



14th National Indian Nations Conference

CASOM: Building Relationships to Enhance your Tribe's Sex Offender Management Program and the Importance of Victim Centeredness



Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management (CASOM)

- Exists on two “levels” and addresses three questions:
 - The Fundamental Principles
 - How should we do this work?
 - The Core Components
 - What should be done in order to manage sex offenders effectively?
 - Who should be involved?

How Should We do This Work?

- Fundamental Principles



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Comprehensive Approach Fundamental Principles



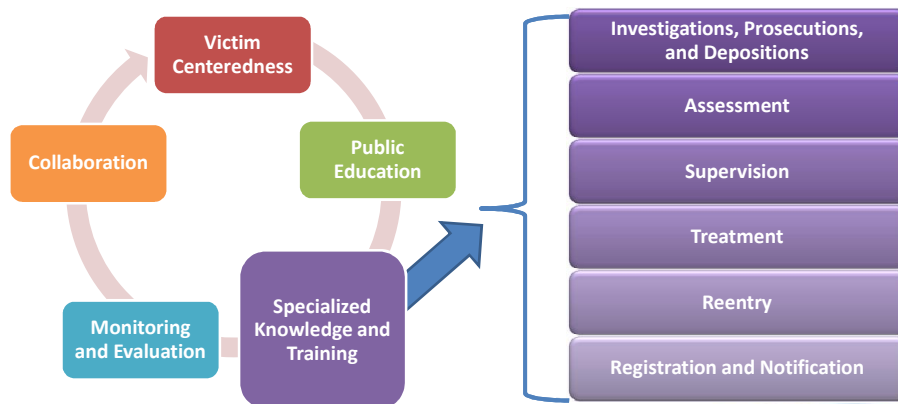
Carter, Bumby, and Talbot,
2004 CSOM *Comprehensive Approach Publication*

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Core Components Level

- What should be done in order to manage sex offenders effectively?
- Who should be involved?

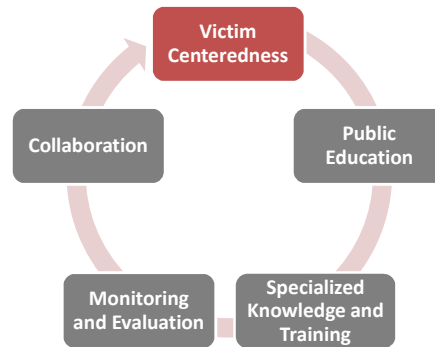
Comprehensive Approach Core Components



Carter, Bumby, and Talbot,
2004 CSOM Comprehensive Approach Publication

Victim Centeredness

- “What is in the best interest for the safety of the victim and the public?”

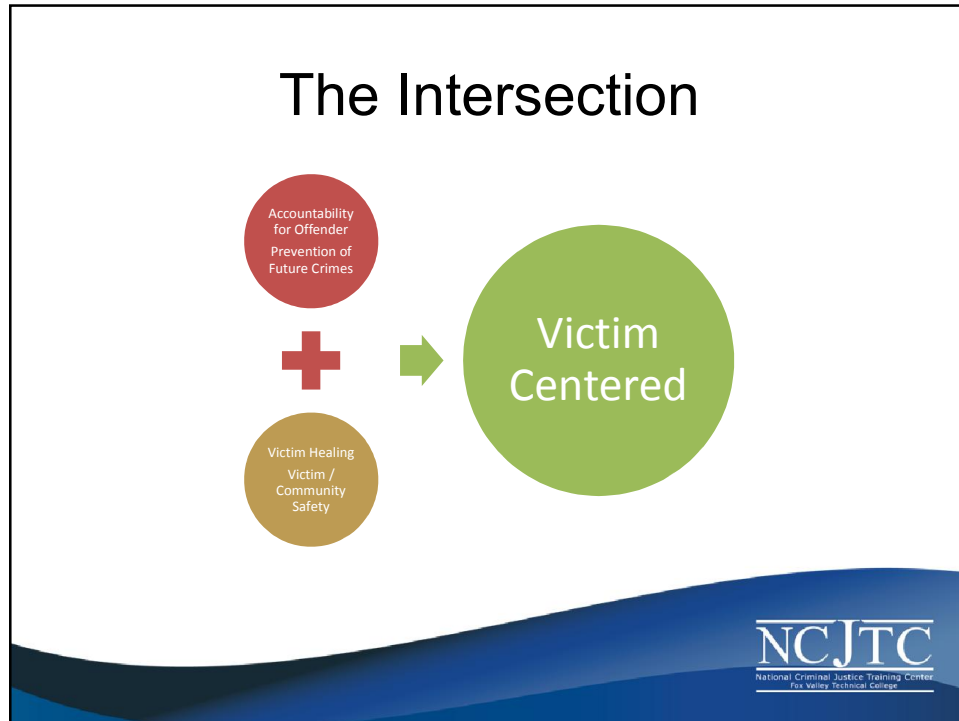


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Victim Centered Response

- Focus is on the needs and concerns of a sexual assault victim during all phases of the justice system response
- Purpose is to ensure the compassionate and sensitive delivery of services in a nonjudgmental manner.

