Rev. Marie Fortune has written and taught extensively on the topic of clergy misconduct. Fortune is the executive director of the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence in Seattle, Washington. The Center has produced a plethora of training materials including a manual for clergy and religious professional entitled: *Clergy Misconduct: Sexual Abuse in the Ministerial Relationship*. The manual describes who the sexual abusers are within ministry. (See Figure Below)

WHO ARE SEXUAL ABUSERS WITHIN MINISTRY?

Sexual abusers within the ministry exhibit a wide range of behavioral and personality traits. They cannot be characterized by a single list of traits. Rather, these abusers fall along a continuum. At one extreme is the type we call the "wanderer"; at the other extreme is the sexual predator. (NOTE: Anyone who is sexual with a child is a sexual predator.)

Wanderers Predators

It is important to note that the effect on the victim is not determined by the type of abuser. Abuse by a "wanderer" can be just as damaging as abuse by a sexual predator.

WHAT TRAITS DIFFERENTIATE THEM?	Wanderers * "wanderers" across boundaries	Sexual Predators * predatory * sociopathic (lacking conscience)
WHAT IS THE PROGNOSIS FOR TREATMENT?	* Fair to good, if highly motivated to change	* Poor to fair, even if highly motivated to change
WHAT TRAITS ARE TYPICAL OF ALL SEXUAL ABUSERS IN THE MINISTRY?	* controlling, dominating * limited self-awareness * limited or no awareness of boundary issues * no sense of damage caused by own behavior * poor judgment * limited impulse control * limited understanding of consequences of actions * often charismatic, sensitive, talented, inspirational, and effective in ministry * limited or no awareness of power * lack of recognition of own sexual feelings * confusion of sex and affection	
WHAT BEHAVIOR IS TYPICAL OF ALL SEXUAL ABUSERS IN THE MINISTRY?	All sexual abusers – from wanders to sexual predators have certain behaviors in common: * may seek out vulnerable people * attract vulnerable people * are secretive * are manipulative * will minimize, deny, rationalize, and blame	