

# "Treating Addicted Offenders: A Continuum of Effective Practices"


Kevin Knight, Ph.D., TCU Institute of Behavioral Research


2007 North Carolina Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) Conference on Addiction, Crime, and Community, New Bern, NC  
March 26-28, 2007

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## So what's the problem?

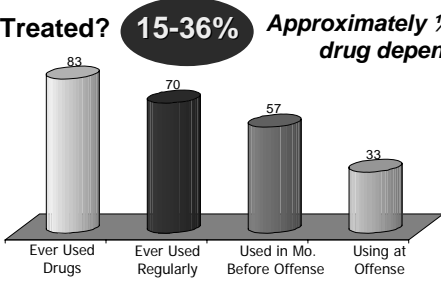
### 6.9 Million in CJ System

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### Drug Use among State Prisoners


(Percentages in 1997; N~1,050,000)

Treated? **15-36%** *Approximately 1/2 are drug dependent.*



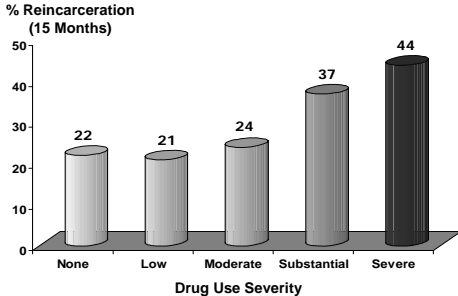
Category	Percentage
Ever Used Drugs	83
Ever Used Regularly	70
Used in Mo. Before Offense	57
Using at Offense	33

Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1997; 1999; Karberg & James, 2005

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### Drug Use Severity and Reincarceration

% Reincarceration (15 Months)



Drug Use Severity	% Reincarceration (15 Months)
None	22
Low	21
Moderate	24
Substantial	37
Severe	44

N=324; Weekes, Milison, & Lightfoot, <http://198.103.98.138/crd/forum/e073/e073c.htm>

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## What are we trying to achieve?

### Public Safety

- Reduction in recidivism rates

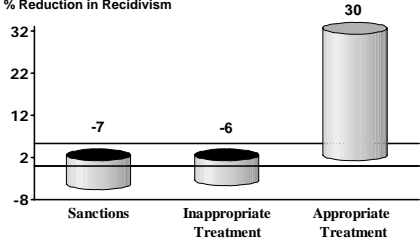
### Public Health

- Reduction in relapse rates

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## Treatment That Works!

% Reduction in Recidivism



Intervention	% Reduction in Recidivism
Sanctions	-7
Inappropriate Treatment	-6
Appropriate Treatment	30

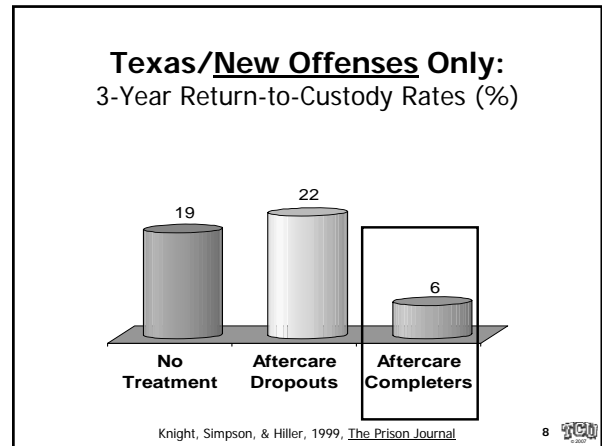
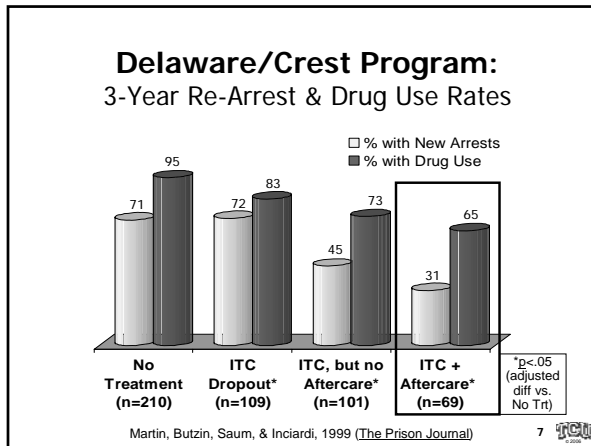
Andrews et al., 1990, Criminal Justice and Behavior

