



4-Quick Tips for Working with CSEC in Residential Care

❖ **They may be trying to get put OUT!!!**

- It is a major struggle to conform to the structure of any residential program which is often intensified by the internal struggle to return to their “Dude” (abusive/ exploitative relationship)
- Their recent street experience included so much trauma and drama that in comparison anything else is boring and unknowingly or knowingly they are seeking the “adventure”
- Although it is important to let it be known that the doors are open and help is available it is also important to let it be known that they can leave if they CHOOSE to...the CHOICE is theirs to make

❖ **They are use to being up ALL night “working” (being exploited and abused)** ➤ The night-time is the hardest for CSEC

- Because they are use to being up “working” all night
- Because many of them have past abuse histories that included abuse at night
- Because the night can be the hardest when illness is present

- Helping CSEC identify productive activities they can engage in at night to channel their energy is very helpful in their transition

❖ **They will PUSH your limits** ➤ Most CSEC have experienced some pretty hard-core environments and people, more so than we can imagine

- Because of what they have experienced they may feel empowered by putting themselves in the position of the perpetrator through VERBAL ABUSE AND THREAT
- DO NOT TOLERATE disrespect or threats to safety of persons or space!
- Being firm but LOVING will help to reduce and eventually eliminate their attempts to feel empowered through being abusive

- ❖ **They most likely MISS the love and attention they got from their PIMP** ➤ Although they display some pretty unattractive behaviors the TRUTH is they are screaming out for LOVE and ATTENTION
 - Providing them with this level of support will significantly reduce their chances of returning to the PIMP
 - Compliments, praise and quality time are three things they are very responsive to