



HEALTHY SEXUAL SOLUTIONS

## **Sexual Offender**

### **What is a Sexual Offender?**

A sexual offender (also sex offender, sex abuser, or sexual abuser) is a person who has committed a sex crime. What constitutes a sex crime differs by culture and by legal jurisdiction. Most jurisdictions compile their laws into sections such as sexual trafficking and sexual assault. The majority of convicted sex offenders have convictions for crimes of a sexual nature. Some sex offenders have simply violated a law contained in a sexual category.

Some of the titles of crimes which usually result in a mandatory sex-offender classification include second prostitution conviction, sending or receiving obscene content in the form of SMS text messages (sexting), relationships between young adults and teenagers that have resulted in corruption of a minor, and any sexual contact made by the adult to the minor (child molestation). If sexual conduct occurs, unlawful sexual conduct involving a minor occurs.

Other serious offences are sexual assault, statutory rape, child sexual abuse, rape, sexual imposition, and pandering obscenity.

### **Sexual Predator**

The term sexual predator is used pejoratively to describe a person seen as obtaining or trying to obtain sexual contact with another person in a metaphorically "predatory" manner. Analogous to how a predator hunts down its prey, so the sexual predator is thought to "hunt" for his or her sex partners. People who commit sex crimes, such as rape or child sexual abuse, are commonly referred to as sexual predators.

The term is applied according to a person's moral beliefs, and does not necessarily denote criminal behavior. For example, a person who cruises a bar looking for consensual sex from someone else could be considered a sexual predator by some.

The term "sexual predator" is often considered distinct from "sex offender." Many U.S. states also see these differences legally. A sexual offender is a person who has committed a sexual offense. A sexual predator is often used to refer to a person who habitually seeks out sexual situations that are deemed exploitative. However, in some states, the term "sexual predator" is applied to anyone who has been convicted of certain crimes, regardless of whether or not there is a history of similar behavior.

## Sex Crimes

Sex crimes are forms of human sexual behavior that are considered criminal offenses. Someone who commits one is said to be a sex offender. Some sex crimes are crimes of violence that involve sex. Others are violations of social taboos, such as incest, indecent exposure, or exhibitionism. There is much variation among cultures as to what is considered a crime or not, and in what ways or to what extent crimes are punished.

As a general rule, the law in many countries often intervenes in sexual activity involving young or adolescent children below the legal age of consent, non-consensual deliberate displays or illicit watching of sexual activity, sex with close relatives (incest), harm to animals, acts involving the deceased (necrophilia), and also when there is harassment, nuisance, fear, injury, or assault of a sexual nature, or serious risk of abuse of certain professional relationships.

Separately, the law usually regulates or controls the censorship of pornographic or obscene materials as well. A rape charge is issued when a person of any age does not provide consent for sexual activity.

### List of Common Sex Crimes

- Rape, lust murder, or any forms of sexual abuse or sexual assault
- Child sexual abuse
- Statutory rape
- Spousal rape
- Obscenity
- Human trafficking
- Frotteurism (sexual arousal through rubbing one's self against a non-consenting stranger in public)
- Exhibitionism (indecent exposure), voyeurism (peeping tom)
- Incest
- Telephone scatologia (Obscene telephone calls for the purpose of sexual arousal)
- Sex with animals
- Sexual harassment
- Extramarital sex (including polygamy)
- Prostitution or pimping
- Pornography