



The Role Of Family & Education On Juvenile Delinquents

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ABSTRACT

It is concerning that children are increasingly getting involved in criminal behavior. Delinquency is a global problem that needs to be taken seriously. The primary reasons for a child to engage in illegal activities are often attributed to inadequate education or negative influences from their upbringing. Understanding the root causes of such behaviour is crucial. Juvenile age limits vary by country. In India, the Juvenile Justice Act defines a child as a person who has not completed 18 years of age With India having made significant changes to its laws in recent years.

KEY WORD –Juvenile Delinquents, Family & Education Role , society Role ,Justice System .

INTRODUCTION

We understand that a baby is like a blank slate, so how are they getting involved in criminal activities? It may sound surprising, but the reality is that children are increasingly getting involved in criminal behavior nowadays.

The term "Juvenile Delinquent" refers to a minor, meaning a child or youth under the age of eighteen years, who seriously deviates from the cultural or societal norms and commits acts that, if committed by an adult, would be punishable as an offense or crime according to the Indian Penal Code.(Belwal & Belwal, Oct-Dec, 2016).

Juvenile	→	Juvenile is a boy or a girl who has not complete 18 years.
Delinquency	→	Deviation from norm youthful behaviour.
Delinquent	→	A child has committed that crime.

OBJECTIVES:-

- To Finding out the reasons behind the increase in juvenile delinquency during adolescence.
- To finding out Identify the role of family and educational institutions in making a child a juvenile delinquent.
- Focusing on the social role in developing juvenile delinquency.
- Focusing on juvenile delinquency laws.
- To make an overall idea of the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- **Mwangangi. Rosemary Kakonzi (March ,2019)The Role of Family in Dealing with Juvenile Delinquency.**The study aimed to explore the relationship between family-related factors and juvenile delinquency, suggesting that the family plays a crucial role in a child's character development. By reviewing relevant concepts, the study identified key family factors influencing delinquency, such as parental attitudes, family cohesion, physical violence, and uninvolved parenting. It also highlighted non-family factors, including failures in the juvenile justice system, poverty, lack of access to education, drug abuse, and genetic issues, that contribute to juvenile crime.
- **Teena.Thomas, (May,2020)The Juvenile Justice System In India: A BRIEF OVERVIEW .**The Indian legal system has traditionally focused on rehabilitating juvenile offenders. However, in 2015, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act was passed, which introduced a more punitive approach to handling juvenile crimes. Under this act, teenagers between the ages of 16 to 18 could be tried as adults, but only in cases involving serious crimes. This issue brief explores the reasons behind this change in approach by the Indian political and legal systems and evaluates whether moving away from a rehabilitative approach for dealing with juvenile offenders is justified.
- **Fitriparman , Evi P. Hulukati, Abdul HarisPanai and NoviantyDjafri; The effect of government roles, family education, and community attitudes on juvenile delinquency in Gorontalo City, Indonesia.**A study was conducted in Gorontalo City to examine the impact of government roles, family education, and community attitudes on juvenile delinquency. The results indicated that higher levels of government roles, family education, and community attitudes were associated with lower levels of juvenile delinquency. Overall, the impact of these factors on juvenile delinquency was 76.6%.
- **Bhal Singh and VandanaPunia ;Role of Value Based Education in Reducing Juvenile Delinquency at School Level.**The impact of modern technology and social media has negatively affected Indian society, particularly adolescents. The lack of supervision has led to increased stress, depression, and crime among teenagers. Value-based education (VBE) can help in the proper development of children by promoting self-expression, self-confidence, cooperation, and universal brotherhood. Teachers' aptitude regarding VBE is crucial in changing juvenile behavior. Factors affecting juveniles' development include media, peer influence, exclusion from society, and family.
- **E.C, Wertlieb (1982);Juvenile Delinquency and the School - A Review of the Literature.**In school, family values and academic performance are closely connected. Students who struggle academically might feel alienated and may seek solace in peer groups, which can lead to rebellious behavior. In some cases, the education system may not cater to the needs of all students, leading to a sense of powerlessness and cynicism.

