

**A Study on Factors Underlying Juvenile Delinquency and
Positive Youth Development Programs**

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of the requirements for the degree of**

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in
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By

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that **Kavita Sahmey** has carried out the research embodied in the present dissertation entitled, “**A Study on Factors Underlying Juvenile Delinquency and Positive Youth Development Programs**”, under my supervision for the award of the Master’s degree in Development Studies of the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela. This dissertation is an independent work and does not constitute part of any material submitted for any research degree or diploma here or elsewhere.

(Prof. Bhaswati Patnaik)
Research Supervisor

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Abstract

This study was aimed at understanding the causes behind juvenile delinquency, and the measures that are being taken for the positive development of the children in conflict with law. The influence of the media on the psychosocial development of children is profound. With advent of communication technology in recent times, a child's exposure to media including television, radio, music, video games and the Internet, has increased manifold. Therefore, it was planned to study whether the impact of recent changes in the society on juvenile delinquency is significant. The socio-economic profile, factors behind the delinquency, the rehabilitative mechanisms and its effectiveness were analyzed by using the primary data collected by interviewing 50 inmates of the Government Observation Home of Rourkela Sub Jail, Odisha. Out of these 50 cases of delinquency, 5 cases of offence were also analyzed in detail using case study method. The data was collected by using the structured questionnaire and interview. The results indicated that the offences made by the delinquents were primarily due to the combination of various individual and environmental variables, viz. individual risk factors of the delinquents, negligence and ignorance of the parents, peer influence, poor socio-economic status, family pressure and lack of proper socialization. Direct impact of media was not pronounced in the findings of the study, excepting a few cases of theft. Overall, the perception regarding fairness of justice, both before and after the offence, was reported to be positive by the respondents. The results also indicated that owing to lack of funds and resources, the positive development measures for the juveniles were conspicuous by their absence. Findings were interpreted in the light of current conceptualizations in the area of the study and their implications for future were pointed out.

CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

A child is born innocent and if nurtured with tender care and attention, then he/she grows in positive way. Physical, mental, moral and spiritual development of the children makes them capable of realizing his/her fullest potential. On the contrary, harmful surroundings, negligence of basic needs, wrong company and other abuses may turn a child to a delinquent. With changing societal trends, children now appear to possess strong likes and dislikes and also show expressions that indicate maturity at a very early age. These qualities also make children more vulnerable to the designs of the criminality such as abusers, peddlers, and traffickers. Moreover, the influence of the media on the psychosocial development of children is profound. With advent of communication technology in recent times, a child's exposure to media including television, radio, music, video games and the Internet, has increased manifold.

Children constitute about 40% of India's population and India has a National Policy for Children declaring children to be a national asset. Even so majority of India's children continue to be in difficult circumstances. India has signed the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and obligated itself to work towards ensuring all the rights enshrined therein to all its children. India has witnessed an increase both in crimes committed by children and those committed against them. There has been 97.9% increase in crimes committed by children between 2003 and 2004, with more children being appeared for arson, theft and cheating.

Over 33,000 juveniles, mostly between the age group of 16 to 18, have been arrested for crimes like rape and murder across Indian states in 2011, the highest in last decade. According to a 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 group (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 rape by juveniles. As many as 1,419 such cases were recorded in 2011 as compared to 399 cases in 2001, it said.

It is pertinent to mention that a juvenile and five others were arrested by Delhi Police for brutally raping and assaulting a 23-year-old girl in the national capital on December 16, 2012. The victim later succumbed to her injuries.

The cases of murder by juveniles have also shown a surge in last ten years. As many as 531 youngsters below the age of 18 were apprehended for murder in 2001 as against 888 arrests between January and December 2011. According to the data, 6,770 juveniles were arrested in Maharashtra, 5,794 in Madhya Pradesh, 2,692 in Chhattisgarh, 2,542 in Rajasthan and 2,510 in Gujarat among others in 2011. In the same year, a total of 2,474 adolescents were arrested in Andhra Pradesh, 2,083 in Tamil Nadu, 1,204 in Uttar Pradesh and 1,126 in Bihar, the data said.

Of the total number of juveniles arrested in 2011 under different sections of IPC and Special and Local Laws (SLL), 6,122 were illiterate, 12,803 were primary pass outs, 10,519 were above primary and below matriculation qualified and 4,443 were metric and higher secondary qualified, the data said. A total of 27,577 juveniles, who were held for criminal acts, were living with parents, 4,386 were living with guardians and 1,924 were homeless, the data said giving details of their family background.

Therefore, it is imperative to understand the concept of juvenile delinquency and delineate the conditions giving rise to high rates of crimes and conflicts with law.

Juvenile Delinquency

The word juvenile has been derived from the Latin term juvenis, which means young and etymologically, and the word delinquency has been derived from the Latin word delinquer which means to omit. In the year 1484, William Coxtton used the word delinquent to describe a person who was found guilty. Juvenile delinquency refers to the involvement by the teenagers in an unlawful behavior who is usually under the age of 18 and commits an act which would be considered as a crime. A child is known as a delinquent when he/she commits a mistake which is against the law and which is not accepted by the society. Thus a “juvenile” or “child” means a person who has not completed eighteenth years of age and violates the law and commits an offence under the legal age of maturity.

Since the human civilization, crime has been one of the dominant problem which occurs when someone breaks the law by an explicit act, omission or neglect that can result in punishment. A child is born innocent, but due to the unhealthy environment, negligence of the basic necessities and wrong company, a child may turn into a delinquent. Usually somebody has to have intent to break the law in order to commit a crime, but that is not always the case. A person can be charged with a crime even if that person doesn't know the

law even exists. The phrase “ignorance of the law is no exception” means that a person can be held responsible even when he or she break a law which they don’t know. Therefore, juveniles, given the benefit of doubt regarding ignorance of law, are generally treated differently in the criminal justice system. A crime can be defined as a harmful act or omission against the public which the state wishes to prevent and which, upon conviction, is punishable with a fine, imprisonment, and/or death. No conduct constitutes a crime unless it is declared as criminal in the laws of the country. Some crimes such as theft or criminal damage may be civil wrongs for which the victim may claim damages in compensation. Delinquent and criminal behavior may abound among young people, as they negotiate the transition from childhood to adulthood in an increasingly complex and confusing world.

A child is a part of the society in which he lives and the social relations that ensure a smooth process of socialization are collapsing. The traditional patterns of relationships guiding transitions between the family, school, and work are collapsing now-a-days for many young people. Lifestyle is becoming more varied and less predictable. Now-a-days many youths regardless of gender, social origin, are subject to individual risks. Many a times advantage is taken of the tempting opportunities and young people commit various offences becoming addicted to drugs, and using violence against their peers. To criminologists, juvenile delinquency encompasses all public wrongs committed by young people between the ages of 12 and 20. But the sociologists view this concept as more broadly by believing that it covers a multitude of different violations of legal and social norms, from minor offence to serious crimes, which are committed by juveniles. Sociologists associate the youth behavior with the home, family, neighborhood, peer, and many other variables that together or separately influence the formation of young people’s social environment.

