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Ethical issues and forensic psychological practice using the DSM-5 Quadrant with juvenile fire setting and bomb making

Internationally, arson has become a critical forensic issue and juvenile fire setting has increasingly emerged as a significant global problem. For example, juvenile fire setting and bomb making (JFSB) is responsible for 80,000 structured fires including 300 deaths and 1.2 billion dollars in structural damage. As a public safety concern, it has garnered the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigations, FEMA, and other law enforcement agencies. Providing care for the diverse needs of juvenile fire setters poses a clinical forensic challenge that can also involve ethical issues that must be confronted by interdisciplinary service providers (e.g., police officers, fire service personnel, mental health counselors, psychologists, probation officers, school nurses, etc.). Clinical forensic work with JFSB is at the core of delivering culturally responsive care and these services must be consistent with recognized ethical standards. Since diagnosis is a critical part of any work with JFSB, this workshop reviews the use of the evidenced-based DSM-5 Quadrant (Johnson, 2014-2015) which was crafted specifically for work with this patient population.

Biography

Ronn Johnson is licensed and board certified Clinical Psychologist with extensive experience in academic and clinical settings. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Professional Psychology. He has served as a Staff Psychologist in community mental health clinics, hospitals, schools and university counseling centers. His forensic, scholarship, and teaching interests include: Ethical-legal issues, police psychology, women death penalty, and contra terrorism.

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