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Sex Offenders and Non-Sex Offenders**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Presented in this report are the findings of a study that compares the background characteristics and offense behavior of a group of juveniles who have been convicted of at least one sex offense to a group of delinquent offenders who have never been convicted of a sex offense. The sample for this study consists of 256 convicted male juvenile offenders included in a needs assessment survey conducted in 1990 by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS).

The results of the needs assessment served as the source of baseline descriptive information on each member of the sample. Additional descriptive data on the sexual offending behavior of the juveniles who were convicted of sex offenses were collected from DSHS Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation case files. Criminal history and reoffense information during a three-year follow-up period was collected from multiple official sources. This information included new convictions as juveniles or adults, as well as length of incarceration in juvenile or adult facilities within the State of Washington.

The study found that:

- Juvenile sex offenders have some unique characteristics, but share many more characteristics with non-sex offenders. The sex offenders were significantly more likely than the non-sex offenders to have been victims of sexual abuse. They were also more likely to be assessed as having a major mental health dysfunction, to need health or dental hygiene education, to have no age appropriate peer relationships, and to have problems with sexual identity.
- Juvenile sex offenders may comprise a “hidden” population that more closely resembles normative adolescent populations than delinquent populations on a number of variables related to problem behaviors. The juvenile sex offenders were more likely to have been performing adequately in school prior to commitment. They were less likely to have prior convictions of any kind, and had fewer convictions. The sex offenders were far less likely than the non-sex offenders to be using or abusing drugs and/or alcohol.
- The sex offenders presented a lower risk of reoffending during the follow-up period than the non-sex offenders. None of the sex offenders were convicted of a new sex offense during the follow-up period. When the sex offenders did commit new offenses, they were generally non-sexual, non-violent offenses.
- The likelihood of reoffense for both the sex and non-sex offenders was highest during the first year at risk.
- In terms of offense specialization, the results provide evidence that juvenile sex offenders are not specialists, but rather are involved in other types of criminal behavior, generally to a greater extent than their involvement in sex offending. By the end of the follow-up period, only 22% of the sex offenders in this study had been exclusively convicted of sex offenses. The other 78% had been convicted on both sex and non-sex offenses.

Introduction

Concern about sexual offending among juveniles has risen dramatically within the past few years. This concern has been fueled by the growing recognition of the incidence of sexual offenses perpetrated by adolescents, the fact that the victims are predominately children, and reports that many adult sex offenders began committing sexual offenses as juveniles.

Public concern about juvenile sex offenders has put pressure on the juvenile justice system to take remedial action. As a result, policies have had to be developed for the handling of youth charged with current or prior sex offenses. The philosophy that guides policy and practice is that juveniles who commit sex offenses are somehow “different” from other delinquent offenders, and need specialized services, especially “offense-specific” treatment, in order to protect the public and prevent reoffending. Also consistent with this philosophy is the argument that juvenile sex offenders possess a “persistent tendency” and should be singled out for more severe sanctions in order to control their offense behavior.

Several provisions of the Washington State Community Protection Act reflect this belief. These provisions include: registration requirements for juvenile sex offenders; increased length of parole supervision for juvenile sex offenders; the creation of the Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative (SSODA); increased funding for “offense-specific” treatment in state-supported facilities; and funding for a segregated living unit for sex offenders within a juvenile correctional facility.

Yet, even as this philosophy regarding sex offenders has increasingly become the basis for juvenile justice policymaking, research that tests this assumption remains practically nonexistent. The research literature on juveniles who commit sex offenses is at an early stage, and the studies that have been conducted have primarily focused on juvenile sex offenders only. Thus, it cannot be determined whether the findings reveal any more about sex offenders than they do about delinquents or adolescents in general.

Research Design

This study compares the background characteristics and offense behavior of a group of juveniles who have been convicted of at least one sex offense to a group of delinquent offenders who have never been convicted of a sex offense. Additionally, the research compares the perceptions of juvenile justice system personnel as to the treatment needs of each group.

