

2016 NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

ON SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

JULY 26–27 | KANSAS CITY MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN, KANSAS CITY, MO

ADAM WALSH ACT

10th

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The Sex Offender Management, Assessment and Planning Initiative (SOMAPI)

SOMAPI Summary and Future Directions



SMART

Presentation Outline

- SOMAPI status
- Current research limitations and needs
- SMART Office future directions
- Potential future directions
- Audience input

Sex Offender Management Assessment and Planning Initiative

- Fall 2016:
 - Update literature review chapters
 - Develop 1-page topic summaries
 - Convene NCJA Advisory Board

Current Research Limitations and Needs

- Need to develop a common definition of/time parameters for sexual offending, and use behaviorally descriptive questions to measure incidence and prevalence
- Limitations based on under-reporting of sex crimes and self-report of offenders
- Need to study sexual assault prevention, and socio-cultural factors related to sexual violence
- Need to study protective factors and how they interact with risk factors, as well as strengths-based approaches such as the Good Lives Model

Current Research Limitations and Needs

- Lack of validated risk assessment instruments and research-supported intervention strategies for certain populations (e.g., internet offenders, female offenders, etc.)
- Need for consistency in communication of risk measurement including qualitative descriptors and numerical estimates, and the limits of such estimates (e.g., timeframe)
- Need for validation of juvenile risk assessment and adult dynamic risk assessment instruments
- Need for proper training on the use of risk assessment instruments

Current Research Limitations and Needs

- Recidivism studies
 - Differences in recidivism measures and length of follow-up periods make cross-comparison challenging
 - Need for longer follow-up timeframes
 - Focus specifically on different types of offenders
 - Need more information on the characteristics of the sample and the intervention provided

Current Research Limitations and Needs

- Need more high-quality treatment studies (e.g., RCT and quasi-experimental design)
 - Ensure similarity between intervention and comparison groups
- Systematic reviews and meta-analyses must use prudent exclusionary criteria
- Specifying what types of treatment work, for which type of offenders, in which situations, is a research priority

Current Research Limitations and Needs

- Implementation of sex offender management policies prior to research studying their efficacy and without provisions to evaluate them
- Inability to sunset ineffective sex offender management strategies

SMART Office Funding Initiatives

- Collaborative funding
- Promoting evidence-based practices
 - Based on SOMAPI recommendations
- Fellowships
- Indian Country

SMART Collaborative Funding

- Risk Assessment (with NIJ):
 - Risk assessment for youth who commit sexual offenses
 - Focusing on static, dynamic and protective factors
 - NIJ: Urban Institute
 - Sex Offender Treatment Intervention Progress Scale (SOTIPS):
 - 2 sites: Maricopa County, AZ and New York City
 - T&TA provider: McGrath Psychological Services
 - NIJ evaluator: University of Minnesota

SMART Collaborative Funding

Youth With Sexual Behavior Problems Treatment Program (with OJJDP)

- Support multidisciplinary approaches to treating youth with sexual behavior problems and their child victims and families, document the evolution of intervention models developed to respond to these cases, and evaluate the YSBP program.
- T&TA Provider: The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
- 10 former and current grantees:
 1. California—CII's Sexual Behavior Problems Program
 2. Nebraska—R-SAFE®
 3. New Jersey—WISE Program
 4. Nevada—FACTS
 5. Missouri—MOCSA
 6. South Carolina—Dee Norton Low Country Center
 7. New York—2 sites: Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center and START Center
 8. Rosebud Sioux Tribe (SD)—White Buffalo Calf Woman's Society Assistance
 9. Pennsylvania—NOVA
 10. Texas—Lena Pope

SMART Reentry Funding

- Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA)
 - 2 sites: Durham County, NC and Multnomah County, OR
 - T&TA provider: Counseling and Psychotherapy Center, Inc. of Greater Boston
- Applying COSA in Indian Country
 - Support the development of a holistic program for those affected by crime by providing support for the victim, encouraging responsibility for the offender, and facilitating changes designed to minimize the risk of future abuse.
 - 1 site: Santa Domingo Tribe, NM
 - T&TA provider: Fox Valley Technical College

