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Clinical & forensic psychological applications of geoprofiling with juvenile fire setters & bomb makers

Ronn Johnson
University of San Diego, USA

Abstract

Evidenced-based practice for forensic psychologists working with juvenile fire setters and bomb makers (JFSBs) must start with a central question. What is the link between evidence generated by their research and the efficacious and responsible practice of interventions? For example, Fortune 500 CEOs make decisions based on numbers they could not begin to fathom the accounting used to generate the data. Medical doctors prescribe medication to ailing patients based on the laboratory work of a graduate student they will never meet. Forensic psychologists use interventions to identify individuals in need to mental health services designed to to prevent tragedies such as the Boston Bombing and school fires. Juvenile fire setting and bomb making has significant costs attached to it. The link between forensic research and best practices is like the stretch of highway and air traffic control patterns connecting the place of meeting to every hometown, research facility, university, and partner in that room. Everyone is aware of its existence. And, everyone used it to come together, den if they arrived separately for different reasons. A more focused awareness of the link between all of our practices benefits science, benefits community, benefits the future of mankind. A challenge for forensic specialists working with JFSBs: Find two researchers, practitioners, clinicians, vendors, or even students here this week, whom you would never have contact with in the course of an average year at work. Take the example used here for geoprofiling and JFSB to create new forensic applications. Find a connection between your work and their work, however tangential. Challenge yourself to continue thinking not only outside of the box, but beyond the horizon.

Biography

Ronn Johnson is licensed and board certified clinical psychologist with extensive experience in academic and clinical settings. Doctor Johnson 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. The University of Iowa, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Central Oklahoma, and San Diego State University are among the sites of his previous academic appointments. His forensic, scholarship, and teaching interests include: ethical-legal issues, police psychology, women death penalty, and contraterrorism.