The sample for this study consists of 256 convicted male juvenile offenders included in a needs assessment survey conducted in 1990 by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS).¹ The survey instrument was used to collect case-level data on offender characteristics and experiences, dysfunctional behaviors, peer/interpersonal relationships, sexuality, security issues and treatment program needs. The information necessary to complete the needs

¹ Steiger, J.C. and Knobel, D. (1991) *Profiles of Juvenile Offenders in Washington State Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation Facilities: Results from a 1990 Survey of Youth in Residence*. Olympia, WA: Department of Social and Health Services.

assessment questionnaire was primarily obtained from counselors assigned to each youth. The results of the needs assessment served as the source of baseline descriptive information on each member of the sample. Additional descriptive data on the sexual offending behavior of the juveniles who were convicted of sex offenses were collected from DSHS Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation case files. Criminal history and reoffense information during a three-year follow-up period was collected from multiple official sources. This information included new convictions as juveniles or adults, as well as length of incarceration in juvenile or adult facilities within the State of Washington.

The sample was divided into two groups based on offense history up to and including the offense(s) for which the sample members were serving sentences on February 14, 1990. Youth who had been convicted of at least one sex offense were classified as sex offenders (SOs). Youth who had never been convicted of a sex offense were classified as non-sex offenders (NSOs).

The research compared the above-defined offender groups on the basis of a rich set of background characteristics. Offender type was used as the dependent variable for this set of analyses. Chi-square analysis and t-tests were used to assess the association of each independent variable with offender type.

The treatment needs of the offender groups were also compared. Counselors were asked to consider a number of "needs" areas which were common among Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation clients, and decide whether a program which addressed the need was "Essential to Prevent Reoffending," "Desirable," or "Not Required." The treatment needs that were considered to be essential were ranked in order of frequency for each offender group. The rankings for the sex offenders were then compared to those for the non-sex offenders.

For the purposes of this study, recidivism was defined as a new conviction, either as a juvenile or as an adult, during the follow-up period. New convictions were further divided into sex offense convictions, violent offense convictions, and non-violent offense convictions.

Several methods were used to summarize the recidivism data. First, the numbers and percentages of youth in each group who were convicted of new offenses (of each type) were calculated. The association of reoffense behavior with offender type was evaluated by means of chi-square analysis. Second, the average number of new convictions for each of the offender groups was computed. The association of the number of new convictions with offender type was assessed by means of a t-test.

Follow-up life tables were used to estimate the probability of reoffense for each of the offender groups over time. Comparisons were made between the offender groups on the basis of the cumulative totals at the end of the 36-month follow-up period, as well as the patterns of reoffending over time.

Results

DESCRIPTION OF THE SAMPLE

All of the youth in the sample were serving sentences in Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation residential facilities on February 14, 1990. Approximately two-thirds (66%) of the youth were Caucasian. African American youth represented the largest single group of minority offenders (18%), followed by Hispanic (9%), Native American (5%), and Asian (1%) youth.

The average age of the offenders was 16.5 years. Most of the youth (84%) had at least one conviction prior to the offense for which they were serving a sentence in 1990. When prior as well as current convictions were considered, 59 members of the sample (23%) were categorized as sex offenders, 132 youth (52%) as violent offenders, and 65 youth (25%) as non-violent offenders.

The profile of the 59 juveniles in this study who committed sex offenses was fairly consistent with other descriptive studies. The sex offenders were not necessarily a homogeneous group, but there were several prevalent characteristics of their sex offense behavior. Most of the youth (80%) were 15 years or younger at the time of their first sex offense. The offenders had commonly been convicted of a single sex offense involving child rape or child molestation. Nine youth (15%) had been adjudicated more than once for multiple sex offenses. Although less than one-third (29%) of the offenders were convicted of rape charges, more than one-half (58%) of the offenses actually involved oral, anal or vaginal penetration. Nine percent of the sex offenders committed only hands-off sex offenses such as indecent exposure.

