

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF PERSONALITY OF JUVENILE DELINQUENT AND NORMAL CHILDREN

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of the present research is to study and compare various personality factors of juvenile delinquent and normal children. The sample of 30 delinquent and 30 normal children were selected. Delinquent children were selected from remand homes of North Gujarat region. The age range of the children was 10 to 15 years. Children personality Questionnaire by S.D. Kapoor and Sardamba Rao was used for data collection. To analyze the data 't' test was used. Results reveals that delinquent children found to be less-intelligent, Emotionally instable, Inactive, Sober, Disregards rules, Zestful, self-assured and uncontrolled by getting low score as compared to normal children. The delinquent children shown lower, mental capacity, lower ego strength, takes group action, careless of social rules.

INTRODUCTION

In new era juvenile delinquency is becoming a global problem. According to Schwartz and Johnson 1985 the term delinquency is used for the juvenile (usually under the age of 18) who has committed an act that would be considered illegal for an adult. When an individual commit an illegal act below age of seven , they are called problem child not the delinquent. Because it is felt they are not mature enough to differentiate between the legal and illegal and right and wrong.

It is also classified delinquents into five groups according to the type of offence. The offences are: (1) minor violations (including disorderly conduct and minor traffic violations), (2) major traffic violations (including automobile theft), (3) property violations (4) addiction (including alcoholism and drug addiction), and (5) bodily harm (including homicide and rape). Psychologists have classified juvenile delinquents on the basis of their individual traits or the psychological dynamics of their personality into five groups: mentally defective, psychotic, neurotic, situational and cultural.

According to Siegal (2007), Sutherland and Cressey (1970). Social learning theorists, crime is the result of learning the values, norms and behavior attached with criminal activity. Differential association is a process of learning, in which law-abiding people and criminals learn their behavior from association with other. Delinquency is

skilled behavior that is gained by the interaction of these people in engaged in criminal lifestyle. So offenders are differentiated from non-offenders on the basis of individual's choices.

Ryane and Redding (2004) Revealed that juvenile delinquents showed more depression. Barringa et al., (2000) stated that juvenile delinquents showed more cognitive distortion and problem behavior than non-delinquent with key characteristics of depression include difficulty concentrating, loss of interest in previously enjoyed activities, hopelessness, feelings of worthlessness, and at its extreme, suicidal thoughts and tendencies.

Hunt (2008) Theorized that depressive symptoms are closely related to juvenile delinquents. Adolescents in the correction centers are more depressed than those from the community based samples. In particulates, they considered how depression may predict antisocial behavior among girls.

Tengstorm (2004). Report psychopathic co morbidity rates of 29% and 33% respectively in samples of violent patients with schizophrenia. Lilienfeld and Widow (2005) considering the type of person that emerge when these attributes work in together concert, it is no wonder that psychopathy has held a long-standing place in descriptions of criminality and personality disorders and is one the most researched conditions in psychopathology.

Nasir, Zainah, Shahrazad and Latipun (2011) regarding perspective on psychosocial factor of juvenile delinquents. This study has suggested that Malay juvenile delinquents were significantly more depressed than the Indonesian juvenile delinquents. Decuyper, Bolle and Fruyt (2011) stated regarding perspective on that anger levels can be successfully predicted by general and maladaptive personality dimensions.

Meier, Slutske, Arndt, & Cadoret (2008) concluded that there is a relationship between personality specifications and agitation, emotional senselessness, and the delinquent behaviors of male and female juveniles who are in contact with each other.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

To study and compare difference between delinquent children and normal children with regard to various personality factors such as Warmhearted, intelligent, emotionally stable, excitable, assertive, enthusiastic, conscientious, adventurous, tender- minded, circumspect individualism, apprehensive, self-sufficient and controlled.

HYPOTHESIS

There will be no significant difference between delinquent children and normal children with regards to various personality factors such as Warmhearted, intelligent,

emotionally stable, excitable, assertive, enthusiastic, conscientious, adventurous, tender-minded, circumspect individualism, apprehensive, self-sufficient, and controlled.

METHODOLOGY

Sample :

The sample of 30 delinquent children and 30 normal children were selected for the present study. The delinquent children were taken from remand homes of north Gujarat region. The age range of the children was 13 to 16 years.

Tools:

To measure various personality factors of children, HSPQ by S.D. Kapoor and Saradamba Rao was used.

Procedure:

After establishing rapport, the test was administered individually in adequate testing conditions. To analyzed the data 't' test was used.

PERSONALITY FACTORS	Delinquent Children		Normal Children		t
	M	SD	M	SD	
Warmhearted (A)	3.82	2.68	3.09	2.71	1.43
Intelligent (B)	3.54	1.61	5.48	1.94	5.71**
Emotionally Stable (C)	2.50	2.18	3.86	2.72	2.96**
Excitable (D)	6.79	1.36	5.68	2.69	2.78**
Assertive (E)	5.91	2.13	5.73	1.59	0.51
Enthusiastic (F)	3.55	1.36	4.57	1.97	3.40**
Conscientious (G)	5.20	1.23	6.02	2.02	2.65**
Adventurous (H)	4.61	1.54	4.96	2.05	1.03
Tender-minded (I)	3.84	2.33	2.71	1.75	1.64
Circumspect Individualism (J)	6.04	2.24	7.59	1.46	4.31**
Apprehensive (N)	5.34	2.12	6.46	1.32	3.29**
Self Sufficient (O)	6.66	1.35	6.23	2.39	1.19
Controlled (Q3)	1.63	1.63	4.34	2.66	6.45**
Tense(Q4)	6.30	2.59	6.93	1.49	1.98

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results clearly indicates that delinquent children found to be less-intelligent, Emotionally instable, Inactive, Sober, Disregards rules, Zestful, self-assured and uncontrolled by getting low score as compared to normal children. The delinquent children shown lower, mental capacity, lower ego strength, takes group action, careless of social rules. Barringa et al., (2000) stated that juvenile delinquents showed more cognitive distortion and problem behavior than non-delinquent with key characteristics of depression include difficulty concentrating, loss of interest in previously enjoyed activities, hopelessness, feelings of worthlessness, and at its extreme, suicidal thoughts and tendencies.

Personality development accure in proper and adequate social conditions which provide to the children role model values, rules and regulation in society, religious ideology to behave with each other, these social situations may be absent in life of delinquent children. Therefore gets less social, emotional and information support and have no ideal role persons to imitate. According to Siegal (2007), Sutherland and Cressey(1970). Social learning theorists, crime is the result of learning the values, norms and behavior attached with criminal activity. Differential association is a process of learning, in which law-abiding people and criminals learn their behavior from association with other. Delinquency is skilled behavior that is gained by the interaction of these people in engaged in criminal lifestyle. So offenders are differentiated from non-offenders on the basis of individual's choices.

CONCLUSION

Delinquent children found to be less-intelligent, Emotionally instable, Inactive, Sober, Disregards rules, Zestful, self-assured and uncontrolled by getting low score as compared to normal children. The delinquent children shown lower, mental capacity, lower ego strength, takes group action, careless of social rules. Delinquent children needed correction in personality characteristic with help of behavior therapy as well as cognitive and moral development.

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