"A Picture Is Worth A Thousand Words"

What Do We Know About Child Pornography Offenders?

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Services de santé
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Overview

I. Characteristics of CP offenders

II. Possible motivations of CP offenders

III. Risk and recidivism

IV. Implications for policy and practice

Defining Child Pornography (CP)

- Visual depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct:

Wortley & Smallbone (2006)
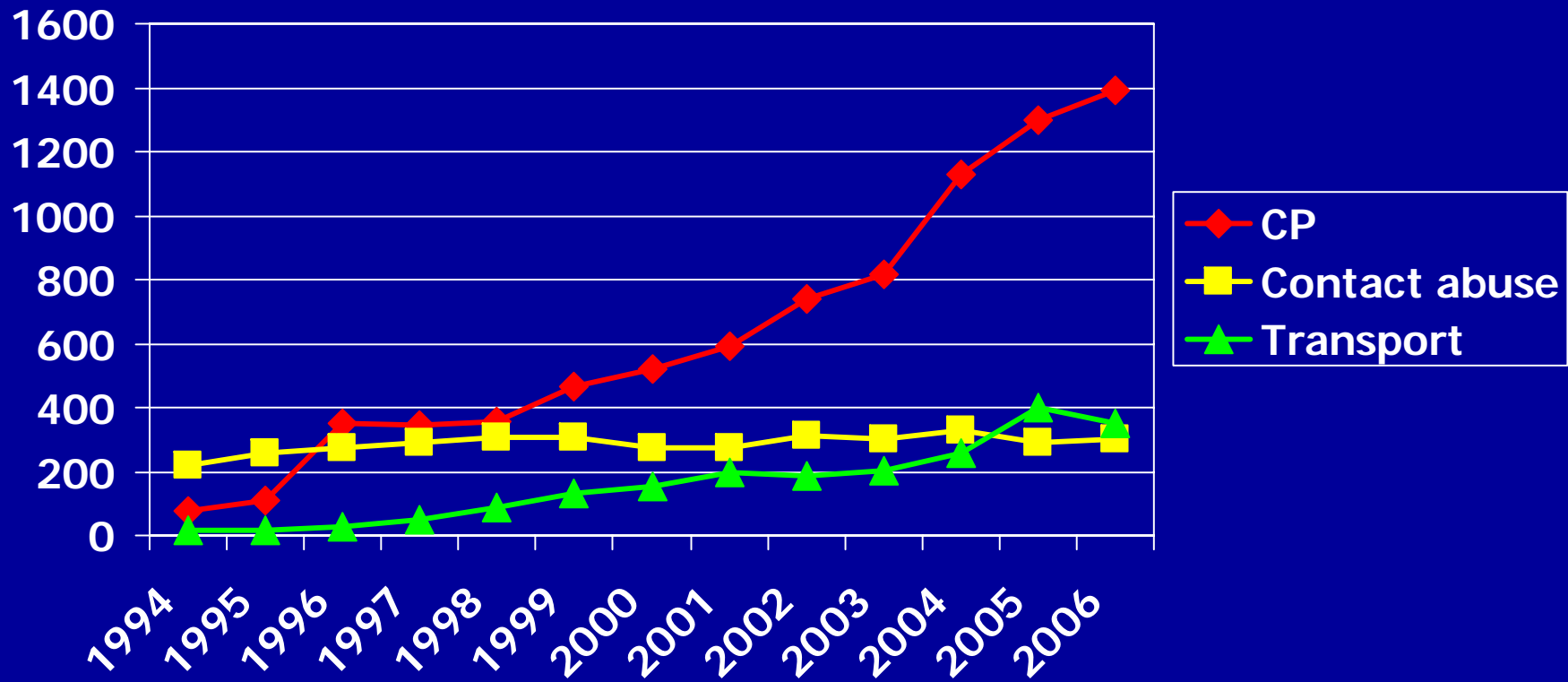
Defining Child Pornography (CP)

- Visual depiction of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct:

  - Minor is someone under the age of 18

  - Can include suggestive content (United States v. Knox, 1993)

  - Possession includes accessing online; does not require downloading images

Wortley & Smallbone (2006)

A New Frontier: Increasing Number of CP Cases

- More U.S. arrests: Approximately doubling from 2001 to 2006 (CaCRC)

- More U.S. federal prosecutions (Motivans & Kyckelhan, 2007)

- Increased arrests in Canada, UK, and elsewhere

- More clinical cases

More U. S. Federal Prosecutions for Child Sexual Exploitation

Motivans & Kyckelhahn (2007)

More Clinical Cases:
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (Canada)

Approx. 250-300 clients a year

Internet has Increased CP Activity

- Long history of CP before Internet

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- Peer-to-peer, newsgroups, private FTP sites, etc.

