



EVALUATING THE SEXUAL BEHAVIORS OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Evaluate each scenario based on the criteria listed below. Decide if the behavior is:

1. Normative/no concern
2. Normative/of concern
3. Abusive, requires professional help

Issues to be considered in evaluating the behaviors are:

1. Age difference
2. Size difference
3. Relationship or status difference
4. Type of sexual activity
5. Frequency of the behavior/number of contacts
6. Intelligence level
7. Developmental level
8. Use of force/coercion
9. Affect
10. Previous prohibition of behavior

Written and Revised by the Institute for Human Services for the Pennsylvania Child Welfare Training & Certification Program. 202 Juvenile Sex Offenders

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SCENARIOS

1. At an all night slumber party for eight girls, ages 14 and 15, the mother of the host walks into the family room and finds the girls in various stages of undress. There are cards and dice on the floor. The girls scurry to cover themselves and most appear embarrassed. One of the girls looks upset and may have been crying. Two girls seem angry and defiant. The mother learns from her daughter that, after the girls started playing strip poker, the two angry girls added an extra penalty of simulating a sexual act with one of them as a partner. One of the girls cried when she was taunted by the two for not wanting to comply with that part of the penalty.
2. Amy is eight. She sleeps in the same room as her twelve-year-old sister. At night her sister wants to play the "game". This consists of her sister lying on top of her and pretending to have intercourse. Her sister won't let her go to sleep until after they play the "game". Sometimes she makes her play it during the day. Amy is uncomfortable and wants to stop but her sister won't let her.
3. An adult comes into a storeroom and finds two partially clothed teenagers engaged in intercourse. Both appear very embarrassed and scramble to cover themselves.
4. At a weekend family get together, the parents put the three and four year old cousins to bed in the same room. One of the adults, checking in, sees Tommy going from child to child touching each sleeping child's crotch area. The adult takes Tommy aside and asks him to stop. Tommy says he will, but as soon as the adult leaves, he gets up and begins putting his hand inside the pajamas of the sleeping children. After the second time, the parents place him in a room alone where he masturbates himself to sleep.
5. Two third grade girls were found lying down behind some bushes near the school, one on top of the other, with both children's genitals exposed. The one girl had attempted to insert a number of different objects into the other child's vagina. Neither child would talk to the teacher. One child was tearful. The other child acted "bored".
6. Eight year old Elizabeth complains to her mother that her sixteen-year-old brother scares her by hiding under her bed and grabbing her legs. Her mother ignores the complaint, thinking it is just sibling "stuff". Then one day mother finds her son nude with an erect penis standing in the daughter's bedroom.
7. Janie is three and a half years old. Her mother recently had surgery and Janie stayed with a friend of the family while her mom was in the hospital. Several times, the friend found Janie alone rocking back and forth with her hands in her pants. Each time, Janie quickly responded to the friend's suggestion that they find something to do together.

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8. A male/female teenage couple, age 17, who are known to be “going steady” are engaged in heavy petting including hand to genital contact under the stands at a high school basketball game.
9. Two children, ages 7 and 10, were discovered fondling each other’s genitals and French kissing while fully clothed. They both said that they were pretending to be married and trying to make a baby.
10. Mary is age four. Recently, Jim and Ann, adult friends of the family, spent the weekend. At one point, Mary’s father was on an errand and Ann and Mary’s mother were shopping. During this time, when Mary found she was alone with Jim, she started rubbing his chest and tried to put her hand down his pants. She told him, ‘It’s OK. Don’t worry. Don’t tell my mommy.’ Jim got up and tried to distract her. However, Mary persisted. She told him to rub her on her legs and tried to get him to rub her between her legs.