

Assessment of Predictive and Environmental Factors Involved in Delinquent Behavior in a Selected Juvenile Home of South India with a View to Develop an Informational Booklet on Preventive Strategies Involved in Juvenile Delinquency

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Abstract

Introduction: A descriptive study to assess the predictive and environmental factors involved in delinquent behavior in a selected juvenile home of Hyderabad, with a view to develop an informational booklet on preventive strategies involved in juvenile delinquency.

Methodology: Research design selected for the present study was descriptive research design structured checklist and structured questionnaire 3 point likert scale was used to collect the data from the juvenile delinquent inmates. Purposive sampling method was used to selection of the sample. A total sample size for the study was 60. A selected juvenile home was selected.

Results: The study results showed that 38.4% of subjects had mild influence of predictive factor, 56.6% of subjects have moderate influence of predictive factor and 5% of subjects had severe influence of predictive factor. The 65% of delinquents reported mild influence of environmental factor, 33.4% of delinquents reported moderate influence and surprisingly only 1.6% of delinquent had severe influence. In regards to the predictive factors about 45 (75%) were having history of delinquent behavior, 47 (78.3%) had history of violence and 60 (100%) were from broken families, 38.4% of subjects have mild influence of predictive factor, 56.6% of subjects have moderate influence of predictive factor and 5% of subjects have severe influence of predictive factor, The majority of the subjects belonged to socio economic factors 59 (98.3%) and personal factors. There is a significant association between the selected demographic variables like education of juveniles, religion, education of father and education of mother.

Keywords: Predictive Factors; Environmental Factors and Juvenile Delinquents.

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Introduction

Juvenile delinquency, also known as “Juvenile offending”, is participation in illegal behavior by minor (juveniles, i.e. individuals younger than the statutory age of majority). Most legal systems prescribe specific procedures for dealing with

juveniles, such as juvenile detention centers, and courts.² According to USA studies from the Netherlands show that out of 3200 sex offenders recorded by police in 2009, 672 of those were juveniles, approximately 21 percent of sexual offenders³

According to UNICEF, an average of 10,500 minors are being arrested and detained every year about 28 children every day, or more than one child every hour. It is even more alarming to know that poverty has driven most of the minors detained to commit crime¹. As per the Home Ministry data of the total of 33,387 juveniles apprehended in 2011, 21,657 were in the 16/18 age group 11,019 of 12-16 age group and 1,211 between 7-12 age groups (PTI, 2013). Whereas 32,145 such youngsters below 18 years of age were held in 2006 34,527 in 2007, 34,507 in 2008 33,642 in 2009 and 30,303 during 2010, the data said. The data also shows increasing cases of

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rape by juveniles. As many as 1,419 such cases were recorded in 2011 as compared to 399 cases 2001.⁴

Methodology

Research design selected for the present study was non-experimental descriptive research design structured checklist and structured interview 3 point likert scale was used to collect the data from the juvenile delinquent inmates. The content validity of the tool was obtained from experts in the field of psychiatry and Nursing. The structured checklist with 21 questions was made to explore predictive factors. Based upon scoring system utilized to find out the influence of predictive factor. Scores were from 0-7 is minimal influence of predictive factor, 8-14 is moderately influence of predictive factors and 15-21 is severely influences of predictive factors. Structured interview to predict influence of environmental factors among juveniles' inmates of selected delinquent home of Hyderabad. The scoring system for each item in threading scale consisted of 51 items .Prior permission from the authorities was obtained. The reliability of the tool was tested by using the split - half method and Karl Pearson's formula and the tool was found to be highly reliable (r = 0.9).The study was conducted at juvenile correctional home of Southern India. It was conducted from 1st march 2019 to 30thmarch 2019. Purposive sampling method was used to selection of the sample. A total sample size for the study was 60.

Results

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables.

