

## MODULE 1: SEX OFFENSES, OFFENDERS AND VICTIMS

### *Types & Typologies of Sex Offenders:*

Efforts to typologize rapists have come up with a series of characteristics regarding rapists. Overall, early attachment experiences of all offenders tend to be overwhelming negative. But for rapists, the most negative experiences appear to be with their fathers, whereas the most negative experience with pedophiles tend to be with their mothers.

Rapists also have higher rates of reported rejection, neglect and physical abuse, more likely to experience disruptions of attachments through debt, divorce, abandonment, or sexual abuse, have higher arousal from viewing consensual sex than non-consensual, or have arousal difficulties. Also, rapists tend to hold negative views toward women in general. They endorse rape myths. They condone violence. They have a fixation with the masculine role. They also have a sense of worthlessness and low self esteem. They're also often in negative emotional states and, generally, they have issues with mismanagement of aggression.

One of the most classic characterizations of rapists are the contrast between unselfish and selfish rapists. The unselfish rapist will often exhibit verbal, sexual, or physical behavior all in a way that indicates concern for the victim. In many cases, this same behavior may be manifested in a "pseudo-unselfish" way, which indicates that their concern for the victim's welfare is just part of the con to convince the woman to cooperate.

The unselfish rapist are the types of rapists that are most likely to reveal unnecessary and potentially revealing information about themselves during the conversation, although, typically, their language contains no profanity. Many times unselfish rapists have been talked into leaving and coming back later when the police are actually waiting for them. These type of rapists are also careless about their weapons. They usually put them down somewhere, often within reach of the victim during the rape. Most the time, the gun is unloaded or it's a fake.

Comparatively, this selfish rapist does not desire the victim to become involved at all. This type of rapist is derogatory toward the victim. They will use the victim's body the same way as one uses a prop, a doll or a mannequin. Conversation throughout the event will be consistently threatening and sexual in nature. And, should the victim complain of any discomfort, the selfish rapist will be undisturbed. Finally, almost any spontaneous comment by the victim may be met with force.

Another classic typology of rapists has been referred to as Groth's Typology. Groth came up with four types of rapist: an anger rapist, a power rapist, sadistic rapist, and opportunistic rapist. An anger rapist uses rape to degrade or humiliate women, expresses much profanity, attacks often prompted by some marital conflict, occupational or financial problem.

Comparatively, for the power rapist, these rapists use rape to express sexual conquest, established masculine identity, and also likely kidnap the victim for repeated assaults over an extended period of time. The sadistic rapist often uses torture or bondage to experience sexual arousal over the

victim's suffering, frequently targets prostitutes or promiscuous women, or women who symbolize something he wants to destroy or punish. Finally, opportunistic rapists often rape and meet nonsexual needs. Essentially, they're adventure-seeking, impulsive, and recreational offenders.

A third classic type of rapist typologies is the fixated offender. The fixated offender has been described as having a persistent, continual and compulsive attraction to children. They're often diagnosed with pedophilia or recurrent, intense, sexually arousing fantasies of at least six months in duration involving prepubescent children. Finkelhor classifies these offenders as exclusively involved with children, and points out that they are usually not related to their victims, and are attracted to children from adolescence.

Yet another typology has to do with sex-pressure sex offenders versus sex-force sex offenders. Sex-pressure sex offenders often entice or entrap their victim. They would prefer the victim to cooperate and, should the victim resist, these types of offender usually will not follow through with committing the act.

Comparatively sex-force offenders often use intimidation or physical aggression. They may be drawn to their victim primarily because the victim is easily overpowered and may present less resistance than an adult. The victim is used purely as a means of sexual release. , Finally, sex-force sadistic type offenders must inflict pain in order to achieve sexual gratification.