

## **A Comparison of the Personality Characteristics of Delinquent and Non-Delinquent Juveniles of Tehran, Iran**

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### **Abstract**

The current paper aims to compare the personality characteristics of delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles of Tehran. For this purpose, a sample volume of 100 individuals from which 50 ones were selected by available sampling method from the delinquent juvenile population of Tehran correctional center and the other 50 individuals were selected by random sampling method from non-delinquent juvenile population of Tehran high schools. Research materials include NEO-FFI Personality Questionnaire that after being administered to both groups, the statistical parametric independent t test method was applied to confirm or reject the research hypotheses. The research findings suggest significant differences between the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles from the aspects of neuroticism, openness to experience, agreeableness, and conscientiousness. But there were no meaningful differences between the two groups related to extroversion and four hypotheses out of five were confirmed. Consequently the delinquent juveniles possess more neuroticism and less openness to experience, agreeableness, and conscientiousness compared to the non-delinquent juveniles.

### **Introduction**

On one hand complications of the crime phenomenon and the numerousness of the crime factors make us study different sciences such as the criminal anthropology and the criminal psychology. On the other hand investigation of the crime phenomenon in juveniles is also of high importance since juveniles due to their specific personality structure are of the susceptible classes of the society. Identity forms in the teen years, so juveniles have psychical complications. There are some juveniles that commit delinquencies which

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may have different reasons. Due to their various points of view, psychologists describe the social aberrations in different ways.

Jefferson & Johnson (2007) in a research have found a relationship between the hyperactivity and emotion-seeking in the delinquents. Van Dam et al (2007) believe that there is a relationship between personality and delinquency and perpetration of crime. Corff & Toupin (2009) have shown that those girls and boys who commit delinquent activities are different from the non-delinquent girls and boys in many aspects of the personality characteristics and that these differences are more obvious in two characteristics of neuroticism and the lack of adaptation i.e. the delinquent girls and boys possess these two specifications more than non-delinquent girls and boys. Johnson et al (2000) believe that there is a relation between personality disorders of the juveniles and their violence and criminal behaviors. Våfors et al (2008) have found a relationship between personality characteristics, parents' treatment, misuse of alcohol and the perpetration of crime.

Koposov et al (2004) showed that alcohol abuse in Russian delinquent adolescents is associated with personality and parenting factors independently of co-morbid psychopathology. Three delinquent trajectories in the Dutch teenagers (low, escalating, and high level re-offenders) were identified by Van Domburgh et al (2009), they found that high and escalating re-offenders more often had other adverse outcomes, such as criminal victimization and Child Welfare Agency involvement. Evans et al (2009) found that oppositional, delinquent behavior was the best predictor of caregiver strain and suggests that preventing and treating these child behavior problems should be a high priority when working with young adolescents with ADHD.

Meier et al (2008) have shown a relationship between personality specifications and agitation, emotional senselessness, and the delinquent behaviors of male and female juveniles who are in contact with each other. Jung et al (2008) carried out a research on the delinquent prostitute girls with regard to investigation of the stress disorder symptoms after event (PTSD) and also of their mental health. Ultimately, they found out the relationship between these factors and the criminal activities of prostitute and delinquent girls. Ramchand et al (2009) believe that the girls and boys who have to work for money are more exposed to the criminal activities and therefore commit them more.

Salfati et al (2008) in a research have found out that the delinquent girls are murdered in the street 60 to 100 times more than the non-delinquent girls and that the investigation and detection of these murders are more difficult and in some cases even remain unsolved. The current study aims to lead an exploratory research so as to discover the key specifications of this group and that how this murdered group is differed from other subdivisions of the murder. Ter Laak et al (2003) have pointed to the relationship between the personality characteristics and lack of social qualification, and also delinquency in the delinquent girls. Burton (2008) has carried out a research on the relationship of the sexual misbehavior and sexual perversion with the sexual abuse in childhood. In this study two groups of the imprisoned delinquent male juveniles have been studied including 74 boys with sexual misbehavior and 53 boys lacking sexual misbehavior. Compared to the boys lacking sexual misbehavior, those with sexual misbehavior and the sexual perversion have had a wide background regarding the sexual abuse in their childhood.

Considering these findings, we see that from far in the past up to our current era there are huge streams of the psychologists' different opinions and researches regarding the crime and delinquency

phenomena that we have to deal with. The numerousness of these notions may be due to the significance of the issue of social harms that society has to always challenge them.