Family and Environment variables

The anti-social behavior may be a part of growing up or the beginning up of a long-term pattern of the criminal activity. The peer groups play an important in the construction of delinquent behavior. A child is a part of society in which he lives and due to his immaturity, he is easily motivated by what he sees around him. It is his environment and social context that provokes his actions. It is also seen that children in urban and semi-urban areas who belong to middle class families are found more prone to crimes such as theft, rape, and murder and this happens because there absence of proper environment both within a family as well as in a community level. In such situation parents fail to give a proper guidance. Due to

the lack of moral education at the family level and as well as life skill education, high dropout rate in poor and tribal families have contributed to the increase in the number of delinquency among children.

There are three different levels by which a better understanding about a juvenile delinquency can be made such as individual level, microsocial level, and macrosocial level. At the individual level it focuses on the personality traits, intelligence, routine activities of adolescents, and characteristics of individual either innate or learned. At microsocial level, delinquency is a micro aspect and criminologists stressed on the relationship ties, associations with the delinquent friends and the social process by which an individual becomes the kind of people who commit delinquent acts, especially the delinquent peer group influence at this level. In the macrosocial level, the societal characteristics such as social class, social cohesiveness and social disorganization of neighborhood is used to explain delinquency.

Due to the immaturity of the child, he/she easily gets motivated by what he/she sees around him/her. It is the environment and social context that provokes his actions. In a developing country like India, juvenile crimes are steadily rising due to the persistent poverty, unemployment, inequalities and changing values, etc. inspite of these factors there are some more factors such as crimes shows that are shown on the television, media, increasing population, adverse effects of peer pressure, lavish lifestyle, too much freedom from the parents, social maladjustment, and family disintegration. Juvenile delinquency is a problem which despite of different and varied cultural backgrounds is found with common characteristics universally. Under the Indian law, children between 7-12 years of age having sufficient maturity and between 12-18 years who have committed an offence are responsible for their criminal list. But such children are not to be dealt in the same manner as the adults, they are not to be punished but on rehabilitating and reforming them for which it is necessary to know the positive youth development.

It is seen that the children who are abandoned by their families and who belong to a family in which their father is habituated to alcohol, and have a delinquency record in the family, these children from the different peer families and also form gangs with the other children which thus make them sustain by using drugs, by doing sex, and theft and other petty crimes.

Statistics of juvenile delinquency

According to the latest National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) report 2012, crimes involving children have increased from 0.8 % (2001) to 11.8 % (2011). This report also shows the data on juvenile delinquency that children apprehended under both Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Special and Local Law (SLL) has increased from 30,303 (2010) to 33,887 (2011). In addition to other crime heads, kidnapping and abduction committed by juveniles have also registered a noticeable increase from 2008 to 2011. While kidnapping and abduction committed by a juvenile was recorded at 354 in 2008 and it inflated to 823 during 2011. NCRB data also shows that there are a growing number of girl children in criminal activities and it estimated that from 5.1 % (2010) which increased to 5.8 % (2011). NCRB data points out that a majority of juveniles are mostly involved in the crimes such as theft, hurting, burglary, and riots. As a child rights worker Nicole Manezes pointed out that only 1.1 % of all I.P.C crimes were committed by the juveniles in the year 2011. It has been claimed by the news channels that children who are under 18 years of age are committing heinous crimes and day by day it is rising. According to the NCRB (2011), only 1.1 % of all I.P.C were committed by the juveniles, and 4.5 % of all crimes committed by the juveniles were rape and only 3.5 % of all rapes were committed by the juveniles. In a National Study on child abuse (2007), the Ministry of Women and Child Development found that two out of every three children had been physically abused, and 53.22 % of children reported that they faced sexual abuse.

Juvenile justice act and juvenile justice board:

The juvenile justice in India was originated in 1850 for those who were convicted in the court and was thus essential for the children between the ages of 10-18 to provided vocational training as a part of their rehabilitation process. The Juvenile Justice Act (2000), was put into action on 1st April, 2001, which aimed at providing care and justice for the juveniles who are in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection by implementing a child friendly approach in the best interest of children and also for their rehabilitation by keeping in view the developmental need of the children which means it will provide a protective cover to the children who are at risk. The term 'juvenile' was no more used because it was considered as an offender; rather this term was mentioned as a "child in need of care and protection". The Supreme Court of India has ruled that when the enactment is silent on certain points then one is to refer to the preamble of the act. The preamble of the JJ act speaks

about “providing for proper care, protection, and treatment by catering to their developmental needs, and by adopting a child friendly approach in the adjudication and disposition of matters in the best interest of children and for their ultimate rehabilitation”.

Juvenile Justice Board demeanors the inquiry against juvenile who is alleged to have acted in conflict with law. The practice for dealing with juvenile is required to be child friendly and rehabilitation preoccupied with and not adversarial. The Board encompasses of a judicial magistrate and two social workers, whose powers are co-extensive with the magistrate. The sittings of a board are held within the premises of the Observation Home which does not look like a court room rather it is made more child-friendly room.

Observation Homes:

Observation Home is intended for the temporary reception of any juvenile in conflict with law during the pendency of any inquiry against him / her. The children who are under the age of 18 years are admitted in this home by the police. The state government provides various types of services in the Observation Home for the rehabilitation and social integration of these juveniles. A child who has committed a crime or an offence and is not placed under the charge of guardian or a parent then he/she is initially sent to an Observation Home where they are kept and are provided with proper mental and physical care according to their different age groups. The main aim of the Observation Home is to bring the best interest of the child i.e. right to education, right to protection, right to survival, and right to participation.

Special Home:

There is another institution which is called as a Special Home which is established under an agreement with the voluntary organization. When a child is found guilty and is declared convicted then he/she is given a three years of conviction and thus is sent to the Special Home. For the re-socialization of a juvenile various types of services are provided by the state government.

With rising statistics of rates of juvenile crimes and changing social dynamics, it is essential to probe deeply into the underlying causes of juvenile delinquency in the present times and find out the ways and means to reduce its occurrences through appropriate steps. The present study was designed with this objective and the following states the specific objectives of this study.

1.2 Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are

- To illustrate the role of individual characteristics and environmental background variables in juvenile delinquency by using case study method.
- To examine the perception of fairness of justice among the juvenile delinquents.
- To examine the extent to which the Juvenile Justice Programme emphasize building on strength and Positive Youth Development.

1.3 Hypothesis

It is hypothesized that

- Both individual and existing environmental conditions reflecting societal changes are responsible for committing delinquency among children.
- The delinquents will demonstrate positive perceptions of the police and officials of the observation home.
- Juvenile Justice Programmes will be found to build on strength and Positive Youth Development. There must be the provision of all facilities which helps in the positive development of the delinquents.

1.4 Conceptual Framework

There are three different levels by which a better understanding about a juvenile delinquency can be made, such as individual level, microsocial level, and macrosocial level. At the individual level it focuses on the personality traits, intelligence, routine activities of adolescents, and characteristics of individual either innate or learned. At microsocial level, delinquency is a micro aspect and criminologists stressed on the relationship ties, associations with the delinquent friends and the social process by which an individual becomes the kind of people who commit delinquent acts, especially the delinquent peer group influence at this level. In the macrosocial level, the societal characteristics such as social class, social cohesiveness and social disorganization of neighborhood is used to explain delinquency

According to Strain theory, (Agnew, 1992), people engage in crimes as they experience strain or stress, they become upset, and they sometimes engage in crime as a result. They may

engage in crime to reduce or escape from the strain they are experiencing. For example, they may engage in violence to end harassment from others, they may steal to reduce financial problems, or they may run away from home to escape abusive parents. They may also engage in crime to seek revenge against those who have wronged them. And they may engage in the crime of illicit drug use to make themselves feel better. Two general categories of strain that contribute to crime are described : (1) others prevent you from achieving your goals, and (2) others take things you value or present you with negative or noxious stimuli. While strain may result from the failure to achieve a variety of goals, the failure to achieve three related goals: money, status/respect, and—for adolescents—autonomy from adults, may lead to crime.