The sex offenses usually involved verbal coercion and were committed by one offender who acted alone. In general, the juveniles sexually offended against very young, female, Caucasian children who were living in the same household or who were at least known to them. Almost one-third of the youth (29%) committed additional sex offenses for which they were never charged. Finally, most of the juvenile sex offenders in this study (71%) had convictions for non-sexual as well as sexual offenses.

BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF OFFENDERS BY OFFENDER TYPE

One of the primary objectives of this study was to examine the relationships between several classes of background variables and offender type. Sex offenders (SOs) were compared with non-sex offenders (NSOs) on the basis of 45 background characteristics (see Appendix A for the complete results of these analyses). Of all of these variables, 12 characteristics were found to distinguish between the two groups. Table 1 reports the characteristics for which the SOs were significantly different from the NSOs.

Many of the differences between sex and non-sex offenders were those which could have been predicted from previous research. The sex offenders were significantly more likely than the non-sex offenders to have been victims of sexual abuse. They were also more likely to be assessed as having a major mental health dysfunction, to need health or dental hygiene education, to have no age appropriate peer relationships, and to have problems with sexual identity.

TABLE 1

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF SEX OFFENDERS
VS. NON-SEX OFFENDERS**

• Age	(M = 16.0 years vs. 16.7 years)
• Adequate Prior Educational Performance	(42% vs. 25%)
• No Recent Work Experience	(61% vs. 42%)
• Needs Health or Dental Hygiene Education	(54% vs. 39%)
• Documented Major Mental Health Dysfunction	(18% vs. 7%)
• No Known Use or Abuse of Drugs	(38% vs. 12%)
• No Known Use or Abuse of Alcohol	(38% vs. 14%)
• Problems with Sexual Identity	(25% vs. 8%)
• Victim of Sexual Abuse	(39% vs. 11%)
• No Age Appropriate Peer Relationships	(54% vs. 40%)
• No Prior Convictions	(30% vs. 12%)
• Number of Prior Convictions	(M = 3.9 vs. 7.0)

Also consistent with previous research was that the sex offenders may comprise a “hidden” population that more closely resembles normative adolescent populations than delinquent populations on a number of variables related to problem behaviors. The sex offenders were more likely to have been performing adequately in school prior to commitment. They were less likely to have prior convictions of any kind, and had fewer convictions. Finally, the sex offenders appeared to avoid the use of drugs and/or alcohol, which were common problem behaviors among the non-sex offenders.

The sex offenders did not differ from the non-sex offenders on several other variables for which a difference might have been predicted. For example, there were no significant differences between the groups in terms of emotional stability, need for sexual education, and a host of variables related to peer/interpersonal relationships. These variables include social problem solving skills, loner behavior, dependence upon others, exploitive and/or manipulative behavior, or excessively aggressive behavior. There were no differences between sex and non-sex offenders with regard to security issues within juvenile facilities.

TREATMENT PROGRAM NEEDS OF SEX OFFENDERS VERSUS NON-SEX OFFENDERS

For the most part, the treatment needs of sex offenders reflected their background characteristics. Not surprisingly, the most often noted essential treatment program for SOs was sex offender treatment. Sex offender treatment was considered to be essential to prevent reoffending for more than two-thirds (70%) of the sex offenders. Thus, the counselors did not think that such specialized treatment was essential for one-third of those youth convicted of sex offenses.

There was a wide range between the need for offense-specific treatment and the second most-noted program, anger management. Closer to one-third (39%) of the sex offenders were assessed to be in

need of anger management training. Family counseling (29%) was third on the list, followed by interpersonal social skills (27%), sexual abuse treatment (27%) and sex/health education (25%).

The treatment program needs of non-sex offenders often reflected the background characteristics of the group, but were somewhat different than those noted for sex offenders. The most frequently stressed program need for non-sex offenders was vocational skills training (44%), followed closely by drug/alcohol education (42%) and drug/alcohol treatment (41%). Almost one-half of the NSOs were assessed as requiring these services. Other services included anger management (32%), academic education (28%), interpersonal social skills (26%) and work-related social skills (25%).