- **Shuwen Zhang,(May,2023); The Influence of Child and Adolescent Education on Juvenile Delinquency**The educational process is crucial for human development and shapes a better future from childhood. One pressing issue is the rise in juvenile delinquency. Young offenders should not be viewed as inherently bad but rather as products of their educational experiences. The education received during formative years, both at home and in school, significantly influences behavioral development and personal values. Factors such as family dynamics, school environments, and social conditions play a critical role in shaping youth behavior. High-quality family education instills positive values, thereby reducing juvenile delinquency. School education, especially programs that emphasize moral development and positive teacher-student interactions, prepares children for societal involvement and minimizes delinquent behavior. Furthermore, social environments—including aspects like insecurity and cultural context—impact children's development. Effective transition planning, including aftercare programs that provide education and employment opportunities post-release, is essential for reintegrating juvenile offenders into society. A structured transition and access to support services are vital for successful community reentry.

- **R.Abhishek , J.Balamurugan (mar 2024);Impact of social factors responsible for Juvenile delinquency – A literature review**Juvenile delinquency is one of the most widespread social issues today. Social factors and conditions significantly influence the prevalence of delinquency among young people. Those who engage in criminal behavior before the age of 18 are commonly referred to as juvenile offenders. This study aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the research and work conducted on juvenile offenders, with a particular focus on the critical role of social factors in all aspects of juvenile delinquency. Additionally, this research will explore the social roots and influences that contribute to the criminal behavior of young offenders.

WHAT CAUSES A CHILD TO MOVE INTO THE JUVENILE DELINQUENCY WORLD:-

The issue of delinquency is a global problem that needs to be taken seriously. It is like a red signal for society and presents a significant challenge. If young delinquents are not handled properly at the right time, they may turn into hardened criminals, causing major problems and headaches for their society and humanity at large. The primary reasons for a child to engage in illegal activities are often attributed to inadequate education or negative influences from their upbringing, resulting from an unhealthy socio-cultural environment. This negative environment can lead to a child becoming physically and mentally unfit as well as an irresponsible citizen. It's important to understand the root causes that lead to such behavior in children, such as the origin, factors that group them, and what drives them towards such actions.

❖ Influence Of Family And Environment :-

The text explores the connection between different family-related factors and crime, specifically emphasizing their potential role as causes of juvenile delinquency. It highlights that while multiple factors influence a child's character development; the family plays a central role and has a significant impact on this process.(Mwangangi.r.k ,March ,2019)

Here are some factors that can negatively affect a child's development and behavior:

- **Broken family:** This refers to a family that is incomplete due to divorce or death.
- **Hereditary problem:** If a child's parents or other family members behave criminally, it can have an impact on the child's behavior.
- **Impact of single-parent families on child delinquency:** Research has shown that children from single-parent families are more likely to engage in delinquent behavior compared to those from two-parent families.
- **Illiterate parents:** Parents who cannot read or write may struggle to support their child's educational and emotional needs.

- **Domestic conflicts:** Children who witness or experience domestic conflicts within their family can suffer from emotional and behavioral problems.
- **Poverty:** Living in poverty can have a significant impact on a child's development and behavior.
- **Improper parental control:** Children who lack proper parental control may engage in risky or delinquent behavior.
- **Dull, monotonous, and uninteresting home environment:** A home environment that lacks stimulation or opportunities for growth can negatively affect a child's development.
- **Homelessness:** Children who are homeless or experience housing instability can suffer from emotional and behavioral problems.