Social disorganization theory (Shaw and McKay, 1942; 1969) seeks to explain community differences in crime rates. The theory identifies the characteristics of communities with high crime rates and draws on social control theory to explain why these characteristics contribute to crime. Social disorganization undermines or hinders informal social controls within the community and neighborhood, thus allowing high rates of crime to occur. Therefore, the absence or breakdown of social control is a key component behind the concept of social disorganization.

According to Social learning theory (Bandura, 1977), juveniles learn to engage in crime in the same way they learn to engage in conforming behavior: through association with or exposure to others. Primary or intimate groups like the family and peer group have an especially large impact on what we learn. In fact, association with delinquent friends is the best predictor of delinquency other than prior delinquency. However, one does not have to be in direct contact with others to learn from them; for example, one may learn to engage in violence from observation of others in the media

Theoretical insights throws light into the fact that more than any biological factor, social and psychological factors are predominant in creating the deviant behavior as a child tries to imitate and inculcate what his/her environment shows them.

1.5 Significance of the study

This study would lead to the understanding of both the individual characteristics and the background variables behind the delinquent behavior at present. Earlier, there was not much impact of media such as television and internet on the young minds. The massive use of

mobile phones among youths was also a rarity. But with changing times and technological advances, children are more prone to exposure to sensitive materials. Changing patterns of familial relationships owing to fast and stressful lifestyle also add to the risk of delinquent behavior. This study would help in gaining insight into the problems faced by the offenders both before and during their stay in the Observation Home. The profile and experience of children in conflict with law through the eyes of the children are important information to be obtained through this study. The study would also help in suggesting the measures for the improvement of the conditions of the inmates at Observation Home to ensure safe and healthy environment and proper rehabilitation.

1.6 Definition of key terms

- **Juvenile Delinquency:**

It refers to the actions that violate the law, committed by a person who is under the legal age of maturity (18 years). Depending upon the type and severity of the offence committed, it is possible for persons under 18 years to be charged and tried as adults (The Children Act, 1960).

- **Procedural Justice:**

It is an idea of fairness in the processes that resolves disputes. Research shows that individual's perception of fair treatment by justice system has a significant effect on the attitude and emotional health of the offenders. It includes four specific elements that influence an individual's perception of the fairness of a given process i.e. voice, respectfulness, trustworthiness, and neutrality (Huo & Tyler, 2001; Lind, Kanfer, & Earley 1990, Tyler 1988, 1982, 1990, 1944); Tyler & Lind 1992). In other words, individual perceive a process of fairness if they are actively involved and treated with respect.

- **Positive Youth Development:**

It is a comprehensive way of thinking about the development of children and youth, and the factors that facilitate their individual growth and their achievement of key developmental stages (Butts, Mayer, and Ruth (2005) p.4).

1.7 Organization of the thesis

This thesis has a total of five chapters including this one. The Introduction chapter (chapter-I) introduces the key variables of the present study namely, Juvenile Delinquency, Positive

Youth Development, and perception of fairness; and provides a brief outline of the background of the study. The objectives, hypothesis, and significance of the study are also included in this chapter. The second chapter “Review of literature” discusses about the current research studies undertaken in this area of study to gain deeper insight into the problems at hand as well as to identify the gaps in research. The third chapter “Method of study and results” specifies the sample, tools, and procedure adopted in this study. This chapter also covers the results obtained in the present study. The fourth chapter presents the five cases of offence in detail and also provides an account of the insight gained out of this detailed analysis. The final chapter “Discussion and conclusion” provides a brief summary of the findings of the study and discusses the results in light of the current conceptualization in the area of study. The chapter ends with the implications of the study, suggestions, and recommendations.

CHAPTER II
LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

According to the UNICEF, an alarming number of children around the world who are convicted for various crimes are usually deprived of their needs and rights and held in detention without sufficient care. While the condition stresses on the improvement of these children, still there are issues of severe deprivation. Moreover, most of them are not been liked and yet are being held for months, often without access to legal aids, resulting that the majority of children come to conflicts with law. Some of these children are from the disadvantaged populations who are criminalized for simply lying for survival. Frequently, the children are held under deplorable and inhumane conditions. Physical and psychological abuse is common and the children even suffer trauma resulting from torture and interrogation. However, the children's behavior can be changed by bringing the positive changes in the environment around them such as, providing them with the basic needs, enhancing the educational system, creating a scope for positive youth development etc. Hence a thorough review of literature is done on relevant studies to find out the various issues concerning the juvenile delinquency and positive youth development.

No child is ever born as a criminal. It might be their surroundings, the peer group, improper socialization, and lack of parental care, which give raise to the delinquent behavior among children. The child development is not only meant by taking care of the basic biological needs of the children but also providing them proper socialization and extra development for the child. Providing the children with protective cover through strict warning and rigid restrictions are not the solution to prevent the delinquent behavior. The parents need to provide gentle guidance and create close communication to help the children to come under the protective cover. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) which was conscripted by the UN Commission on Human Rights, aimed at protecting and supporting the well-being of children. Concerning the child rights, it has laid down four rights, i.e. the right to survival (right to life with dignity, a high standards of health, nutrition, and hygiene), the right to protection (freedom from all sorts of abuse, exploitation), right to development (right to education), and right to participation. CRC has taken into consideration almost all the aspects that could retard growth of a child. The preamble of this act speaks about, "providing the proper care, protection, and treatment by catering to their developmental needs and by adopting a child friendly approach in the adjudication and disposition of matters in the best interest of children and their ultimate rehabilitation". For the child right to development and right to participate carry the equal importance with other rights. The child's right to a life

with dignity is considered as an important necessity as the so called biological survival indicators. The Supreme Court's decision clarified that the Right to Life clearly implies Right to Life with Dignity and not mere survival.

2.2 Factors underlying Juvenile Delinquency

Children with strong social bond will commit less crime than those who have weak social bond (Hirschi, 1969). Hirschi, states that what prevents individuals from acting upon internal motivations to commit crime is informal social control which results from the development of social bonds through the process of socialization.

Karen (1995), states that there should be a good relationship between the mother and the child so that the child will not develop mistrust and anger. If a child develops anger and mistrust then that child becomes a child without a conscience and behaves in an anti-social manner.

Kupersmidt and Dodge (2004) maintain that there are two extreme hypotheses which specify the different roles of peers in developing the aggressive and antisocial behavior of a delinquent child, and there are some individual characteristics which give rise to delinquency among children.

Harvey and Fine (2004) studied that the children who had emotions of anger inside them led to the opposite end of the law and this was found in the case of the children whose parents were divorced. This occurred because these children needed proper care from their parents which was lacking.

Zigler et al (1996:310) observed that children who frequently expose to environmental violence experience the symptoms of fear, anxiety, and stress which leads to delinquent behavior in the later stage.