Online CP Activity

- Typical image is of prepubescent girl (COPINE, NCMEC)

- Trend of younger children & more explicit (NJOV1 & 2)

- Some commercialization, but predominantly amateur content; made by adult or self-produced

- Part of online pedophile & hebephile subculture

BOYCHAT
YOU ARE NOT ALONE

I. Characteristics of CP Offenders

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- Very likely to be male (99%)

- Disproportionately Caucasian (Babchishin et al., under review)

- Likely to be pedophilic (Seto et al., 2006)

- Average intelligence (Blanchard et al., 2007)

- Better educated than other offenders (Blanchard et al.)

- Contact > CP > controls in sexual and physical abuse histories (Babchishin et al.)

II. Possible Motivations of CP Offenders

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- Pedophilia or sexual interest in CP
- Indiscriminate sexual interests
- "Sexual addiction", "pornography addiction"
- Incidental (e.g., blackmail, for-profit)
- Curiosity
- Misinformed (e.g., "sexting")
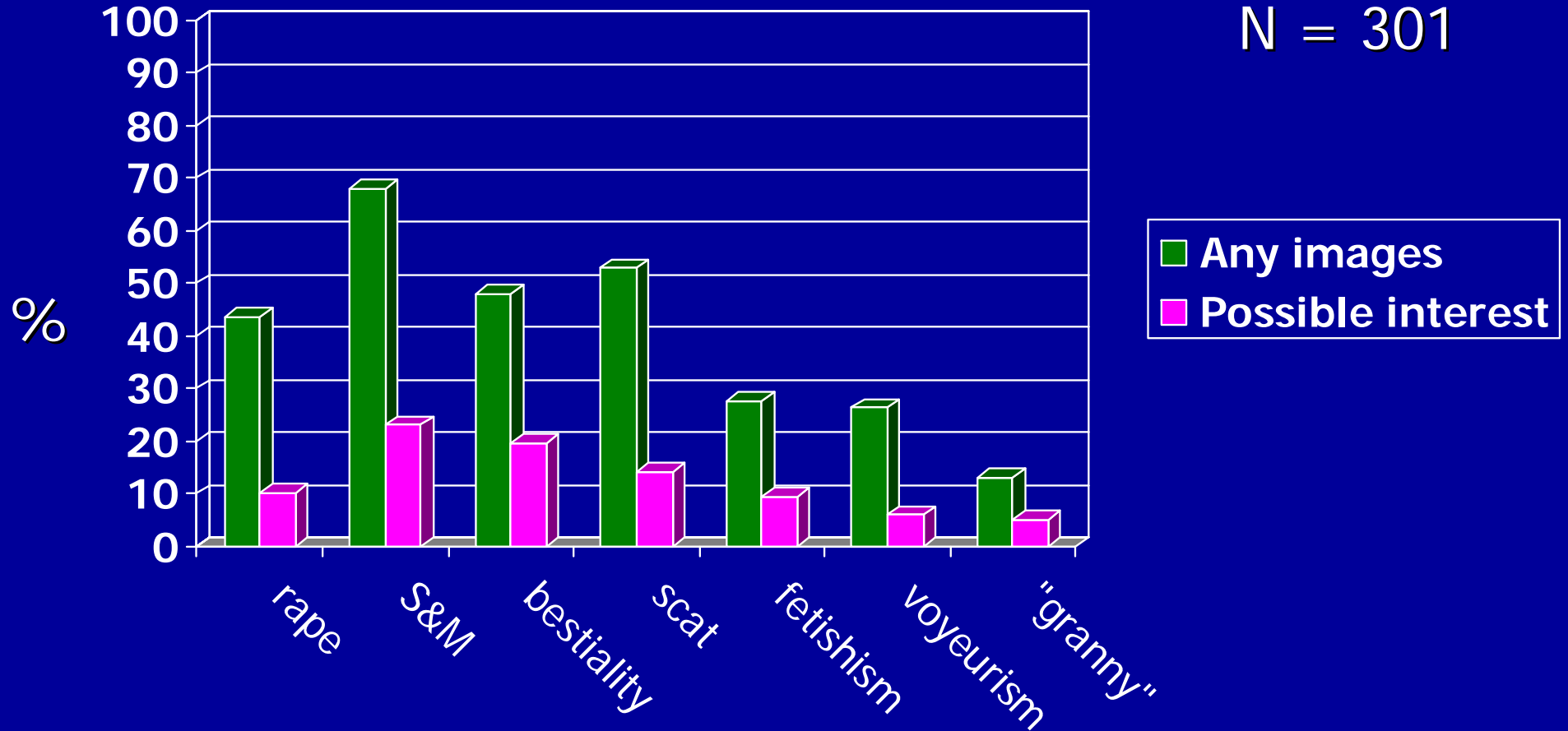- Accidental access (e.g., redirected, viruses)

