

Who are Youth with Problematic Sexual Behaviors?

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Sherry Elder, LPC-S, NCC, ASOTP

- Children's Assessment Center
 - August, 2017
 - TF-CBT certified
 - Affiliate Sex Offender Treatment Provider
 - PSB Program Coordinator
- West Oaks Hospital
 - About 3 years
 - Therapist for children and adolescent units
- MA in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (2014)
 - Hawai'i Pacific University



DISCLAIMER

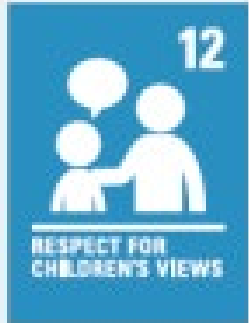
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PRIORITIES

Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP),
Office of Justice Programs, U.S.
Department of Justice

- Treating Children as Children
- Serve Children at Home, with
their Families, In their
Communities
- Open up Opportunities for
Young People Involved in the
Justice System





Children have the right to give their opinions freely on issues that affect them. Adults should listen and take children seriously.



Every child who cannot be looked after by their own family has the right to be looked after properly by people who respect the child's religion, culture, language and other aspects of their life.



Every child who has been placed somewhere away from home - for their care, protection or health - should have their situation checked regularly to see if everything is going well and if this is still the best place for the child to be.



Children can join or set up groups or organisations, and they can meet with

others, as long as this does not harm other people.



Children should not be separated from their parents unless they are not being properly looked after – for example, if a parent hurts or does not take care of a child. Children whose parents don't live together should stay in contact with both parents unless this might harm the child.



Every child has the right to privacy. The law must protect children's privacy, family, home, communications

and reputation (or good name) from any attack.

WARNING



Close Your Eyes

**What are
you
feeling?**



Please list two or three words describing how you are feeling.

Nobody has responded yet.

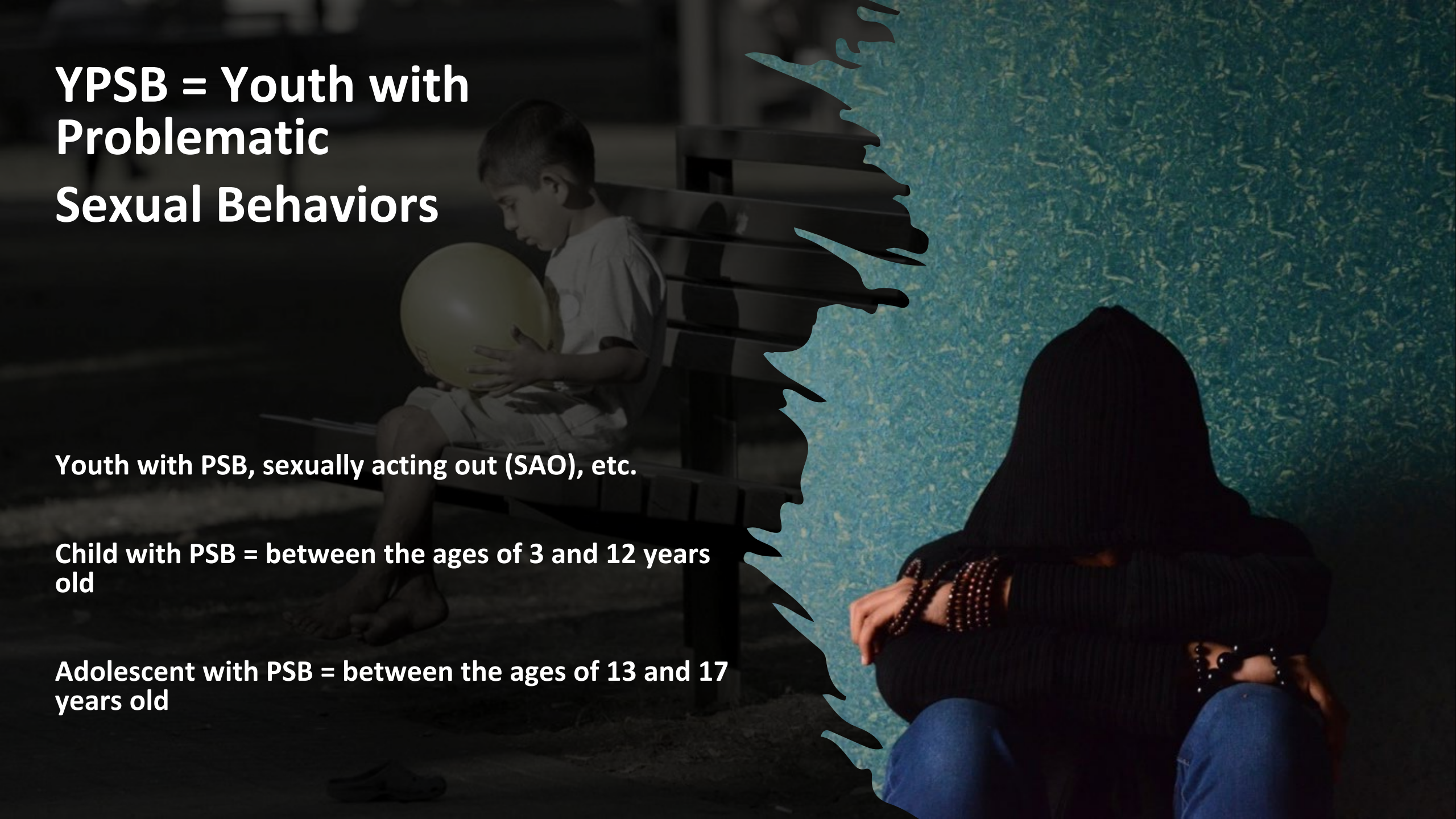
Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

