
We at SOSEN Believe

- We believe* ... that potential offenders, who have not yet committed an offence and are battling deviant thoughts, must be allowed to seek structured and accountability-based therapy without being exposed to mandatory reporting.
- We believe* ... that families should have the option to seek therapy without the fear of mandated reporting.
- We believe* ... that statutory offenders, aged 25 and younger, must have the opportunity to be removed from registries if no sexually deviant attributes exist.
- We believe* ... that offenses such as public urination, "mooning", and other incidental nudity, must not be considered to be sex offenses, and must not dilute the registry.
- We believe* ... that family reunification can often be achieved through therapy and support for the victim, offender and family members along with the offender's dedication to change.
- We believe* ... that defining an offender as "violent" or "predatory" must be based on their history and the offense and not arbitrary constructs. An offender must not be categorized as "violent" when no violence was involved, or "predatory" when no sexual offense history exists.
- We believe* ... that repeat and violent offenders need to be separated from society and released conditionally only upon proof of reform.
- We believe* ... that people can change, improve themselves, and accomplish their own human revolution.
- We believe* ... that recovery from addictions and offending behaviors is possible through education.

We at SOSEN Believe

- We believe* ... that no sexual abuse or sexual assault is acceptable, whether it is against children or adults.
- We believe* ... that all victims of sexual abuse have the right to speak out.
- We believe* ... that all victims of sexual abuse have the right to anonymity.
- We believe* ... that all victims of sexual abuse have the right to any and all needed therapy.
- We believe* ... that the first goal of sex crime policies and legislation should be towards the prevention and detection of sexual abuse.
- We believe* ... that the rights of victims, offenders and their families must all be considered in determining sex offender policies.
- We believe* ... that laws addressing sex offenses must be based on research, and not on emotion, myths, and misconceptions.
- We believe* ... that mandatory sentencing removes the ability of a judge and jury to match the appropriate punishment to the crime, a responsibility placed on the judiciary and not the legislature.
- We believe* ... in balanced and restorative justice and Constitutional protection in place of retributive justice and banishment for former offenders and their families.
- We believe* ... that the Sex Offender Registry must be returned to its original intent - tracking the most dangerous and predatory offenders and intentional absconders - in order for it to be an effective tool.
- We believe* ... that the families of sex offenders have a right to live without fear of vigilantism and harassment.
- We believe* ... in increased penalties for using the registries to harass or intimidate offenders.
- We believe* ... that Notification and Proximity Laws - which include the publicly available sex offender registration websites, residency restrictions, and buffer zones - have evolved into a system that does not protect children from sex offenders, have created a false sense of security for parents, and actually jeopardizes the very safety of our society that it was originally meant to protect.
- We believe* ... that funds must be made available for research into factors impacting sex offenses, effective therapeutic approaches, education, and prevention strategies.
- We believe* ... that juvenile offenders should never be placed on the registry.



Sex Offender Solutions & Education Network

Mission Statement

SOSEN upholds fair just laws that are evidence-based, effective, and that protect the Constitutional rights of all of citizens.

The mission of SOSEN is to educate the public, the media, law-enforcement and legislators, regarding the facts, based on current research, of sexual abuse. We are striving to incorporate fact-based solutions thus helping change the laws that affect former offenders, their loved ones, victims, and the communities where they live.

SOSEN believes that a strong support network and life stability decreases the risk of recidivism.

The Problem

Present sex offender laws require law enforcement personnel to spend far too much money and time tracking low risk offenders. Hysteria created by the media using misinformation, promoted these laws, which have had a devastating and demoralizing effect on victims and low risk intra-family offenders.

The public needs to be more concerned about high-risk sex offenders and absconders, not with the low-risk offenders who are working to comply with the laws. Most former offenders are meeting their probation and therapy guidelines or have completely paid their debt to society, yet are still being punished by placing their names on the Sex Offender Registry.

SOSEN at www.sosen.us

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We at SOSEN Believe

We believe ... that the vast amounts of money spent, budgeted and planned for retributive justice would be better spent on proven treatment and prevention programs and strategies.

We believe ... that laws passed which place additional responsibilities and burdens on former offenders who have already completed their sentences, are additional punishment and are un-constitutional.

We believe ... that laws, which would require former offenders to provide Internet e-mail addresses and screen names, are in reality unwarranted searches and seizures, and also impact on the freedom of speech.

Who are Our Members?

SOSEN was conceived as a place for our members to find SOLUTIONS and provide EDUCATION, interfaced with HUMOR and FAITH. It was to be a more personal space, where everyone would feel like a “brother or sister”. It was a place for people to share their feelings and showcase their talents.

SOSEN would be a new “family” for former registered offenders and their loved ones, and for many of us, that is what SOSEN has become.

SOSEN will never advocate for changes in the laws that would increase the danger to any child. We will and do however, work to change the laws that endanger our own children.

SOSEN’s Support: 1-800-773-4319

Provided by hotline@thesupporthotline.org



SOSEN’s Solutions

- Use restorative justice models of therapy where former offenders learn to recognize and change patterns in their lives that led them to offend and to develop empathy for their victims
- Provide education programs and training to increase employability, making re-entry of former offenders back into society more stable, ensuring a safety net for their families, and providing a revenue back into instead of out of our public treasury.
- Help develop prevention programs for teens to prevent abuse through the development of coping skills and through understanding of appropriate boundaries.

Just requiring punishment hasn’t and isn’t working. Restorative justice can and will make families and our society at large, much safer and whole.

Help Change the Laws

- Remove community notification and Internet publication of low and moderate risk offenders.
 - Install a five-tier system of classification of former offenders, based on risk assessments that are determined by registration state boards.
 - Make all laws affecting sex offenders only applicable to those presently being sentenced since to do otherwise is adding additional punishment to those who have already served their time and are integrated back into society.
 - Remove residency restrictions, laws that restrict where a former offender can live, because these types of laws have never been proven to have ever helped in preventing even one sexual crime.
 - Children should be treated under the law as children. If a child is under the age of consent to decide if they can be sexual, then it only makes sense that they are also too young to be tried, punished, and registered as an adult.
 - Juvenile cases should never make a record that will punish a child for the rest of their life.
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SOSEN’s Goals

- Promote education and public awareness of the facts and myths of sexual abuse and sex offenders based on current research.
- Provide a network of support for victims, former offenders, relatives and friends to reduce the risk of re-offense.
- Collaborate with victim’s rights organizations, sex offender treatment specialists, law enforcement professionals, researchers and policy makers to identify rational solutions to sexual abuse.
- Compile a resource library of documented studies and papers for use by law enforcement, legislators, advocates and victims.
- Maintain an online database of current policy for former offenders to inform and encourage compliance with requirements.

We must find a better way, and SOSEN members are moving towards clear and concise solutions.

Regardless of whether you are a victim, or family member of a victim, a registered sex offender, a family member of a registered sex offender, a therapist or counselor; you will find this support network a valuable asset in your understanding of sex offender issues and help you to become a part of the solution.

Will You Help Us By:

- Sharing the truth with your family, your friends, and your legislators.
 - Referring people to our web site: former offenders, family members, therapists, law enforcement, correction and probation officers, and legislators.
 - Donating not only your money, but also your time and talents to the cause.
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