### **The Research Objectives**

The major objective of the present study is to compare the personality characteristics of delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles of Tehran. This research allows the researcher to set up a modern constructive program for the juvenile delinquents by means of the new scientific results obtained. Study and examination of the personality differences of juveniles can provide us with new and noble cognition and understanding, as well, which can be published in the forms of book and paper and made available to society and periodicals and subsequently these publications can change people's attitude toward the delinquent juveniles.

**According to these, hypotheses of the research are as the following:**

1. There is a difference between delinquent and non-delinquent teenagers in neuroticism.
2. There is a difference between delinquent and non-delinquent teenagers in extroversion.
3. There is a difference between delinquent and non-delinquent teenagers in openness to experience.
4. There is a difference between delinquent and non-delinquent teenagers in agreeableness.
5. There is a difference between delinquent and non-delinquent teenagers in conscientiousness.

### **Research Method and Research Design**

The research design of this study is of causative-comparative type i.e. it is retrogressive. Therefore the possible reasons of a behavioral pattern and a dependent variable are studied. This method is called retrogressive because it refers to the cases, the reasons of which have occurred earlier.

#### **Testees**

The statistical population in this research includes two groups of 15 to 18 year-old teenagers. The first sample consists of the delinquent juveniles who are in Tehran correctional center and the second one includes non-delinquent juveniles been selected from Tehran high schools.

#### **Sampling Method**

In the current study, in order to select the delinquent and the non-delinquent juveniles, the available sampling method and the random sampling method have been applied, respectively.

#### **Sample Size**

The entire sample consists of 100 individuals, 50 individuals of which are delinquent and the other 50 individuals are non-delinquent juveniles.

#### **Research Materials**

One Material of this research is NEO-FFI personality questionnaire made up of 60 questions which have been applied to evaluate five major factors of the personality. Every 12 questions in this questionnaire have been used to estimate each factor. These five factors are: neuroticism, extroversion, openness to

experience, agreeableness, and conscience. The other material is the researcher’s questionnaire which has been designed to collect socio-demographic information of testees, including age, gender, birth place, the amount of family income, type of crime, etc.

**Data Analysis**

To analyze the data obtained from the comparison of personality specifications of the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles of Tehran, the parametric independent t test has been exploited.

**Data Collection Materials**

Data collection materials of the current research include questionnaire, test, table, computer networks, biography, demographic information and finally socio- demographic information.

**Research Findings**

Sample size of the study is 100 juveniles, 50 percent (50 individuals) of which are girl and the rest (the other 50 percent) are boy. After the test administration, the research findings have been presented in the forms of descriptive statistics and also inferential statistics.

**1.1 Data Description**

So as to get more familiar with the nature of the research variables, it is essential to describe the data before analyzing them, since the statistical description of the data is prior to the statistical inference and helps us to recognize the patterns dominating the data.

**Table 1-1: descriptive statistics of the neuroticism personality characteristic , while groups under examination are separated in the statistical sample**

| Indexes                    | number | average | Standard deviation | Average standard error | Minimum value | Maximum value |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Statistical groups         |        |         |                    |                        |               |               |
| Non – Delinquent juveniles | 50     | 14.24   | 2.88246            | 0.40764                | 10            | 22            |
| Delinquent juveniles       | 50     | 20.18   | 5.95113            | 0.84162                | 14            | 37            |

As table1-1 shows, the average of the neuroticism personality specification’s scores is 20.18 and 14.24 for the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles, respectively. The significance of this difference will be examined subsequently.

**Table1-2: descriptive statistics of the extroversion personality characteristic, while groups under - examination are separated in the statistical sample**

| Indexes           | number | average | Standard deviation | Average standard error | Minimum value | Maximum value |
|-------------------|--------|---------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Statistical group |        |         |                    |                        |               |               |
| Non – Delinquent  | 50     | 24.4    | 5.56226            | 0.78662                | 12            | 38            |

|                      |    |       |         |         |    |    |
|----------------------|----|-------|---------|---------|----|----|
| juveniles            |    |       |         |         |    |    |
| Delinquent juveniles | 50 | 23.08 | 6.08055 | 0.85992 | 12 | 36 |

As you can observe in table 1-2, the average of the extroversion personality characteristic's scores for the delinquent juveniles (23.8) is less than that of the non-delinquent group (24.4) and this indicates a slight difference between these two groups. Subsequently the significance of the current difference will be examined later.