YPSB = Youth with Problematic Sexual Behaviors

Youth with PSB, sexually acting out (SAO), etc.

Child with PSB = between the ages of 3 and 12 years old

Adolescent with PSB = between the ages of 13 and 17 years old



Children First Language

The Right Words

Child with PSB

Has problems (struggling)

Defined as a youth

Exhibits problem
behaviors

The Wrong Words

Offender

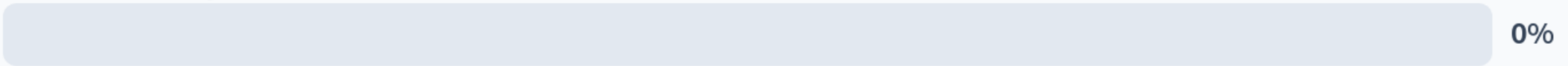
Is sick

Defined by behavior

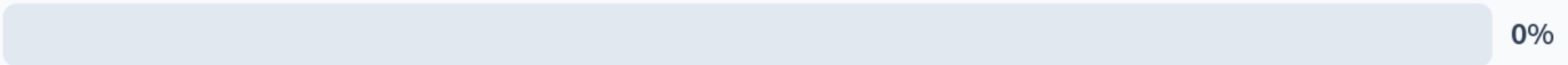
Is a predator

Fill in the blank the most appropriate answer: Youth who have committed sexually abusive offenses _____ grow up to be adult sexual perpetrators.

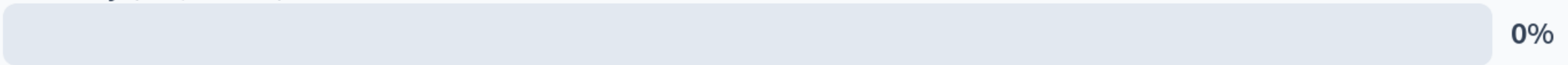
A: almost always (i.e., >75%)



B: Sometimes (i.e., about 50%)

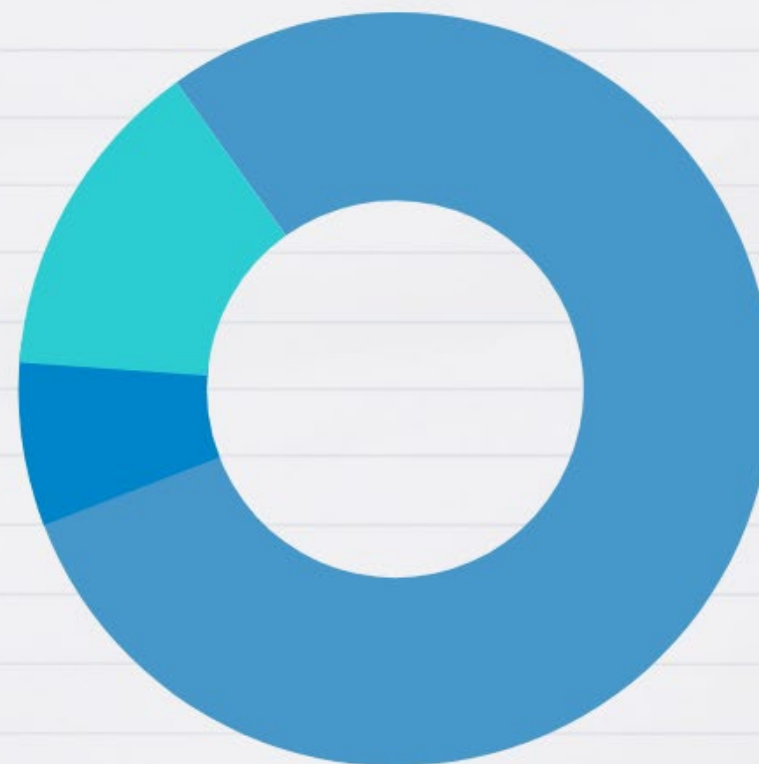


C: rarely (i.e., < 25%)



20-25% of CAC cases every year involve a child hurting another child.


