

4th International Conference on

Forensic Research & Technology

September 28-30, 2015 Atlanta, USA

Ethical and clinical considerations for mental health professionals working with juvenile fire setters and bomb makers

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For quite some time, arson has become and remains a critical issue globally. More specifically, juvenile fire setting has increasingly been an issue within several communities globally. Juvenile fire setting has been known as the end result for over fifty percent of arson arrests. These individuals are responsible for 80,000 structured fires including 300 deaths and 1.2 billion dollars in property damage. This is not an issue that has been taken lightly several law enforcement agencies to include, but not limited to, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, FEMA, other law enforcement agencies, and institutions of learning. Providing care for the needs of juvenile fire setters is very important and has been to mental health providers and other social service workers. The increasing need of those that work in these particular fields is steadily increasing because this type of work is out of the scope of those in the education and law enforcement agencies. Juveniles who exhibit this type of behavior are simply at the hands of the criminal justice system sometimes without the proper care that is necessary to treat them. It is vital to provide psychological work to the young children, as well as working with families involved, in order to educate and bring about change that may be beneficial to everyone. While doing so, there are several limitations and ethical considerations that are to be taken seriously while providing treatment to the juveniles in the process. This will, if done properly, ensure that legal sanctions are met and everyone on each side are protected legally and ethically.

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