



# Talk To Me...About The Warm Up? • What Did You Think? • Subjective Scale: 1 (Very) – 3 (Not At ALL) • Rate: Fun? Easy? Comfortable? • Objectively: What Did You Notice? • WHY: Purpose/Goals • Lighten Mood: Comfort W/Each Other, Ease Anxiety • "Foreplay" To Discussing Sex • PRELUDE, Coming Attractions. . .











### "TYPICAL" Adolescence

- Biology (Physical/Sexual)
  - Interest, Arousal, Exploration, Frustration
- Emotional/Behavioral
  - Resistant, "Act out", Testing Limits - IS The NORM
  - And Their Developmental "Job" - Milestone
- Social Life (Rich & Complex)
  - Relationships, Opportunities, Experiences
  - All About PEERS VS Family/Adults (Take a Backseat)
- Cognitive (Sexual Knowledge)
  - Incidental Learning: Social Norms/Practices
  - Access: Resources & Media
  - Formal Classes: "Sex Education"



### **OUR Kids Adolescence**

- "Secondary Disorder": AMES(EN(E
- Biology: Physical/Sexual = NO Different
  - Rate of Development = Peers
  - Biological Drive = Peers
- Environmental: Significant Difference
  - Meaning: Daily Experience, Not Physical Setting Per Se
  - Typical vs. "Atypical" EFFECTS -
    - Behavior & Attitudes
    - Knowledge: <u>ALWAYS</u> Less Vs. Peers...So They Say



### "ATYPICAL" Environment: Influences & Impact

- Cognitive: Sexual Knowledge
  - Societal Norms/Practices = Don't "Get it"
  - Resources & Media = Access: Limited Or "Wrong"
  - Typical "Sex Ed" = Don't Understand Or Insufficient
- Social Arena (With Peers) = Impeded/Lacking
  - Age Typical Experiences & Opportunities
  - Primary Influence: ADULTS NOT Peers



### **Professional Influences**

- Discomfort
- Misconceptions
- Training, Policies, Guidelines = Inadequate
- Range: Of Personal Beliefs/Attitudes
- RESULT → Approach To Deal With
  - Rely on Personal Values
  - Often Governed By Fear /Anxiety
  - Resort To "Policing Behavior" → Not On My Watch
  - Or Ignore, Turn A Blind Eye , Until Unavoidable...
  - At times . . . PANIC!!!! (Understandably)















### **Nature:** Inherent Risk Factors

- Communication: Identify, Express, Describe
- Emotional: Understanding, Rigidity, Regulation
- Self Awareness: Personal Care, Hygiene, Grooming
- Social: Connection & Relatedness To Peers → Isolation
  - Reticence: Less Likely to Disclose
  - Defenseless: No Friends/Peers To Intervene
  - Loneliness: Susceptible To Perpetrator Tactics



### Nurture: Breeding Risk

- Nurture: Culture Of Disability
  - Impact Of A Child's Disability On Their Quality Of Life Very Much Depends On How Others Treat Them.
  - \*Mark Bellis, Lead Researcher WHO (2012)
- Well-Intended Adults Inadvertently Contribute
  - Regard: Eternally Young, Less Capable
  - Practices: Ignore, Excuse, Enable, Avoid
  - Over-Rely: On External Control & Direction
- Our Vision & Efforts Are Out of Sync
  - Aspire to Enrich Quality of Life → Long Term
  - Invest In Less Meaningful Pursuits Short Term





### Right Lessons We Fail To Teach

- Societal Norms & Customs (Unwritten)
- Social/Sexual Knowledge, Concepts, Terms
- Relationships: Navigation & Dynamics
  - Peer Alliances: Instill Value, Desire & Abilities
- Self Sufficiency & Independence
  - Becoming The Boss Of Me
- Social Competence & Confidence
- Self Advocacy & Rights



### Wrong Lessons We DO Teach

- Encourage Passivity & Compliance To Authority
- Dependence On Others (Basic Needs)
- Endorse Acceptance of Atypical Behavior
- Obscure (Muddy) Social Boundaries
- Prolong Relying On Adults For Social Sustenance
- Promote Asexuality: "Sex" Is A Non-Subject
  - Don't Ask / Don't Tell
- > ALL In ALL... A TREACHEROUS Combination





