

Appendix 10-A: Sex Crime Questionnaire

1. Have you ever been the victim of any form of sexual molestation? (This includes actual or attempted rape or molestation or unwanted sexual advance by a stranger, acquaintance, family member, or someone else you knew.) If yes, please explain.
 - a. If you answered "yes," was the incident reported to anyone, including your friends, family, or law enforcement? If so, please indicate to whom it was reported. If not, why not?
 - b. Did the incident result in any formal action taken against the offender? If so, please explain.
 - c. If formal action was taken against the offender, were you satisfied with the outcome? Please explain.

2. Do you know of any adult or child, other than yourself, who has been the victim of any form of sexual molestation? This includes actual or attempted rape or molestation or unwanted sexual advance by a stranger, acquaintance, family member, or someone else the person knew. If yes, please explain.
 - a. If you answered "yes," did the incident result in any formal action taken against the offender? If yes, please explain.
 - b. If formal action was taken against the offender, were you satisfied with the outcome? Please explain.

3. Have you or has anyone you know been accused of having committed a sexual assault on a child or adult? If yes, please explain.
 - a. If you answered "yes," did the incident result in formal action taken against the accused? If so, please explain.
 - b. If formal action was taken against the accused, were you satisfied with the outcome? Please explain.

4. Do you think that explicit discussion of sex acts will bother you or affect your ability to be fair? If yes, please explain.

5. Did you have any emotional or other reaction when you first heard what this case was about? If so, please explain.

6. The defendant in this case is accused of committing a sexual assault on a child/elder adult/physically disabled person. How will that fact affect your decision in this case?

7. *[If syndrome evidence may be offered]* Psychiatric testimony may be offered in this case concerning the conduct of victims of sexual assault. Do you have any training or experience in psychology? If so, please explain.

a. Do you have any feelings about the value of psychiatric testimony offered in a criminal case? If so, please explain.

b. If you are instructed that you may consider this evidence only for a limited purpose, will you be able to follow that instruction?

8. Based on age alone, do you have any particular feelings or opinions about the accuracy of the testimony of a ____ -year-old child? Please explain.

9. Do you have any specialized training or experience in working with children/senior citizens/persons with disabilities? If so, please explain.

10. Do you believe that sexual molestations, if they occur, should be dealt with in treatment rather than as a criminal prosecution? Please explain?

11. Can you think of any circumstance where the victim of sexual assault brought the event on by his or her own conduct? Please explain.

12. Do you regard the current punishment for sex offenses to be too light, about right, or too harsh? Please explain.

13. Do you belong to or contribute to any organization that places a special emphasis on advocacy on behalf of sexual assault victims? If so, please explain.

14. Do you belong to any organization that advocates for more sexual freedom and less government involvement in consensual sexual relationships, such as the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA)? If so, please explain.

15. Do you have any specialized training or experience in working with victims of sexual assault? If so, please explain.

16. Is there any matter you would prefer to discuss privately with the court? If so, please give a brief explanation.

17. *[If relevant to the crime]* Have you or has any member of your family ever had a drug- or alcohol-related problem?

Source: Bigelow and Couzens, California Benchbook: The Adjudication of Sex Crimes, Appendix 10A, pages 122-124. For information about this benchbook, please contact Bobbie Welling, Supervising Attorney, California Administrative Office of the Courts, bobbie.welling@jud.ca.gov