



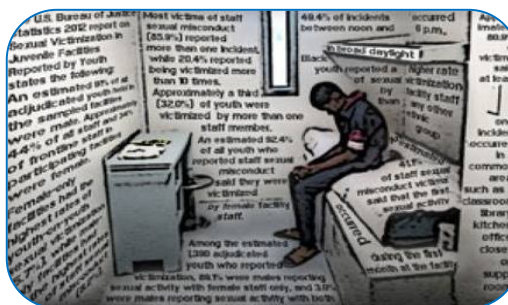
JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN INDIA: CAUSES AND REMEDIES

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ABSTRACT :

The nature of juvenile delinquency is different from that of general delinquency. In legal terminology, it is a crime to conduct against the prescribed laws of the country, but juvenile delinquency is a sociological and psychological concept. All those behaviors done by juvenile children which are not only legal but are harmful to society and the individual from any point of view, come under the purview of juvenile crime. For example, running away from school is not a crime from a legal point of view, but it is harmful from a social and psychological point of view. On the one hand, this trend teaches to run away from all kinds of responsibilities and on the other hand, it diverts the child from proper work and motivates them towards improper work. Thus, the scope of juvenile delinquency is much wider. The environment has a lot to do with the formation of personality and behavior in adolescence; Therefore, it is not the adolescent child himself but his environment that is responsible for his appropriate or inappropriate behavior. For this reason, many countries have separate jurisprudence for juvenile offenses; Their judges and other judicial officers are knowledgeable in child psychology. There, juvenile delinquents are not punished but based on their life history (case history), by studying them and their environment, efforts are made to reform the children by improving the unsatisfactory elements in the environment, which result in crimes. In India too, children's courts and children's homes have been established in some states. In this research paper, the causes, and remedies of juvenile delinquency in India have been studied.



KEYWORDS : Juvenile Crime, Social and Psychological Perspective, Juvenile, Inappropriate Behavior, Juvenile Court, Juvenile Home

INTRODUCTION:

When an anti-law or anti-social act is done by a juvenile, it is called juvenile crime or child crime. Juvenile crime from the legal point of view is an anti-legal act done by a child above 8 years of age and below 16 years of age, which is presented before the Children's Court for legal proceedings. According to the Juvenile Justice Act 1986 (amended 2000) in India, boys up to the age of 16 years and girls up to the age of 18 years have been included in the category of juvenile delinquents. The maximum age limit for juvenile delinquency varies from state to state. On this basis, the anti-legal act done by a juvenile under the age limit prescribed by any state is a juvenile offence. It is not only age that determines juvenile delinquency, but the seriousness of the crime is also an important aspect. A boy of 7 to 16 years and a girl of 7 to 18 years has not committed any such crime for which the state gives the

death penalty or life imprisonment like murder, treason, deadly assault, etc., then they will be considered juvenile delinquents.

From the sociological point of view, age is not given much importance for juvenile delinquency, because the mental and social maturity of a person is not always affected by age, so some scholars consider the behavioral tendency manifested by the child as the basis for juvenile delinquency, such as loitering. Being absent from school, disobeying parents and guardians, using obscene language, keeping contact with people of character, etc. But until a valid method is accepted unanimously, age will be considered as the determining basis of juvenile crime. According to Gillin and Gillin, from a sociological point of view, a juvenile delinquent is a person whose behavior is considered harmful by society and therefore prohibited by it. In this way, the anti-social behavior of teenagers is taken into juvenile crime or such behavior of children which is harmful from the point of view of welfare, the person who commits such acts is called a juvenile delinquent. According to Robinson, vagrancy, begging, wandering, and delinquency is the characteristics of juvenile delinquents.

Psychology has proved that crime is neither related to heredity nor physical appearance; Only physical characteristics are inherited, and they do not have a direct relationship with a person's feelings, aspirations, tendencies, and intelligence. Sociologists say that the originator of crime is a contaminated environment, such as poverty, ruined family, criminal partner, etc. But it has been known by modern psychological research that not only in the same environment but also in the same family, only half of the children of the same parents are criminals, not all. If there is an atmosphere that gives birth to crime, then other brothers and sisters should also become criminals. Modern psychology finds the origin of juvenile delinquency in psychological conditions. According to him, every child has certain desires, aspirations, and needs. He tries to fulfill them. There are many obstacles in his endeavor, which he tries to win. He is either satisfied or dissatisfied or indifferent to the result of his efforts. But the feelings of indifference are rarely reduced. Satisfaction and dissatisfaction are not related to success or achievement, but satisfaction is a relative concept.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The research paper has depended on secondary data.

