

PREDATOR BEHIND THE MASK

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DR SIMON | COURSE SYLLABUS | 2023

PURPOSE OF COURSE

The course is designed for a one-day session lecture format with the last hour involving case reviews and consultation of local cases so that the investigator / detective returns from the training with a more concrete understanding of the application of the training material. The purpose of this course is to provide students with a rich understanding of some of the general thought processes behind individuals who commit a variety of sex crimes against children and adolescents, and to strengthen sexual assault investigations, by providing useful tools and effective strategies for perpetrator interviewing.

COURSE OVERVIEW AND GOALS

Discuss some of the ways sex offenders manipulate and get into situations where they can exploit children. The offenders range from acquaintances to strangers who commit these offenses. This workshop will help identify the strategies these offenders use to neutralize their threat, manipulate a situation, and create an environment fostered by trust. Some of the behavioral warning signs and grooming techniques will be discussed, along with the use of rationalizations and victim blaming, interview pitfalls and strategies, and what children and parents can do.

- *Goal one is to gain an understanding of how sex offenders get into situations where they can exploit children and how sex offenders neutralize their threat.*
- *Goal two is for students to understand the psychology of behaviors of sex offending through perpetrator interviews and stages of grooming.*
- *Goal three is for students to understand how and when sex offenders may use rationalizations and victim blaming during the interview process.*
- *Goal four is for students to understand some of the offender behavioral warning signs.*
- *Goal five is for students to understand the importance of ethical interviewing and rapport building in sex offender interviewing.*
- *Goal six students will identify some of the differences between behavioral and physical warning signs of children who may have been abused.*

TOPICS OF INSTRUCTION

How Sex offenders get into situations where they can exploit children

Orientation into some research on sexual assault and child abduction murder, definition of terms, differences between male and female sex offenders and how sex offenders neutralize their threat, and how we can improve on safety.

- *Discuss the general stages of Grooming.*
- *Research/statistics on child abduction homicide*
- *Discuss some of the offender behavioral warning signs and what children and parents can do to protect themselves.*

Case Sample(s) and how they've changed laws and legislative process when it comes to sex offenses.

- *Discuss Megan's law and code "Adam."*
- *Discuss Jerry Sandusky, Larry Nassar and Jeffrey Epstein Cases*
- *Psychopathy and sexual deviant pathology in high-profile child-abduction murder cases and other sex crimes against children and adolescents.*

Ethical interviewing

- *Discuss fairness, credibility of evidence, rapport building, and effective strategies on how evidence is presented.*
- *The importance of being aware of your own behavior and others present or nearby.*
- *Behavioral strategies for increasing odds of obtaining offender confessions.*
- *Discuss offenders' use of rationalizations and blaming during the interview process.*

Case Review and Consultation

- *class participants will have the option to provide a case review for the instructor, who will provide consultation of a local case so that the investigator /officer returns from the training with a more concrete understanding of the application of the training material.*

