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The Psychology of Human Sexuality

Chapter 16 Reaction Paper

1. The title “Meet pedophiles who mean well” strikes me as a kind of oxymoron. I’m sure some pedophiles try to resist their urges, but acting on those urges is the opposite of meaning well. The term “pedophile” has a lot of negative connotations connected to it. When I hear pedophile I think of a socially awkward older man with poor hygiene and possibly a mental disorder. I don’t think I will agree with what this article has to say.
2. When reading the article my thoughts changed a little. I guess a pedophile that actively repressed their urges could cause no harm, but I think that at some time they will end up acting on those urges and hurt a child. I see where this website could help a lot of people out there who realize they have these urges and don’t want to act on them. I think the resources offered on the website and the stories from other pedophiles help those trying to understand who they are and what their position is regarding pedophilia.
3. The concept of a “virtuous pedophile” is good, but I feel it is extremely difficult to live their life entirely as one. I think fighting those urges takes a lot of will power, and only a select few will have that will power to fight them the rest of their lives. It changes my assumptions slightly because I think that a virtuous pedophile could exist now, but I don’t think it is as common as this website claims. I am surprised that there are pedophiles that do not pursue their fantasies and desires. I think this paraphilia is one of the more dangerous paraphilias.
4. I think there should be more resources for those that do not want to act on their urges, and not punishments for those that have not acted.
5. I think that pedophilia could be classified as a sexual orientation. However, I think there needs to be many more resources for those who are pedophilic so they don’t resort to acting on their urges. I don’t think that will happen anytime soon.