**Table1-3: descriptive statistics of the personality characteristic of openness to experience, while groups under - examination are separated in the statistical sample**

| Indexes                    | number | average | Standard deviation | Average standard error | Minimum value | Maximum value |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Statistical group          |        |         |                    |                        |               |               |
| Non – Delinquent juveniles | 50     | 21.38   | 5.04223            | 0.71308                | 13            | 37            |
| Delinquent juveniles       | 50     | 18.96   | 5.8203             | 0.82312                | 11            | 35            |

As shown in table 1-3, from the aspect of openness to experience, the delinquent and non-delinquent groups have obtained the average of 18.96 and 21.38, respectively. It means that in this personality characteristic the average of delinquent juveniles is less than that of non-delinquent juveniles. Later the significance with regard to this difference will be evaluated.

**Table1-4: descriptive statistics of the agreeableness personality characteristic , while groups under-examination are separated in the statistical sample**

| Indexes                    | number | Average | Standard deviation | Average standard error | Minimum value | Maximum value |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Statistical group          |        |         |                    |                        |               |               |
| Non – Delinquent juveniles | 50     | 25.76   | 5.67328            | 0.80232                | 14            | 39            |
| Delinquent juveniles       | 50     | 17.48   | 3.86634            | 0.54678                | 10            | 29            |

Considering what table 1-4 shows, the obtained average of the delinquent and non-delinquent groups' scores with regard to the agreeableness personality specification is 17.48 and 25.76, respectively. The average of delinquent group is less than that of the other group. We will investigate the significance of the gained difference later.

**Table1-5: descriptive statistics of the conscientiousness personality characteristic, while groups under-examination are separated in the statistical sample**

| Indexes                    | number | average | Standard deviation | Standard error of average | Minimum value | Maximum value |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Statistical group          |        |         |                    |                           |               |               |
| Non – Delinquent juveniles | 50     | 22      | 6.373              | 0.8538                    | 12            | 42            |
| Delinquent juveniles       | 50     | 14.58   | 3.45874            | 0.48914                   | 8             | 25            |

As shown in table 1-5, the delinquent juveniles have obtained the average of 14.58 compared to the non-delinquent group with the average of 22.00 from the conscientiousness aspect of the personality characteristic. Again this average value of delinquent group is less than that of the other group. Subsequently the significance of the current difference will be examined later.

## 1-2 data Analysis

### Research findings with regard to the study hypotheses:

In this section, the data obtained from administration of the questionnaires has been analyzed by means of the inferential statistics. And would be studied by rebuilding the presented hypothesis, referring to the analysis results.

### First Hypothesis of the Research: The delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles are different from the neuroticism point of view.

To test this hypothesis, since the neuroticism variable is relative from the aspect of scale level, the scores of these two groups have been compared by means of parametric independent t test. The statistical expression of the first hypothesis is as the following:

$$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$$

$$H_1: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$$

In the above hypothesis, by symbol ( $\mu$ ) we mean the average of the obtained scores related to the neuroticism personality characteristic. Result of this test has been shown in table 1-6.

**Table 1-6: results of independent t test of neuroticism score average in both groups of delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles.**

| Levin Test |              | Independent t | Degree of freedom | (p)significance | Average difference | Reliability level with 95% validity |         |
|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| f          | Significance |               |                   |                 |                    | low                                 | High    |
| 1.57       | 0.523        | 6.352         | 98                | 0.0001          | 5.94               | -7.7957                             | -4.0842 |

Table 1-6 shows that the significance coefficient value of Levin Test, in order to evaluate the equality of the variances, is equal to 0.523. This value is higher than the standard coefficient (0.05). It can be said with 95% reliability that both groups are the same from the variance viewpoint and that the pre-assumption about the equality of both groups' variances for t test has been observed.

As the results of independent t test show, since the obtained absolute value of t (6.35) with the 98 degree of freedom is bigger than t value of the table (2.61) and also because the significance level of this test equals 0.0001 that is less than the significance level of 0.01, we can with 99% reliability state that the observed difference between the average of neuroticism scores of both delinquent and non-delinquent group is significant. So the first research hypothesis is confirmed with 99% reliability and consequently the zero assumption is rejected. Moreover, it is notable to mention that comparison of the average of these groups suggests that the delinquent juveniles possess more neuroticism characteristic compared to the non-delinquent juveniles.