With treatment at CACs, 98% never repeat it.



14%
Ages 13-17



7%
Under 13



79%
Ages 18+



YPSB vs APs

Lower recidivism rates

Fewer abusive behaviors over shorter periods of time

Less aggressive sexual behavior

Treatment shows high success rates

Brain development isn't complete yet

Sexual interests, arousal more fluid

More impulsive

Less antisocial personality traits

Greater family and peer influences

Fill in the blank the most appropriate answer: Youth who are sexually abused as children _____ become youth with problematic sexualized behaviors.

(A) A: Often (i.e., >75%)

0%

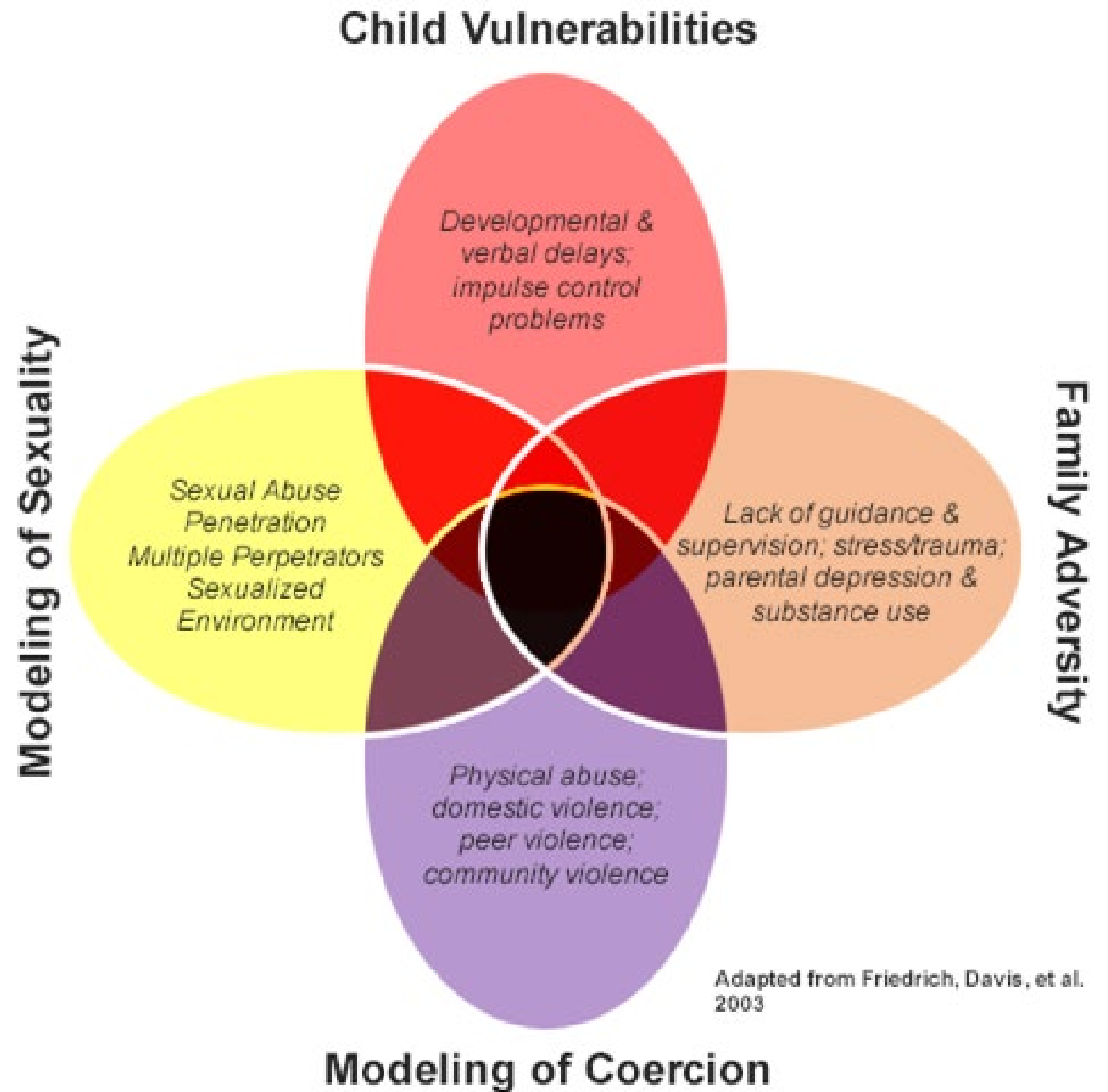
(B) B: Sometimes (i.e., about 50%)

