

**The Neuro-Developmental Impact of Trauma:
What We Know, What It Means, and How It Can Change What We Do**

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Research has identified the significant impact that serious and/or persistent environmental stressors can have upon neurodevelopment and neuro-processing. The extent of this impact appears to be especially problematic when persistent stress or trauma is experienced in early childhood. Given that a majority of our clients enter treatment with their own history of trauma or come from notably stressful or dysfunctional backgrounds, being aware of this research and understanding the possible implications for our client's emotional and behavioral functioning is becoming increasingly important.

This workshop will:

- 1) Examine the recent neurodevelopmental research that seems especially pertinent to individuals with sexual behavior problems.
- 2) We will discuss what the research suggests about the problems our clients experience in emotional and behavioral regulation, social attunement, and maintaining attachment relationships.
- 3) We will examine how we can apply this research in developing assessment protocols and treatment interventions.