### **Second Hypothesis of the Research: There is a difference between the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles in extroversion**

To test this hypothesis, since the extroversion variable is relative at scale level, the scores of these two groups have been compared by means of parametric independent t test. The statistical expression of the second hypothesis is as the following:

$$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$$

$$H_1: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$$

In the above hypothesis, by symbol ( $\mu$ ) we mean the average of the obtained scores related to the extroversion personality characteristic. Result of this test has been shown in table 1-7.

**Table 1-7: results of independent t test of extroversion score average in both groups of delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles.**

| Levin Test |              | Independent t | Degree of freedom | (p)significance | Average difference | Reliability level with 95% validity |      |
|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------|
| f          | Significance |               |                   |                 |                    | low                                 | High |
|            |              |               |                   |                 |                    |                                     |      |

|       |       |       |    |      |      |         |         |
|-------|-------|-------|----|------|------|---------|---------|
| 1.627 | 0,205 | 1.133 | 98 | 0.26 | 1.32 | -0.9927 | 3.63227 |
|-------|-------|-------|----|------|------|---------|---------|

Table 1-7 shows that the significance coefficient value of Levin Test, in order to evaluate the equality of the variances, is equal to 0.205. This value is much higher than the standard coefficient (0.05). It can be said with 95% reliability that both groups are the same from the variance viewpoint and that the pre-assumption about the equality of both groups' variances for t test has been observed.

As the results of independent t test show, since the obtained absolute value of t (1.13) with the 98 degree of freedom is smaller than t value of the table (1.98) and also because the significance level of this test equals 0.26 that is more than the significance level of 0.05, we can with 95% reliability state that the observed difference between the average of extroversion scores of both delinquent and non-delinquent group isn't significant. So the second research hypothesis has been rejected with 99% reliability and the zero assumption has been proved.

### **Third Hypothesis of the Study: The delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles are different in openness to experience.**

To test this hypothesis, since variable of the openness to experience is relative at scale level, the scores of these two groups have been compared by means of parametric independent t test. The statistical expression of the third hypothesis is as the following:

$$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$$

$$H_1: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$$

In the above hypothesis, by symbol ( $\mu$ ) we mean the average of the obtained scores related to personality characteristic of the openness to experience. Result of this test has been shown in table 1-8.

**Table 1-8: results of independent t test of the average of openness to experience scores in both groups of delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles.**

| Levin Test |              | Independent t | Degree of freedom | (p)significance | Average difference | Reliability level with 95% validity |         |
|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| f          | Significance |               |                   |                 |                    | low                                 | High    |
| 0.879      | 0.351        | 2.222         | 98                | 0.029           | 2.42               | 0.25884                             | 4.58116 |

Table 1-8 shows that the significance coefficient value of Levin Test, in order to evaluate the equality of the variances, is equal to 0.351. This value is much bigger than the standard coefficient (0.05). It can be said with 95% reliability that both groups are the same from the variance aspect and that the pre-assumption about the equality of both groups' variances for t test has been observed.

As the results of independent t test show, since the obtained absolute value of t (2.22) with the 98 degree of freedom is bigger than t value of the table (1.98) and also because the significance level of this test equals 0.029 that is smaller than the significance level of 0.05, we can with 95% reliability state that the observed difference between the average of openness to experience scores of both delinquent and non-delinquent group is significant. So the current research's third hypothesis is confirmed with 95%



reliability and the zero assumption is rejected. It is notable that through comparison of these groups' averages, it is concluded that the delinquent juveniles are less open-minded than the non-delinquent juveniles.

**Fourth hypothesis of the research: There is a difference between the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles from the aspect of agreeableness.**

To test this hypothesis, since variable of the agreeableness is relative at scale level, the scores of these two groups have been compared by means of parametric independent t test. The statistical expression of the fourth hypothesis is as the following:

$$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$$

$$H_1: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$$

In the above hypothesis, by symbol ( $\mu$ ) we mean the average of the obtained scores related to personality characteristic of the agreeableness. Result of this test has been shown in table 1-9.

**Table 1-9: results of independent t test of agreeableness score average in both groups of delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles.**

| Levin Test |              | Independent t | Degree of freedom | (p)significance | Average difference | Reliability level with 95% validity |          |
|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| f          | Significance |               |                   |                 |                    | low                                 | High     |
| 0.94       | 0.17         | 8.528         | 98                | 0.0001          | 8.28               | 6.35323                             | 10.20677 |

Table 1-9 shows that the significance coefficient value of Levin Test, in order to evaluate the equality of the variances, is equal to 0.17. This value is much greater than the standard coefficient (0.05). It can be said with 95% reliability that both groups are the same from the variance aspect and that the pre-assumption about the equality of both groups' variances for t test has been observed.