The sex offenders were thought to require services related to sexuality, as well as family/interpersonal relationships. The non-sex offenders were thought to require some services related to family/interpersonal relationships, but the emphasis for this group was on drug/alcohol problems and education/training needs. The two groups shared a similar need for anger management, interpersonal social skills, family counseling and academic education.

There were a number of services that were not essential for either group. For example, 8% of the NSOs and only 5% of the SOs were believed to require mental health treatment. In addition, 10% of the SOs required physical abuse treatment, along with only 7% of the NSOs. Long term maximum security was essential for only 3% of the NSOs and 2% of the SOs.

RECIDIVISM PATTERNS BY OFFENDER TYPE

Number and Percent of Offenders Reconvicted by Offender Type

The most straightforward comparison to make using the recidivism data is the number and percentage of offenders in each group who were reconvicted at least once during the follow-up period. Table 2 displays this information. Note that sexual reoffending was extremely low for this sample. Only one youth was convicted of a new sex offense during the follow-up period. This youth had previously been convicted of non-sexual offenses.

In general, the sex offenders were less likely than the non-sex offenders to be convicted of new offenses of any kind. Less than one-half of the SOs (44%) were convicted of new offenses, compared to 58% of the NSOs. The SOs were only slightly less likely than the NSOs to be convicted of new violent offenses. The sex offenders were significantly less likely than the non-sex offenders to be convicted of new non-violent offenses.

In summary, none of the 59 convicted sex offenders in this study had a new sex offense conviction during the three-year follow-up period. The sex offenders were also the least likely of the offender groups to reoffend in non-sexual ways. When the SOs did recidivate, they were most likely to recidivate non-violently. The rate of non-violent recidivism among the sex offenders was almost twice the rate of violent recidivism for this group.

TABLE 2

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF OFFENDERS WHO WERE RECONVICTED DURING THE FOLLOW-UP PERIOD BY OFFENDER TYPE²

TYPE OF NEW CONVICTION	SO		NSO		χ^2
	n	%	n	%	
Sex Offense	0	0.0%	1	0.5%	NA
Violent Offense	11	18.6%	42	21.3%	.198
Non-violent Offense	22	37.3%	108	54.8%	5.585*
Any Offense	26	44.1%	115	58.4%	3.757

* $p < .05$.

Number of New Convictions by Offender Type

In addition to comparing the proportion of offenders in each group who recidivated, it is also useful to compare the mean number of new offenses committed by each group. The sex offenders had the lowest average number of new convictions (1.1). The average for the non-sex offenders was nearly twice that of the sex offenders (1.9). A t-test showed that the mean for the SOs was significantly less than that for the NSOs ($t = 2.192$; $p < .05$). Thus, the sex offenders had significantly fewer new convictions compared to the non-sex offenders.

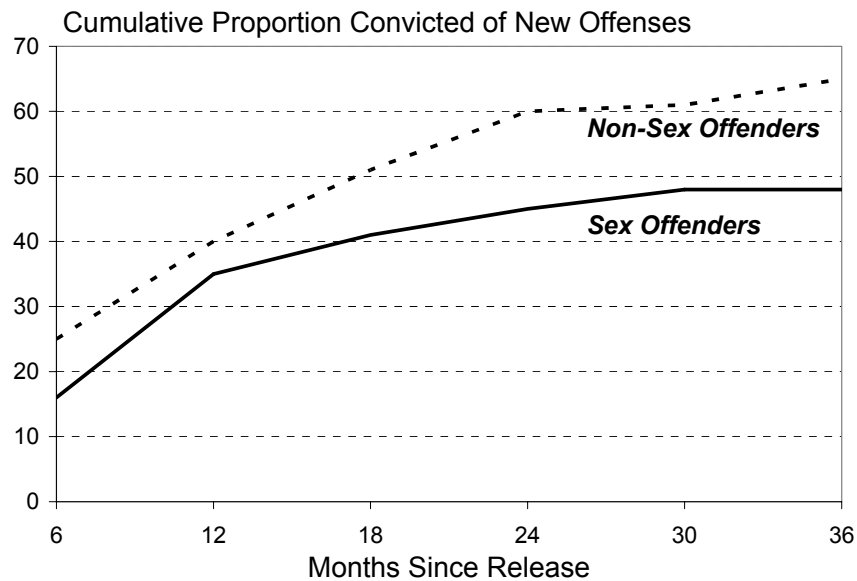
Probability of Reoffending Over Time by Offender Type

