Dynamic factors and desistance: which is the impact on reintegration

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• Universal and voluntary process through which offenders cease offending (Laub & Sampson, 2003)

• Voluntary?

• Process?

Levers of desistance

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- Protective factors influencing desistance exist (De Vries Robbé *et al.*, 2015):
 - Healthy sexual interest
 - Employement or constructive leisure activities
 - Sobriety
 - Constructive social and professional support network
 - Good problems solving
 - Hopeful, optimistic and motivated attitude to desistance



- Files consulted at the court
- Collected informations:
 - Motives concerning the end of conditional release
 - Type and number of conditions
 - Negative changes in the conditions during the follow-up
 - Violation of conditions
 - Type of victims (age, sex and relationship)

• Conditions groups:

- **Probation agent (PA):** respect of meeting with PA, inform about the changes
- Housing: living place, moving from living place...
- **Residency restriction:** not living in the same aera than the victims and don't contact them, don't approach potential victims
- Occupation: employment and volunteering
- Therapy: compliance at the therapy
- **Do not commit:** don't commit a new offense
- Addiction: don't abuse substances or be in contact with drugs or alcohol environments

• Sample:

- 118 Paroled sex offenders
- All retrieved files of conditionally released sex offenders between 2003-2005 (+ limited additional sample: 2001-2002)
- Age at release: M = 39,74 years (SD = 10,85)
- 69,1% completed their supervision



• Non-parametric analyses:

- Descriptive analyses
 → Victims characteristics/type of offenses
- Mean rank comparisons (Mann-Whitney)
- \rightarrow Completion vs. revocation groups
- Spearman correlations
- \rightarrow Compare completion vs. revocation groups concerning the arrival of negative changes
- Logistic regressions
- \rightarrow Compare completion vs. revocation groups concerning the arrival of negative changes
- Survival curves
- \rightarrow Compare completion vs. revocation groups concerning the arrival of negative changes



Descriptive analyses

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• Victims characteristics:

- Gender : 84.8 % female (N = 95)
- Age : 64, 3% Juvenile (N = 74)
- Relationship : 47,8% intrafamilial (N = 55)

• Type of offenses:

- 86,6% Hands-on (N= 103)

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Completion vs. revocation

- Age

	N	M	Mean Rank	U	p
Completion	76	41,28	42,96	96	.00
Revocation	34	35,28	61,11	865,50	

- The revocation group is younger when released from prison (Hanson, 2002 ; Laws & Ward, 2011)

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- Completion vs. revocation
 - Period of follow-up

	N	M	Mean Rank	U	р
Completion	75	3,88	66,13	440.50	.00
Revocation	34	1,95	30,46	440,50	

- The period of follow-up is shorter for the revocation group

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Completion vs. revocation

- Number of conditions

	N	M	Mean Rank	U	р
Completion	76	9.51	54.03	1190	.80
Revocation	32	9.66	55.61	1180	

- There is no difference between the group in term of number of conditions

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Completion vs. revocation

- Negative changes during the follow-up period

	Completion N = 76		Revo N	Mann-Whitney				
	M	Mean Rank	M	Mean Rank	U	р		
Total negative changes	2,74	49,64	3,65	61,79	847	.06		
PA	2,53	51,11	2,55	57,95	958.50	.17		
Housing	2,67	53,02	2,59	52,95	1100.50	.99		
Residency restriction	0,05	53,08	0,03	52,79	1096	.90		
Occupation	1,04	53,07	0,79	52,81	1096.50	.96		
Therapy	0,45	49,2	0,93	62,95	913.50	.01**		
Do not commit	0,14	50,03	0,45	60,79	876	.01**		
Addiction	0,16	49,44	0,65	62,33	831.50	.00**		
Violation	0,59	46,04	1,72	71,24	573	.00**		
$p \le .05; p \le .05; p \le .05$	$p \le .05; p \le .01$							

Correlations

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Completion and dynamic variables

	N	ρ
Age at release	118	.21*
Period of follow-up	109	.56*
Number of conditions	108	02
Total negative changes	105	16
* <i>p</i> ≤ .01		

- Positive correlation between age at release and completion
- Positive correlation between the period of follow-up and completion

Correlations

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• Completion and negative changes

(N =105)	ρ		
Probation agent	13		
Housing	01		
Residency restriction	1		
Occupation	.00		
Therapy	21*		
Do not commit	24*		
Addiction	28*		
Violation of conditions	43*		

 $p \leq .01$

Correlations

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• Negative correlation between completion and:

- Compliance at therapy
- « Do no commit »
- Addiction problems
- Violation of conditions

Regressions

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Logistic regression between completion and dynamic variables

Model	Predictive variables	β	ES	W	<i>R</i> ²	X^2
5	Period of follow-up	1.4	.32	19.39*		21.8*
	Violation of conditions	9	.26	11.66*	.59	

* $p \leq .01$ (bilateral)



during judicial follow of sex offenders by reasons of parole release's end

Survival curve

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- Motives concerning the end of parole release and follow-up:
 - Negative changes arrive less quickly among the completion group
 - The revocation group experience negative changes less one years after release on parole

Conclusion

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- Age is linked on the success of the follow-up (Hanson, 2002; Laws & Ward, 2011)
- Completion group has less problem in term of therapy, addiction, recidivism context and violation of conditions (De Vries Robbé *et al.*, 2015)
- The violation of conditions is not recidivism
- But this context can lead to it

Perspectives

• Group comparisons:

- Between Completion/Non-respect/Recidivism
- With risk assessment instead number of conditions
- Logistic regressions between recidivism and negative/positive changes in the conditions
- Analyses based on the type of sex offenders
- Include experience of sexual victimization
- Possibly also a fixed effects regression (but low n)



Thanks for your attention



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- De Vries Robbé, M., Mann, R.E., Ruth, Maruna, S. & Thornton, D. (2015). An Exploration of Protective Factors Supporting Desistance From Sexual Offending. *Sexual Abuse : A Journal of research and Treatment*, *27*(1), 16-33.
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- Laub, J.H. & Sampson, R.J. (2003). *Shared beginnings, divergent lives: Delinquent boys to age 70*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Laws, D.R. & Ward, T. (2011). *Desistance from sex offending: Alternatives to throwing aways the keys*. New York: Guildford Press.