child sexual exploitation material was 103 months, and the median prison sentence was 84 months, based upon data for 1,368 child sexual exploitation material offenders (U.S. Sentencing Commission, 2019). A comparison of current study's participants and federal sentence length for the 2019 child sexual exploitation

material charges shows that actual sentencing length quite a bit longer than people's perceptions. Wakefield (2006) suggested people believe sexual offenders should be locked up for life; however, the research findings on prison sentencing suggest views regarding child sexual exploitation material offenders are different.

In addition to long sentences and monetary fines, federal child sexual exploitation material offenders are being sentenced to lengthy post-conviction supervision terms. For 2010, an average supervised release sentences imposed for child sexual exploitation material possession offenders ranged from 220 months to 323 months for offenders convicted of child sexual exploitation material production (U.S. Sentencing Commission, 2012). By contrast, the average term of supervised release imposed on federal offenders generally in 2010 was about 43 months (U.S. Sentencing Commission, 2012). In the current study, participants endorsed minimal support for the offender's punishment to include probation.

Perceived control offender preventability of the offense did not differ based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire. This is somewhat surprising as it was hypothesized that offense motivation would be influential for this variable.

The hypothesis that offender age would have an impact such that the younger offender will be viewed as more treatable than older offenders was not supported. Participant perception of treatment efficacy for the offender did not differ based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire. Therefore, the hypothesis that offenders that are older, attracted to children, and had not considered treatment would be correlated with perceptions that treatment will be less effective was not supported. Overall, there was minimal support for perceptions that treatment would be effective for the offenders. Perceptions of treatment that were assessed also

included public thoughts regarding when treatment should be received: while awaiting trial and sentencing, during incarceration, or upon release in the community. The results showed participants had minimal support for receiving treatment at each time point. Participants did not appear to have a preference for when the offender participated in treatment as there was minimal support for treatment while awaiting trial, during incarceration, and upon release in the community.

Participant perception of offender's future risk to community did not differ based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire. Participant perceptions of reoffense risk, as examined in this study, looked at the perceptions of likelihood of child sexual exploitation material reoffense and the likelihood of the offender to commit a future sexual contact with a minor. Participant perceptions did not differ based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire for either of these variables. Participant perceptions are not reflective of observed differences between juvenile and adult offenders, specifically that most juvenile offenders do not go on to commit sexual offenses as adults. Furthermore, participant perceptions do not reflect the low levels of recidivism observed with CSEM offenders.

Participant perceptions of offender being a pedophile did not differ based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire for either of these variables. This was an interesting result, especially that age did not play a factor in influencing perceptions. Overall, participants did not judge this variable different for juveniles, which was hypothesized. It was further believed that attraction to children would be perceived as more severe and less favorable in regard to treatment outcomes; there was no support found for this hypothesis. It was hypothesized that participants in the conditions in which the offender considered seeking

treatment would view treatment more favorably and more likely to be successful. This was not supported.

Participant perceptions of reoffense risk were examined in the current study via perception of likelihood of CSEM reoffense and likelihood of the offender to commit a future sexual contact with a minor. Participant perceptions of reoffense risk did not differ based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire for either of these variables.

In regard to treatment and mandatory reporting, it was believed that offenders that are older, attracted to children, and had not considered treatment prior to charge will be correlated with perceptions that professions should be required to report child sexual exploitation material viewing. There was no interaction between age and motivation identifying pedophilic arousal (i.e., accessed child sexual exploitation material because the material was sexually arousing to him), which surprisingly had no significant effect on participant perceptions about any of the child sexual exploitation material offense variables.

There was minimal support for individuals concerned about CSEM use to seek profession treatment and support for seeking treatment without concerns about being reported to the authorities. This support did not differ based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire. Perceptions that people who view CSEM have a sexual interest in, a sexual preference for, and a sexual orientation towards prepubescent children showed minimal support and did not differ significantly based on the offender's age, motivation, or treatment seeking desire. General public perceptions regarding overall treatment efficacy for CSEM viewers showed minimal support. Overall, this is informative and positive implications for the

psychological community regarding how the general public views therapy, specifically for these offenders.