As the results of independent t test show, since the obtained absolute value of t (8.52) with the 98 degree of freedom is bigger than t value of the table (2.61) and also because the significance level of this test equals 0.0001 that is less than the significance level of 0.01, we can with 99% reliability express that the observed difference between the average of agreeableness scores of both delinquent and non-delinquent group is significant. So the research's fourth hypothesis is confirmed with 99% reliability and consequently the zero assumption is rejected. It is notable that comparison of these groups' averages suggests that the delinquent juveniles possess less agreeableness compared to the ordinary juveniles.

**Fifth Hypothesis of the Research: The delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles are different from each other in conscience.**

To test this hypothesis, since variable of the conscience is relative at scale level, the scores of these two groups were compared by means of parametric independent t test. The statistical expression of the fifth hypothesis is as the following:

$$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$$

$$H_1: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$$

In the above hypothesis, by symbol ( $\mu$ ) we mean the average of the obtained scores related to personality characteristic of the conscientiousness. Result of this test has been shown in table 1-10.

**Table 1-10: results of independent t test of conscientiousness score average in both groups of delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles.**

| Levin Test |              | Independent t | Degree of freedom | (p)significance | Average difference | Reliability level with 95% validity |        |
|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|
| f          | Significance |               |                   |                 |                    | low                                 | High   |
| 0.89       | 0.58         | 7.541         | 98                | 0.0001          | 7.42               | 5.4673                              | 9.3727 |

Table 1-10 shows that the significance coefficient value of Levin Test, in order to evaluate the equality of the variances, equals 0.58. This value is much higher than the standard coefficient (0.05). It can be mentioned with 95% reliability that both groups are the same from the variance aspect and that the pre-assumption about the equality of both groups' variances for t test has been observed.

As the results of independent t test show, since the obtained absolute value of t (7.54) with the 98 degree of freedom is bigger than t value of the table (2.61) and also because the significance level of this test equals 0.0001 that is less than significance level of 0.01, we can with 99% reliability say that the observed difference between the average of conscientiousness scores of both delinquent and non-delinquent group is significant. Therefore the research's fifth hypothesis has been confirmed with 99% reliability and subsequently the zero assumption has been rejected. Note that through comparison of these groups' averages it is suggested that the delinquent juveniles possess less conscientiousness than that of the non-delinquent juveniles.

### Results and Discussion

**The first hypothesis:** The current research's first hypothesis is that the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles have a difference in the personality characteristic of neuroticism. This hypothesis has been confirmed in the present study. It means that the average of the delinquent juveniles' scores is equal to 20.18 i.e. more than that of the non-delinquent juveniles 14.24 and therefore it is statistically significant. This finding corresponds to the research findings of Taylor (1982). His obtained results indicate the relationship between the neuroticism and perpetration of the crime. Through an investigation of 121 neurotic delinquents, Taylor has suggested that the symptoms of neuroticism undoubtedly are the reason of perpetration of the crime in 20% of the cases. The other 26% has possibly been attributed to the same reason. Therefore what has been confirmed by the results is that the Factor (N) has a significant relation with the delinquency. One who has got a higher score in neurosis shows more intensive and long-time reactions towards disturbances. Those who have placed in the opposite pole of this continuum possess the emotional consistency and the behavioral self-possession. Having negative feelings such as fear, sorrow, anger, excitation, emotional inconsistency and nervousness goes hand in hand with the crime phenomenon. The delinquent individuals have low behavioral-emotional control. In addition, they get angry faster and more than others go through the unpleasant behavioral feelings such as grief and nervousness.

**Second hypothesis:** The delinquent and ordinary juveniles have a difference in the personality specification of extroversion. This hypothesis hasn't been proven by the present research. Although there has been a difference between these groups from this aspect, but it isn't statistically significant. The average of the delinquent juveniles' scores has been observed 23.08 and it is lower than that of the non-