- **Influence of Education :-**

The educational process is crucial for human development and shapes a better future starting from childhood. One significant issue is the rising incidence of juvenile delinquency. Young offenders should not be viewed as inherently bad; rather, their misbehavior can be linked to the education received during childhood and adolescence. Family and school play a vital role in shaping their behavioral development and personal values. (Zhang ,Shuwen .(May,2023)

The following are the possible effects of education on a child:

- **Failure or backwardness:**A student who repeatedly fails a class tends to enter the world of crime.When a student repeatedly fails a class, they are more likely to turn to a life of crime.
- **Dropping out of school:**Students who have dropped out of school are prone to delinquency due to lack of exposure to education. Students who drop out of school are at a higher risk of delinquency due to a lack of educational opportunities.
- **Disliking school:** Many students who dislike school may be more inclined to engage in criminal activities.
- **Lack of proper discipline and control:** If the student is not properly disciplined and controlled then often delinquent tendencies appear.
- **Low IQ/Lack of intelligence:** Students with lower intelligence levels are more prone to entering the criminal world.
- **Maltreatment and injustice done to the child:**When a student is mistreated or unfairly treated, it may lead to criminal tendencies.
- **Teachers' anti-social and bad behavior.**Many times, the negative behavior of the teacher impacts the students, drawing them into this world.
- **Inadequate school infrastructure/performance -**"It is still observed in many places that school infrastructure is inadequate. This has resulted in a decrease in students' interest in attending school and an increase in truancy, leading to the development of criminal behavior among students."



- ❖ **Influence Of Social Environment :-**

Juvenile delinquency is a major social issue today, significantly influenced by social factors and conditions. Young individuals who engage in criminal behavior before the age of 18 are known as juvenile offenders. This study aims to overview research on juvenile offenders, focusing on the impact of social factors and exploring the underlying influences contributing to their criminal behavior.(R.Abhishek , J.Balamurugan (mar 2024)

The following are some factors that can influence society:

- **The lure of money.** - Many times, children become involved in criminal activities due to their greed for money.
- **An uncultured society.**-Many times it has been observed that in societies lacking order or culture, which are fundamentally unhealthy, criminal behavior among the children of those societies is prevalent.
- **A sense of insecurity.** It has been observed that children who suffer from insecurity may exhibit delinquent behavior.
- **A society plagued by terrorism** -If terrorism is nurtured in society from a young age, criminal behavior becomes evident. It has been observed that terrorists often lure the youth into the world of crime.
- **Mistreatment and injustice towards young individuals** - If a young person does not receive a fair trial or is found guilty without having done anything, they are often pushed into the criminal world.
- **Associating with negative influences.** This behavior may manifest in a child who is frequently in negative company or surroundings.
- **Excessive physical strength** - It's been observed many times that individual with greater physical strength often engage in criminal behavior under its influence.
- **An inferiority complex.** Many times, a child suffering from an inferiority complex may engage in criminal activities unknowingly.
- **The impact of social media.**The most significant issue is Teenager's high level of activity on social media, which occurs without discrimination between positive and negative content, often leading to involvement in criminal activities.



JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM INDIA

□ Brief discussion of Juvenile Justice system =

Under the Juvenile Justice Act, the age limits for juveniles in the United States vary, with the maximum age being set at 14 years in some states and as high as 21 years in others. In India, there used to be sex differences in the upper age limit. According to the Juvenile Justice Act (1986), a juvenile meant a boy who had not attained the age of 16 years or a girl who had not attained the age of 18 years. However, with the enforcement of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 from April 1, 2001, it was redefined as "juvenile or child means a person who has not completed 18 years of age." This act was further amended in 2006 and 2010. Following the **Nirbhaya incident**, the Indian Parliament passed a law in 2015, which came into force on January 15, 2016. (Juvenile Justice Act, 2000,2009)