When asked about perceptions of support for the use of government funding for self-help resources for CSEM users, participants were more likely to agree with the use of government funding for self-help resources for CSEM users when the offender was 15 years old compared to the offender that was 35 years old. This is hopeful because it may be representative of the belief that treatment is more helpful for juvenile individuals, which could offer more positive successful reintegration into society post offense for juveniles. Support for the use of government funding was minimal, but significant because it would be reflective of thousands to millions of dollars for resources. Participants also endorsed minimal support for self-help resources such as a confidential, toll-free number and a confidential website that CSEM viewers can visit to receive support from others who want to live a crime-free life. This is reflected in efforts such as STOP It Now! (Seto, 2013) and Virtuous Pedophiles, websites and organizations that offer resources for “minor-attracted persons” and CSEM users. According to the website, more than 6,000 people have created accounts to join this support group for pedophiles who are committed to avoiding having sexual contact with children (Virtuous Pedophiles, 2021).

This research offers unique and meaningful insights into public perceptions regarding mandatory reporting. Participant endorsement revealed minimal support that an individual should be allowed to confidentially seek professional treatment without fear of being reported for disclosing viewing CSEM. In addition, participants were neutral regarding professionals being allowed to but not required to call authorities about a client that reports viewing child pornography in the past and for professionals being required to call the police about a client that

reports viewing child pornography in the past. In regard to individuals reporting a desire to view CSEM, participants were neutral regarding professionals being allowed to but not required and being required to call the police about a client that reports a desire to view CSEM. In regard to clients reporting an intent to view CSEM, participants were neutral in support for professionals being allowed to but not required and being required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view CSEM. Participants' support for professionals being required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view child pornography was significantly higher for offenders that considered seeking treatment for child pornography viewing compared to offenders that had not considered seeking treatment for child pornography viewing, but overall these endorsements were still neutral in regard to support. This finding suggests that there is public support for CSEM viewers confidentially seeking treatment without criminal involvement and is supportive of a prevention-based approach to child sexual abuse. Future research should explore if the public is more inclined to protect the confidentiality of a CSEM viewer seeking treatment than someone who does not want to seek treatment.

Limitations

As with any research, this current study is not without its limitations. One potential limitation of this study may be that the manipulation of the offender's age, motivation for viewing child sexual exploitation material and treatment seeking desire prior to arrest may not have been sufficiently salient. A number of participants failed the manipulation check regarding the offender's age. Future research may consider making this manipulation more salient by utilizing images that accompany a vignette.

Although racial information was collected in the demographic questionnaire, there were not a significant number of participants from different racial/ethnic groups that participated in the current study to consider these differences. Future research should consider evaluating whether or not these group differences exist, as well as to achieve greater external validity. Additionally, participants had quite a bit of involvement working with sexual offenders or victims of sexual offenses. About one fourth of participants reported they have known someone who was accused, charged, or convicted of a child sexual exploitation material offense. Although these were not covariates for the investigated variables, it is possible the opinions of this sample are not representative of laypersons without an influence of their profession and familiarity.

The results are limited based on the vignette construction. The study did not vary victim age or gender which may have impacted results. It is possible a blog style construction could have elicited more diverse responses. The highly transparent nature of the scale items constitutes another methodological limitation for this data. Participants may still have been hesitant to provide a wider range of opinions given the polarity of issues examined. It is possible that the participants who chose to complete the study may have been interested in the topic or had strong opinions about the topic. This self-selection bias does limit the generalizability of these results.