S. No.	Demographic data	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age in years		
	Under 11 year	0	0
	11-12 years	0	0
	13-15 years	10	16.7
	16 and above	50	83.3
2.	Gender		
	Male	55	91.7
	Female	5	8.3
3.	Numbers of offenses		
	First known offense	37	61.7
	Two known offense	11	18.3
	Three known offense	8	13.3
	More than 4 offense	4	6.7

4.	Duration of Offensive Behavior		
	Less than 1 year	45	75
	1-2 years	8	13.3
	Over 2 year	7	11.7
5.	Education		
	Illiterate	12	20
	Primary education	16	26.7
	Secondary education	14	23.3
	High school	18	30
6.	Place of residence		
	Rural	21	35
	Urban	39	65
7.	Religion		
	Hindu	38	63.3
	Muslim	17	28.3
	Christian	4	6.7
	Other's	1	1.7
8.	Types of family		
	Nuclear family	17	28.3
	Joint family	39	65
	Broken family	3	5
	Orphan	0	0
	Single parents	1	1.7
9.	Habits of parents		
	Smoking	14	23.3
	Alcoholism	20	33.3
	Gutka	2	3
	Other substances	6	10
	No habit of substance abuse	18	30
10.	Occupation of father		
	Laborers	15	25
	Drivers	15	25
	Government employees	3	5
	Private employees	20	33.4
	Farmers	7	11.6
11.	Occupation of mother		
	House wife	27	45
	Laborers	17	28.3
	Farmers	5	8.4
	Private employees	10	16.7
	Government employees	1	1.6
12.	Monthly income		
	3000-4000	5	8.3
	4001-8000	5	8.3
	8001-10,000	2	3.4
	10,001-15,000	48	80

13.	Education of father		
	Illiterate	19	31.7
	Primary education	4	6.7
	Secondary education	11	18.3
	High school	26	43.3
14.	Education of mother		
	Illiterate	36	60
	Primary education	8	13.3
	Secondary education	3	5
	High school	13	21.7

Table 1: Shows majority of the Juvenile delinquents that is 50 (83.3%) were within the age group of 16 and above years, 55 (91.7%) males and 5 (8.3%) were females. In regards to type of offences, majority offenses were reported only once that is 37 (61.7%) majority of offensive behavior was less than 1 year 45 (75%) educational status Juvenile inmates studied High school 18 (30%), majority of Juvenile delinquent resided is Urban 39 (65%) and place is rural 21 (35%) majority of subjects were Hindu 38 (63.3%), majority of Juvenile delinquent reported they belonged to Joint family that is 39 (65%), majority of samples had Alcoholism 20 (33.3%) reported non- consumption of psychoactive substances majority of delinquents father were private employee 20 (33.3%), majority of Juvenile inmates of mother's were house wife 27 (45%). Majority of Juvenile inmates that is 80% reported that the monthly income of parent is ranged from 10,001-15,000.

Table 2: Grades of predictive factor.

Grade	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Mild influence	23	38.4
Moderate influence	34	56.6
Severe influence	3	5

Table 2: Shows that 38.4% of subjects have mild influence of predictive factor, 56.6% of subjects have moderate influence of predictive factor and 5% Of subjects have severe influence of predictive factor

Table 3: Grade of environmental factors.

Grade	Frequency (n)	Percentage
Mild influence	39	65
Moderate influence	34	33.4
Severe influence	3	1.6

Table 3: Shows that 65% of delinquents have mild influence of environmental factor, 33.4% of delinquents have moderate influence and 1.6% Of delinquent have severe influence.

Table 4: Domainwise rank order classification of predictive factors under rank order.

Predictive factors	Mean	Modified mean	Rank order
Broken family	4.367	0.545	I
History of violence	2.467	0.534	II
History of delinquent behavior of parents	1.95	0.24	III

Table 4: Shows the mean scores of predictive factors and further rank order based on the descending order of types of predictive factors as follows broken family with highest modified mean of 0.545, history of violence with modified mean of 0.534, history of delinquent behavior of parents with least modified mean of 0.24.