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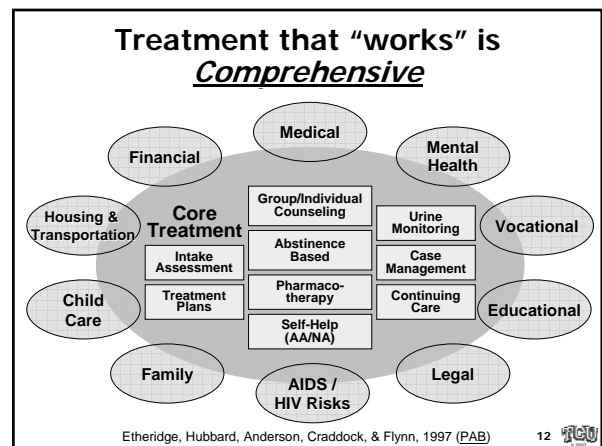
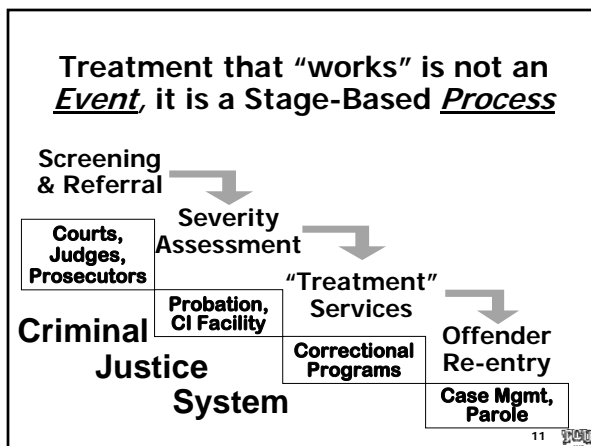
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Not  
“Does Treatment Work?”  
but  
“What Works?”

**“What” are we treating?**  
*A chronic but treatable condition*  
(“relapses” are common -- like other health problems)