Furthermore, participants' perceptions of offense severity were not affected by the offender's age and gender; however, male offenders were perceived to be at higher risk for a future child sexual exploitation material offense (Lam et al., 2010). Given these findings and since child sexual exploitation material images may contain both boys and girls, further research

may wish to consider examining the effects of specifying and varying gender of the child and the adult in the measures on reported attitudes.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

Even amidst these limitations, these results are still of value. This research is the first to examine perceptions of how motivation for CSEM use and treatment seeking desire impact perceptions of treatment support and public views on mandatory reporting. Further, this research is the first to examine perceptions of a child sexual exploitation material offender in American participants and in a community sample, addressing a gap in the literature. In addition, this study included a juvenile and an older adult offender, which addresses the gap in the literature on age since the majority of this research utilizes middle adult-aged perpetrators (Lam, Mitchell, & Seto, 2010). The current study has practical implications for researchers and policy makers. For example, this may translate to differences in recommended offender responsibility, which has implications for juries and judges. In addition, it is promising the majority of participants supported the allocation of government resources to self-help resources for child sexual exploitation material, and to a larger extent, sexual offenders and the prevention of child sexual abuse.

The results of the current study suggest general public perceptions converge and diverge from empirical knowledge and current practices about child sexual exploitation material offending. Implications of these results can be employed for public policy and laws regarding the management of sexual offenders. The results suggest public support for greater allocation of resources for addressing child sexual exploitation material offenses.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

Informed Consent

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

Project Title: Public Perceptions of a Criminal Case

Principal Investigator: Beth Kliethermes

Phone/Email Address: beth.kliethermes@und.edu

Department: Psychology

Research Advisor: Joseph Miller, PhD

Research Advisor

Phone/Email Address: (701)777-4472/joseph.miller@und.edu

What should I know about this research?

- Someone will explain this research to you.
- Taking part in this research is voluntary. Whether you take part is up to you.
- If you don't take part, it won't be held against you.
- You can take part now and later drop out, and it won't be held against you
- If you don't understand, ask questions.
- Ask all the questions you want before you decide.

How long will I be in this research?

We expect that your taking part in this research will last approximately 30 minutes.

Why is this research being done?

The purpose of this research is to gain knowledge about how people perceive a brief criminal case.

What happens to me if I agree to take part in this research?

If you decide to take part in this research study, you will be asked to read a brief criminal case and respond to various questions regarding your perceptions. You will be asked to answer a

series of demographic questions as well. If you choose to participate in this study, you are free to skip any questions that you would prefer not to answer.

Could being in this research hurt me?

The most important risks or discomforts that you may expect from taking part in this research include the risk of feeling frustration that is often experienced when completing surveys. The scenario you are being asked to read and some of the questions may be of a sensitive nature, and you may therefore become upset as a result. However, such risks are not viewed as being in excess of “minimal risk.” If, however, you become upset by questions, you may stop at any time or choose not to answer a question. If you would like to talk to someone about your feelings about this study, please contact a counseling professional of your choice, if needed, and at your own cost.

Will being in this research benefit me?

It is not expected that you will personally benefit from this research. However, we hope that, in the future, other people might benefit from this study because the results will provide a better understanding on how people evaluate issues that may occur in society.

How many people will participate in this research?

Approximately 500 people will take part in this study at the University of North Dakota.

Will it cost me money to take part in this research?

You will not have any costs for being in this research study.

Will I be paid for taking part in this research?

You will be paid for being in this research study. You will be paid \$.50 as compensation for your completion of this study.

Who is funding this research?

The University of North Dakota and the research team are receiving no payments from other agencies, organizations, or companies to conduct this research study. No one on the research team will receive a direct payment or an increase in salary from any agency for conducting this study.

What happens to information collected for this research?

Your private information may be shared with individuals and organizations that conduct or watch over this research, including:

- Government agencies
- The Institutional Review Board (IRB) that reviewed this research
- Research advisor for project, Joseph Miller, PhD

We may publish the results of this research. However, we will keep your name and other identifying information confidential. We protect your information from disclosure to others to the extent required by law. We cannot promise complete secrecy.