The recidivism data were also used to estimate the probability of reoffending for each offender group over time. Two sets of life tables were produced. In both cases, the time interval was defined as six months. Thus, the life table estimated the likelihood of a new conviction during each six months at risk until the end of the follow-up period. Cumulative totals were calculated for the 36 month observation period.

The first life table compares the cumulative probability of the first new conviction of any kind by months since release for each of the offender groups. The results of this analysis are presented in Figure 1. Note that the sex offenders had a lower cumulative probability of reoffense than the non-sex offenders. After three years at risk, less than one-half of the SOs (48%) were estimated to reoffend, compared to almost two-thirds (64%) of the NSOs. Both groups were most likely to reoffend during the first year at risk.

² Note: Offenders may have been reconvicted of more than one type of offense.

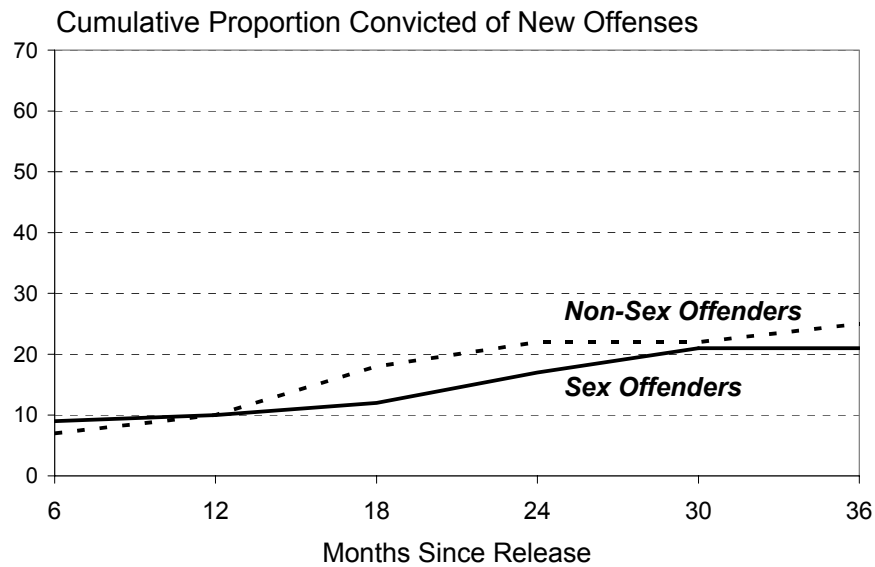
FIGURE 1
Likelihood of a New Conviction of Any Kind Following Release



The second life table compares the cumulative probability of a first sex or violent conviction by months since release for each offender group. There was actually only one new conviction for a sex offense for this sample. Thus, for this analysis, the likelihood of a new sex offense conviction was estimated in combination with the likelihood of a new non-sexual violent conviction. These estimates are very important because offenses against persons are of most concern to the public as well as to juvenile justice policymakers.

The results of this analysis for the SOs and NSOs are displayed in Figure 2. Note that the cumulative probability of a new sex/violent offense was lower for the sex offenders than for the non-sex offenders. After three years at risk, 21% of the SOs were estimated to have a new sex/violent conviction, compared to 25% of the NSOs. Both groups were most likely to be convicted of a new sex/violent offense during the first year at risk.