2.3 Perception of fairness

Cauffman et al (2007) examined the extent to which demographics, psychological, contextual, and legal factors independently predict dispositional outcomes within the two juvenile court jurisdictions. The results of this study showed that legal factors have the strongest influence on disposition in both jurisdictions. The evidence of the popular image of juvenile court as a flexible and lenient institution was not much accepted in this study rather the decisions of the court were dependent on the juvenile's psychological development and mental health.

2.4 Positive Youth Development

Barton and Butts (2008) have studied few juvenile justice programmes that have attempted to implement some aspects of practices that are strength-based and which also focus on positive youth development. William H. Barton and Jeffrey A. Butts viewed that these practices is possible to implement and such implementation may be associated with staff enthusiasm and perhaps even positive outcomes for youth.

It is opined Martin (2005) that, there are many theories that have been propounded to explain regarding the juvenile delinquency among children. These theoretical perspectives have explained only particular aspects but not all the aspects. He further explains that there are some factors for deviant behavior which includes dysfunctioning of the family, substance abuse, low self-esteem, peer pressure, and socio-economic factors.

Some background variables (Tidefors et al, 2011) have been studied, such as, family problems, parents who are addicted to alcohol or drugs, etc. through self-report instruments which explains that how an individual experiences himself or herself, the degree of insight and how they want to disclose themselves to others. Other factors, such as anger, depression, disruptive behavior and also children, who have lived in foster homes, have been considered important in this study.

Tatar et al (2011) examined that the individual's perception of fair treatment by the justice system which has an effect on their attitudinal, emotional, and behavioral outcomes. Many other measures are taken in this study such as demographics and background variables, depressive symptoms, anger, self-esteem, attitude towards staff and inmates, institutional offending, and institutional substance abuse.

Butts et al (2005) emphasized the role of communities which helps in the positive development of children which is known as Community Youth Development (CYD). The search institute has considered some factors through which a positive youth development in a juvenile can be achieved i.e. through individual and contextual factors that helps the youth to avoid the harmful behavior and keep them engaged in some activities that promotes to positive development within them. Another study which is done by Richard and Lerner and his colleagues, emphasizes on the interactions between individuals such as family, school, and community.

Peiser (2001) studied that the parental discipline style which is considered as a key variable that helps in examining the contribution of family and personality factors to delinquency. Self-esteem is considered as an important contributor to the development of delinquency. A comparative study was conducted between some countries which measured the levels of self-esteem. Kaplan (1957, 1977, 1978, and 1980) argues that negative self-esteem results from the situations in which the adolescent is unable to defend their self-image, the situations such as school failure, rejection by school, and parental rejection. Some environmental factors have been identified which leads to delinquency among youths.

Weatherburn and Lind (1997) observed that the reasons for delinquency in urban and rural areas were same such as social and economic stress, child neglect, and child abuse. According to them the social and economic disadvantages are the root cause which leads to an increasing rate in the offences such as theft, robbery.

Comanor and Phillips (2002) observed that fathers play a critical role in the rearing of boys at a tender age and having a step-father also increases the delinquency among the children rather than having a step-mother.

2.5 Conclusion: It can be seen that both individual variables and environmental conditions are considered to be important by the previous studies in being responsible for delinquent behavior. It is also important that individual's perception of fair treatment by the justice system has an effect on their attitudinal, emotional, and behavioral outcomes. Positive youth development in a juvenile can be achieved i.e. through individual and contextual factors that help the youth to avoid the harmful behavior and keep them engaged in some activities that promotes to positive development within them. Therefore, the present study aims to examine all the three dimensions, - background variables, perception of fair treatment and positive youth development- as related to juvenile delinquency.

CHAPTER III
METHOD OF THE STUDY AND RESULTS

3.1 Method of the study

Sample

The sample for the study consisted of the inmates of the Government Observation Home of Rourkela Sub Jail, Rourkela, Odisha. A total of 50 inmates were interviewed out of 72 inmates of the Home and a total of 5 cases of offences were studied in detail for presenting detailed case study. Around 90% of the juveniles were from Odisha, and only 10% of the juveniles belonged to other states. The Home housed the offenders out of which 90% were accused and under trials. And the rest 10% of the inmates were convicted. Among them, 72% of the juveniles had stayed in the Observation Home for less than six months, 20% were staying since less than one year, and only 8% are staying since less than two years. Around 76% of the juveniles were found to have already visited the court. Out of them, 34.21% of the juveniles had visited court for two times, 31.57% for one time, 23.68% for three times, and 10.52% of the juveniles had visited the court for four times. Around 24% of the juveniles had not been taken to the court yet.

Tools and Instruments

Firstly, the case study method with in-depth analysis of five offenders was used to illustrate the individual characteristics and environmental background variables underlying juvenile delinquency. Secondly, individual interview using scheduled questionnaire has been conducted to collect data from all inmates constituting the sample as well as officials of the Observation home. The questionnaire included 58 questions and it was divided into various categories such as demographic profile, educational background, family background, juvenile's history, perception of fairness and results of inquiry.

Procedure

For collection of data, permission from the Women and Child Development (WCD) Office, Bhubaneswar, Odisha was obtained to be allowed to interact with the juveniles in conflict with law. The primary data was collected from fifty inmates of Observation Home, Rourkela, and the secondary sources of data were reports and booklets of the Observation Home. For collecting information it is very necessary to make a good rapport building with the recipients. Therefore, regular visits were made to the Home to meet the inmates and to become friendly with them, one month before the interview took place. Finally, the data were analyzed qualitatively as per the objectives of this study.

3.2 Results

After the data was collected, the responses were scored and analyzed. The major findings are as follows.

3.3 Factors underlying Juvenile Delinquency

The first objective of the study is to study the role of individual characteristics and environmental background variables underlying juvenile delinquency. The following looks at the general demographic and background variables characterizing the sample.

3.4 Demographic Characteristics of the sample

Age

The age characteristics of the sample can be analyzed as to which age group represented higher rate of committing crime in the age range of 6-18 years. The juveniles falling under the age group of 5-9 years were not found in the Observation Home. Children in the age group of 10-14 years constituted 28% of the inmates. And the rest 72% of the inmates fell in the age group of 15-18 years. It is indicated by this statistics that the children above 15 years of age represented the age group having maximum number of offenders.

Nature of offence

The results showed a significant involvement of the juveniles in the offences like-rape, murder, theft, and some other offences like drinking and smoking. The highest involvement in the offences committed was theft, i.e. around 36%, followed by murder which was 32% of the crimes committed. While only 8% of the sample was caught for minor offences like smoking and drinking, around 11 offenders were accused of rape.

Table-1: Nature of offence

a) Theft	36%
b) Murder	32%
c) Rape	22%
d) Others (smoking, drinking)	8%

Educational qualification

Educational qualification has an important role to play in the delinquency strand. Education received in school is expected to affect the frequency and severity of the crimes committed. In the present study, even though the larger part of the sample (70%) was literate, only 45.71% of the inmates had completed their upper primary education, and 31.42% had been to high school level and 22.85% had attained lower primary education. The rest 30% of the inmates were found to be illiterate, as depicted in Table 2.