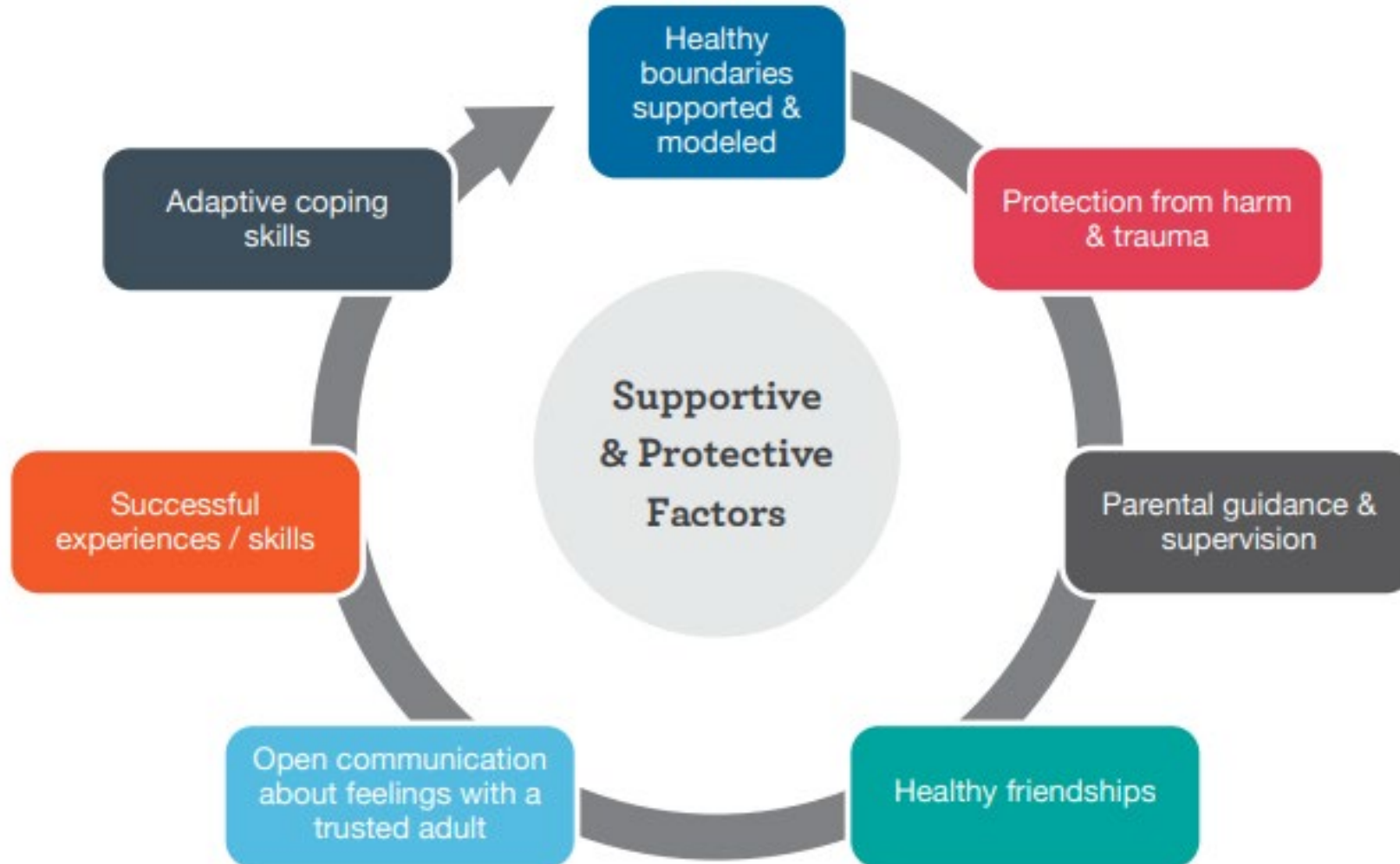
0%

(C) C: rarely (i.e., < 25%)