**PROGRAMMING** 





### Forecasting: Prospective Approach

- Prediction
  - Emergence: Social/Behavior Needs & Deficits
  - Trajectory:  $3 \rightarrow 8$ ,  $5 \rightarrow 10$ ,  $15 \rightarrow 20$ , etc
  - Time Is Not On Our Side
    - Problems/Deficits → Compound
    - Norms <u>VS</u> Abilities → Diverge
- Pre-Emption
  - Insulation Tips: Early & Progressive Renovations
  - ■ Susceptibility As Targets, ↑ Resistance To Tactics
  - Theme: Typical Norms → Guide Expectations



### **Early Foundations**

- Personal Self Care: Skills, Routines & Habits
- · Toileting, Dressing, Bathing... ASAP
  - Disrobe & Re-dress: Within Designated Areas
  - Privacy: Closing The Door, Knocking
- Potty Proficiency & Habits
  - Degree of Undress: Don't Be That Guy
    - Pants to Ankles? Naked to Poop?
  - Wiping: 3 VS 10 Years?



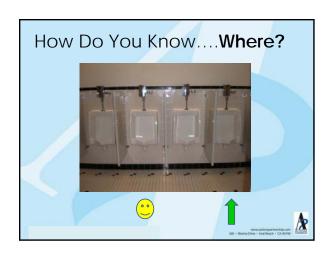
### Social Awareness

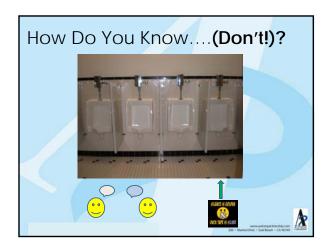
- Personal Space & Boundaries
- Learned From What We Model, Shape & Teach
- Younger Kids
  - Don't Allow: Grabbing, Climbing, Touching (Space Invaders)
  - Teach: Proper Distance in Approach, Sitting, Standing Permission, etc.
- Older Kids
  - Don't Promote: Adult "Friends", Tickling, Hugging, Wrestling
  - Teach: Limit Physical Interaction To Family Or Close Friends
  - Apply (Public Urinals): Which One? Looking? Chatting?









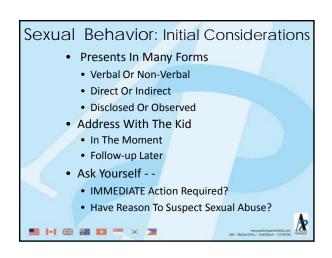


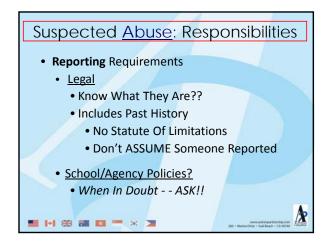
## Social Understanding Functional Concepts/Continuums • Personal/Private ←→ General/Public • Applied To: Information, Settings & Behavior • "Cool ← → Not Cool" Project Ahead: Anticipate & Prepare Sooner Vs Later, (EXS) Middle School- • Locker Rooms: Space, Looking, Chatting...Familiar? • Not A Big Leap, IF Public Urinals were Mastered • Menstruation: When & How to Begin?