Table-2: Educational qualification

Literate			Illiterate
Lower primary (class 1-4)	Upper primary (class 5-7)	High school (class 8-9)	30%
22.85%	45.71%	31.42%	

It seems that even though the majority of the children had attended school, schooling and education did not deter them to commit the offences they were accused of.

Gender

All the inmates were male in the present study. There are two Government Observation Homes in Odisha i.e. one in Rourkela and another in Berhampur. The Observation Home which is in Rourkela is solely meant for boys and another Observation Home which is in Berhampur is solely meant for girls (known as the Central Home for Women).

Religion

Most of the juveniles belonged to Hindu religion i.e. 72%, whereas 8% were Muslims, and the rest 20%, Christians. This is shown in Table-3 given below:

Table-3

Hindu	72%
Muslim	8%
Christian	20%

Past history of employment of the juveniles

The distribution of the employment background of the juveniles reveals that most of the juveniles were having a history of employment as a daily wage labor i.e. 62.5%. Many juveniles (37.5%) had an employment background of working as domestic servants, cultivators, and private firm workers as well. This shows that the juveniles mostly belonged to a low socio-economic background.

Table-4: Past history of employment

a) Daily wage labor	62.5%
b) Domestic Servant	12.5%
c) Cultivator	12.5%
d) Private firm	12.5%

3.5 Socio-economic and background variables

This section discusses the socio-economic status and other background variables like family background, parental education and occupation, relationship with parents and peer group influences of the juveniles, as found in this study.

Family background

Looking into the family background of the delinquents, 90% of the parents of the juveniles were found to be illiterate, whereas only 10% of the parents were literate with matriculation as the maximum educational level. It can be seen that most of the juveniles came from families lacking in literacy and education. Education of the parents is an important factor in inducing right conduct and moral of the child. In the present study, the majority of the delinquents were found to be deprived of such advantage.

Around 52% of the parents were daily wage laborers and around 28% were engaged in agriculture and other meager occupations as mentioned in Table 5. This shows that all the juveniles belonged to poor socio-economic status and the family income per month on an average amounted to Rs 4000-5000.

Table-5 (Parental Occupation)

a) Daily Wage Labor	52%
b) Farmer	28%
c) Driver	4%
d) Domestic Servant	8%
e) Contractor	8%

A good number of parents, i.e. around 72%, were reported by the juvenile's as being free from alcohol addiction and 28% of the parents were reported to be addicted to alcohol (Table-6). All the juveniles, reporting addiction to alcohol in the family, also opined that they had poor relationship with their fathers owing to frequent fights with wife and children during the drunken state. Although the data shows less families being affected by alcoholism, it is assumed that the juveniles might not have confessed the truth in this regard due to embarrassment. Therefore, it is premature to indicate from results that alcoholism had a significant impact on parent-child relationship.

Table-6: Reporting alcohol addiction in family

a) Yes	28%
b) No	72%

The study has shown a significant result that almost all the juveniles belonged to families that did not have a criminal record. Around 96% of the families did not have a criminal record and only 4% of the families had criminal record, as reported by the respondents. Therefore, the factor of social learning for committing crime can be ruled out. Even without any crime record in the family, children were still into delinquency in the absence of examples before them.

Table-7: Delinquency/crime record of members in the family

a) Yes	4%
b) No	96%

Peer group and their influences

The study found that in many cases the influence of the peer group was highly responsible to work as stimuli for the juvenile to commit a crime. Around 66% of the juveniles were involved in crime along with their friends. Around 34% of the juveniles reported that they were not affected by the peer group in committing crime. Around 87.87% juveniles reported that they liked to spend most of the waking time with their friends (some of them even bunking classes to be with them), while 12.13% juveniles said that friends of theirs were just playmates. Around 9% of the juveniles reported that they liked their peer group for smoking and drinking purposes.

Table 8: Peer influence in crime

Peer influence in crime	Percentage
Yes	66%
No	34%

It is evident that majority of the juveniles belonged to poor socio-economic background with low parental education and income. Even though majority of the data said that their families were not victims of alcoholism and criminal record, these children were in conflict with law for easy money, peer influence and pressure from the parents to have income of their own. The peer group had significant impact on the juveniles not only in terms of amount of time spent with friends, but also in committing any offence or acts that were in conflict with law.

According to Strain theory, (Agnew, 1992), people engage in crimes as they experience strain or stress, they become upset, and they sometimes engage in crime as a result. They may engage in crime to reduce or escape from the strain they are experiencing. For example, they may engage in violence to end harassment from others, they may steal to reduce financial problems, or they may run away from home to escape abusive parents. They may also engage in crime to seek revenge against those who have wronged them. The data obtained in the present study supports the perspective offered by the Theory.

3.6 Individual characteristics

There exist a lot of individual factors which are responsible for committing crime by the juveniles. Psychological dimensions highlight the structure of delinquent personality, emotions, motivations, motives of committing the crime, the offender's behavior in relation to the offense committed (judgment, irresponsibility). Internal risk factors (individual) include smoking and drinking, self-aggressive behaviors, neuroticism (a personality trait characterized by instability, anxiety, aggression, etc.), truancy, ideas/attempts of suicide, consumption of drugs/similar substances, mental illness, sleep disturbances, depression and so on.

In the present study, assessment of individual characteristics like emotional and personality patterns of the juveniles was done with the help of feedback by the supervisors (3 nos.) in the Observation Home. Around 13 juveniles were described as being aggressive, and around 16 of them were described as humble. While 12 juveniles were described as untruthful and mendacious, 9 of them were described as being jovial in nature. Around 8% of the sample was caught for offence like smoking and drinking. Therefore, it can be assumed that few juveniles exhibited internal risk factors like smoking and drinking. Apart from this, no other mental illness or any other kind of risk factors (mentioned above), were reported by the supervisors of Home.

During the interviewing process, it has been found that 88% of the juveniles had sound health and rest 12% of the juveniles were in feeble condition.

Table-9: Emotional and Personality make-up

a) Aggressive	26%
b) Humble	32%
c) Jovial	18%
d) Mendacious	24%

Even though no mental illness and minor risk behavior like smoking and drinking were reported in the sample, it is important to recognize the vulnerable age at which these juveniles were caught. All the juveniles were adolescents and this age-group is a difficult and sensitive period in human development. It can be concluded that these juveniles could not cope with the demands of life properly, given that they were at a difficult age and also came from a socio-economic background not conducive for proper growth and development of a child.

Depending on the success or failure of the process of socialization (the family, school or group membership), teenagers may face some difficulties that can guide its behavior in the wrong direction.

3.7 Perception of Fairness

The second objective of the study was to examine the perception of fairness of justice among the juvenile delinquents. Justice is a vital phenomenon that incorporates the perception of fairness in the law for the juvenile delinquents. The inmates were asked as to whether they were fairly treated by law, both before and after being caught. Majority of the juveniles (around 58%) reported that they have been treated fairly. Rest 36% of the juveniles reported of being arrested by mistake. Around 6% of the juveniles said that they were badly treated by the police after being caught.

Thus, the results showed that the majority of the inmates admitted of committing the offence for which they were caught and only a minority reported that they have been unfairly treated by law. In other words, they were of the opinion that they did not commit anything wrong and still they were accused of committing of some kind of offence. Very few children also reported that they were ill-treated by the police before they were brought to the Home.