0%

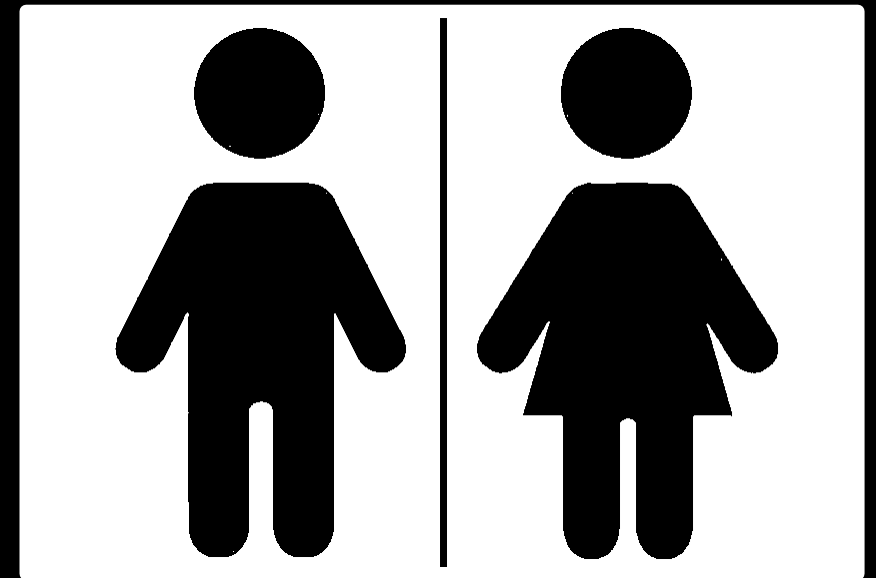
Factors Contributing to PSB





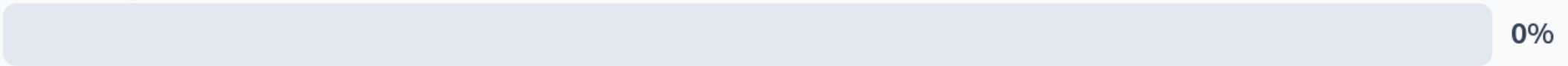
Demographics

- Range from all types of race, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, gender, and ages.
- Child: Girls are more common to have PSB
- Adolescent: Boys are more common to have PSB
- YPSB are more common to have:
 - problems following rules
 - defiance
 - Trauma history and symptoms
 - Social concerns
 - Struggles with learning

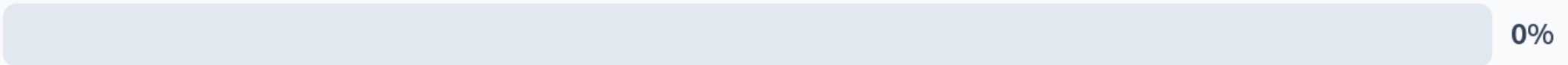


Fill in the blank the most appropriate answer: Youth with problematic sexualized behaviors _____ need to be removed from their homes and have long term residential treatment.

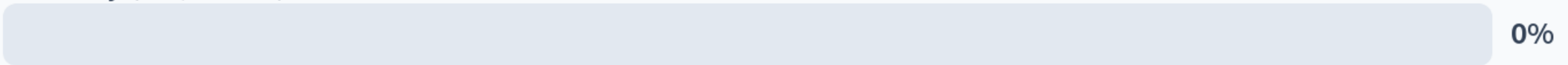
A: Usually (i.e., >75%)



B: Sometimes (i.e., about 50%)



C: rarely (i.e., < 25%)



Treatment Needs:

- 1) least restrictive treatment possible
- 2) Family involvement
- 3) Safety planning
- 4) Sexual Behavior Rules
- 5) Impulsivity treatment
- 6) Media education (Porn)
- 7) Trauma treatment
- 8) Self-esteem work



Guidelines for Determining if Sexual Behaviors are a Problem

Frequency	Developmental Considerations	Harm
High Frequency	Occurs between Youth of Significantly Divergent Ages/Developmental Abilities	Intrusive Behaviors
Excludes Normal Childhood Activities	Behaviors are Longer in Duration than Developmentally Expected	Includes Force, Intimidation, and/or Coercion
Unresponsive (i.e., does not decrease) to Typical Parenting Strategies	Behavior Interferes with Social Development	Elicits Fear & Anxiety in Other Children



Normative Sexual Behaviors



- **Curiosity**
- **Exploratory versus planned**
- **All youths agree (no coercion or force)**
- **Youths are around the same age**
- **Periodic**
- **Responsive to parental intervention and rules**

Building Appropriate Sexual Education B.A.S.E.

**A majority of all our YPSB clients are referred
solely through our District Attorney's Office**

OFFICE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY
HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS



KIM OGG

The CAC and HCDAO offers a diversion program for youth who have engaged in Problematic Sexual Behaviors that could result in criminal charges.



