Student

Course

Instructor

Date

Video Assignment

The general public definition of pedophilia differs from the professional definition. Generally, it means adults being sexually attracted to individuals who are below the age of eighteen years or the legal age of maturity. However, the clinical or professional definition of pedophilia is the sexual preference of adults usually children of prepubertal or early puberty. Such individuals act or suffer from distress for six months or more due to these feelings. They are most attracted to children of sixteen years old and five years older as compared to the juvenile involved in meeting the criteria of pedophilia. Pedophiles can be classified as exclusive pedophiles who are only attracted to children and are often referred to as true pedophiles, while non-exclusive pedophiles are attracted to children as well as adults. The further classification of pedophilia is based on the age groups such as if children are younger than four years, it is called infantophilia. In the case of children with pre-pubertal or early puberty, with the age up to thirteen years, it is known as pedophilia. However, if the children are adolescent ranging from twelve to sixteen years are known as hebephilia. According to an interview of a pedophile, these people are born with it and they do not have much of a choice. However, the majority of people have those feelings, but they tend to suppress them. Society has misunderstood the meanings of the offender and non-offender pedophiles, hebephiles and pedophiles and it has led to a disastrous perception of pedophilia primarily among men.

According to Dr. Cantor, pedophiles should be provided with a situation where they can come in and see psychologists while they can remain anonymous. They should be able to receive a proper sex drive reducing medications, counseling or group therapies. He suggests that removing pedophiles by labeling them evils makes things even worse. We should remain dispassionate and think clinically and rationally about this situation and do not bombard them with the typical public policy of asking irrelevant questions. Feminists are not ready to accept the idea of female pedophiles as they consider child sexual abuse as a guise of male power. They believe that if any female is involved in such activities, they must be under the thumb of males. Female pedophiles are more clever than male pedophiles as they know better ways to disguise their abuse. Moreover, society is not yet ready to believe that there might be female predators. Most of the women who are involved in child abuse are the ones who themselves have been abused in their childhood. These women like to have their jobs around children involving nursing, teaching, and daycare. The majority of the cases reported of female pedophilia involve children's mothers who sexually abuse them.

Children who had been sexually abused had single mothers, however, if they had fathers or male members living with them, they were either away or quite weak. Child sexual abuse is more likely to happen in homes where there is a single woman and a lot of men visit quite often. Female abusers get away from the punishments their male counterparts would have received due to their 'motherly' expectations and their kind and affectionate nature. There is a difference in the society's perception of a woman holding or touching an unknown child in the parks as they are considered to be friendly while men are called perverts. Besides, a lot of mothers involved in sexual abuse are covered up by their children. For Michele Elliot, the term ‘absolutely ludicrous statements’ meant the false allegations on men about sexually abusing their children without any proofs and the generalization that all men have the potential to be abusers. Women have been using these tactics for divorce cases, custody and child support. But it is important to speak against such ridiculous and untrue statements as all men are being labeled as same and it can have negative implications on children. Most of the ex-offenders are likely to disguise themselves or stay away from the limelight and hide their identity while others openly confess and state how they are non-offender pedophiles. These films did not disclose any identities and took care of their privacy and safety. Pedophiles defend themselves by saying that either it a medical condition or they are born with it and they have no choice to deal with it. I believe that these pedophiles should be kept in therapy sessions and be asked to share their thoughts so they can be treated accordingly.