



Case of Jim Nelson

MANDATED TREATMENT FOR CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Jim is a 71-year-old employed Caucasian male who presented at the Rising Sun Center for Treatment of Sexual Offenders. He was court mandated into sexual offender treatment as a consequence of his conviction for incest and endangering the welfare of a child. This was related to charges of molesting his stepson when the victim was 12 years old. The client denies the current charges but says that prosecutors used a previous conviction of incest to coerce him into a plea bargain. Jim states that he did not have sexual contact with his stepson, but admits to having engaged in sexual intercourse twice with his stepdaughter (Lisa) when she was 17 years old. The stepdaughter became pregnant and now has a daughter. The client states that the sexual activity was consensual and calls it “an affair.” Jim remains married to and actively involved with his victims’ mother, although because of a court order he cannot cohabitate with his wife.

The client’s parole records state that he was charged with forcing his stepson to engage in oral and anal penetration as a discipline measure to make the boy comply with household rules. Jim denied any contact with his stepson and claims that the charges were brought by the victim’s biological father as retaliation

for Jim’s sexual contact with his stepdaughter. The client reports that he had sexual intercourse with his stepdaughter on two occasions, including once when she was a minor and once when she was aged 18 years. Jim claims that the first sexual contact occurred because his stepdaughter took advantage of him when he was intoxicated and asleep in his bed. The client states that his stepdaughter initiated sexual intercourse, which resulted in a pregnancy.

Jim has a history of behavior that might be deemed as predatory. His current wife, the mother of his stepchildren, was best friends with Jim’s daughter from an earlier marriage and is the same age as his daughter. The client said he would “help” the girl escape her chaotic family life and take her for outings with his family. Jim said that later, he helped the young woman “escape” an abusive marriage by relocating her to another state.

Jim claims to have never initiated sexual contact with anyone and that all of his partners have come to him for sex.

Clinical vignette provided by Clifford Evans, MEd, RN