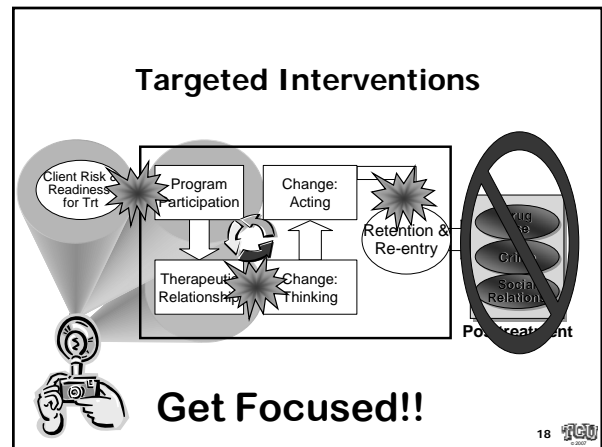
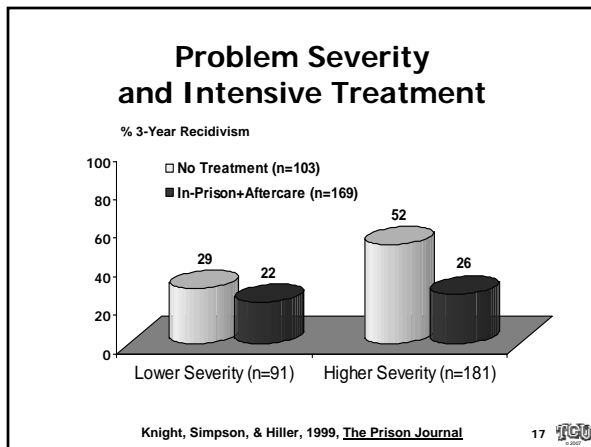
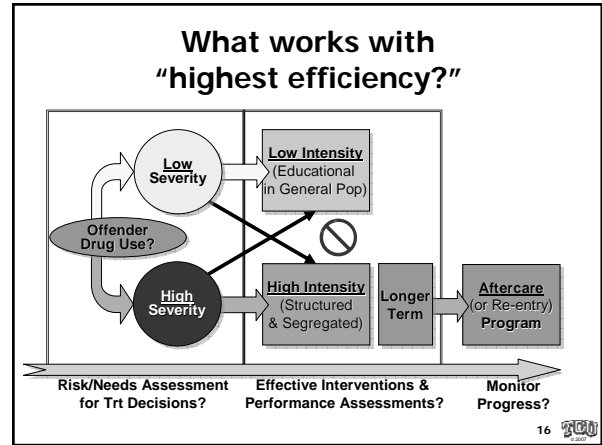
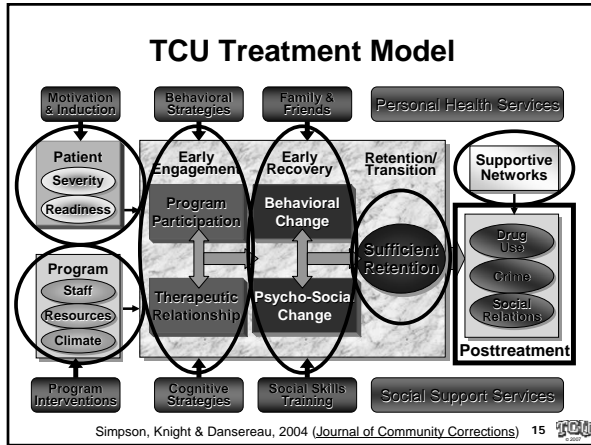
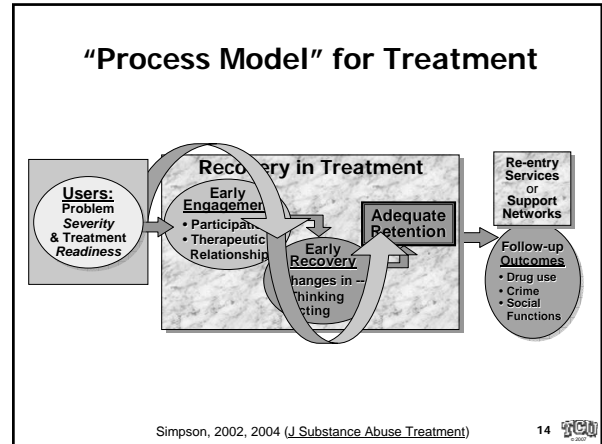
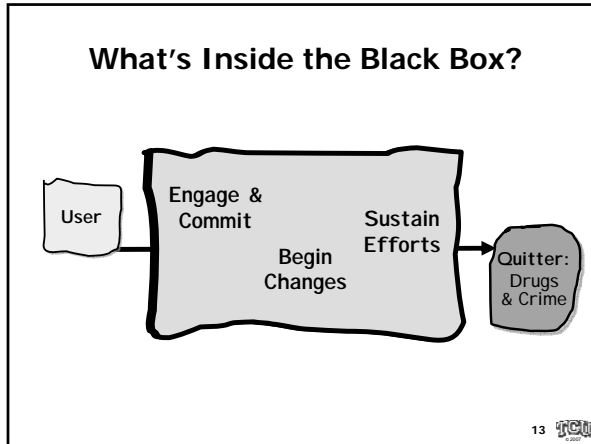
Question is not  
“Does Treatment Work?”  
but “What Works?”



