

**PONENCIA:**

**PEDOPHILIA AND SEXUAL OFFENDING AGAINST CHILDREN: HOW TO PREVENT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND THE USE OF CHILD ABUSIVE IMAGES?**

*Pedofilia y agresores sexuales de personas menores de edad: ¿cómo prevenir el abuso sexual infantil y el uso de imágenes de abuso sexual infantil?*

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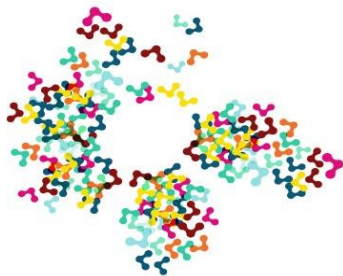
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**Abstract**

Pedophilia – a sexual preference for the body scheme of prepubescent children – is defined as a disorder within the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) of the World Health Organization as well as within the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) of the American Psychiatric Association. Contrary to popular belief, not all sex offenders who target children are pedophiles, and not all pedophiles commit sexual offences. But quite obviously pedophilia is an emotionally charged and controversial topic, which might be an explanation for putting it out of focus within the Health Care System. Mental health and criminal justice professionals are mostly and worldwide not well trained in terms of assessment methods and intervention techniques available to develop and implement effective policies and practices. This is an obstacle for prevention, i.e. proactive strategies to protect children from child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation by online offenses, such as the consumption or distribution of child abusive images (so-called child pornography), which emphasizes the internationally relevant dimension of the issue. The presentation will address key concerns and questions in dealing with this clinical population and offer insights into a primary prevention approach developed in Germany.

**Research Area and Accomplishments**

Prof. Beier is head of the Institute of Sexology and Sexual Medicine at the Charité (University Clinic of Berlin) and specialized in sexual medicine. He is dedicated to research and training in sexology,



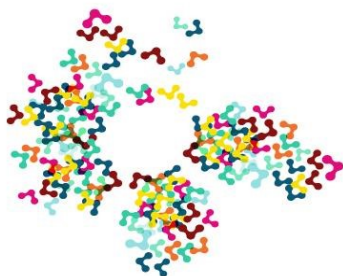
organizing official post graduate courses for physicians and psychologists in this field. His main focus in research is forensic sexology, for a long time in particular follow-up studies of previously expert-evaluated sex offenders.

His current research focuses on the prevention of child sexual abuse. The goal is to encourage self-identified undetected pedophiles and hebephiles to seek professional help in order to avoid committing child sexual abuse or so-called child pornography offences. For this purpose, in 2005, he initiated the "Prevention Project Dunkelfeld" (at the beginning exclusively funded by the VolkswagenStiftung) which is now extended to 10 additional locations all over Germany ([www.dont-offend.org](http://www.dont-offend.org)). This project has been awarded several national prizes. With government support, Prof. Beier is currently expanding the prevention approach in Berlin to juveniles aged between 12 and 18, who display sexually deviant behavior towards and/or phantasies about the body image of children ([www.just-dreaming-of-them.org](http://www.just-dreaming-of-them.org)).

Professor Beier is in charge of the Outpatient Clinic of the Institute which offers assessment and treatment for the full range of sexual disorders and gender dysphoria. He is a member of the International Academy of Sex Research, president of the German Society for Sexual Medicine, Sex Therapy and Sexology, founder of the German scientific journal "Sexuologie" and reviewer of several international journals. His last English book publication was "Sexual Medicine in Clinical Practice" (together with K. Loewit, Springer: New York 2013)

## Contact

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## Selected Publications

**Beier, K.M.**, Neutze, J., Mundt, I. A., Ahlers, Ch., Goecker, D., Konrad, A., Schaefer, G. A. (2009): Encouraging self-identified pedophiles and hebephiles to seek professional help: First results of the Berlin Prevention Project Dunkelfeld (PPD). *Child Abuse & Neglect* 33: 545–549

Ahlers, Ch., Schaefer, G.A., Mundt, I. A., Roll, S., Englert, H., Willich, S., **Beier, K.M** (2009): How unusual are the Contents of Paraphilias – Prevalence of Paraphilia-Associated Sexual Arousal Patterns (PASAPs) in a Community-based Sample of Men. *Journal of Sexual Medicine*, DOI 10.1111/j.1743-6109.2009.01597.

Neutze, J., Seto, M, Schaefer, G. A., **Beier, K. M.** (2011): Predictors of Child Pornography Offenses and Child Sexual Abuse in a Community Sample of Pedophiles and Hebephiles. *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, Doi: 10.1177/1079063210382043

Ponseti, J., Granert, O., Jansen, O., Wolff, S., **Beier, K.M.**, Neutze, J., Deuschl, G., Mehdorn, H., Siebner, H., & Bosinski H. (2012): Assessment of pedophilia using hemodynamic brain response to sexual stimuli. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 69, 187-94.

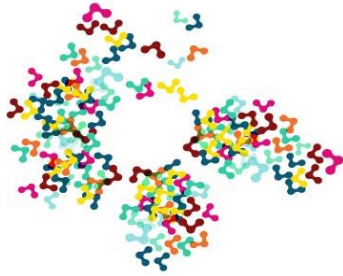
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Tiedt, H. O., **Beier, K. M.**, Lueschow, A., Pauls, A., Weber, J. E. (2014): A different pattern of lateralised brain activity during processing of loved faces in men and women: A MEG study. *Biological Psychology* 103: 255 - 261

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Ponseti, J., Granert, O., van Eimeren, T., Jansen, O., Wolff, S., **Beier, K. M.**, Deuschl, G., Bosinski, H., & Siebner, H. (2014). Human face processing is tuned to sexual age preferences. *Biology Letters* 10, 20140200.

**Beier, K. M.**, Grundmann, D., Kuhle, L. F., Scherner, G., Konrad, A., & Amelung, T. (2015): The German Dunkelfeld Project: A Pilot Study to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse and the Use of Child Abusive Images. *The Journal of Sexual Medicine* 12: 529 – 542

**Beier, K. M.**, Oezdemir, U.A., Schlinzig, E., Groll, A., Hupp, E. Hellenschmidt, T. (2016): "Just dreaming of them": The Berlin Project for Primary Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse by Juveniles (PPJ). *Child Abuse & Neglect* 52: 1-10