Table 5: Finding related to types of environmental factors under rank order.

Environmental factors	Mean	Modified mean	Rank order
Socio economical factor	6.41	1.06	I
Personal factor	11.18	0.86	II
Home environment	3.6	0.522	III
Assault	2.61	0.514	IV
School misconduct	2.31	0.462	V
Theft	2.26	0.452	VI
Psycho active substance used	1.61	0.322	VII
Vandalism	1.56	0.312	VIII

Table 5: Shows the mean scores of environmental factors and further rank order based on the descending order of environmental factors as follows socio economical factor with highest modified mean of 1.06, personal factor with modified mean of 0.86, home environment with modified mean of 0.522, assault with modified mean of 0.514, school misconduct with modified mean of 0.462, theft with modified mean of 0.452, psycho active substance use with modified mean of 0.322, vandalism with least modified mean of 0.312.

Table 6: Item analysis on predictive factors.

Item No.	Item/Statement	Response	
		Yes	No
1	I witnessed my parents stealing money.	12	48
2	My parents had the habit of consuming psycho active substances like alcohol, Ganja (or) any other	13	47
3	I get annoyed when I hear that my mother & father will never be together.	25	35
4	There were times ,I felt that I was not getting enough love from my parents	28	32
5	I want to be at home so as to stop them from quarreling	30	30
6	I never spend quality time with my family	30	30
7	In spite coming from a broken family still I respect my parents.	34	26

Table 6: The item analysis was done to assess the predictive factors of juvenile delinquent behaviour. And the findings shows that,48 subjects' parents' never stole money,47 subjects' parents' never consumed psychoactive substance abuse,35 subjects responded that they never annoyed about their mother and father will never be together,32 subjects felt that their did not get enough love from their parents,30 subjects never wanted to be at home,30 subjects never spend quality time with their parents,26 subjects are from broken family still respect their parents.

Table 7: shows that there is a significant association between the selected demographic variables like education of juveniles, religion, education of father and education of mother. As the fisher value was greater than the tale values. And no significant association of age ,gender , number of offences, duration of offensive behaviour, place of residence, habits of parents, occupation of father, occupation of mother, monthly income because the fisher's value was less than the table value.

Discussion

A similar study was done by Anitta et al which highlighted that 70% children affected by predictive factors , behavioral change rating scale shows 74% children effected finding shows a high (chi square = 25.06) at $P < 0.05$ which is highly significant, that is predictive factors are responsible for behavioral changes.⁵ However in the present study that 38.4% of subjects have mild influence of predictive factor, 56.6% of subjects have moderate influence of predictive factor and 5% Of subjects have severe influence of predictive factor, the mean scores of predictive factors and further rank order based on the ascending order of types of predictive factors as follows broken family with modified mean of 0.545, history of violence with modified mean of 0.534, history of delinquent behavior of parents with modified mean of 0.24,.

Findings of the study show that children are very severely affected emotionally during the childhood period, which has brought about these behavioral changes, no proper parenting style and socioeconomic problems during their childhood. So, the researcher concludes major findings of the study parenting problems, poverty and socio-

economic problems.⁴

In the present study 65% of delinquent have mild influence of environmental factor, 33.4% of delinquents have moderate influence and 1.6% Of delinquent have severe influence. The mean scores of environmental factors and further rank order based on the ascending order of environmental factors as follows socio economical factor with modified mean of 1.06, personal factor with modified mean of 0.86, home environment with modified mean of 0.522, assault with modified mean of 0.514, school misconduct with modified mean of 0.462, theft with modified mean of 0.452, psycho active substance use with modified mean of 0.322, vandalism with modified mean of 0.312.

Conclusion

The chapter has clearly brought out the implication of this study and also has provided recommendation for further studies. Research studies of this kind should be an ongoing process and those in authority to provide opportunities and encourage staff to take up such studies. Studies of this nature can help the general public to have an awareness regarding the problems that young children face .They are in the no means land they need help and support.

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