FIGURE 2
Likelihood of a New Sex or Violent Conviction Following Release



OFFENSE SPECIALIZATION AMONG JUVENILE SEX OFFENDERS

At the time of the needs assessment, most of the juvenile sex offenders in this study had also been convicted of non-sexual offenses. Only 29% of the juveniles had been solely convicted of sex offenses. Table 3 presents the types of offenses committed by the sex offender group by the end of the follow-up period. Note that when prior, referral and new convictions were considered, less than one-quarter (22%) of the sex offenders had been exclusively convicted of sex offenses. More than one-half (51%) of the group had been convicted of a variety of crimes, including sex, violent and non-violent offenses.

TABLE 3

TYPES OF OFFENSES COMMITTED BY SEX OFFENDERS

OFFENSE TYPE(S)	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Sex Offense Only	13	22.0%
Sex and Violent Offenses	5	8.5%
Sex, Violent and Non-violent Offenses	30	50.8%
Sex and Non-violent Offenses	11	18.6%
TOTAL	59	99.9%

The sex offense convictions for this group accounted for a relatively small proportion of the total number of convictions for the sex offenders. The 59 sex offenders had a total of 432 convictions by the end of the follow-up period. Sex offenses accounted for approximately one-quarter (24%) of these offenses. The majority of the convictions (61%) were for non-violent crimes, with the remaining 15% for violent offenses. This is not to equate sex offenses with property crimes in their impact on victims, but rather to demonstrate that “sex offenders” are commonly involved in non-sexual criminal behavior as well. These findings suggest that when a longitudinal perspective is used, sex offending among juveniles appears to be but one piece of a pattern of generalized delinquency.

Discussion and Conclusions

The results of this study have several implications for the identification and treatment of juvenile sex offenders. First, one must question the meaning of the label “sex offender” for a group whose activities range from nuisance-type crimes to very serious, violent offenses which account for a relatively small proportion of their total offending. Attaching such a specific label to these youth may have little value or significance for understanding their underlying offending patterns. The majority of these youth probably could be more appropriately thought of as generalists who in fact may present far less of a risk of sexual reoffense than commonly believed.

This is not to argue that there are no delinquents for whom attention to their disturbing sex offending behavior should be paid. Fifteen percent of the sex offenders in this study had been adjudicated more than once for separate incidents of sexual offending. Thus, the key concern should be how to identify these high risk offenders, and further, how to intervene in order to prevent reoffending. Identification may be particularly difficult in that many juveniles who commit sex offenses do not exhibit some of the problem behaviors (such as drug/alcohol use or use of a weapon during the commission of an offense) which are common among other high risk delinquents. Our ability to accurately predict the risk that individual offenders present remains limited, and in this case, could be assisted greatly by further in-depth studies of chronic sex offenders.

Even if high risk offenders could be identified, the question remains of what type of assistance to provide. In this study, “sex offender treatment” was assessed as essential to prevent reoffending for 70% of the sex offenders. But what is sex offender treatment? Sex offender treatment is intended to be “specialized”, yet often includes treatment components that can be considered nonspecific, such as: sex education; social skills training; anger management; development of responsibility for offense behavior; and development of victim empathy. Many of these interventions may be appropriate for all types of juvenile offenders. For example, in this study anger management training was assessed as essential for similar proportions of sex (39%) and non-sex (32%) offenders. Nearly equivalent proportions of youth in each group were also thought to require interpersonal social skills training (SOs = 27%; NSOs = 26%). It is unclear how interventions such as anger management and social skills training are or need to be specialized for juveniles who commit sex offenses.

One way to theoretically achieve specialized intervention has been to segregate sex offenders from the general offender population. Segregation can take the form of separate living units, treatment groups or even institutions. One of the arguments for the segregation of sex offenders is that these youth often intimidate staff and other offenders with their manipulative and/or aggressive behavior. However, in this study, the sex offenders were found to be no more likely than the non-sex offenders to be assessed as either exploitive/manipulative or excessively aggressive towards others. In addition, there were no differences between the groups in terms of verbal threats or actual assaults against staff or other youth. The sex offenders did not present a greater management or security risk within the facilities.