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- ## How to Be Victim Centered...
- Victim safety must be the main priority
 - Include victim advocates in the sex offender management program
 - Keep victims informed and provide opportunities for victims to have their voices heard where necessary and appropriate
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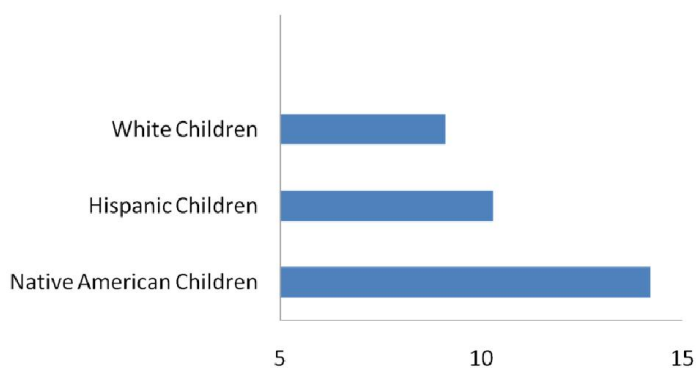
Victimization Rates

- American Indian women experience sexual assault at rates 3.5 times greater than other groups
- Sexual Assault is one of the most underreported crimes, with males being least likely to report

American Indians and Crime, 1999
National Center for Victims of Crime 2007



Native American Victims



Per 1,000 children
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
Administration on Children, Youth and Families



US Census Bureau, 2010 Census Briefs

- Approximately 5.2 million AI/AN
- This number is expected to be 8.6 million by 2050
- About 30% of the AI/AN population was younger than 18 years old in 2010, the average age of AI/AN individuals was 29.0, and the average age of Americans was 37.2 years

Reasons Victims Do Not Report Their Crime



Why Not Report?

- Shame
- Embarrassment
- Self-blame
- Feels that they or their loved ones would be endangered
- Fear of:
 - media exposure
 - further injury / retaliation
 - nothing will be done about the crime
 - not being believed

National Center for Victims of Crime

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Native Americans ... Why Not Report?

- Perpetrators are not brought to justice
- Lack of police response
- Insufficient access to forensic examination
- Minimal probability of prosecution

Amnesty International

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HOW ARE VICTIMS IMPACTED BY SEXUAL ASSAULT



Long Term Affects Of Child Sexual Abuse

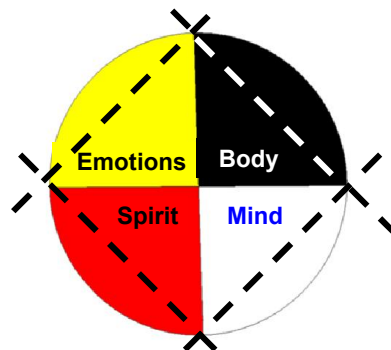
- Damaged self-image
- Shame
- Self destructive behaviors
- Depression/ isolation
- Anger
- Distrust
- Fear
- Emotional ups & downs



Possible Long Term Effects of Victims of Sexual Assault

- Low self esteem
- Self destructive behaviors (eating disorders, cutting)
- History of bad relationships/no relationships
- Alcohol/drug abuse
- Depression/suicidal tendencies
- Promiscuity/aversion to sex
- Physical problems/undiagnosed illnesses
- Hopelessness

How Sexual Assault Hurts Victims



--- Sexual Assault Violation

Victim Response

- No one right way
- May also be affected by personal factors:
 - responsibilities,
 - clan position,
 - reaction from others...
- Expressed vs. suppressed response

What are Some of the SORNA Issues that Tribes Face?

- Tribal Level
- State Level
- Federal Level

What are Some of the SORNA Issues that Tribes Face?

- Tribal Level
 - Resources
 - Shortage of programs
 - Lack of jail and/or poor conditions
 - Politics
- Tribes are innovative
 - What is available within community
 - Making it work

What are Some of the SORNA Issues that Tribes Face?

- State Level
 - Resources
 - Relationship between the Nation/Tribe and the State
 - Good, Bad?
 - Agreements in place?
 - Complex jurisdictions
 - Training

What are Some of the SORNA Issues that Tribes Face?

