# Bestiality and the sexual exploitation of children

Is there a relationship?

#### Presenters

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- Michelle Welch Assistant Attorney General, State of Virginia
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#### Disclaimer

• The opinions and views expressed in this presentation do not necessarily reflect the views of the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, the Fairfax, VA County Government, the Fairfax, VA County Police Department, the Virginia Attorney General's Office, or the Animal Welfare Institute.

# Setting the frame: Human-Nonhuman Animal Sexual Contact

#### What should we call it?

- Paraphilia
- Condition in which a person's sexual arousal and gratification depend on fantasizing about and engaging in sexual behavior that is atypical and extreme
  - A paraphilia can revolve around a particular object (children, animals, underwear) or around a particular act (inflicting pain, exposing oneself)
- Zoophilia
  - Recurrent intense sexual fantasies, urges and sexual activities with non-human animals.

#### What should we call it?

- Bestiality
  - Engaging in sex with a nonhuman
- Interspecies Sexual Assault (ISA)
  - Beirne argues that sexual relations with animals parallels that against humans, i.e. involves coercion, pain, and lack of consent. Proposed interspecies sexual assault as descriptor of act supplants use of other terminology.

#### ISA and other Forms of Violence

- Children who engage in ISA more likely to commit adult interpersonal crimes
- ISA only method of childhood animal cruelty that predicted adult violent crime
- 96% of juveniles who engaged in ISA admitted to sex offenses against humans

#### ISA and other Forms of Violence

- Study of non-accidental injuries among veterinarians in U.K. identified 6% as being sexual in nature, including vaginal and anorectual penetrative injury, perianal damage, and trauma to the genitals.
  - Some injuries were extreme and some were fatal. The type and severity of injuries were similar to those described in texts on child abuse and human forensic pathology.
- Among a sample of 44,202 adult males evaluated for sexual misconduct, bestiality was the single largest risk factor predictor of increased probability of committing child sexual abuse

### From the Field: Jeremy Hoffman

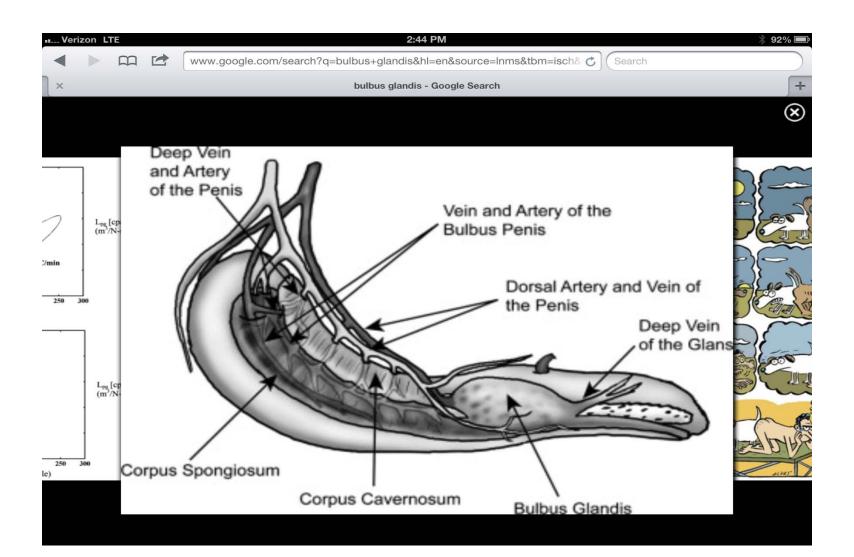
- Detective with the Fairfax County Police Department, Child Exploitation Unit
- Twelve years law enforcement experience
- Extensive Experience conducting online, undercover investigations
- Only detective in the region to investigate the sexual exploitation of animals

# Objective

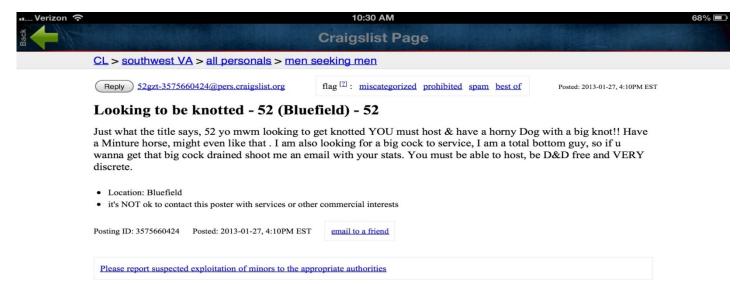
- To provide an eye opening look at the modern reality of bestiality and how it often relates to the exploitation of children
- To receive insight, direction or suggestions from your expertise