Data or specimens collected in this research might be de-identified and used for future research or distributed to another investigator for future research without your consent.

You should know, however, that there are some circumstances in which we may have to show your information to other people. For example, the law may require us to show your information to a court or to tell authorities if we believe you have abused a child, or you pose a danger to yourself or someone else.

What if I agree to be in the research and then change my mind?

If you decide to leave the study early, we ask that you exit the survey. There are no consequences for your early withdrawal.

Who can answer my questions about this research?

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think this research has hurt you or made you sick, talk to the research team at the phone number listed above on the first page.

This research is being overseen by an Institutional Review Board (“IRB”). An IRB is a group of people who perform independent review of research studies. You may talk to them at 701.777.4279 or UND.irb@UND.edu if:

- You have questions, concerns, or complaints that are not being answered by the research team.
- You are not getting answers from the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone else about the research.
- You have questions about your rights as a research subject.
- You may also visit the UND IRB website for more information about being a research subject: <http://und.edu/research/resources/human-subjects/research-participants.html>

Clicking "I Agree" below indicates that I have read the description of the study and I agree to participate in this study.

I Agree

I Do Not Agree

Appendix B

Example of Mechanical Turk Recruitment Notice

Requester: Public Perceptions of a Criminal Case Reward: \$.50 Duration: 30 minutes

Answer a psychological survey: “Public Perceptions of a Criminal Case”

We are looking for participants to complete an academic survey on public perceptions of criminal case. Participants will be asked to complete several questionnaires and some demographic questions. The study will take approximately 30 minutes and participants will be awarded \$.50. At the end of the survey, you will receive a code to paste into the box below to receive credit for taking our survey.

This study has been approved by the University of North Dakota Institutional Review Board (#02006-304).

[Click here to take survey.](#)

Provide the survey code here:

Appendix C

Vignette

Below is a brief description of a hypothetical case. Please read the paragraph carefully because you will be asked questions about the case.

John Smith is a [15/35/65] year-old male who was charged with possession of child pornography after police discovered several dozen images of female minors, judged to be 11 to 14 years old, on his personal computer. The minors were depicted as engaging in explicit sexual activity with an adult (not Mr. Smith). Mr. Smith was identified as a suspect by police following a larger investigation into a child pornography website. Mr. Smith also had adult pornography on his personal computer. He stated he accessed child pornography [because the material is sexually arousing to him/because of his compulsive pornography use/as a part of his pattern of general, nonsexual risk-taking behavior]. Mr. Smith has no prior criminal record and has never committed a contact (offline, real-world “hands-on”) sexual offense against a minor or an adult. He is currently [in school/employed] full-time [at a local high school/at a local business]. Prior to this charge, Mr. Smith [wanted to seek treatment for his pornography viewing, but did not due to fear that the professional would report him to the authorities/had not considered seeking treatment for his pornography viewing].

Appendix D

Manipulation Check

Please answer the following questions about the scenario you read:

1. What was the age of the male charged with possession of child pornography? (select one)
 - a. 15
 - b. 25
 - c. 35
 - d. 45
 - e. 55
 - f. 65
2. What was the gender of the individuals in child pornography images?
 - a. Male
 - b. Female
 - c. Male and Female
 - d. Unsure
3. Did the scenario state that John Smith considered seeking treatment prior to his charge?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
4. Do you believe (regardless of what was stated in the scenario) that John Smith is guilty?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

Appendix E

Perceptions of the Vignette

Please read each statement carefully and then indicate how much you agree or disagree with each one using the scale provided.

- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|------------------------|
| Very Strongly
Disagree | | | | | | Very Strongly
Agree |
- Mr. Smith's offense is a very severe offense.
 - Mr. Smith's punishment should be a fine.
 - Mr. Smith's punishment should be probation.
 - Mr. Smith's punishment should be house arrest.
 - Mr. Smith should be sentenced to prison.
 - How long do you think Mr. Smith's sentence should be?
 - Mr. Smith could have prevented the situation.
 - Treatment would be effective for Mr. Smith.
 - Mr. Smith should receive treatment for his offense while awaiting trial and sentencing.
 - Mr. Smith should receive treatment for his offense while incarcerated.
 - Mr. Smith should receive treatment for his offense after release when he is in the community.
 - Mr. Smith is a risk to the community.
 - Mr. Smith will reoffend by possessing child pornography.
 - Mr. Smith will reoffend by having sexual contact with a minor.
 - Mr. Smith is a pedophile.

Appendix F

Perceptions of Treatment

For the following statements, please rate the extent to which you agree with the statement using the following scale:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very Strongly Disagree						Very Strongly Agree

1. An individual concerned about child pornography use should seek professional treatment.
2. An individual should be allowed to seek professional treatment for concerns regarding child pornography use without concerns about being reported to the authorities.
3. People who view child pornography have a sexual interest in prepubescent children.
4. People who view child pornography have a sexual preference for prepubescent children.
5. People who view child pornography have a sexual orientation towards prepubescent children.
6. Psychotherapy (talk therapy, such as cognitive behavior therapy) is effective for decreasing the use of child pornography.
7. Treatment would be effective for individuals that view child pornography.
8. Treatment is more effective when individuals that view child pornography are motivated to participate.
9. Treatment would decrease the risk of an individual that has viewed child pornography from offending against a real person.

10. It is a good idea to have a confidential, toll-free number that individuals who view child pornography can call to be connected to professional treatment services related to their pornography use.
11. I would support government funding to provide services for a hotline for individuals who view child pornography.
12. I would be willing to pay more in taxes each year to provide treatment to individuals who view child pornography.
13. It is a good idea to have a confidential website that individuals who view child pornography can visit to receive support from others who want to live a crime-free life.

Appendix G

Perceptions of Mandatory Reporting

Some states require professionals to report child abuse and neglect. Recently, some states have required professionals to report people that access child pornography to the police.

The following statements are referring to individuals who are viewing child pornography and are NOT engaging in creating material or having actual sexual contact with a minor.

For the following statements, please rate the extent to which you agree with the statement using the following scale:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Very Strongly Disagree						Very Strongly Agree

1. An individual should be allowed to confidentially seek professional treatment without fear of being reported for viewing child pornography.
2. Professionals should be allowed to but not required to call the police about a client that reports viewing child pornography in the past.
3. Professionals should be required to call the police about a client that reports viewing child pornography in the past.
4. Professionals should be allowed to but not required to call the police about a client that reports a desire to view child pornography.
5. Professionals should be required to call the police about a client that reports a desire to view child pornography.
6. Professionals should be allowed to but not required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view child pornography.
7. Professionals should be required to call the police about a client that reports an intention to view child pornography.

Appendix H

Demographic Questionnaire

Please provide the following information:

Age _____ years

Gender

- _____ Female
- _____ Male
- _____ Transgender FTM
- _____ Transgender MTF
- _____ Other
- _____ Prefer not to respond

What is your race/ethnicity?

- _____ American Indian/Alaskan Native
- _____ Asian or Pacific Islander
- _____ Black or African American
- _____ Caucasian (white) or European American
- _____ Mexican or Mexican American
- _____ Other Latina or Latino American
- _____ Other

Please specify: _____

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- _____ Less than high school
- _____ High School / GED
- _____ Some College
- _____ Associate's Degree (2-year College Degree)
- _____ Bachelor's Degree (4-year College Degree)
- _____ Post-graduate Degree

What is your marital status?

- Single/Never Married
- Married/Partnered
- Divorced/Separated
- Widowed
- Other

Please specify: _____

What is your sexual orientation?

- Heterosexual
- Gay man or Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Prefer not to respond

Do you work with sex offenders? (For example: treatment provider, probation/parole officer)

- Yes
- No

Do you work with victims/survivors of a sexual offense?