- Federal Level
 - We are the Federal government, here to help you
 - Bureaucracy and red tape
 - Feds are used to working with State and Local government, Tribes are sometimes over looked
 - Lack of knowledge on cultural and traditions
 - Lack of agreements, contacts, cooperation, relationships
 - Lack of planning and coordination, of inmates for a smooth return

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Community Policing

- Law Enforcement needs to work with the community
 - Many are responsible for registration
 - Have access to National Law Enforcement Databases
 - NCIC, NSOR, etc.
 - Investigate SORNA violations
 - Sharing of information
 - Most are 24/7 operation
 - Help monitor offenders
 - Point of contact for other agencies
 - Responsible for community and public safety

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Community Policing

- Working with the community to address and solve problems
- Collaborative partnerships and teamwork approach
- Working with community to address SORNA issues
- Community members working the Patrol Officers at the lower level
- Having multiple stakeholders

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Community Policing

- Ensures victim and community safety
- Multidisciplinary and multiagency collaboration
- Planning for release of sex offenders
 - Sex offender programs
 - Rehabilitation
 - Working with offenders
- Community supervision
 - Knowledge of community
 - SORNA requirements understood

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Community Policing

- Agreements
 - With other jurisdictions
 - Public Trust
 - Offender Accountability
 - Victim protection
 - Bridges challenges between jurisdictions
 - Train one another

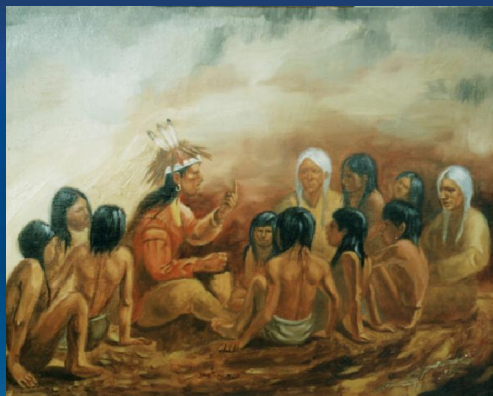
Community Roles

- Offender come back to the community
- Can't lock up forever
- Difficulties related to coming back to community
 - Myths
 - Recidivism rates
 - Treatments that don't work
 - High profile cases
 - Negative opinions
 - Increased protection areas
 - Laws

Community Roles

- Knowledge of return
- Shared responsibilities
- Help with transition
 - Family
 - AA/NA sponsors
 - Employers
 - Faith communities
 - Traditional healers

Community Notification/ Education Meetings



CASOM Notification Meeting

- Widespread notification is needed for offenders who are considered to have a high likelihood to re-offend
- High risk may include assessment of many factors to identify their level of risk to the community
- Different from SORNA tiering and notification requirements

Notification Meetings

- Provide an opportunity to educate the community about sex offenders and sexual offending
- Provide information on the offender
- Make recommendations on how to safeguard family members as well as the community
- Provide tips that enhance personal safety
- Dispel myths

Community Meetings

- Provide a forum to educate citizens about sex offenders in general (known and unknown)
- Helps citizens see the big picture
- Helps them understand their vested interest in the offender's success
- Gives them tools to protect themselves and their family
- Assists LE/P&P by getting quality calls



Proactive Education

- Focuses attention on the problem of sexual abuse
- Part of sexual violence prevention and victim advocacy mission
- Helps protect the community
- Is community policing at its best
 - Gets the public involved in public safety



PURPOSE OF COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION/EDUCATION

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Community Education Programs

- Teach Victims and Community about
 - Sex Offenders
 - Offending Behavior
- Provide Community Member Tools to
 - Prevent and
 - Reduce potential for victimization
- Provide Resource Information for
 - Victims,
 - Offenders, and
 - Their families

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Benefits of Community Notification/Education



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Benefits

- Supports SORNA implementation and sustainability
- Gains community and tribal council support
- Brings sexual abuse out of the shadows
- Emphasizes prevention of sexual violence
- Provides accurate information/dispels myths

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Benefits

- Minimizes harassment and other reaction to offenders within the community
- Helps with offender reentry
- Ensures compliance for offenders without community supervision
- Assists with the development of a comprehensive sex offender management program (integrates all tribal agencies)



Benefits

- The public feels empowered
- The public is less anxious
- It gets the community involved



How Victims Might be Involved

- Victim notification
- Assist with supervision planning
- Identify monitoring/supervision resources
- General community education
- Safety planning/wrap around

What Good Sex Offender Management Can Do

- Ensure victim rights across a spectrum of their experiences
- Promote victim healing and access to resources
- Prevent re-victimization
- Promote effective offender re-entry
- Inform and educate the community

Effective Sex Offender Management Strategies

- Do Not:
 - overlook the needs of victims
 - re-traumatize or negatively impact victims
 - inadvertently jeopardize the safety of victims or community members



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Review ...Questions?

