Assessment and treatment of children with harmful sexual behavior in **Iceland**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Working group on responses to violence against children 6th October 2020

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FRAMEWORK

- From 2009
- Children up to 18 years old
- Intervention based on individual needs of the child
- Holistic approach where the emphasis is on working towards healthy sexuality
- Strength based







Normal

- Developmentally expected
- Socially acceptable
- Consensual, mutual, reciprocal
- Shared decision making

Inappropriate

- Single instances of inappropriate behaviour
- Socially acceptable within peer group
- Context may be inappropriate
- Generally consensual or reciprocal

Problematic

- Problematic or concerning behaviours
- Developmentally unusual or socially unexpected
- Consent unclear
- Lacking reciprocity or equal power
- May include compulsivity

Abusive

- Victimising intent/outcome
- Misuse of power
- Coercion/force to ensure victim compliance
- Intrusive
- Lacking informed consent or not able to be freely given
- May include expressive violence

Violent

- Physically violent sexual abuse
- Highly Intrusive
- Instrumental violence which is physiologically/sex ually arousing for the perpetrator
- Sadism

TYPES OF BEHAVIOR AND REFERRALS

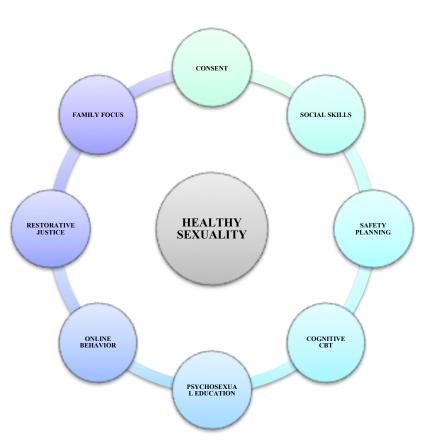


Charecteristics of children In treatment

Age	5-18	onset of at 14 in HSB12 treatment
Cases	200	38% low risk, 10% boys 95% high risk
Disabilities	ADHD, ADD, ODD	Learning Autism, 70% difficulties anger
Victims	60% related	65% girls 11 years 10% more than one



TREATMENT

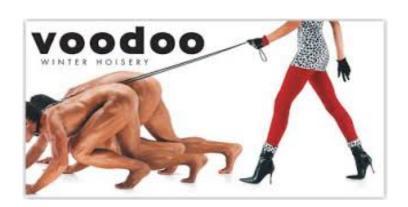


- Intensity and duration is matched to risk factors and needs
 - Low 10-12sessions
 - Medium 14-16 sessions
 - High 18+ sessions
- Children with developmental issues need more
- Younger children more parental involvement











What are we up against?



CHALLENGES



- Labelling /Referrals
- Schools / playschools
- Lack of knowledge regarding normal sexual behavior
- Online behavior
- First contact /rapid response
- "Old cases"
- How to talk to children about sexuality/consent





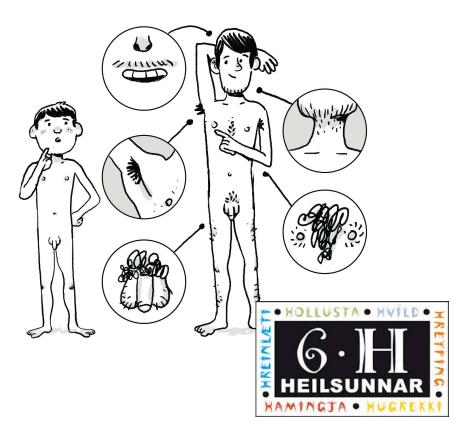














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