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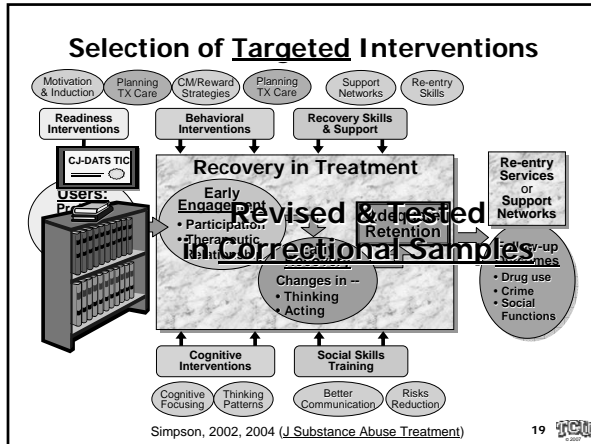
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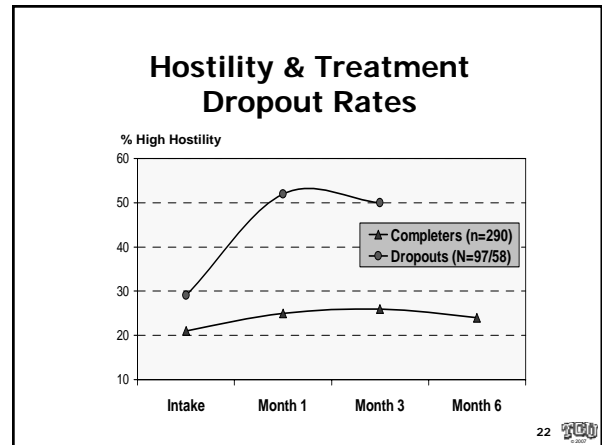
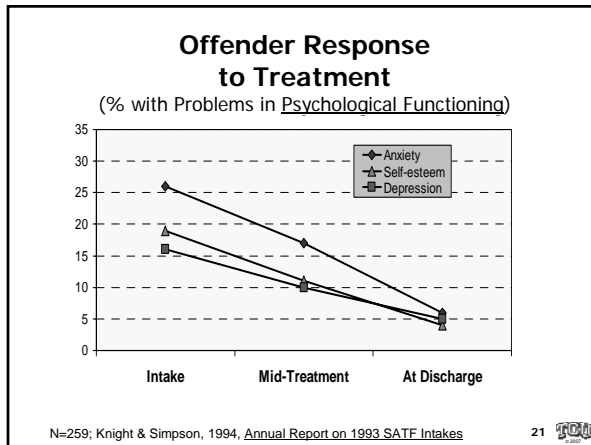
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## How do you know it works? Measure Client Change

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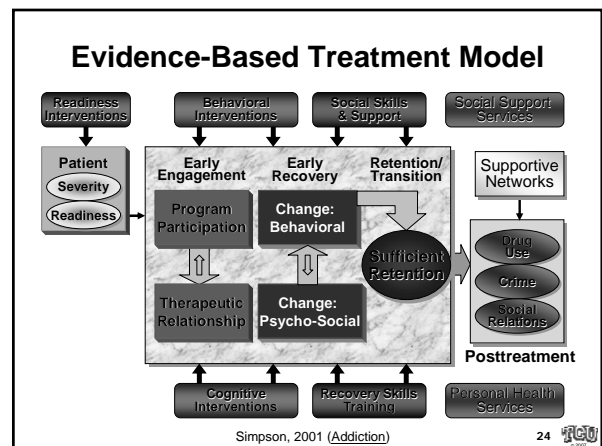


## What's Happening To This Model?

Budget cuts resulting in changes to --

- Needs assessments
- Treatment duration
- Outcome criteria
- Interventions

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