



Conversation Starter: No Brother of Mine

1. What are your gut feelings about the way society handles sex offenders? Is it uncomfortable to discuss them? To challenge them?
2. How do you think American laws should treat released sex offenders? Should they ever be released?
3. Do you think sex offenders can be rehabilitated? Can people change, with intensive treatment and other interventions?
4. Does civil commitment seem fair to you? Why or why not?
5. What's the balance between protecting public safety and civil liberties? Is there a gray area—or is it black and white?
6. The costs of detaining and treating sex offenders in civil commitment are far higher than incarceration or probation. Is it worth the price?
6. How were you taught to protect yourself from sexual violence?
7. How can we keep people from perpetrating sexual violence?
8. What worries you more—being victimized by sexual violence or by an act of terrorism?



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No Brother of Mine Research Links

Experts

Ernie Allen

President and Chief Executive Officer

[National Center for Missing & Exploited Children](#)

David D'Amora

Director, Center for the Treatment of Problem Sexual Behavior

Middletown, Connecticut

Susan Gaertner

Ramsey County Attorney

St. Paul, Minnesota

R. Karl Hanson

Senior Research Officer

Public Safety Canada

Eric Janus

President and Dean

William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota

[Author of "Failure to Protect: America's Predator Laws and the Rise of the Preventive State"](#)

Franklin Zimring

Professor, University of California—Berkeley School of Law

Articles & Studies

[No Easy Answers: Sex Offender Laws in the U.S.](#)

Human Rights Watch, September 11, 2007

Sex Offenders

Congressional Quarterly (CQ) Researcher, v. 16–31, September 8, 2006

Author: Alan Greenblatt

[Failure to Protect: America's Sexual Predator Laws and the Rise of the Preventive State](#)

[Author: Eric S. Janus](#)

Cornell University Press, 2006 and 2009



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No Brother of Mine Research Links - Continued

[Updated Trends in Child Maltreatment](#)

Authors: David Finkelhor and Lisa Jones
Crimes Against Children Research Center, 2007

[Child Sexual Abuse Fact Sheet](#)

Authors: Emily M. Douglas and David Finkelhor
Crimes Against Children Research Center, 2005

[Recidivism of Sex Offenders Released from Prison in 1994](#)

U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2003

[A Meta-Analysis of the Effective Treatment for Sexual Offenders: Risk, Need and Responsivity](#)

Authors: R. Karl Hanson, Guy Bourgon, Leslie Helmus, Shannon Hodgson
Public Safety Canada, 2009

[The Accuracy of Recidivism Risk Assessment for Sexual Offenders: A Meta-Analysis](#)

Authors: R. Karl Hanson, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada; Kelly E. Morton-Bourgon, Department of Justice Canada
Public Safety Canada, 2007

[Assessing the Risk of Sexual Offenders on Community Supervision: The Dynamic Supervision Project](#)

Authors: R. Karl Hanson, Andrew J. R. Harris, Terri-Lynne Scott and Leslie Helmus
Public Safety Canada, 2007

[Sex Offender Recidivism: A Simple Question](#)

Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada
Authors: Andrew J. R. Harris and R. Karl Hanson
Public Safety Canada, 2004

[Age and Sexual Recidivism: A Comparison of Rapists and Child Molesters](#)

Author: R. Karl Hanson, Department of the Solicitor General Canada
Public Safety Canada, 2001