# Here's Reality

- Terms to Understand
  - Knotting: refers to the engorgement of the Bulbus Glandis, which prevents the male canine from separating from a female during mating. The Bulbus Glandis is a structure in the male canine`s penis that engorges while sexually aroused.
  - Red Rocket: Slang term for the erect state of a male, canine's penis
  - Farm, Beast, Zoo, K9, Best Friend, Mount, Breed



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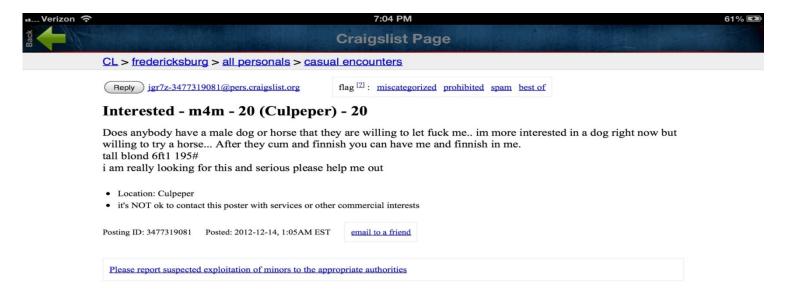


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looking for very discret stable play, do you have a male horse I can play with, watch or join in, prefer younger women I am very open minded easy to talk with.

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Very real very horny newb sub masc man here looking to be knotted...you know what it means and can help please hmu...il service you too ;-)

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Hey guys bottom here looking for a ride on a the red rocket.

I am knot looking to top I am strictly a bottom and hoping to find a top guy who can help me out.

I am clean and very discreet.can host.

Location: winchester,romney

• it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests

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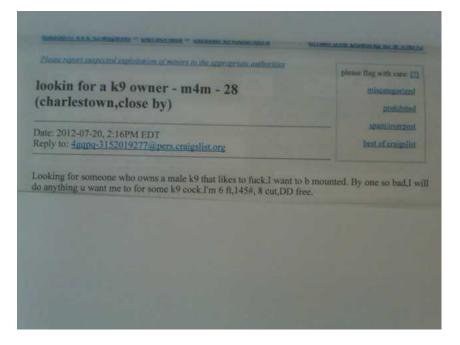
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- 10 Significant Cases between 2011-2013 resulting in convictions for:
  - Attempted Crimes Against Nature
  - Solicitation of a Minor
  - Computer Harassment
  - Cruelty to Animals
  - Sex Offender Registry Violation

- Ten Significant Cases
  - Seven (7) of the cases involved men wanting to be anally sodomized by a canine or wanting to perform oral sodomy on a canine
  - Male wanting females to have sex with "his" canine
  - Solicitation of a minor, admissions to bestiality and encouraging the minor to engage in bestiality
  - Exchange of bestiality videos for child pornography

- Two offenders confessed to hands on offenses with children
- Four offenders linked to child pornography
- Two offenders solicited sex from a minor
- Two offenders had no identified sexual interest in minors

- Offender Profiles
  - All Caucasian Males Ages 26-53
  - Eight (8) bi-sexual, One (1) heterosexual, One (1) homosexual
  - High School Dropouts to Masters Degrees
  - Employment
    - Government Employees/Contractors (4)
    - Labor (2)
    - Barista (1)
    - Information Technology (1)
    - Marketing (1)
    - Self Employed (1)



- Joe
- Caucasian
- 27 years old
- Bi-Sexual
- Engaged
- 1 Daughter
- Labor
- Uneducated

- Joe traveled from his home in West Virginia to Fairfax, Virginia, to receive anal sodomy from a canine
- Arrived with women's lingerie to wear during the act
- Shaved his genitals and anus

- Admitted as a teenager, he began to orally sodomize horses on a farm
- His first experience was masturbating a horse as he masturbated himself
- Engaged in multiple sex acts with other canines over a several year period

- Investigation revealed history of high risk sexual behavior
- Admitted to engaging in sexual intercourse with two minors, 15 or younger
  - Had sex with a 14 year old female just 6 weeks before his arrest.
- Possibly received pornography from at least one underage female

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Please report suspected exploitation of minors to the appropriate authorities wanting to ride the red rocket - m4m (winchester,romney)	please flag with care: [2] miscategorized prohibited
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Hey guys bottom here looking for a ride on a the red rocket. I am knot looking to top I am strictly a bottom and hoping to find a top guy who can help me out. I am clean and very discreet.can host.