delinquent group 24.4 but this difference hasn't been significant i.e. it can't be said that the ordinary group is more extrovert than the delinquent group. Several researches with regard to evaluation of this characteristic have achieved different results. The personality characteristic of extroversion is inconsistent compared to other personality specifications in this study. We can't explicitly say that, for example, the delinquents are extrovert and also that the extrovert delinquents may become introvert in the prison environment and due to being social eliminated. Eysenck (1974) has attributed the inability of the Factor (E) to predict the criminal activities to the different causes. One of the reasons of low score of the delinquents regarding extroversion is that their sociability scores may be reduced by the limitations dominated the social behaviors in prison. Other reason of the extroversion factor insufficiency to distinguish the delinquents is that they are heterogeneous. Although the factor "extroversion" can be divided into two subdivisions of sociability and excitation, only the latter subdivision has relationship with the crime (Eysenck, 1971). Findings of the present study correspond to the research results of Farrington et al. Through sixteen studies, they have found that most of the delinquents have possessed the higher scores with regard to N and P while their entire E scores (regarding Extroversion) haven't been high. About the difference observed in the research results regarding evaluation of factor E (Extroversion), we can mention that this characteristic is neutral i.e. it doesn't place at any groups of the good and bad characteristics.

**The third hypothesis:** There is a difference between the two groups delinquent and non- delinquent related to openness to experience personality characteristic. The present study has proved this hypothesis. It means that average of the scores obtained by the delinquent juveniles for this variable has been 18.96 which is less than that of the ordinary group i.e. 21.38 the difference is statistically significant. Those who achieve high score in this variable have also got a higher aesthetic sense and possess great ability to perceive feelings and personal emotions. In addition, they receive positive emotions, they have deep feelings towards the art and beauty, and finally they are creative. With regard to the Vocabulary Notion, this issue has been suggested that the individuals with high level of openness to experience have access to and apply larger and better treasury of words. Regarding the difference of the delinquent and ordinary juveniles from the aspect of terminology, it has been discussed that the delinquent juveniles are qualitatively and also quantitatively weaker at learning vocabularies and since there is a relationship between openness to experience and the way of learning words, it can be realized that why the average of the delinquent juveniles is less than that of the ordinary group. Openness to experience may include not only openness to the positive emotions but also to the negative emotions. In the case of discussion about the personality characteristic of openness to experience, if the center of focus is openness to the negative emotions, it can be suggested that the delinquent group is opener to experience of the unpleasant emotions and therefore the perpetration of crime is higher in this group. But in this paper, openness to the positive emotions is the focus of attention.

**The fourth hypothesis:** A difference is observed from the aspect of agreeableness between the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles. This hypothesis has been proven in the current study as well. The obtained average of the delinquent and non-delinquent groups' scores with regard to the agreeableness personality specification is 17.48 and 25.76, respectively. Therefore the score average of the delinquent group is less than that of the other group. The difference is statistically significant. This finding is the same as the research result achieved by Arbothnot & Gordon (1985) that means, the delinquent juveniles are indifferent to what the others think and they have less sympathy and adjustment compared to the ordinary juveniles. The research findings of Spivack et al. present the concepts of Egocentrism and Decentration and also the relationship between them and the crime phenomenon. These findings show that the egocentrism has a relationship with the lack of adjustment and tolerance and also antisocial behaviors. Additionally, the decentration is in relation to altruism and social-desirable behaviors. Naturally there is a

relationship between the delinquency and the antisocial and maladjusted behaviors, therefore the delinquent juveniles are basically less altruist and possess less sympathy.

**The fifth hypothesis:** Hypothesis number five states that there is a difference between the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles in conscientiousness. The current study has proved the fifth hypothesis. The average of the scores obtained by the delinquent juveniles in this variable equals 14.58 which is less than that of the ordinary group 22 and this difference is significance. There is a correspondence between the current finding and the research result achieved by Yann Corff & Jean Toupin (2009) they have conducted a study in regard to the comparison of the personality characteristics of two groups of the delinquent and non-delinquent juveniles. One of the investigated variables in their research is conscientiousness. They have found that these two groups are different from the aspect of conscience. The delinquent group in this study has obtained the score average of 111.98 and the non-delinquent group has acquired the score average of 115.83. The delinquent group's average is less than that of the non-delinquent one since it is obvious that their antisocial behavior characteristic is completely opposite to their conscience characteristic. From the psychoanalysis viewpoint, the delinquent individuals have the weak superegos. From this point of view, three components of violence, weakness, and aberration of the superego are the major sources of the criminal behaviors (Marshall, 1983). The concept of Superego Lacuna has been presented by Johnson (1959). He believes that this concept is in relation to the criminal activities.

### Acknowledgment

We would like to thank Karaj Azad University authorities who have responded to this article and during carrying out the research.

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