

Journal of Sexual Aggression Special Issue Call for Papers

FEMALE SEXUAL OFFENDERS

Sexual offending by women has long been an under-recognized and under-researched area. This is not surprising as women offenders have traditionally been an after-thought in research on criminal behaviour, with the majority of research on violent behaviour having been conducted on male offenders. One reason for this lack of research is an assumption that the factors that lead to criminal behaviour are universal, regardless of gender. This assumption, however, has been proven inaccurate. Research has shown that although men and women share some of the same characteristics that lead to criminal behaviour, differences do exist and that a simple knowledge transfer from male to female offenders is not a viable option. Although the phenomenon of sexual offending by women is gaining increased recognition in the field, it remains under-researched and poorly understood. Consequently, myths continue to abound about female sexual offenders, and criminal responses (e.g., appropriate assessment and management) are too often based on little more than 'best guess' judgments.

In efforts to expand our knowledge base on female sexual offenders, we will be publishing a special issue on the topic that will be edited by Franca Cortoni and Theresa Gannon. We are seeking articles that present and discuss recent/current research spanning a broad range of issues related to female sexual offenders (adult or juvenile) and employing a range of methodological approaches.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

1. Etiological factors related to sexual offending by women
2. Differences and similarities between women who abuse children vs. adults
3. Differences and similarities between female and male offenders
4. Risk factors for recidivism, risk assessment and risk management
5. Factors related to co-offending issues among female sexual offenders
6. Criminal Justice and Child Protection Agencies responses to female sexual offenders.

Submit Your Paper

The special issue will be published in early 2011 and completed papers will be required by 1st June 2010. If you would like to submit a paper for this special issue, please send an abstract of your proposed paper to adminjsa.hls@coventry.ac.uk by **30th January 2010**, with 'special issue abstract' in the subject line of the email.

For more information about the special issue, please contact the editor below:

Franca Cortoni, Ph.D., C.Psych.
School of Criminology
Université de Montréal
franca.cortoni@umontreal.ca

