Person-first Language: Does it Matter When Describing Persons Who Sexually Offend?

Harleen Cheema
Dr. Sandy Jung
PERSON-FIRST LANGUAGE

I AM A
PERSON-FIRST LANGUAGE

I HAVE
PERSON-FIRST LANGUAGE

SCHIZOPHRENIC

SEX OFFENDER

PERSON WITH SCHIZOPHRENIAS

PERSON CONVICTED OF A SEXUAL OFFENSE
SEX OFFENDER

Violent sex offender captured

A violent sex offender who escaped from a San Mateo County mental health facility...
Violent sex offender captured

A violent sex offender who escaped from a San Mateo County mental health facility was captured after a high-speed chase through the city of San Bruno. The suspect, identified as John Doe, 34, was wanted for multiple crimes including rape and assault.

The van used by the suspect was found abandoned in a wooded area on the outskirts of the city. The vehicle had "FREE CANDY" written on the side in large, white letters. It is believed that the suspect used the van to lure children into his vehicle, but theotive was unsuccessful.

The capture was the result of a coordinated effort between local law enforcement and the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. The suspect is currently being held without bail in the county jail and will be arraigned in court on Monday.
PERSON CONVICTED OF A SEXUAL OFFENSE

PAST ASSOCIATIONS
METHOD

N = 291 Canadian Adults

INDIVIDUAL MEASURES
1. ATTSO
2. CATTSO
3. IT-HN

Person convicted of a sexual offense to be released poses risk to reoffend, police warn

Police are warning the public about a person convicted of a sexual offense that poses a risk to offend again in the community. The 25-year-old, who is set to be released from the Penitentiary after serving two years for a conviction of sexual assault against a child victim, will be residing in [redacted] but will be monitored closely by a specialized police unit.
Person convicted of a sexual offense to be released poses risk to reoffend, police warn

Published on: March 12, 2017 | Last Updated: March 12, 2017 7:35 PM MDT

Police are warning the public about a person convicted of a sexual offense that poses a risk to offend again in the community.

In the interest of public safety, [REDACTED], 25, is set to be released from the [REDACTED] Penitentiary after serving two years for a conviction of sexual assault against a child victim.

He is considered by police to pose a risk of reoffending in the community.

[REDACTED] will be residing in [REDACTED] but will be monitored closely by a specialized police unit.

AGE OF VICTIM: 2
LABEL USED TO DESCRIBE PERSON CONVICTED OF A SEXUAL OFFENSE: [REDACTED]
Rapist to be released poses risk to reoffend, police warn

Published on: March 12, 2017 | Last Updated: March 12, 2017 7:35 PM MDT

Police are warning the public about a rapist that poses a risk to offend again in the community.

In the interest of public safety, Police Service is issuing the following warning: , 25, is set to be released from the Penitentiary after serving two years for a conviction of sexual assault against an adult victim.

He is considered by police to pose a risk of reoffending in the community. will be residing in but will be monitored closely by a specialized police unit.
Police are warning the public about a pedophile that poses a risk to offend again in the community.

In the interest of public safety, __________ Police Service is issuing the following warning: __________, 25, is set to be released from the __________ Penitentiary after serving two years for a conviction of sexual assault against a child victim.

He is considered by police to pose a risk of reoffending in the community. __________ will be residing in __________ but will be monitored closely by a specialized police unit.
WILLINGNESS TO ASSOCIATE
WILLINGNESS TO ASSOCIATE

PUNISH VS. TREAT

Rehabilitation

Punishment
WILLINGNESS TO ASSOCIATE

PUNISH VS. TREAT

ESTIMATES OF RECIDIVISM

Rehabilitation

Punishment

0% 100%

0 10

0 100
PERSON CONVICTED OF A SEXUAL OFFENSE

WILLINGNESS TO ASSOCIATE

PUNISH VS. TREAT

ESTIMATES OF RECIDIVISM

TREATMENT AMENABILITY
RESULTS

- WILLINGNESS TO ASSOCIATE: ESTIMATES OF RECIDIVISM
- PUNISH VS. TREAT: TREATMENT AMENABILITY
RESULTS

TREATMENT AMENABILITY

PERSON CONVICTED OF A SEXUAL OFFENSE AGAINST AN ADULT

RAPIST

PERSON CONVICTED OF A SEXUAL OFFENSE AGAINST A CHILD

PEDOPHILE
SUMMARY

➢ Maintained negative perceptions.

➢ Use of person-first labels important within domain of treatment.

➢ The language that we use is important.
REHABILITATION

IMPLICATIONS

I AM NOT
MY RECORD