No controlled studies exist that demonstrate the impact on recidivism of segregating juvenile sex offenders from the general delinquent population. This fact, coupled with the findings from this study, suggest that the segregation of juvenile sex offenders is a costly approach whose worth is unproven.

In conclusion, a number of questions regarding intervention with juvenile offenders remain unanswered. This comparative study of juvenile sex offenders and non-sex offenders provides little evidence for the assumption that juveniles who commit sex offenses are specialists who require specialized treatment in order to prevent reoffending. Sex offense specific treatment programs have proliferated without a solid base of information on the target population as well as the efficacy of the treatment in comparison to nonspecific programming. We need to better understand what sex offender treatment means in our facilities for juvenile offenders, who participates, and for whom does it work. We may be trying to do too much for too many people with too little information.

**APPENDIX:
BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS BY OFFENDER TYPE**

TABLE 1

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS BY OFFENDER TYPE

VARIABLE	SO	NSO	x^2 (t)
Age at Time of Needs Assessment	M = 16.0	M = 16.7	(3.182)**
Race:			3.594
Caucasian	76.3%	62.9%	
Minority	23.7%	37.1%	

**p < .01.

TABLE 2

FAMILY/FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS BY OFFENDER TYPE

VARIABLE	SO	NSO	x^2
Family Economic Status:			NA
Adequate	36.0%	35.5%	
Marginal	50.0%	34.3%	
Inadequate	8.0%	18.9%	
NA/Left Home	6.0%	11.2%	
Relationships with Family:			3.846
No Contact	15.3%	14.8%	
Satisfactory	20.3%	32.7%	
Stressed	44.1%	33.2%	
Disrupted	20.3%	19.4%	

TABLE 3

EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT BY OFFENDER TYPE

VARIABLE	SO	NSO	χ^2
Learning Ability:			1.388
Normal	54.2%	51.0%	
Mild Disability	30.5%	37.6%	
Moderate/Severe Disability	15.3%	11.3%	
Current Educational Performance:			.622
At/Near Normal	46.2%	39.9%	
Repeated 2 or More Years	53.8%	60.1%	
Prior Educational Performance:			6.687**
Completed/Adequate	42.4%	24.9%	
Marginal/Dropout	57.6%	75.1%	
Vocational/Technical Skills:			NA
Adequate	7.7%	13.1%	
Needs Vocational Program	92.3%	86.9%	
Recent Work Experience:			6.649**
Some	38.6%	58.1%	
None	61.4%	41.9%	
Job Seeking Skills:			.417
Good	13.0%	17.7%	
Adequate	31.5%	31.5%	
Inadequate	55.6%	50.8%	
Work Habits (while in facility)			.614
Good	39.0%	37.8%	
Adequate	37.3%	45.1%	
Inadequate	23.7%	17.1%	

**p < .01.

TABLE 4

PHYSICAL/MENTAL HEALTH BY OFFENDER TYPE

VARIABLE	SO	NSO	χ^2
Special Medical Needs:			.007
None	77.6%	77.0%	
Yes	22.4%	23.0%	
Good Physical Health:			.231
Yes	91.2%	89.0%	
Care Needed	8.8%	11.0%	
Good Dental Health:			.268
Yes	88.9%	86.1%	
Care Needed	11.1%	13.9%	
Needs Health or Dental Hygiene Ed:			4.490*
No	45.8%	61.2%	
Yes	54.2%	38.8%	
General Mental Health:			5.681*
Normal	58.2%	71.3%	
Borderline	23.6%	21.8%	
Dysfunctional	18.2%	6.9%	
Suicide Tendencies:			1.342
Not Suicidal	80.7%	73.1%	
History of Attempts/Ideation	19.3%	26.9%	
Emotional Stability:			1.712
Appropriate	25.4%	28.7%	
Marginal	52.5%	58.5%	
Dysfunctional	22.0%	12.8%	
Drug Abuse:			25.481***
No Known Use	37.9%	12.1%	
Occasional Abuse	36.2%	30.0%	
Frequent Abuse	25.9%	57.9%	
Alcohol Abuse:			22.028***
No Known Use	37.9%	13.8%	
Occasional Abuse	41.4%	36.5%	
Frequent Abuse	20.7%	49.7%	