- Yes
- No

Have you experienced sexual abuse as a child?

- Yes
- No

How would you describe your political orientation? (Select the number that best reflects you)

- | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|----------|---|---|--|--------------------------|
| Strongly
Liberal | | | | Moderate | | | | Strongly
Conservative |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | |

How would you describe your level of religiosity? (Select the number that best reflects you)

- | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|-------------------------|---|---|--|-------------------|
| Not at all
Religious | | | | Moderately
Religious | | | | Very
Religious |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | |

Have you ever been concerned about your Internet pornography use or has anyone ever told you that they are concerned about your Internet pornography use?

- Yes
- No

Have you ever know someone who has viewed pornography depicting an individual less than 18 years old?

- Yes
- No

Have you ever known anyone who has been accused, charged, or convicted of a child pornography?

_____ Yes _____ No

If yes, do you believe the person was innocent or guilty (regardless of the outcome)?

_____ Yes _____ No

REFERENCES

- Ahlers, C. J., Schaefer, G. A., Mundt, I. A., Roll, S., Englert, H., Willich, S. N., & Beier, K. M. (2011). How unusual are the contents of paraphilias? Paraphilia-associated sexual arousal patterns in a community-based sample of men. *Journal of Sexual Medicine*, 8, 1362–1370. doi:10.1111/j.1743-6109.2009.01597.x
- American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed.). Arlington, VA: Author.
- Beech, A. R., Elliott, I. A., Birgden, A., & Findlater, D. (2008). The Internet and child sexual offending: A criminological review. *Aggression and Violent Behaviour*, 13, 216-228. doi:10.1016/j.avb.2008.03.007
- Bensimon, P. (2007). The role of pornography in sexual offending. *Sexual Addiction and Compulsivity*, 14(2), 95-117. doi:10.1080/10720160701310468
- Briere, J., & Runtz, M. (1989). University males' sexual interest in children: Predicting potential indices of "pedophilia" in a non-forensic sample. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 13, 65–75. doi:10.1016/0145-2134(89)90030-6
- Carroll, J. S., Padilla-Walker, L. M., Nelson, L. J., Olson, C. D., Barry, C., & Madsen, S. D. (2008). Generation XXX: Pornography acceptance and use among emerging adults. *Journal of Adolescent Research*, 23(1), 6-30. doi:10.1177/0743558407306348
- Cooper, A. (1998). Sexuality and the Internet: Surfing into the new millennium. *Cyberpsychology & Behavior*, 1(2), 187-193. doi:10.1089/cpb.1998.1.187

- Cooper, A., Delmonico, D. L., & Burg, R. (2000). Cybersex users, abusers, and compulsives: New findings and implications. *Sexual Addiction & Compulsivity*, 7, 5–29.
doi:10.1080/10720160008400205
- Faul, F., Erdfelder, E., Buchner, A., & Lang, A.-G. (2009). Statistical power analyses using G*Power 3.1: Tests for correlation and regression analyses. *Behavior Research Methods*, 41, 1149-1160.
- Faul, F., Erdfelder, E., Lang, A.-G., & Buchner, A. (2007). G*Power 3: A flexible statistical power analysis program for the social, behavioral, and biomedical sciences. *Behavior Research Methods*, 39, 175-191.
- Finkelhor, D., & Jones, L. (2012). *Have sexual abuse and physical abuse declined since the 1990s?* Durham, NH: Crimes Against Children Research Center.
- Jenkins, P. (2001). *Beyond tolerance: Child pornography on the Internet*. New York, NY: New York University Press.
- Lam, A., Mitchell, J., & Seto, M. C. (2010). Lay perceptions of child pornography offenders. *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 52, 173-201.
doi:10.3138/cjccj.52.2.173
- Mears, D. P., Mancini, C., Gertz, M., & Bratton, J. (2008). Sex crimes, children, and pornography: Public views and public policy. *Crime & Delinquency*, 54, 532-559.
doi:10.1177/0011128707308160
- Middleton, D., Mandeville-Norden, R., & Hayes, E. (2009). Does treatment work with internet sex offenders? Emerging findings from the Internet Sex Offender Treatment Programme (i-SOTP). *Journal of Sexual Aggression*, 15(1), 5-19. doi:10.1080/13552600802673444

