

Assignment Criminology

Topic:

Juvenile delinquency, its socio-economic, demographic and environmental factors and its reduction through institutional role, professional counseling and increased care.

Introduction:

The term Juvenile means a child who has not reached adulthood and delinquency means neglect. So conduct of a child which violates social code is child or juvenile delinquency while violation of moral code is not a child delinquency like disobedience of parents.

1 Factors/Socio-economic factors which leads to juvenile delinquency

1.1 Poverty and Financial problems

Poverty is the biggest reason for making them children vulnerable to delinquent behavior.

Families strive to meet their basic needs of food, shelter etc, while children join criminal gangs for pursuit of their financial desires when they face wealth disparities. In Karachi and Lahore many children involve in street crimes such pickpocketing and mobile snatching.

1.2 Lack of education and school dropout:
When families face difficulties to meet their basic needs, then they pay no attention to make their children learned. They make them involved in child labour to share their financial burden with them. When they do not get education, they do not learn manners and cannot learn social norms which ultimately leads to delinquent behavior.

According to Pakistan Non-formal education, report 2023-24, there are 25-37 million children who are out of school.

1.3 Family Structure:

Family play an important role in the development of balanced personality of children. Broken families, step mother or father or domestic violence make children vulnerable to delinquent behaviors. In these situations, child do not have love or affection and lacking of these cause psychological problems in children and in turn they go outside for love which is provided by gangs. Hence, they start doing things under gangs.

2. Demographic factors which result in delinquent behavior

2.1 Peer influence

Peer groups also influence the child. If child's peer group is involved in criminal activities, they he or she more prone to

do the same things. In Lahore, many children are involved in delinquent behavior like street racing and mobile snatching.

2.2 Rapid Urbanization

Rapid urbanization is also a cause of Juvenile delinquency. Many people migrate from rural to urban areas in pursuit of better jobs opportunities and better life facilities. They get settled in underdeveloped areas like Slum of Lahore where education opportunities are not available and libraries are also not present leaving them indulging in unproductive activities.

3 Environmental factors which ends in Juvenile Delinquency

3.1 Neighborhood crime

Gang culture which is in many areas of Pakistan such as Lyari (Karachi), Orangi town and Korangi, is the major cause of this behavior. Children for their acceptance in society join criminal gangs for earning in case of lack of earning opportunities.

Social Media

Social Media promotes criminal activities like in Pakistani dramas, in movies or in western action movies. In Pakistan many children get indulged in these activities by watching these activities in Pakistani dramas.

Weak Law Enforcement System

Children who perform these activities are tortured by law enforcement system. They do not get rehabilitation rather they are put in overcrowded jail where they meet with hard criminals and start doing criminal activities.

1. Reduction in Juvenile Delinquency

1. Institutional role in reducing the juvenile delinquency

State's institutions play major role in reducing the delinquency. State's policies and their implementation can play a major role in it. Like in schools besides academic knowledge, social norms could also be taught to them by the help of govt.

1.1 Education System

It is the first institution in the defense against juvenile delinquency. Schools should teach social norms along with academic knowledge and promote inclusiveness among children. There should be enactment of anti-bullying policies.

1.2 Juvenile Justice System

There must be balance between punitive measures and among ~~these~~ skills in rehabilitation. Their parents should also be involved in this system in order to reduce juvenile delinquency.

1.3 Social Services:

Families should be provided social services who are at high risk. By these services causes behind juvenile delinquency could be known like poverty. In this way, families would be provided with financial aid.