

## **Compiled Studies of Human Sex Offenders and Animal Sexual Abusers (1986-2016)**

### **Sexual contact with animals is the single largest risk factor and strongest predictor of increased risk for sexually molesting a child.**

- According to an Education Directorate of the American Psychological Association written by Mary Lou Randour (as cited in Abel, 2009), a study of 44,202 adult males evaluated for sexual misconduct found that sexual contact with animals is the single largest risk factor and strongest predictor of increased risk for sexually molesting a child. (Abel 2008).
- Out of 20 men adjudicated for animal sexual abuse in Fairfax County, VA, 5 offenders committed hands-on sexual offenses with children, 6 possessed child pornography, 3 solicited sex from a minor online, and 2 committed sexual battery of an adult (Hoffman, J. 2016).
- In a study of 36 perpetrators of sexually motivated murderers, 23% reported an interest in sexual contact with animals (Ressler, et al. 1986).
- In a study of 137 rapists and 132 child sexual abusers, Simons, Wurtele, and Durham (2008) found child molesters were three times more likely to report having engaged in bestiality (38%) than rapists (11%).

### **The sexual abuse of animals is linked to the sexual abuse of women and children.**

- Domestic violence can involve the use of animals for degradation and sexual exploitation of the battered partner. (Kowal, 1998).
- Child sexual abusers may sexually abuse animals to enhance, expand or extend the abuse of the genuinely powerless and unsuspecting victim (Adams, 1994).
- 41% of 400 women interviewed who had past relationships with battering partners had said their batterer asked them to perform unusual sex acts such as having sex with animals. (L.E. Walker 2009).
- There have been studies of sexual abuse of children that include reports of forcing children to interact sexually with animals (Ascione, 1993).

## Citations:

Randour, Mary Lou. What every clinician should know about the link between pet abuse and family violence. Education Directorate of the American Psychological Association.

<https://www.apa.org/education/ce/pet-abuse-family-violence.pdf>

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Ressler, R. K., Burgess, A. W., Hartman, C. R., Douglas, J. E., & McCormack, A. (1986). Murderers who rape and mutilate. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 1.

Simons, D. A., Wurtele, S. K., & Durham, R. L. (2008). Developmental experiences of child sexual abusers and rapists. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 32:549–560.

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