- Motivans, M., & Kyckelhan, T. (2007). Federal prosecution of child sex exploitation offenders, 2006. *Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin* (Report No. NCJ 219412). Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics. Retrieved from www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/fpcseo06.pdf
- Quayle, E., & Taylor, M. (2003). Model of problematic Internet use in people with sexual interest in children. *CyberPsychology & Behavior*, 6(1), 93–106.
doi:10.1089/109493103321168009
- Seto, M. C. (2008). *Pedophilia and sexual offending against children: Theory, assessment, and intervention*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. doi:10.1037/11639-000
- Seto, M. C. (2013). *Internet sex offenders*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Seto, M. C., Cantor, J. M., & Blanchard, R. (2006). Child pornography offenses are a valid diagnostic indicator of pedophilia. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 115(3), 610-615.
doi:10.1037/0021-843X.115.3.610
- Seto, M. C., & Eke, A. W. (2005). The criminal histories and later offending of child pornography offenders. *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 17, 201-210. doi:10.1177/107906320501700209
- Seto, M. C., Hanson, R. K., & Babchishin, K. M. (2011). Contact sexual offending by men with online sexual offenses. *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 23, 124-145.
doi: 10.1177/1079063210369013

- Twohig, M. P., Crosby, J. M., & Cox, J. M. (2009). Viewing Internet pornography: For whom is it problematic, how, and why?. *Sexual Addiction & Compulsivity*, 16(4), 253-266.
doi:10.1080/10720160903300788
- U.S. Department of Justice. (2017). *Uniform Crime Reports, 2017*. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office. Retrieved from <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017>
- U.S. Department of Justice. (2010). *The National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction: A report to Congress*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved from <http://www.justice.gov/psc/docs/natstrategyreport.pdf>
- U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Justice Statistics. (2017). *Federal prosecution of commercial sexual exploitation of children cases, 2004-2013* (NCJ 250746). Retrieved from <https://www.ncjrs.gov/App/Publications/abstract.aspx?ID=272915>
- U.S. Sentencing Commission. (2012). Federal child pornography offenses. Retrieved from <https://www.ussc.gov/research/congressional-reports/2012-report-congress-federal-child-pornography-offenses>
- U.S. Sentencing Commission. (2019). 2019 Federal Sentencing Statistics. Retrieved from <https://www.ussc.gov/research/data-reports/geography/2019-federal-sentencing-statistics>
- Virtuous Pedophiles (2021). Welcome to Virtuous Pedophiles. Retrieved from <https://www.virped.org>.

- Wakefield, H. (2006). The vilification of sex offenders: Do laws targeting sex offenders increase recidivism and sexual violence? *Journal of Sexual Offender Civil Commitment: Science and the Law, 1*, 141-149. Available at: http://www.soccjournal.org/2005-06/Wakefield_2006.pdf.
- Wolak, J., Finkelhor, D., & Mitchell, K. J. (2011). Child pornography possessors: Trends in offender and case characteristics. *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment, 23*, 22-42. doi:10.1177/1079063210372143.
- Wolak, J., Finkelhor, D., Mitchell, K. J., & Jones, L. M. (2011). Arrests for child-pornography production: Data at two time points from a national sample of U.S. law enforcement agencies. *Child Maltreatment, 16*, 184-195.
- Young, K. S. (2008). Internet sex addiction risk factors, stages of development, and treatment. *American Behavioral Scientist, 52*, 21-37. doi:10.1177/0002764208321339