

## **Sexuality Education for the Adult Sex Offender**

Thomas M. Graves, M.S., M.Ed., Ed.D. Cand.

Sex offenders are going to have sex, yet with many of them receiving incomplete, conflicting and inaccurate messages since childhood about sexuality and relationships, will they make healthy and safe choices? Sexuality education can be critical in improving offenders' intimacy deficits and reducing sexual entitlement and related cognitive distortions. Treatment providers are regularly called upon to provide various types of sexuality information to offenders, but many lack training to do so ethically or effectively. Based in the literature and practice from the fields of sexual offending treatment, sexology, and health promotion, this workshop will introduce treatment providers to a comprehensive approach to positive sexuality education with offenders.

Topics will include

- Rationale for teaching offenders positive sexuality
- conceptual models of sexuality
- components of comprehensive sexuality education
- managing controversy and sensitive topics, including values

Participants will learn

- a model for generating offender-specific sexuality interventions
- where to find resources to improve competencies in sexuality education.
- how to build alliances with sex educators and other agencies

The workshop will also provide an opportunity for participants to practice implementing the model.