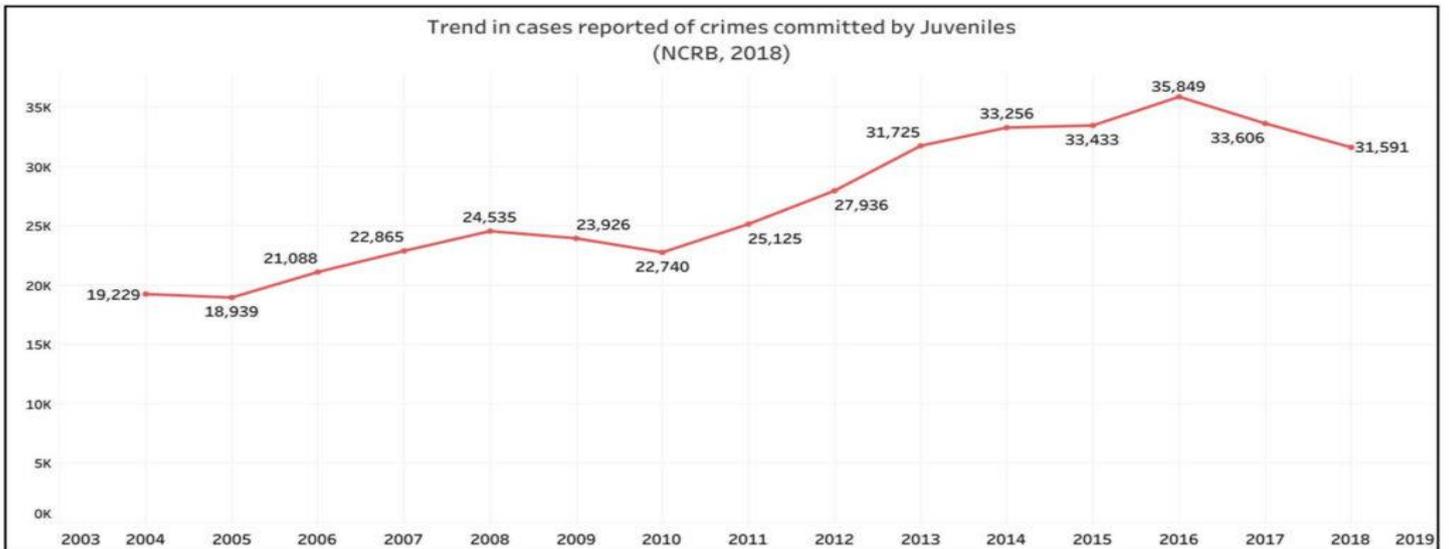
□ Juvenile Justice And Constitution Of India –

In Part IV of the Indian Constitution, the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) provide guidance for the welfare of children. (Juvenile Justice Act, 2000,2009)

- **Article 21A** - Right to Free and compulsory education to all the children aged between 6 to 14 years of age.
- **Article 24** of the Indian Constitution - Right to be protected from any hazardous employment under the age of 14 years.
- **Article 47** of the Indian Constitution- Right to be provided with proper Standard of living and Good Nutrition.
- **Article 39** of the Indian Constitution- Right to be protected from Human Trafficking and Forced labour .
- **Section 82** of IPC lays down –“Nothing is an offence which is done by a child under seven years of age”.
- **Section 83** of IPC enshrines- ‘Nothing is an offence which is done by a child who is above 7 years of age and under 12 who has not attained the sufficient maturity of understanding in order to judge the nature and consequence of his act on that particular occasion’



I have a graph that shows data from 2003 to 2019. In 2004, the number was 19,229. From 2005 to 24535 in 2008, the graphical line grew. However, in 2010, the line dropped to 22,740. It started to increase again from 2011 and reached its peak in 2016, where the number was 35,849. Although the number decreased slightly to 31,591 in 2018



Picture source-<https://factly.in/more-than-99-of-the-juveniles-apprehended-for-crimes-are-boys/>

❑ **THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY :-**

➤ **Preventive measures**

- Parental education.
- To protect children from negative influences and antisocial environments.
- Providing alternative environments for children when necessary.
- Improving the quality of school education and the overall school environment.
- Ensuring that education is readily available for young people.
- Building a supportive community safety net.
- Eliminating the involvement of criminals in politics.

➤ **Treatment and reformatory measures for delinquency**

- Establishment of juvenile justice board
- Establishment of observation home and special homes.
- The provision of action against juvenile offender.
- Rehabilitation and social reintegration of the neglected delinquent.

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