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*Director of Therapy &
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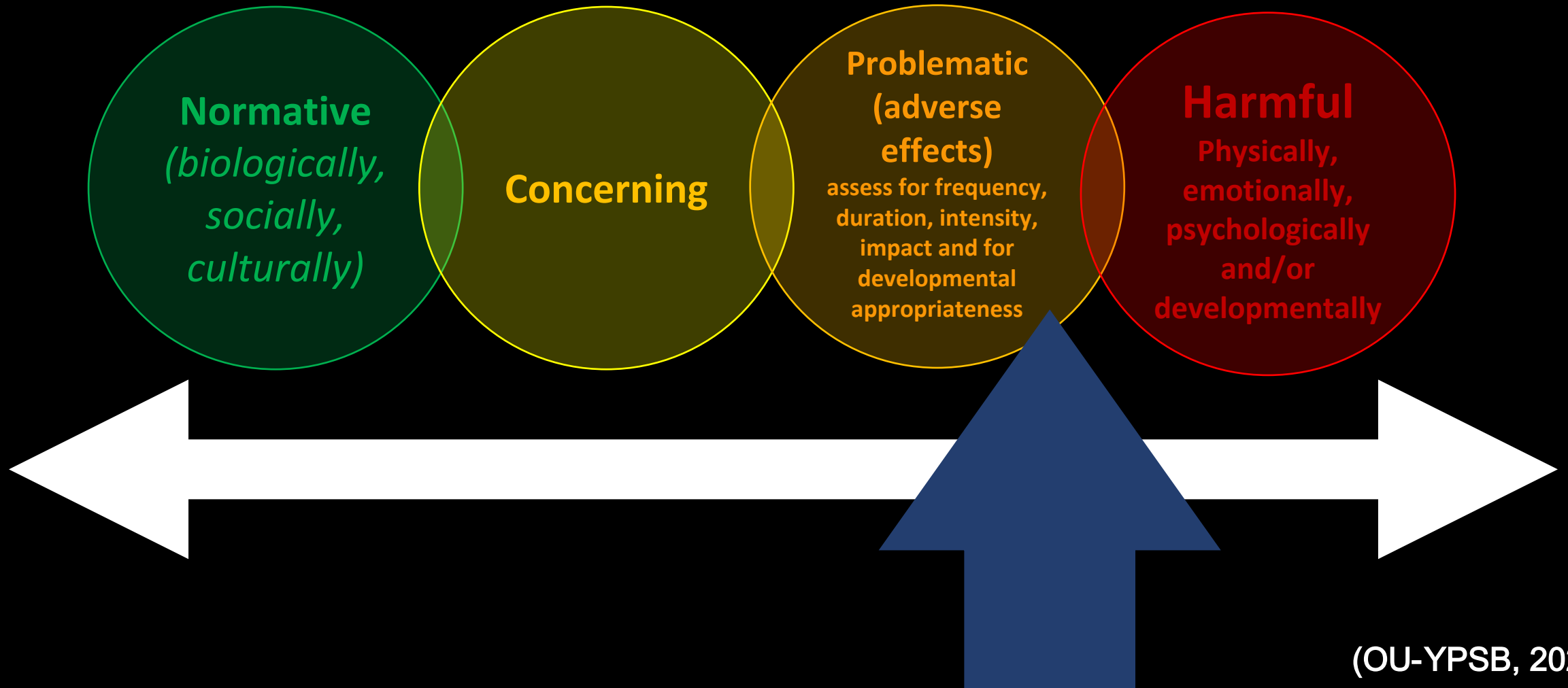
Greater Houston

Referrals

Harris Country District Attorney Juvenile Sexual Assault Intake Panel

- meets every Friday morning via Zoom
- Law enforcement is to contact: Administrative Assistant Tory VanValkenburn to schedule a time to present (vanvalkenburg_tory@dao.hctx.net)
- Panel will make one of the following decisions regarding each case:
 - Decline Charges
 - File Charges
 - Request additional information from officer
 - Refer to the BASE Program for treatment

BASE Referral Criteria



(OU-YPSB, 2023)

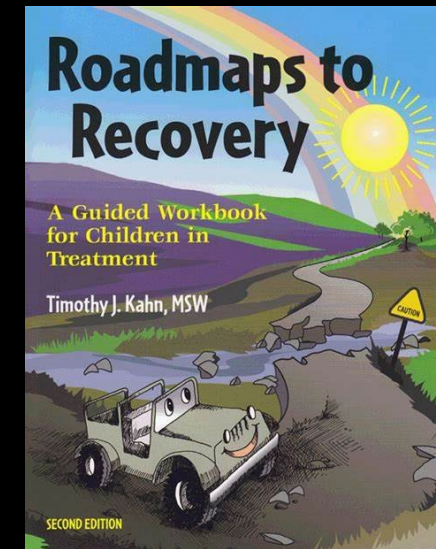
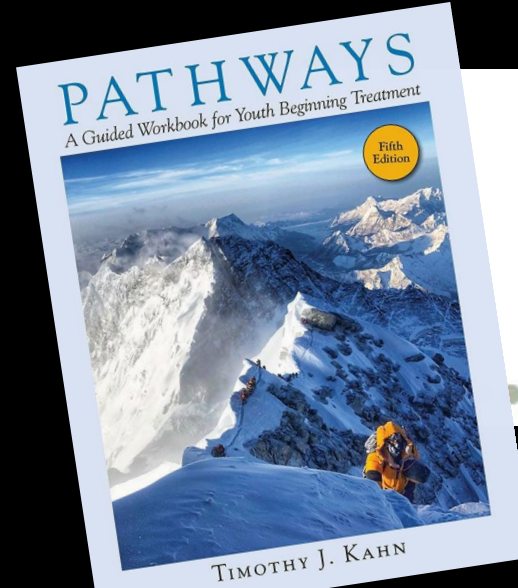
B.A.S.E. Treatment Goals