*p < .05; ***p < .001.

TABLE 5***SEXUALITY ISSUES BY OFFENDER TYPE***

VARIABLE	SO	NSO	χ^2
Needs Sexual Education: No Yes	50.8% 49.2%	42.1% 57.9%	1.399
Sexual Identity Problems: No Yes	74.6% 25.4%	91.9% 8.1%	12.770***
Needs Parenting Skills: No Yes	62.7% 37.3%	61.9% 38.1%	.012
Involved in Prostitution: No Yes	94.9% 5.1%	99.0% 1.0%	NA
History of Venereal Disease: No Yes	96.6% 3.4%	98.5% 1.5%	NA
Sexual Abuse Victim: No Yes	61.0% 39.0%	88.8% 11.2%	24.246***

***p < .001.

TABLE 6

PEER/INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS BY OFFENDER TYPE

VARIABLE	SO	NSO	χ^2
Social Problem Solving Skills:			.002
Insightful	27.6%	27.8%	
Simplistic	50.0%	50.0%	
Inadequate	22.4%	22.2%	
Age Appropriate Peer Relationships:			3.973*
Yes	45.8%	60.4%	
No	54.2%	39.6%	
Inappropriate Peer Relations:			3.654
No	74.6%	85.3%	
Yes	25.4%	14.7%	
Loner Behavior:			.060
No	79.7%	78.2%	
Yes	20.3%	21.8%	
Poor Social Skills:			3.492
No	54.2%	67.5%	
Yes	45.8%	32.5%	
Overly Dependent Upon Others:			.244
No	74.6%	77.7%	
Yes	25.4%	22.3%	
Exploits and/or Manipulates Others:			.493
No	61.0%	66.0%	
Yes	39.0%	34.0%	
Excessively Aggressive:			.565
No	74.6%	79.2%	
Yes	25.4%	20.8%	

*p < .05.

TABLE 7

SECURITY ISSUES BY OFFENDER TYPE

VARIABLE	SO	NSO	χ^2
Previous Escapes from Custody: No Yes	86.4% 13.6%	78.7% 21.3%	1.740
High Escape Risk: No Yes	93.2% 6.8%	83.8% 16.2%	NA
Verbal Threats: No Yes	59.3% 40.7%	61.9% 38.1%	.130
Assaults (routine security needed): No Yes	74.6% 25.4%	72.1% 27.9%	.142
Assaults (special security needed): No Yes	91.5% 8.5%	93.9% 6.1%	.416
Ever Used Weapon During Offense: No Yes	83.1% 16.9%	80.7% 19.3%	.163
Precommitment Gang Affiliation: None Wannabe Member	86.0% 10.5% 3.5%	76.9% 13.4% 9.7%	NA

TABLE 8

CRIMINAL HISTORY BY OFFENDER TYPE

VARIABLE	SO	NSO	χ^2 (t)
Prior Conviction(s):			11.973***
No	30.5%	11.7%	
Yes	69.5%	88.3%	
Age at First Conviction	M = 13.4	M = 13.4	NS
Number of Prior Convictions	M = 3.9	M = 7.0	(4.100)***
Prior Commitment(s):			.921
No	74.6%	68.0%	
Yes	25.4%	32.0%	
Age at First Commitment	M = 15.0	M = 15.2	NS
Number of Prior Commitments	M = 0.4	M = 0.6	NS

p < .01; *p < .001.