Explanations Given By Child Pornography Offenders
(Seto, Reeves, & Jung, 2009)

	Police $n = 50$	Clinical $n = 34$
Sexual interest in children/CP	46%	38%
Indiscriminate sexual interests	6%	3%
"Pornography addiction"	10%	29%
Curiosity	40%	27%
Accidental access	40%	32%

Possibility of Other Paraphilic Interests
(Seto & Eke, 2008)

N = 301

Legend:
- ■ Any images
- ■ Possible interest

Y-axis (%): 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100

X-axis categories: rape, S&M, bestiality, scat, fetishism, voyeurism, "granny"

Types of Child Pornography Offenders?

- Several typologies have been suggested

- Need validation research on proposed types

- Need comprehensive sexological assessment

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  - Age and gender of children

  - Ratios of content themes

  - Frequency and recency of viewing

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- One in eight CP offenders have official record for contact sexual offending

- Approximately half self-report contact offending

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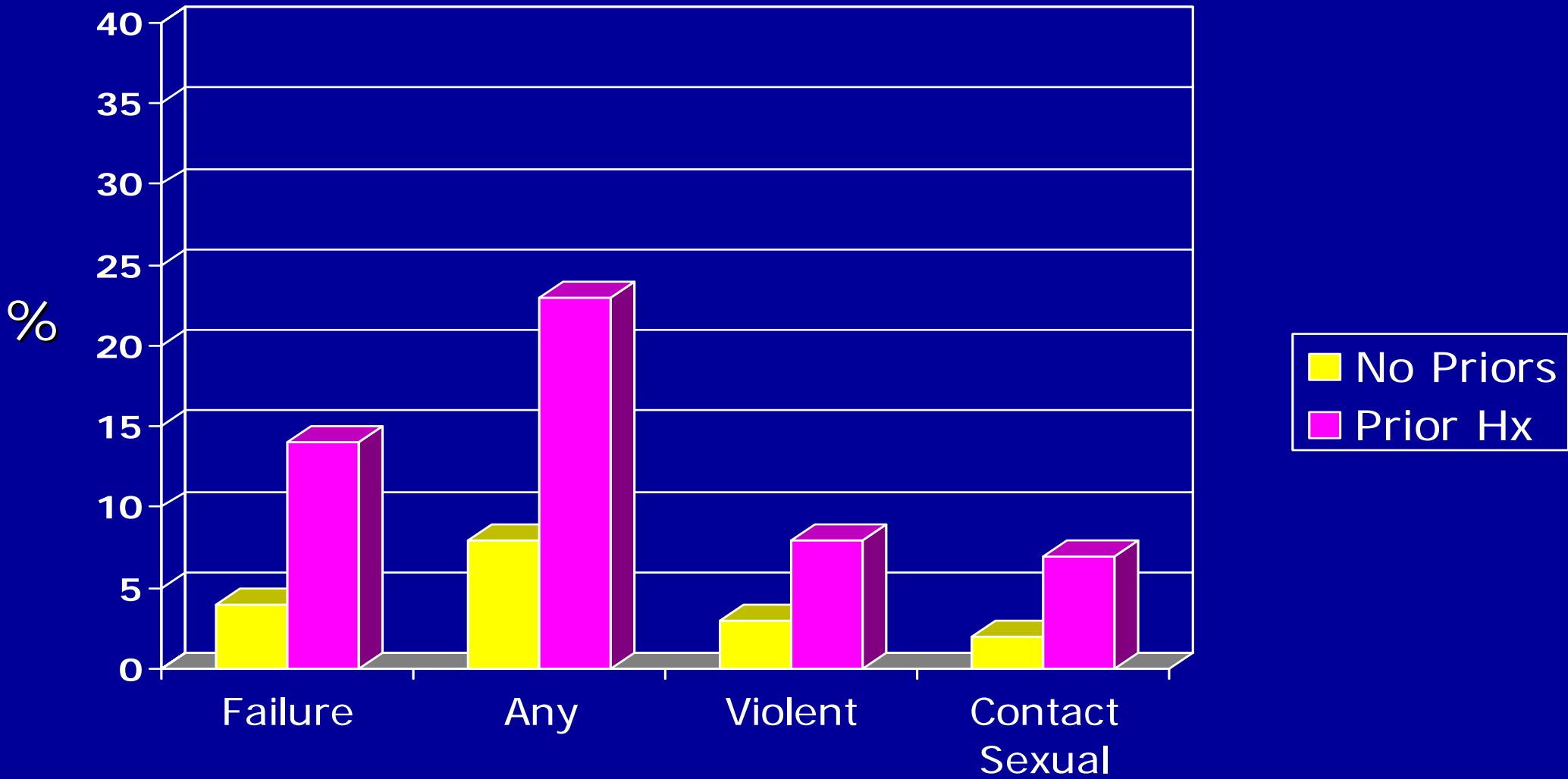
Recidivism