OBJECTIVE OF RESEARCH:

- 1) To study the causes of juvenile delinquency in India.
- 2) To study the remedies of juvenile delinquency in India.

THE CAUSES AND REMEDIES OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN INDIA:

The rate of juvenile delinquency in Indian society is increasing day by day, as well as its nature is also becoming complex. The reason for this is that in present times urbanization, industrialization and social media have created such an environment in which most families are proving unsuccessful in controlling their children. Moral values have started disintegrating due to an increase in personal freedom, along with this excessive competition has created deviation in children. The availability of computers and the internet has separated them from society. As a result, they are becoming victims of depression and are indulging in crime. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), since the beginning of recording these crimes in 2017, there was an increase of over 700 percent till 2019. NCRB registered 278 cases of crimes committed by CCI in-charge across India in the year 2017 in which 328 child victims were involved. By the year 2019, these cases increased to 1,968, of which 2,699 were child victims. Juvenile crime statistics According to the statistics of "The National Crime Records Bureau", according to the statistics of the year 2014, a total of 38,455, according to the year 2015, 33,433 and according to the year 2016, 35,849 cases of juvenile crime were registered. Which is very thoughtful. According to research, about 19 percent of girls in the age group of 12 to 17 years have been involved in some kind of fight in their school. This research was done on a total of 5467 teenagers and youth from 6 major places in India. Adolescents and youth from Delhi, Bangalore, Jammu, Indore, Kerala, Rajasthan, and Sikkim were involved in this research.

Juvenile crime is a social problem, so most of its reasons also exist in society itself. Family is the first school of the child, where he is influenced by the behavior of his parents and siblings. When parents are unable to fulfill their responsibilities towards their children, then the children also cannot be expected to become the best citizens. Many reasons related to the family are responsible for making the child a criminal. Former criminal tribes in India have also declared criminals based on heredity, the scholars who considered criminals to be a product of heredity were influenced by Mendel's theory of heredity. But at present, this concept was boycotted in criminology. In their studies, Burt and Gillin did not find juvenile delinquency to be related to heredity. Children are exemplary, they learn every good and bad deed based on imitation from elders, if elder brothers and sisters in the family are criminals and misbehave with them, then the personality of the children gets distorted, and the voice of the rebellious spirit in them. become outspoken, they stay out of the polluted environment and become criminals by getting ill-culture, or the parents do not give equal affection to the children, then also in such a situation the children separate themselves from the family and their feeling of guilt awakens in the mind.

Parents have a direct impact on the development and conscience of the child. Lack of conscience combined with feelings of hostility gives rise to aggression, Andrey (1960) has also observed that juvenile delinquents get less parental love than delinquents. Peterson and Becker pointed out that families of delinquents are often materially impoverished, which can affect a juvenile delinquent's perception of himself and may contribute to his escape from home. As a result of urbanization in modern society, a person does not get enough space to live, even a large family must live in a very small space. Because of this, parents are neither able to pay full attention to the children, nor do they get any internal security, so the children tend to commit crimes, the parents themselves prefer to send them outside, where the children become criminals. Get the company of children and become criminals themselves.

Apart from family reasons, there may be such shortcomings in the person himself, due to which he may reveal criminal behavior. When a juvenile is a victim of some kind of physical disability, he develops a sense of inferiority, he tends towards crime, Cyril, Burt, Healey and Bronner, and Gluck, etc. found this in the study of juvenile delinquents, Hutton Many types of physical defects like deafness, permanent disease, physical disability, lack of intelligence have been considered as the reason for juvenile delinquency. Children become criminals due to emotional instability, Cyril Burt, Healey, and Bronner found in studies that often juvenile delinquents feel insecure and suffer from mental conflict, due to which they tend to commit crimes.

The community in which the child lives, if its environment is unsuitable, it can make the child a criminal. The effect of the neighborhood is more visible in urban areas, apart from the family, the child spends most of his time with the children of the neighborhood, and the neighborhood helps in crime by interfering with personality needs, cultural conflict, and nurturing antisocial values. Overcrowded neighborhoods with inadequate recreational facilities ignore children's natural urges to play and encourage the formation of criminal gangs, neighborhood homes, cheap hotels, etc., are also breeding grounds for criminal activity.