Table-10: Perception of fairness

a) Juveniles admitting of committing offence for which they were accused	58%
b) Juveniles not admitting of committing any offence	36%
c) Juveniles reporting of being badly treated by the police	6%

Research shows that perception of fair treatment by justice system has a significant effect on the attitude and emotional health of the offenders. When children perceive that they have been unfairly treated, it can result in frustration, aggression and revengefulness. And this mental imbalance can act as stimuli for further delinquent behavior. Therefore, fair treatment of juveniles, both during and after the crime, is an important consideration to be followed by administrators in Police, Court and Short Stay Homes. In the present study, a majority of the juveniles perceived that they were being fairly treated after they were caught. This finding

indicates that, this positive perception of fairness may be conducive for the present and future growth and development of these children in conflict with law.

3.8 Positive Youth Development

The third objective of the study was to examine the extent to which juvenile justice Programme emphasizes building on the strength and positive youth development. The juveniles should be treated in an absolute fair and friendly atmosphere to draw out best results of positive behavior from the juveniles. But the results showed that around 70% of the juveniles reported that they did not get facilities in the short stay homes which could enhance their all-round development and positive attitude. Only 30% of them reported that they could get such facilities as studies, games, and vocational training, even if such provisions were limited in scope.

When the officials of the Home were interviewed regarding measures taken for positive development of the inmates, they reported that activities such as Yoga, Art of Living classes, Games, both indoor and outdoor ones were provided to all the inmates along with formal education. However, they were painfully aware of the limitations of each of these provisions (like lack of sufficient gaming and playing equipments). There were very few classrooms and these classrooms were very ill-equipped due to shortage of funds. Even if they wanted separate classrooms for different age groups, they could not provide this provision owing to paucity of funds and space. There was not only shortage of teaching staff and teaching materials, but also there was severe lack of basic infrastructural facilities such as number of dormitories, beds, bedding etc.

The officials also reported that the Home could not provide the inmates with appropriate facilities with regard to sanitation, medicine and treatment, clothing etc. The regular diet of the inmates fell far short of the required calories for their optimal physical and mental development. The officials admitted of lack of funding and resources as the primary cause of their inability to provide the inmates with essential and desirable provisions for positive development of the children.

The results indicated that the Home could not provide the facilities aimed at positive youth development of the inmates. This was primarily because of lack of funding and resources. However, the inmates reported that they were fairly and affectionately treated by the officials in this Short stay home. There was no case of mental or physical harassment by the Home

supervisors with the inmates. In other words, the officials recognized the need of treating these inmates with love and respect. Therefore, with adequate resources, the Home will be able to provide the required provisions that would facilitate positive youth development. Therefore, the hypothesis that, Juvenile Justice Programmes will be found to build on strength and Positive Youth Development, and that there must be provision of all facilities which helps in the positive development of the delinquents, may be partially accepted.

CHAPTER IV
CASE STUDY

Case 1

Dibya Nayak (name changed), a 16 years old boy from Barbil near Bhola Garage, Keonjhar was convicted for the theft of cable wires under section 379 I.P.C, he has been in this juvenile home for less than six months, and has been taken to the court for only one time. He has never attained school and is the middle son of his parents. His father Madhur Nayak aged 36 years old is an illiterate daily wage labor earning Rs 3900/- monthly. His mother Padma Nayak aged 33 years old is also an illiterate daily wage labor earning around Rs 3120/- monthly. Their family condition is very poor and their sustenance is also very poor. He also has another three sisters, and one younger brother. They stay in a slum area. He says that he likes to watch television and most of the time he used to spend along with his friends, and he also says that he has peer groups whose influence is much more affecting the daily routine of his life. Before being caught he has been working as a motor mechanic but due to very low salary paid to him, he left the job. His father consumes liquor, for which whole of his income is spent and nothing remains for consumption and saving for which he was forced to work and earn money for the family needs. According to him he brought the cable wires from the garage where he used to work. He has committed this crime because of easy money complex, family pressure, and due to the impact of heavy peer influence. He is provided with games, study, and other vocational training including classes given by the Ravi Shankar's Art of living, and formal education in conflict with law by his school teachers in regular intervals, which makes him, satisfy. As due to financial burden and lack of money he was forced to commit this crime. He also didn't receive proper parental care and was also lack of proper supervision of guardians became the cause for his crime. Right now he occupies a sound health and stable mental condition. And after reliving he is planning to join the job that he did before which owed him Rs 3000/- monthly.

Case 2

Hari Minz (name changed), a 14 year old boy from Sakri near Rajganjpur. He was admitted in this juvenile institution for past seven months followed by a murder case, under section 147/295/294/332/302/307 I.P.C. He has attended the school and has studied till upper primary level and is the youngest son of his parents. His father Lt.Sukhi Minz aged 40 years old died due to heavy drinking habit. His mother Sakri Minz aged 37 years old is merely a house wife and did not know any skilled and unskilled work due to which she spend her whole time in the rearing and caring of her children, and other activities of the household. He

has two elder brothers who work as a daily wage laborers and earn Rs 120/- per day and are paid with a low income, as they are married and have their own family so it becomes difficult for them to sustain their livelihood. As there is no delinquent record in the family but still he has been caught by the police and has been claimed as a murderer. He stays in slum area under a thatched roof. He says that he likes watching action movies, and he is also interested in playing cricket match along with his friends rather than doing study. His only relief was the non-schoolmate friends. This shows that there is a strong peer influence which has diverted him from doing his studies and engaging himself in other unnecessary works. Before being arrested he used to work as a cementing worker in a sponz iron factory, in Jampali. According to him he has not committed the crime rather it has been committed by some other village fellows and thus he was caught by mistake. He was caught along with his other six fellow friends who are staying with him in this short stay home. This delinquent child explains about the incident by saying that “the police came in the night with a warrant order of a person who was staying just next to his house, seeing this many villagers gathered and started arguing with the police man. After this people started beating the police man with sticks and in the meantime one villager beat so hardly on his head that it led to the death of the police man.” This offender says that he was not aware of this incident but still the police caught him, and now he is waiting for three years to complete so that after releasing from here he will do a nice job which shows his positive attitude towards job. As per said by the supervisors that this juvenile never used to listen to his parents and was one of the stubborn child among his siblings. He is accommodated with games, study, and other vocational training including classes given by the Ravi Shankar’s Art of living, and formal education in conflict with law by his school teachers in regular intervals, which fulfills his demands.