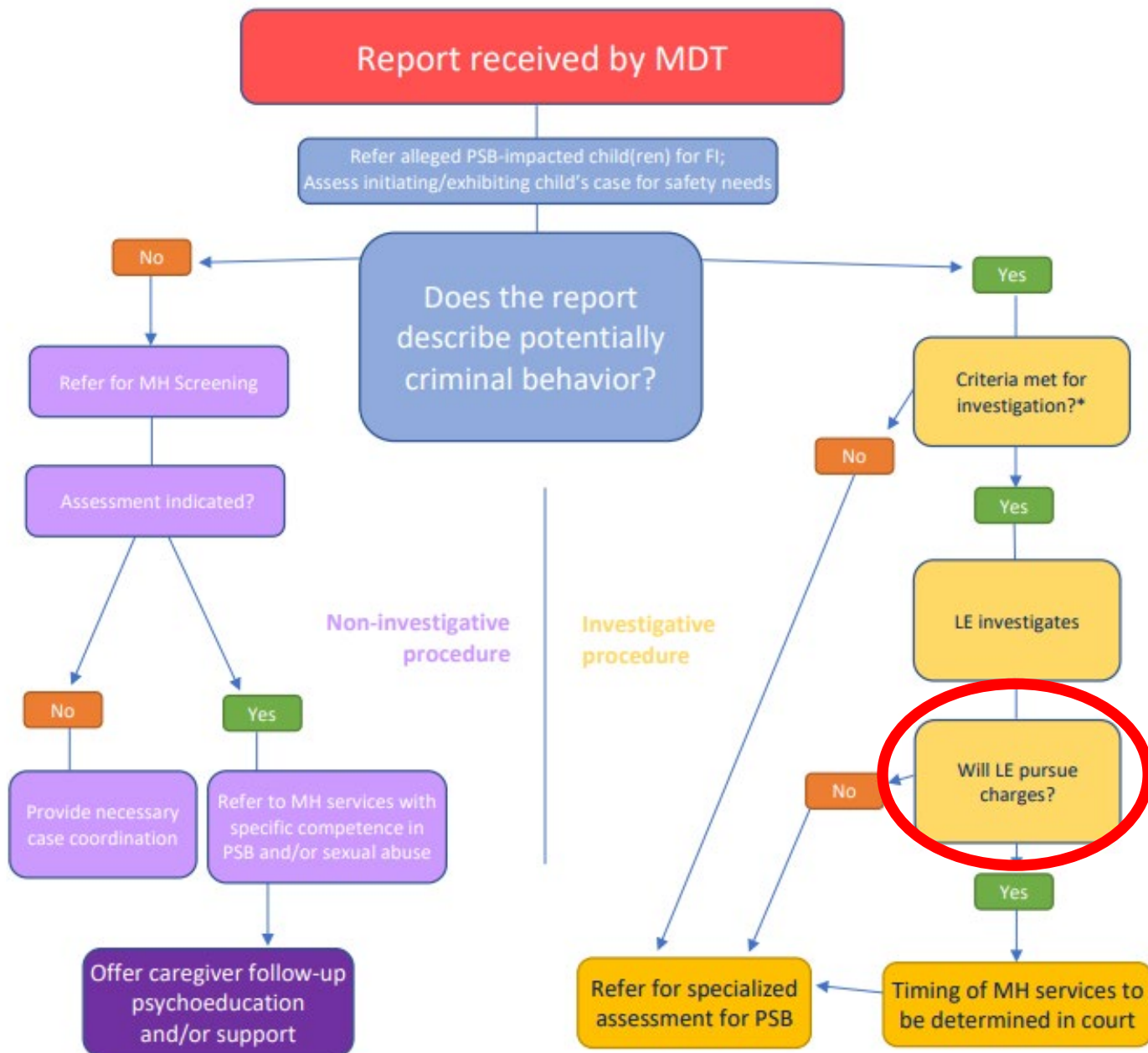
- Enhance Empathy for Victim
- Recognize Offense Cycle
- Develop Coping Strategies
- Create a safety plan to decrease likelihood of re-offending
- Receive evidence based therapy for youth's victimization history (if applicable)



