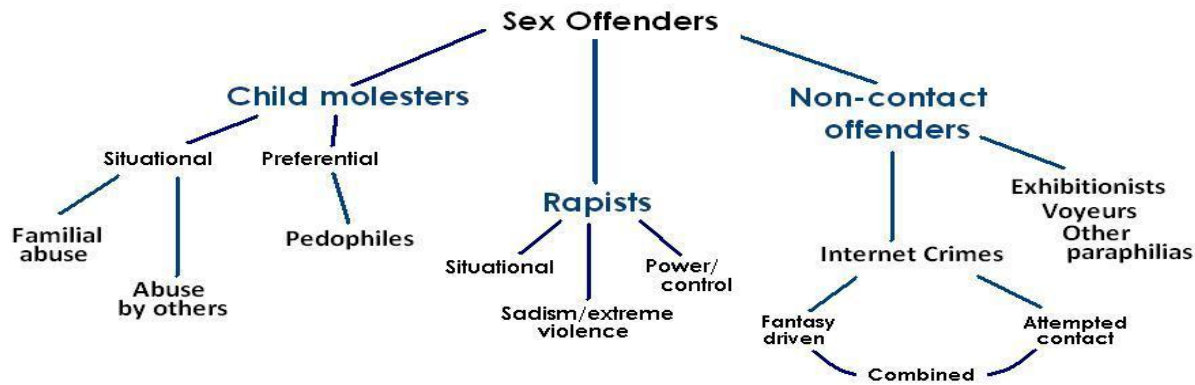


# 5 Important research facts every legislator should know before finalizing HB 2549

RSOL – Reform Sex Offender Legislation

## 1. Sex offense classifications have become highly complex in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.



## 2. The Static-99 is an archaic instrument by scholarly consensus and makes egregious misclassifications.

“For example, if an offender is a **nineteen-year-old gay man convicted of a low-degree sexual assault because he grabbed another man’s buttocks without consent**, the offender will likely score a 5 placing him at the upper end of the moderate-high risk category. One point is for his age, one is because he likely has not lived with a lover for more than two years, one is because the victim was unrelated, one is for the victim being a stranger, and the last point is because the victim was male. If that same offender had a prior conviction for assault from a bar fight or an indecent exposure charge, he would find himself in the high risk category. **As a result, this hypothetical offender would be categorized as having the same actuarial risk as a ten-time convicted child molester who has an extensive collection of child pornography.**”

Dr. Corey Raybun Yung  
SEX OFFENDER EXCEPTIONALISM AND PREVENTIVE DETENTION  
THE JOURNAL OF CRIMINAL LAW & CRIMINOLOGY Vol. 101, No. 3  
Copyright 2011 by Northwestern University, School of Law

## 3. Sex offense recidivism is remarkably low. A 2005-2011 Connecticut DOC study of 14,398 SOs showed *only 99 of the 14,398* received final adjudication for a new sex crime.

Offender group	Males	Any new sex crime arrest	New sex crime arrest rate	New sex crime conviction	New sex crime conviction rate	New sentence, sex crime	New sentence, sex crime, rate
No sex sentence history	13652	259	1.9%	114	0.8%	86	0.6%
Sex sentence history	746	27	3.6%	20	2.7%	13	1.7%
Total cohort	14398	286	2.0%	134	0.9%	99	0.7%

Recidivism among sex offenders in Connecticut  
State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management  
Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division  
February 15, 2012  
[http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjresearch/recidivismstudy/sex\\_offender\\_recidivism\\_2012\\_final.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjresearch/recidivismstudy/sex_offender_recidivism_2012_final.pdf)

## 4. The SO registry has no statistical effect on re-offense. SO's who do not register are have the same likelihood to re-offend than SO's who are in full compliance with registry rules.

“The findings suggest that registration noncompliance does not significantly increase the risk of either sexual or general recidivism.”

"The Effects of Failure to Register on Sex Offender Recidivism"  
Minnesota Department of Corrections Report  
March 2010  
<http://www.corr.state.mn.us/publications/publications.htm>

## 5. The most recent scholarly research suggests that removing low-level SOs from the registry results in increased public safety.

“I would recommend that it would be appropriate to increase our efforts to support the reintegration of SOs into the community sooner rather than later. The more an ex-SO is tied to the community, and the greater his stake in it, the less likely he will be to reoffend.”

For Assessing and Treating Federal Child Pornography Offenders: Written Testimony Presented to the U.S. Sentencing Commission  
February 15, 2012, Washington, D.C.  
Richard Wollert, Ph.D., Forensic Psychologist, Psychology Department, Washington State University Vancouver  
[www.uscc.gov/Legislative\\_and\\_Public\\_Affairs/Public\\_Hearings\\_and\\_Meetings/](http://www.uscc.gov/Legislative_and_Public_Affairs/Public_Hearings_and_Meetings/)