Location: winchester,romney

· it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests

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- Robert
- Caucasian
- 54 years old
- Bi-sexual
- Married
- 4 Children
- Gov Contractor
  - SCI Clearance
- Educated

- Robert advised during undercover communication that he had engaged in prior acts of bestiality
- Displayed advanced knowledge of bestiality
- Robert traveled from his home in Loudoun County to Fairfax to be anally sodomized by a canine
- Arrived with an anal plug inserted in his rectum
- Arrived with 2 bottles of sexual lubricant

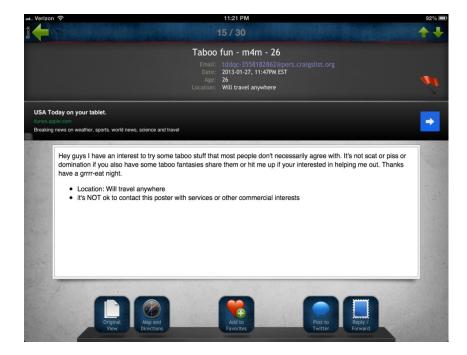
- Robert admitted to being interested in bestiality for several years
- Admitted to significant internet "research"
- Denied any prior experience
- Blamed impotence for his experimentation
- Advised no sexual interest in children

- Investigation revealed extremely high risk sexual behavior
- Hundreds of advertisements for binge sex and group sex with men
- All advertisements for unprotected sex
- Some advertisements advised "poz friendly"

• No identified sexual interest in Children

#### BUT

• Computer forensics are not complete



- Chris
- Caucasian
- 26 years old
- Homosexual
- Single
- No Children
- Barista
- Educated

- Chris advised during undercover communication that he had a sexual interest in "dogs, horses, and underage"
- Chris wanted to obtain child pornography of a very specific nature and was willing to purchase it
- Negotiations resulted in an agreement for Chris to provide videos of bestiality in exchange for videos of child pornography

- Chris traveled across two Virginia counties to make the video exchange
- The videos provided by Chris included men and women engaged in acts of bestiality with canine, equine and one unidentified animal
- Chris was arrested, but refused to make a statement

- Investigation Ongoing
  - Indications that Chris previously downloaded child pornography involving fathers and sons
  - Suspicion Chris may have a previous hands on offense
  - Chris lived next to a horse farm
  - Computer forensics are still pending

# Differentiating between Forms of ISA

- Species of animal involved
- Levels of violence and injury
- Types of sexual practice engaged in

#### Legal issues related to ISA

- Crimes against nature
- Felony statutes
- Degrees and types of ISA (similar to human sexual assault)

## AS A PROSECUTOR:

- Look to what crimes you can prove
  - Crimes against nature/bestiality
    - Your state statute may not cover every type of sex crime with an animal
      - Intercourse may be the only thing covered.
      - Sodomy may be part of your statute
      - Make sure you know what is covered.

# Creative Charging

- Does your CRUELTY statute give you cover
- Does it have a broad focus
  - Ill treat?
  - Overdrives?
  - Overloads?
  - Willfully inflicts inhumane injury?
  - Willfully set on foot, instigates, engages in, or in any way furthers in any act of cruelty to an animal?

# Is bestiality cruel?

- Case Summary
- Prison guards masturbating a dog?
- Filmed it on phone?
- Is it cruel?
- Would it be covered under crimes against nature?

#### How does it come to light?

- SVP (Sexual Violent Predator) civil commitment process
- Probation and Parole Report
- Stings like Det. Hoffman's investigations
- Family members
- Stigma –should you plead it to a lesser offense: would the perpetrator want to plead to cruelty instead of bestiality to avoid stigma?

#### PROSECUTORS

- Keep your file
- Send it to your state agency who do SVP civil commitments
- Documents that show exactly what the perpetrator did.

#### Feedback

- Questions
- Comments
- Concerns
- Thoughts
- Criticism

#### Contacts

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