The school environment has a great influence on the children. The behavior of teachers, their relation with school fellow students and teachers, the rigor of courses, the promotion of ineligible students, etc. are some of the reasons which affect the soft mind of children and make them criminals. Children are expelled from school for getting low marks or failing, or they are harassed by teachers or ridiculed by students, due to which they suffer from an inferiority complex and become prone to crime. Movies full of immorality, drinking, smoking, and erotic books leave a deep impression on the mind of children. Many times, they also learn the methods of crime, in many parts of our country many children are caught for the crime of using methods of cinema like theft, burglary, and kidnapping. They claim that they learned the methods of crime either from cinema or social media. Movies also develop an interest in criminal behavior in children by arousing the desire to get easy money, suggesting methods for these achievements, and instilling a sense of adventure, inciting sexual feelings.

Residence in the criminal area is also closely related to criminal tendency, there are more opportunities for children to become criminals if there is a place of residence near prostitutes, gamblers, and alcoholics, because due to high imitation and suggestion-receptivity in children, criminal tendencies increase. There is a possibility of learning. Influenced by the prevalent patterns of crime, the children of slums commit crimes. In addition to the above-mentioned factors, some other factors are also responsible for juvenile delinquency such as confusion of values, cultural differences, and conflicts, moral decline, increase in independence, economic recession, etc. Only one factor does not have a hand in making a child a criminal, rather the co-presence of many factors contributes to making a child a criminal.

Psychotherapy diagnoses emotional and personality-related problems by psychological means, it treats by changing the feelings and concepts about some important persons in the past life of the juvenile delinquent. When children do not have a good relationship with their parents in the early stages, their emotional development is stunted, as a result of which they are often impulsive in trying to satisfy their childish aspirations, not being satisfied by normal means within their own family. The satisfaction of these aspirations and impulses can take the form of antisocial behavior. Through psychotherapy, the criminal is allowed to move in an atmosphere of affection and acceptance by the therapist. Reality therapy is based on the idea that individuals who are unable to meet their basic needs behave irresponsibly, the goal of reality therapy is to help the delinquent child act responsibly, that is, to avoid antisocial activities. This method studies the present behavior of the individual. Behavior therapy seeks to improve the learned behavior of juvenile delinquents by developing innovative learning procedures. When behavior is changed by rewards or punishments, negative reinforcement will reduce negative behavior (criminal actions) while positive reinforcement (such as rewards) will maintain positive behavior. Both types of factors can be used to change behavior.

Many children cannot verbally communicate effectively in group situations, in the activity therapy method children are made to do some tasks or the other in a free environment. Where he can express his sense of aggression in creative work, play, or mischief. The ambient therapy method, which creates an environment that facilitates meaningful change and fostering adjustment, is used for people whose deviant behavior is a reaction to aversive life situations.

In addition to the above-mentioned methods, the treatment of juvenile delinquents involves individual social work ie helping the maladjusted child deal with his problems. The particular social worker may be the probation officer or career counselor. Individual counseling helps the delinquent juvenile to understand his immediate situation and rehabilitate him to solve his problem, whereas vocational counseling ie helping the juvenile delinquent to choose his future life.

At present, two types of measures have been taken to prevent child crimes, first, new laws have been created for them and second, reform institutions and schools have been created. Children's Act and Reformatory Act have been made to give special facilities to juvenile offenders and adopt proper justice systems. Children's courts have been established in India under the Children's Act of 1960. The Children's Act of 1960 has been replaced by the Juvenile Justice Act of 1986. At present, there are Children's Courts in all the states of India. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2019 was passed to amend various provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015. The Act allows juveniles between the age of 16-18 years involved in heinous crimes to be tried at par with adults. Another effort has been made to establish correctional institutions and correctional homes, where training is imparted to child criminals by keeping them for some time. This work is done by remand areas or observation, certified or reformatory schools, boarding schools, and probationary hostels.

CONCLUSION:

No single factor has a hand in making a juvenile delinquent, rather the co-presence of many factors contributes to making a juvenile delinquent. The Juvenile may suffer from physical weakness, his intelligence is low, their parents are criminals, his environment is bad, and he has a low level of achievements, still, he will not become a criminal unless he is dissatisfied with his condition. And his

socially accepted efforts to remove the dissatisfaction have not been unsuccessful. Crime is a kind of self-revelation and behavior. Juvenile crimes are also a way of natural behavior, only their result is harmful to society and the individual. Therefore, to save society from this inauspicious situation, parents, and teachers with the help of psychologists have to see which unsatisfactory conditions exist due to the delinquent behavior of the juveniles. Remove the cause of the disease, the disease will go away, this is the principle of medicine. Criminal behavior is also a social disease. Due to this, on removing the unsatisfactory situation, the delinquent behavior will automatically end and the delinquent juvenile will grow up to become an able member of society and a responsible citizen of the country.

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