SMART Collaborative and NIJ Funding

- Research on SORNA (with NIJ):
 - \$1 million for SORNA research: information sharing and its effect on tracking sex offenders and promoting community awareness.
 - NIJ Evaluator: UMASS-Lowell
- Research on SORN (NIJ Funded)
 - Law enforcement perspectives on SORN
 - NIJ Evaluator: UMASS-Lowell

	<p style="text-align: center;">Law Enforcement Perspectives on Sex Offender Registration & Notification (2013-IJ-CX-0028) Harris, Levenson, Lobanov-Rostovsky</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Information Sharing and Sex Offender Registration and Notification (2014-AW-BX-K003) Harris & Lobanov-Rostovsky Cooperative Agreement with SMART and NIJ</p>
<p>Areas of Focus</p>	<p>Evaluates law enforcement views on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary functions & perceived effectiveness • Insights surrounding SOR uses and functions • RSO non-compliance, collateral impacts, residence restrictions, S.O. management • Priorities for policy reform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluates role of SORN systems as information sharing tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between LE and units of government • With community stakeholders • Examines effects of SORNA and changes since SORNA passage • Assesses relative cost-effectiveness and efficiency of SORN systems
<p>Primary Elements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews with line and command staff, registry and compliance personnel (N=105) • Nationwide survey of chiefs, sheriffs, uniformed and civilian personnel (N=1475) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationwide state-level SORN system inventory • Interviews with federal stakeholders and agencies • Structured focus groups with probation, parole, ICAC, and AMBER Alert professionals • State-based case studies including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-operability assessments • Cost effectiveness analyses • Stakeholder interviews and surveys





LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSPECTIVES
ON SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION
AND NOTIFICATION
PRELIMINARY SURVEY RESULTS

August 2015

Principal Investigator

Andrew J. Harris
University of Massachusetts Lowell

Co-Investigators

Chris Lobanov-Rostovsky
Colorado Department of Public Safety
Division of Criminal Justice

Jill S. Levenson
Barry University

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Harris, A., Lobanov-Rostovsky, C., and Levenson, J. (2015). *Law Enforcement Perspectives on Sex Offender Registration and Notification: Preliminary Survey Results*. Lowell, MA: University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Sample details and results
Available via NCJRS

Prevention Fellowship

- Joan Tabachnick
- Document research and evaluation of perpetration prevention strategies
- Provide specialized education and education materials for multiple disciplines focusing on preventing the perpetration of sexual violence
- Build collaborations that will bridge the gap of critical information and expertise across the divide between those who work with victims and those who work with perpetrators
- Assisted SMART in developing funding opportunities for prevention programming

SMART Funding

- FY 2014: Campus Sexual Assault Perpetrator Treatment Program
 - Awarded to Fairleigh Dickinson University
 - A pilot sex offender treatment program focused on college perpetrators
 - Research suggests that treatment can be effective in reducing recidivism, yet no programs currently target this specific population. This first-of-its kind pilot project holds out new hope for reducing sexual violence on campuses
- FY 2015: Campus-Focused Sexual Assault Perpetration Prevention and Education Program
 - 2 Awards: Center for Effective Public Policy and Portland State University
 - Develop a situational prevention approach on college campuses.

SMART Tribal Funding

- The SMART Office continues to support the SORNA Tribal Training and Technical Assistance Program, awarding \$500,000 to provide training and technical assistance to help tribal jurisdictions substantially implement SORNA.
- FY 2014 funds are being used to qualitatively evaluate SORNA implementation in Indian Country and initiate the Native American Sex Offender Management (NASOM) Project.

Potential Future Directions

- Validate risk assessment instruments
- Research on individualizing interventions based on risk and need (e.g., dosage)
- Prospective research study of RNR
- Study GLM/Strengths-based approaches and protective factors
- Research on special populations (e.g., internet offenders)
- Program description information in research

Potential Future Directions

- Research isolating specific components of sex offender management
- Need for evidence generating policies
- SORN research focused on law enforcement
- Translating research into practice - implementation science
- Fund research
 - Large samples
 - Quality design
 - Long-term follow-up

Potential Future Directions

- We are looking for input on:
 - Effective ways to disseminate SOMAPI-generated information to the field
 - Effective ways to facilitate and support the implementation of evidence-based practice in the field
 - Sustaining the momentum of SOMAPI and the reliance on evidence in the future

Audience Input

Questions or Comments?