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- 2.2% new contact sexual offense

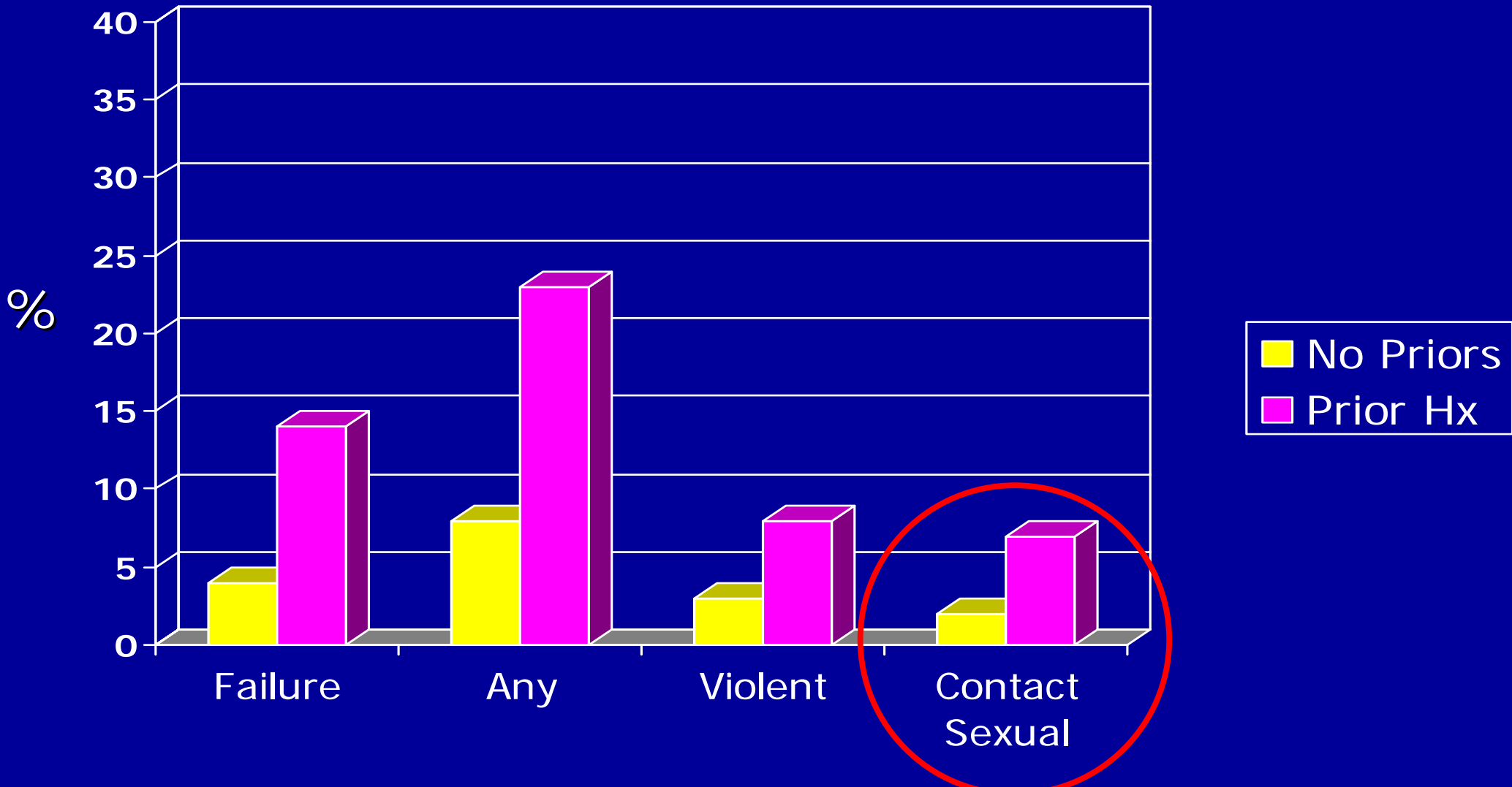- 3.6% new CP offense

- 4.2% new violent (including sexual) offense

Risk Factors: Criminal History
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New Follow-up
(Eke & Seto, 2008)

- Convicted adult male CP offenders

- Criminal history & recidivism from records

- Now 541 offenders, mean followup = 4 years

- Original sample of 201 followed for 5.9 years

Predictors of Contact Sexual Recidivism

- Offender age at first charge (negative)

- Prior contact sexual offenses

- Prior violent offenses

- Pre-index Cormier-Lang violence score

Predictors of Child Pornography Recidivism

- Offender at first charge (negative)

- Any prior offense

- # index nonviolent offenses

- Any conditional release failure

Outcome: Failure on Conditional Release

- One in four offenders had at least one conditional failure on bail, probation or parole

- Half of known failures for being around children or accessing Internet

- e.g., music teacher who gave lessons to young boys alone; individual found at cybercafe accessing child pornography

Other Risk Factors: Police Case Study
(Seto & Eke, 2008)

- 301 adult male CPOs (79% overlap with OSOR sample)

- Police files reviewed by RAs

- Criminal history, substance use, CP content, access to children, self-reported sexual interests

- Recidivism information obtained after file review completed

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Similar predictors for violent (incl. sexual) recidivism and child pornography recidivism; CP recidivism also predicted by boy:girl content

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	Offender lives alone ($p = .072$)
	Had specific info about children ($p = .088$)
	CP unorganized ($p = .077$)
	Had drug use problems ($p = .053$)

Risk Measures: Webb et al. (2007)

- 90 convicted CP offenders

