Promoting Positive Youth Development among Juveniles who have Offended Sexually

Gerry D. Blasingame, Psy.D.

Youth do not grow up independently from the environments they live in. Recent decades of studies of youth who either don't have significant behavior problems or who overcome them have identified a number of schools of thought that collectively emphasize promoting positive environmental contributions in order to allow the youth to develop their optimal potential. This workshop reviews resilience and risk factors, positive psychology & youth development, the 40 Developmental Assets, self-determination, and helpful supports for families. The applications of these concepts with juveniles who have offended sexually are discussed.