

## ABSTRACT

### CHARACTERISTICS OF SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS WHO WERE REFERRED TO AN INTENSIVE TREATMENT UNIT FOR DISRUPTIVE SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS

This multi-faceted study describes, explores and compares characteristics of a subset of disruptive Sexually Violent Predators (SVP) hospitalized at Atascadero State Hospital under section 6600 of the State of California Welfare and Institutions Code. The subset met the criteria for referral to an Intensive Treatment Unit for disruptive SVPs.

The typical offender was 48 years old, Caucasian, and was hospitalized for 46 months. The primary offense type was child molestation followed by rape. Females were the gender most often victimized. Although child molestation was the most cited offense type, the primary Axis I diagnosis was Paraphilia.

This subset of SVPs participated in treatment less often, and was more often physically and verbally aggressive to both staff and other patients. ITU-referred SVPs were also found to be more often in the severe range of Psychopathy when compared with other SVPs.

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