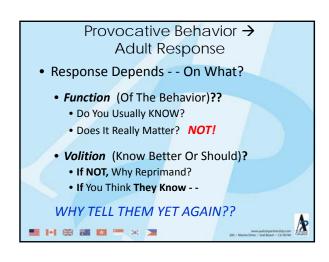




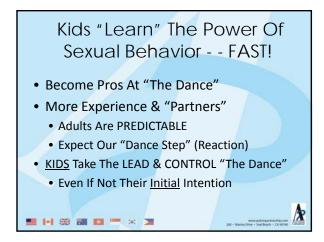






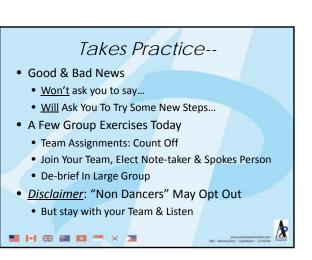
















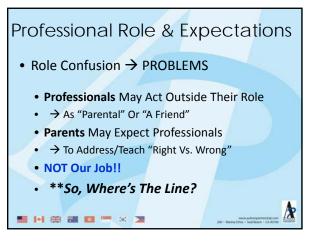








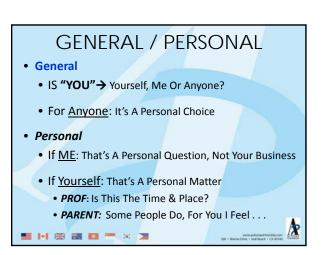




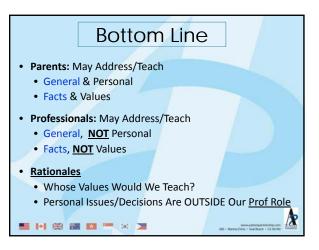


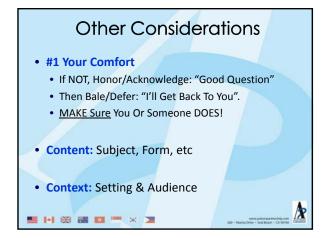












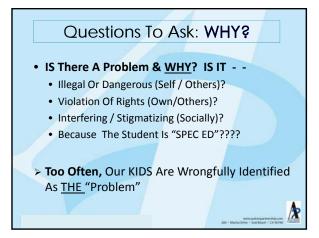


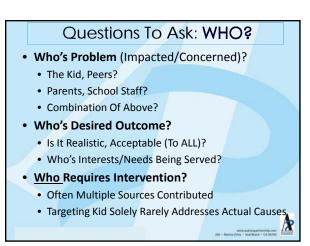


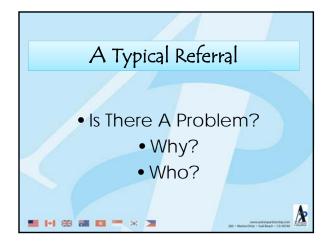














### Summary: Assessment Considerations • Quite Commonly - • Expectations: Not Reasonable /Realistic • Age Typical Norms Ignored • True Sources NOT Identified

- Deficits & Needs <u>NOT</u> Addressed
   We Fail To Consider The Part We Play
- > \*\*POINT: Don't Assume! ASK The Questions!!





### **Behavioral Perspective**

- Regardless, A Problem May Exist
  - If Not Addressed, Only Gets Worse
- Comprehensive ABA, Beyond Scope & Time
  - VERY Brief Introduction To
    - Understanding Behavior
    - Intervention: Reactive & Proactive
- > Emphasis On Proactive Programs



### Understanding Behavior ALL Behavior: Adaptive, Maladaptive, Sexual or Not Happens For A Reason: Instinct Or Learned, Examples Instinctive: Physical Stimulation → Arousal Respondent: Hot Interest → Arousal Operant: Bored → Touching ← Attention Is Predictable-If You Know & Read The Signs Assessing Why It Occurs Is Step #1

### Nature & Drive

- What's The Nature?
  - Is It TRULY Sexual?
  - Possibly Related to Victimization?
  - Age Typical?
- What's Driving It?
  - What Events Trigger? Maintain It?
  - Is It Due to Skill Deficits?
  - How Much Is <u>Respondent</u> (Reflexive) Vs <u>Operant</u> (Voluntary)?



### Operant Behavior

- Controlled: By Consequences (Outcome)
- Functional: Serves Purpose & Changes Depending On
  - If Needs Met → Continues Or Increases
  - If Not Met→ Stops or Decreases
- Model To Clues: A→B←C
  - A: Antecedent

- B: Behavior
- C: Consequence



# B = Behavior • Avoid Generalities "Sexual Behavior" • Often More Than One Behavior • Each May Serve Different Needs (Functions) • (Examples): Behavior → Needs Met • Sexual Comments → Reaction Or Engagement • Sexual Questions → Gain Information • Instead Identify & Describe Each Specifically