Case 3

Manoj Dalai a 16 year old boy from Loponga, Keonjhar and has been charged for Carouse (heavy drinking) under section 47 (a) B & O Excise Act, he was caught by the police and was kept in Ram Chandra police station for one day. It has been less than six months of his stay. He has been to school but has only attended till upper primary level and he is the middle son of his parents. His father Manua Dalai aged 42 years old is an illiterate person who works as a cultivator and earns Rs 7000/- monthly. His mother Subasini Dalai aged 38 years old is also an illiterate woman who spends her time in looking after the caring and rearing of her children and other household activities. He has two elder sisters and two younger sisters and no other member to earn so it becomes difficult in part of his father to provide him with some

money and other basic facilities. He lives in slum and backward areas. Presently he inhabits a sound health and stable mental condition. The victim has narrated that he didn't had any wine bottle in his pocket when he went to attend the function or mela which was organized in the month of Makar Sankranti, one fellow came and put the bottle in his pocket and ran away. In the meantime the police caught him and put him in Ram Chandra Police Station and kept him there for one day. He had been to Chennai for mason work and used to earn Rs 8000/- monthly, but he returned back from the fear of Tsunami. These days he is serving as a helper and is earning Rs 100/- per day. He says that he has no interest in learning motor bike repairing which is being taught by the teacher in the Observation Home, but he likes watching television, playing games along with his friends, and also he used to like to spend most of his time along with his peer mates due to which he started adopting the bad social habit of drinking, chewing tobacco, bittle, and he also says that he due to his friends his daily routine was affected. Due to the motivation and brainwash from his friends he has committed this offence. In this short stay home he attends the classes which are being provided in the Observation Home. He says that there is no other source of entertainment other than watching TV, playing games and classes which are provided in this Home so, he is satisfied by the classes and other facilities that are being given in this Home. After interviewing this delinquent child, I found that he possesses a mendacious personality and this happened due to the lack of parental carelessness.

Case 4

Sunil Tudu a 17 year old boy from Rairang Pur, Mayurbhanj was caught for the rape case under section 376/506 I.P.C. It has been less than six months of his stay. He has been to school till upper primary level, and is the middle son of his parents. His father Megh Raj Tudu aged 42 years old a +2 degree holder and works as a contractor and earns Rs 15,000/- monthly. His mother Jasmee Tudu aged 38 years old is illiterate women who is a house wife and has no financial contribution in the house as her whole day is spend in looking after her kids and other household activities. He has four sibilings i.e. two elder sisters who are married, one elder brother, and one younger brother. He lives in slum and backward areas and has a poor living condition. According to him this crime was committed by him when he was drunk and went to the grazing field at Munda Kathi there a girl named jamuna who used to go for grazing the field, there both of them started showing feelings towards each other and he used to share his grief with her, then there they had sex with each other with their own interest, then one of her brother saw this and around 3 pm filed a complaint against him at the

police station. After this he was caught by the police and was kept in lockup for 3 days. His parents have also filed a bail at Baripada and were expected to leave. In the view of other delinquents who are staying with him “Sunil does not likes to work and he only sits idle”. In his point of view he is feeling guilty and says that he does not want to repeat such type of offence.

Case 5

Ranjan Nayak a 16 year old lad from Khoir Mani, Baripada was caught for committing rape under section 376 I.P.C. He has studied till high school level and is a middle son of his parents. His father Manmothan Nayak aged 40 years old is an illiterate man who earns his livelihood by cultivating and ploughing other land areas and earns Rs 7,000/- monthly. His mother Subedhi Nayak aged 37 years old is an illiterate woman who is only a house wife. He has two siblings i.e. one elder brother and younger sister. It has been 3 months of stay and before this he used to look after the domestic animals. He says that both of them i.e. he and the girl used to meet each other every day in one of his relatives house. When her mother saw this then immediately the girl started pretending as if she don't know that boy, after seeing this both the mother and the daughter failed a complaint against this boy in the nearby police station. After happening of this incident the boy don't want to look at the girls and is afraid in talking to girls. He also belongs to a poor socio-economic background and lives in a slum and backward area. He owns a sound health with fit mental condition. In these few months he has learned about the repairing of motor bike, and has also learned to sing bhajan. He complains that there is no space in which he can roam or move around here and there within this boundary of the Observation Home.

4.1 Conclusion:

From the above case studies it can be said that these respondents have committed the offences such as theft, murder, rape, and drinking, and it reveals that these juveniles mostly belong to the poor family background, and economic deprivation which has resulted them to become delinquent. The past records of these children in conflict with law also show that there is no criminal record in their family; still they have committed the offences like murder, rape, theft, and drinking. The poor surroundings, family interactions, and anxiety among them and their peer mates have greater influence on delinquency. The above study states that this has happened due to lack of proper socialization and ignorance by their family members and less concentration on them has given more opportunity to commit offence. The economic

backgrounds of these juveniles have significant impact on them and these have made them greedy for having money by any illegal means, they had worked even while they were attending school only to obtain money. Least interest towards education and motivation by the peer group, have raised the gravity of the offence. The peer delinquent behavior, and the time spent with peers are the cause for adolescent antisocial behavior. These offenders are the products of unhappy family life, which force them to join the wrong groups only to satisfy their economic needs. In a family, parenting plays an important role which satisfies the financial, emotional, and physical needs, but as shared by the respondents, it can be said that they were neglected by their parents. Belonging to the low income profile, their parents worked with low wages, which forced these children to commit the offence. In these cases the respondents belong to a poor family condition, economic uncertainties, and also the absence of proper parental care has put them in the pressure of committing crime. It can also be said that when these children don't have a sound family then they depend on other members through whom they get into the bad associations.

CHAPTER V
DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

5.1 Summary of the Findings:

The resources available become insufficient to go at par with the human wants, which works as stimuli. In order to contribute to the family resources as well as to satisfy their own immediate needs they go in the wrong path either by adapting fair means or by illegal means. Most of them prefer unfair means, and the present scenario reveals that there has been an incredible increase in the number of children's involvement in the crime. Criminal activities like murder, theft, rape, and drinking are mostly committed by the juveniles. It is clear from the above results that the offenders who committed such offences mostly lie under the age category of 15-18 years. All the respondents belonged to the poor socio-economic background with low parental education and income. Though the majority of the families were not the victims of alcoholism and criminal record, still these children committed the offences such as murder, rape, theft, drinking, smoking, etc. The maximum number of offence committed by the juveniles was theft which was due to easy money complex, peer influence, and pressure from the family to earn their own income to fulfill their family as well as their own needs. Most of the juveniles were forced to work and the study also states that rather going to school they worked as a daily wage labor. Due to lack proper socialization and guidance, these juveniles did not like going to school, most of the time they preferred spending their time along with their friends.

The case study also reflects that due to poor surroundings, strained family relations and their strong bonding with the peer mates tends them to commit such offences. The economic profile of these children in conflict with law shows that it has a significant impact over these children. As it can be seen in the above cases which reflect a detail history of the juveniles, they mainly belong to economically depleted families which have created in them a greed for making money by any means.

Justice is a vital phenomenon that incorporates the perception of fairness in the law for the juvenile delinquents. The perception of fair treatment by the law has a significant effect on the attitude and emotional health of the juveniles. Majority of the offenders admitted their offences and were found guilty. From the above results it can be said that the positive perception of fair treatment can be advantageous for the offenders in the present and future.

In an institution like the Observation Home, youth development is an approach to the policies and programs that serves as well as supports these youths to empower themselves by the various opportunities and give them a chance in building their skills, leadership quality, and

also help them to form good relations with the community. For the positive development of the child in conflict with law it is very much necessary to treat them in an absolute fair and friendly atmosphere to draw out best results of positive behavior from the offenders. Majority of them reported that they did not get the sufficient facilities in the Home. Many measures are being taken in the Short stay home for the positive development of the offenders, as per said by the officials. These juveniles are being provided with various games both indoor as well as outdoor games, yoga, art of living and vocational education. The officials said that they are unable to provide teaching to different age groups due to lack of teachers, classrooms, teaching aids, funding, and resources. As per said by the Superintendent in charge of the Observation Home “it is an awful thing that we are not provided with the vehicle in case of emergency”, which may affect the physical health of the juvenile, he also stated that these juveniles are not treated with proper counseling sessions, which is highly essential for them and due to the lack of counseling these juveniles have not yet been treated. It is the superstitious believe and witch craft that some juveniles are considered with some psychological disorder.