B.A.S.E. Services

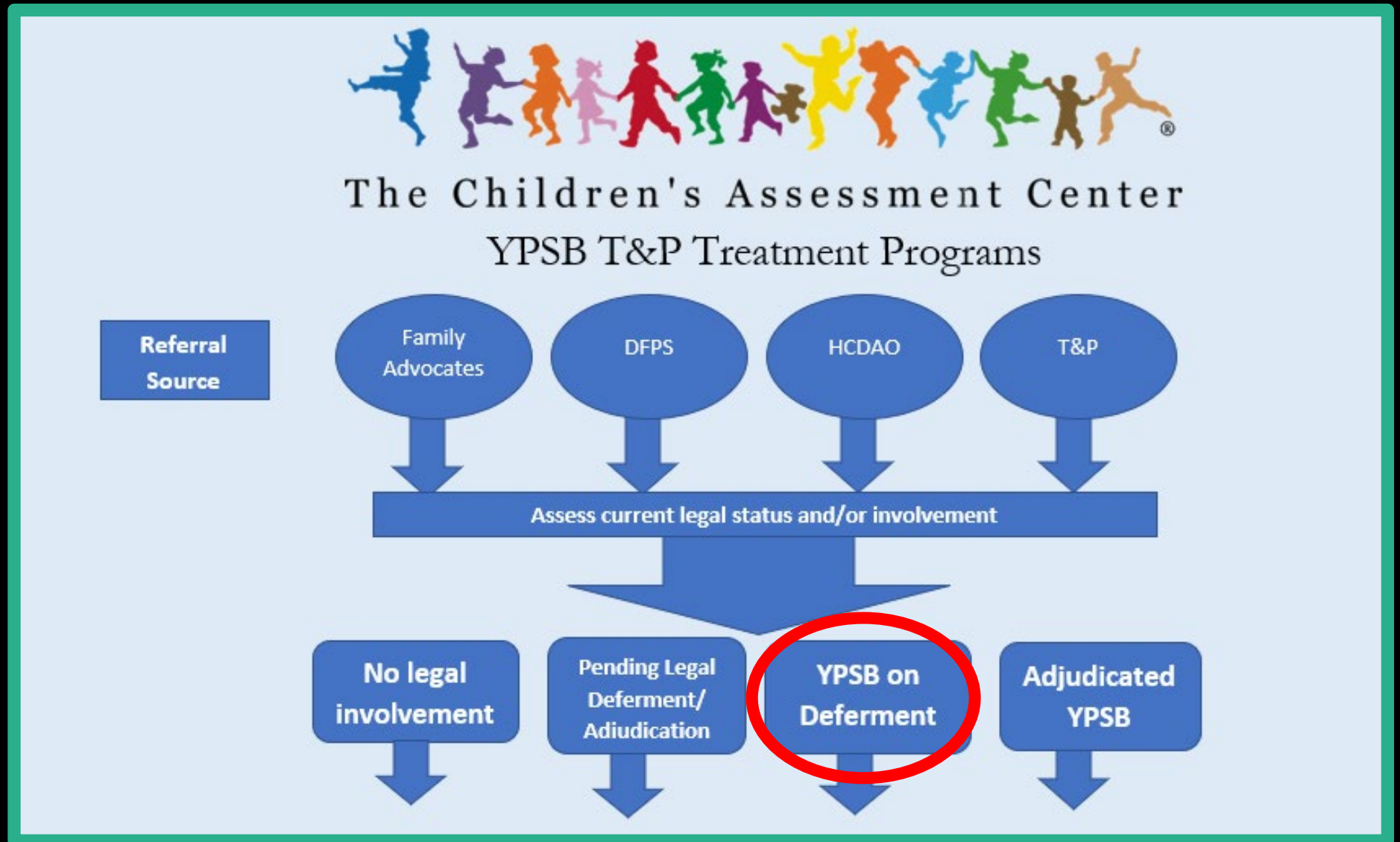
- Group Therapy
- Individual Therapy
- Family Therapy
- Psychological Evaluations
- Psychiatric Services





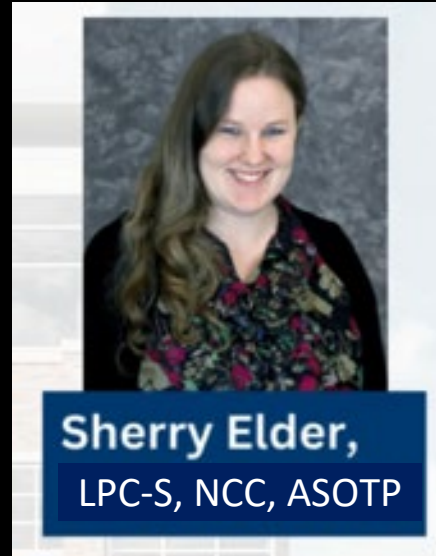
(NCSBY, 2023)

Our Possible Future...



Contact Information

Please contact Sherry Elder, LPC-S, NCC, ASOTP or Dr. Anita Jaffer at anytime if you have more questions about our BASE program and/or YPSB services at The CAC



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