- Stable 2000 scores predicted probation failures and "sexually risky behavior"

- <u>Stable-2000 factors</u>: Negative social influences, general self-regulation, offense-supportive attitudes, cooperation with supervision, sexual self-regulation, intimacy deficits

Risk Measures: Barnett et al. (submitted)

- Risk Matrix 2000 among 513 CP offenders

- <u>RM2000</u>: offender age, sexual and any sentencing history, male victim, stranger victim, ever live-in, any noncontact offenses

- Risk measure predicted contact recidivism, though lower recidivism rates than for other sex offenders

Risk Assessment

- Antisociality factors predict contact sexual & violent recidivism

- Antisociality and boy:girl content predict CP recidivism

- Consistent with models of sexual offending emphasizing antisociality & sexual deviance

- Pedophilia is not sufficient explanation for contact sexual offending

Risk Assessment, cont'd

- Established risk measures for CP offenders with contact offense history

- Generalize to any CP offenders?

- Risk measures can rank order CP offenders

- Probabilistic estimates may not be correct

Summary

- CP offenders are usually male and often Caucasian

- Different IQ & education than other offenders

- Types of pornography suggest sexual preferences; CP suggests pedophilia

- Approx. half of CP offenders have no known contact sexual offense history

- CP offender observed recidivism rates low

IV. Implications for Policy & Practice

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- Assess risk using established measures

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- Need valid risk assessment to make decisions

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- "users" vs. "producers/traffickers"

- Underscores need for effective prevention and management strategies (Neutze et al., 2009)

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