5.2 Discussion and Conclusion

In the present study all the offenders are in the age group of 15-18 years, which is categorized as the adolescent age. In a community the adolescent age is between 14-18 years, and it is the age in which the children have committed the offences such as theft, murder, rape, smoking, and drinking. Further than the incontestable changes and growth of adolescent, biologically and psychologically, adolescence presents three essential features such as development of self-consciousness, asserting their identity, social integration. A sense of right and wrong, normative and motivational, oriented to deny and reject the adult models and search their own models which reflects the instable personality of a teenager.

It is not only the individual factor which is responsible for delinquency or crime rather it is the multi-dimensional factors which are responsible for delinquency. Wellford (1989) viewed that due to the complexity of human conduct and the various multi-cause factors, the best way to progress in the field of criminology is through the combination of multi-level, multidisciplinary factors, where the multi-level factor involves the micro-level and macro-level. The interaction of a child within the family has also a greater influence on delinquency.

Empirical researches in the field of juvenile delinquency suggests that if proper supervision, education and training in school as well as in home will be provided to the children then it

will help to eliminate the indulgence of these children in the world of criminality. It is considered that parents and teachers play a crucial role in the actual development and growth of a child's character; keeping this in view they can help in reducing the occurrence of deplorable incidence.

It has been accepted that due to some situations and environment children become delinquent by not on their own will, thus this is not impossible to change the unfriendly attitude in them by reforming the unhealthy and poor surroundings, and by providing adequate suitable means. For the fulfillment of this purpose the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 has been enacted with effect from 30th December, 2000, which aims to consolidate and amend the law relating to juveniles in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection, by providing for proper care, protection and treatment, by showing concern to their developmental needs, by adopting a child friendly approach in the adjudication and disposition of matters in the best interest of children, and for their ultimate rehabilitation through various juvenile institutions like children home, observation home, special home, shelter home along with a Juvenile Justice Board, Child Welfare Committee (CWC) etc., are recognized under this Act. This goal can be achieved only when planning will turn into action. In a society a child is considered as a precious asset so it is the society which can put aside him/her from the heinous world of criminality. Proper parenting and care will nurture the child in a proper way and will thus prevent them to become delinquents.

5.3 Suggestions and Recommendations

- More number of teachers should be appointed in the observation home so that it will be possible to provide teaching to the different age group of delinquents.
- Developing the infrastructural facilities of Short stay homes and Observation homes is a top priority.
- School drop outs should be handled properly to ensure that they are not becoming antisocial.
- Proper counseling sessions at regular intervals is highly essential for these juveniles.
- Delinquents should be dealt in a sensitive manner .Proper training should be given to the authority and caretakers in these homes.
- Education should be an integral part of the positive development of these children in conflict with law.

- Proper socialization from the childhood is a key requirement.
- More parental focus towards their children is needed for their proper development.

5.4 Limitations of the study:

- Due to lack of time, the long official procedure and difficulty in communication and interaction with the Observation Home officials, it was not possible to collect data from all inmates of the Home. Some other Observation Homes could be added into the scope of the study, had there been more time for collection of data.
- There was a lack of permission of using electronic gadgets like camera, tape recorder etc, which would have helped in collection of data.
- The respondents' self-reports might have been biased due to social desirability factor and therefore, the data collected could have hidden the factual information.
- The secondary sources of data, intended to be available from the state and district data base, were found to be inadequate. Therefore, the study suffered from shortage of data from secondary sour

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Appendix

(Questionnaire)

1.1 Profile No.-

1.2 Under Section-

1.3 Title of the profile-

1.4 Police Station-

1.5 Nature of offence charged-

1.6 Type of Juvenile Delinquent-

a) Under trail

b) Detained

2. Demographic Profile:

2.1 Name-

2.2 Father's name-

2.3 Permanent address-

2.4 Religion-

2.5 Caste-

2.6 Age-

2.7 Sex-

2.8 Order of birth-

a) Eldest

b) Middle

c) Youngest

3. Educational Background:

3.1 School attended-

a) Yes

b) No

3.2 Class-

a) Lower primary (1-4)

b) Upper primary
(5-7)

c) High school (8-9)

4. Family Background:

4.1 Father's name-

4.2 Age-

4.3 Education-

a) Literate

b) Illiterate

4.4 Occupation-

- a) Daily wage labor b) Farmer c) Driver d) Servant e) Contractor

4.5 Monthly earnings-

4.6 Any other social habit-

4.7 Mother's name-

4.8 Age-

4.9 Education-

- a) Literate b) Illiterate

4.10 Occupation-

- a) Daily wage labor b) Farmer c) Driver d) Servant e) Contractor

4.11 Monthly earnings-

4.12 Any other social habit-

4.13 Siblings-

4.14 Single parent-

- a) Unmarried b) Divorced c) Widow

4.15 Economic Status-

- a) Rich b) Middle Class c) Poor

4.16 Relationship between Parents-

4.17 Relationship between parents and children especially with the juvenile under investigation-

4.18 Delinquency record of members of family-

5. Juveniles History:

5.1 Social Status-

5.2 Physical condition-

5.3 Interests-

- a) Watching TV b) Playing games

5.4 Peer groups and their influences-

(a) Peer groups-

a) Yes

b) No

(b) Peer influence-

a) Too
much

b) Strong

c) Little

(C) Peer activity-

a) Bunking classes

b) Spending time with
friends

c) playing

d) smoking/drinking

5.5 Attitude towards school, teachers, classmates-

5.6 Truancy from home, if any-

5.7 Work record-

(a) Job held-

a) Yes

b) No

(b) Reason for leaving-

a) Low salary

b) Hard work

c) Bad behavioral treatment

(c) Vocational interest-

a) Music

b) Motor mechanic

c) electricity

(d) Attitude towards job-

a) Positive

b) Negative

(e) Parents attitude towards discipline in the home and child's reaction-

(f) Duration of stay-

a) <6 months

b) <1 year

c) <2 years

d) <3 years

(g) Court visit-

- a) Only 1 time
- b) Only 2 times
- c) Only 3 times
- d) Only 4 times

(h) Ever been arrested before committing the crime-

- a) Yes
- b) No

(i) Reason for committing the crime-

- a) Easy money complex
- b) Family pressure
- c) Influence from friends
- d) Motivation brainwash from the friends

6. Positive Youth Development:

6.1 Any recreational activities-

6.2 Facilities available-

- a) Yes
- b) No

6.3 Facilities enhancing extra-curricular activities provided in Short stay home-

- a) Yoga
- b) Study
- c) Games
- d) Vocational Training

6.3 Are you satisfied with the education, training, game facilities given in the home-

- a) Yes
- b) No

7. Results of enquiry:

7.1 Emotional factors-

- a) Aggressive
- b) Humble
- c) Jovial
- d) Mendacious

7.2 Physical Condition-

- a) Feeble
- b) Sound health

7.3 Suggested cause of the problem-

7.4 Analysis of the case including reasons for delinquency-